



PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

TRAVEL TIMES ON I-595 AVAILABLE TO BROWARD MOTORISTS *Florida Department of Transportation Launches Local Program*

(Fort Lauderdale, Florida – July 7, 2008) – The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) District Four is proud to announce the posting of travel times on I-595 dynamic message signs (DMS) as of July 7, 2008. The information is based on real-time data collected from the SMART SunGuide Transportation Management Center (TMC).

Travel times are currently used in many parts of the country. They are new to the South Florida area and will first be available on I-595. “We are rolling out travel times in a modular fashion,” says Steve Corbin, FDOT District Four Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) Operations Manager. “They will first be available on I-595 and soon on I-95.”

All information posted on DMS in Broward County is monitored by the FDOT District Four SMART SunGuide TMC. Operators, on duty 24/7, monitor the information real-time by data and visual methods. Vehicle detectors located along the side of the highway pick up average vehicle speed and volume (car counts). The raw data goes into an algorithm, which computes the travel times and produces best estimates based on the data samples collected. Travel times posted on DMS are updated every minute.

Having travel information posted on DMS offers motorists a concept of how much time it will take to get to their destination. The information is not only valuable to local commuters, but also the number of tourists visiting each month. Travel times will be posted 24 hours a day and seven days a week. There are few instances when they will not be posted such as when a lane blocking incident has occurred, at which time the incident information takes priority. FDOT is looking at how to integrate travel times with incident information using a 2-phase message on DMS.

The SMART SunGuide TMC is a 24-hour facility run by the FDOT District Four and the Broward County Traffic Engineering Division. The TMC monitors freeways and major arterial routes with closed circuit TV cameras, speed sensors, traffic signal control devices and a fleet of Road Ranger Service Patrol vehicles. In coordination with local law enforcement and fire rescue, TMC operators identify and respond aggressively to quickly clear incidents, disabled vehicles and other interruptions to traffic with the ITS equipment. Information from the TMC is displayed on DMS and on the region’s 5-1-1 Advanced Traveler Information Service. For real-



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time traffic conditions or information about the SMART SunGuide TMC, please visit www.SMARTSunGuide.com.

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Travel times will follow a specific format agreed upon by the FDOT District Four and Central Offices.