



## *Florida Department of Transportation*

RON DESANTIS  
GOVERNOR

1000 N.W. 111 Avenue  
Miami, Florida 33172

KEVIN J. THIBAUT, P.E.  
SECRETARY

### **For Immediate Release**

April 22, 2020

**Contact: Tish Burgher**

(305) 470-5277

[Tish.Burgher@dot.state.fl.us](mailto:Tish.Burgher@dot.state.fl.us)

### **Governor DeSantis Announces Upcoming Contract for Tamiami Trail Next Steps Phase 2**

**MIAMI, Fla.** – Today, Governor Ron DeSantis announced the upcoming contract advertisement for the State Road (SR) 90/Tamiami Trail Next Steps Phase 2 Project.

“I have worked diligently with the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) and the National Park Service (NPS) to accelerate this critical infrastructure project,” said **Governor Ron DeSantis**. “The Tamiami Trail project is a key component of the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan. Elevating the trail will allow for an additional 75 to 80 billion gallons of water a year to flow south into the Everglades and Florida Bay.”

In June 2019, Governor DeSantis announced that full funding had been secured to complete the project to elevate the Tamiami Trail. The U.S. Department of Transportation awarded an additional \$60 million to the state’s \$40 million to fully fund the project, which is critical to the Governor’s plan to preserve the environment.

“This is another example of how Governor DeSantis has made preserving our environment and improving Florida’s infrastructure among his top priorities,” said **Florida Department of Transportation Secretary Kevin J. Thibault, P.E.** “This important project advances both and will also provide much needed jobs.”

“Expediting Everglades restoration has been one of the hallmarks of the Governor’s environmental agenda,” said **Florida Department of Environmental Protection Secretary Noah Valenstein**. “This is great news for water quality in South Florida.”

The Tamiami Trail Next Steps Phase 2 Project will be advertised as a “Low Bid, Design-Build” contract on April 28, allowing qualified contractors to bid on the project that will raise 6.5 miles of roadway on Tamiami Trail between structures S-334 and S-333. FDOT will select the Design-Build team this summer with work expected to begin before the end of the year. The project runs through Everglades National Park and will be managed by FDOT in coordination with NPS.

*Improve Safety, Enhance Mobility, Inspire Innovation*

FDOTMiamiDade.com | @MyFDOT\_Miami | Facebook.com/MyFDOTMiami



*Florida Department of Transportation*

**RON DESANTIS**  
GOVERNOR

1000 N.W. 111 Avenue  
Miami, Florida 33172

**KEVIN J. THIBAUT, P.E.**  
SECRETARY

Old Tamiami Trail is a historic highway that was built across the Everglades to connect Tampa and Miami in the late 1920s. Its construction disrupted the natural sheet flow of water south through the Everglades from Lake Okeechobee to Florida Bay. By raising Tamiami Trail and installing a series of short bridges, the project will help restore the ecologically important historic sheet flow of water south through the Everglades. This is the last of three related projects. In 2008, the Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE) built a one-mile bridge at the eastern end of Tamiami Trail and in May 2019 FDOT, in coordination with NPS, completed Tamiami Trail Next Steps Phase 1, which included removing the existing roadbed and constructing two new bridges from east of the Osceola Camp to west of the Airboat Association of Florida.

Tamiami Trail Next Steps Phase 2 is expected to be completed by 2024.

###

*Improve Safety, Enhance Mobility, Inspire Innovation*

[FDOTMiamiDade.com](http://FDOTMiamiDade.com) | [@MyFDOT\\_Miami](https://www.instagram.com/MyFDOT_Miami) | [Facebook.com/MyFDOTMiami](https://www.facebook.com/MyFDOTMiami)