



Florida Department of Transportation

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The State Road (SR) 968/SW 1 Street Bridge Now Open to Traffic

MIAMI, Fla. – The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) has opened the new SR 968/SW 1 Street Bridge over the Miami River in downtown Miami to vehicular and pedestrian traffic. It will be necessary to close the bridge and detour traffic at times to complete testing the new bridge equipment.

The W Flagler Street Bridge will maintain two-way traffic for the next several weeks. North River Drive and South River Drive will remain closed approaching SW 1 Street and the existing detours will stay in place while crews restore the roadway. Pedestrians will be directed to use the sidewalk on the north side of the First Street Bridge to cross the Miami River.

The bridge will open for marine traffic on demand for vessels under tow.

FDOT began the SR 968/SW 1 Street Bridge Replacement Project in May 2019. The project includes replacing the existing bridge with a new bascule bridge and tender house; reconstructing SW First Street; widening the channel in the Miami River; providing sidewalk connections to the bridge deck and Miami Greenway under the new bridge; and improving stormwater drainage and lighting.

The new bridge eases congestion for vehicular traffic and improves navigation along the Miami River by replacing functional and safety features and increasing Miami River horizontal and vertical clearances. The project is on schedule to be completed in late 2021 at an estimated cost of \$71.5 million.

For more information, please call FDOT's Public Information Office at (305) 470-5349 or contact Construction Senior Community Outreach Specialist Sergies Duarte at (305) 216-3617 or sergies.duarte@dot.state.fl.us. Information about this and other FDOT projects can be found at www.fdotmiamidade.com.

Drivers are encouraged to log on to www.fl511.com to get real-time traffic and lane closure information. FDOT would like to remind drivers that wearing a safety belt is the single most effective way to protect people and reduce fatalities in motor vehicle crashes. Please drive cautiously in construction zones.

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The Florida Department of Transportation's mission is to provide a safe transportation system that ensures the mobility of people and goods, enhances economic prosperity, and preserves the quality of the state's environment and communities. The department is committed to building a transportation system that not only fits the current needs of Florida's residents and visitors, but also enhances mobility throughout the state to accommodate its consistent and rapid growth. The unique nature of the Sunshine State and its year-round warm climate provides numerous opportunities to achieve the department's mission through multiple transportation modes including highways/streets, air, rail, sea, spaceports, transit, and the ever-expanding deployment of bicycle & pedestrian facilities.