



PRESS RELEASE

Contact: Sarah Stanley
Office: 954-598-4236
Email: sstanley@smartsunguide.com

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

BROWARD COUNTY ROAD RANGER HOURS AND FLEET REDUCED ***Limited weekday service available from fewer trucks on the road***

(Fort Lauderdale, Florida – September 29, 2008) – The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) District Four reminds motorists that the Broward County Road Ranger patrol will be offering limited weekday service with a reduced fleet beginning October 1, 2008. Additionally, motorists will be asked to try starting their vehicle before receiving gas assistance. If gas is needed, Road Rangers will provide up to one gallon.

FDOT District Four Road Rangers will continue to cover I-95, I-595 and I-75 in Broward County. However, the fleet size will be reduced from twelve to ten trucks. I-75/Alligator Alley will be covered from the eastern toll plaza to Mile Marker 50 on an on-call basis. Hours will be 6 a.m. – 7 p.m., Monday to Friday. These changes are a result of state budget cuts earlier this year.

Motorists can still call *FHP (*347) for assistance outside Road Rangers' hours. However, if a tow truck is dispatched for service, the motorist will be responsible for the charges incurred.

Analysis of historical data shows that 75 percent of motorist assists and 70 percent of crashes occur between 6 a.m. and 7 p.m. Monday through Friday. Road Rangers will offer motorist assistance but will place emphasis on incident management.

As a reminder, changes also occurred in Palm Beach County on September 1, 2008. The Road Ranger fleet was reduced from seven to five trucks and hours were changed to 6 a.m. – 7 p.m., Monday to Friday. To offset the reduction in Road Ranger service hours in both counties, motorists are encouraged to be responsible for their fuel level and other vehicle maintenance.

The Road Rangers are dispatched by operators at the SMART SunGuide TMC and the Palm Beach Interim Traffic Management System (ITMS), 24-hour facilities serving Broward and Palm Beach Counties. The TMCs monitor freeways and major arterial routes with closed circuit TV cameras, speed sensors, traffic signal control devices along with the 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 intelligent transportation systems (ITS) equipment. Information from the TMC is displayed on Dynamic Message Signs (DMS) and on the region's 5-1-1 Advanced Traveler



Florida Department of Transportation
SMART SunGuide Transportation Management Center – District 4
2300 West Commercial Boulevard, Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33309
Telephone (954) 847-2785 / Fax (954) 847-2683



Information Service. For real-time traffic conditions or information about the SMART SunGuide TMC, please visit www.SMARTSunGuide.com.

For more information, please call Sarah Stanley at 954-598-4236 or email sstanley@smartsunguide.com.

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