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For Immediate Release

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## Upcoming Nighttime Bridge Closures along State Road (SR) 934/ NE 79 Street Causeway Begin March 24

**MIAMI, Fla.** – Beginning Sunday, March 24, there will be a series of nighttime closures along the easternmost SR 934/NE 79 Street Causeway Bridge located near the City of Miami Beach. These closures will affect both motorists and marine vessels. The closures will occur nightly, Sunday through Thursday, from 9 p.m. to 5:30 a.m. for approximately three months. All lanes will reopen from 5:30 a.m. to 9 p.m. daily and work will be suspended from 5:30 a.m. Fridays, until 9 p.m. Sundays.

The closures are necessary to safely complete the fender replacement underneath the bridge. Two lanes in each direction will be open during daytime work hours.

The channel under the bridge will be closed to all marine traffic at night. At all other times the bridge will resume to the operational hours set per the U.S. Coast Guard regulation 33 CFR 117.261 (mm-1).

Vehicular closures will be as follows:

<u>Sunday, March 24 through Sunday, April 7</u>: The eastbound bridge will be in the open position between 9 p.m. and 5:30 a.m. Sunday through Thursday nights. During the closure of the eastbound bridge, two-way traffic will be placed on the westbound side of the causeway. The eastbound bridge will reopen every morning by 5:30 a.m.

<u>Sunday, April 7 through Thursday, May 19</u>: The westbound bridge will be in the open position between 9 p.m. and 5:30 a.m. Sunday through Thursday nights. All westbound traffic will be detoured to use SR 112/I-195/Julia Tuttle Causeway. The bridge will reopen to traffic every morning by 5:30 a.m. Motorists leaving the City of Miami Beach wishing to continue west will have to:

- Continue east on 71 Street
- Turn south on SR A1A/Harding Avenue/Collins Avenue
- Turn west on 41 Street
- Continue west on SR 112/I-195/Julia Tuttle Causeway
- Exit north on US 1/Biscayne Boulevard
- Continue east on SR 934/NE 79 Street

<u>Thursday, May 19 through Sunday, June 16</u>: The eastbound bridge will be in the open position between 9 p.m. and 5:30 a.m. Sunday through Thursday nights. During

the closure of the eastbound bridge, two-way traffic will be placed on the westbound side of the causeway. The eastbound bridge will reopen every morning by 5:30 a.m.

Please note that this schedule may change due to bad weather or other unexpected conditions.

For more information, please call FDOT's Public Information Office at (305) 470-5349 or Senior Construction Community Outreach Specialist Melissa J. Rodriguez at 1 (305) 570-8076 or <a href="Melissa.Rodriguez@dot.state.fl.us">Melissa.Rodriguez@dot.state.fl.us</a>. For additional information about this or other FDOT projects, please visit <a href="www.southflroads.com">www.southflroads.com</a>

Vessels can contact the bridge tender via VHF-FM channel 9. The phone number for the Bridge Control House is (305) 754-4794.

Drivers are encouraged to log on to <a href="www.fl511.com">www.fl511.com</a> before they travel to get real-time traffic and lane closure information. The Florida Department of Transportation reminds motorists to always drive safely and avoid distractions while driving. Remember to put down cell phones. Florida law restricts motorists from using a wireless device in a school zone or an active construction zone.

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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