



Florida's Turnpike — Past, Present & Future: 1957-2026



Dear Friends and Neighbors,

In addressing the future of Florida's Turnpike, I invited executives from Florida's Turnpike Enterprise, along with officers from the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT), to workshop with our Board of County Commissioners.



PBC Commissioner Maria Sachs (L) meets with Florida's Turnpike Enterprise Executive Director & CEO Nicola Liquori (R) and other FDOT leaders at their headquarters in Orlando, FL. (Source: Office of PBC Commissioner Maria Sachs, District 5).

On Tuesday, July 15th, 2026, the Board of County Commissioners was presented with a comprehensive and in-depth review of the future widening of Florida's Turnpike throughout Palm Beach County.

To truly grasp the massive scale and historical significance of these necessary improvements, one must look back at the rich heritage of the Turnpike. Originally envisioned and brought to life as the "Sunshine State Parkway," this iconic corridor saw its first 110- mile stretch officially open to the public on January 25, 1957.

Since those pioneering days, it has steadily evolved into a essential backbone of our state's vast transportation infrastructure.

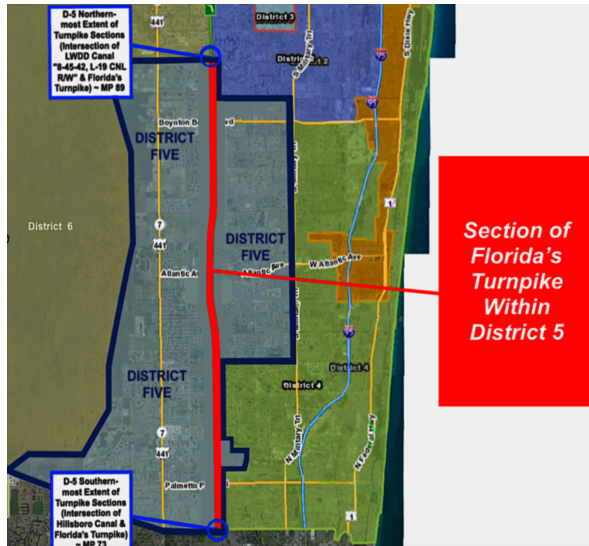
In Palm Beach County, the Impact of Florida's Turnpike is uniquely broad and deeply felt, as six of the County's seven total commission districts contain critical sections of this vital transportation system. Beyond its role as a regional thoroughfare, Florida's Turnpike has also served as a vital artery for state and national emergency operations.

Much like its function during the 1992 response to Hurricane Andrew, where it served as a critical path for evacuation and the movement of recovery personnel, including the National Guard, the Turnpike remains a key component of our disaster resiliency.



From L to R: FDOT District Four Transportation Planning and Environmental Manager Steve Braun, PBC Commissioner Maria Sachs, former PBC Assistant County Administrator Todd Bonlarron, and PBC Engineering and Public Works Dept. County Engineer David

Consequently, these proposed widening projects will have a profound and direct influence on the quality of life, public safety, and daily commutes for a vast, diverse array of communities residing within nearly every corner of our County.



It is important to clarify how these improvements are funded. The expansion of the Turnpike and the installation of corresponding barriers are financed through toll revenues — user fees paid by those who actually utilize the roadway — rather than through general tax dollars.

These tolls generate the revenue necessary to build, operate, and maintain the system, ensuring that the facility is primarily self-financed.

Florida's Turnpike sections in PBC District 5
(Source: Office of PBC Commissioner Maria Sachs, District 5).

For many of our residents, the widening of Florida's Turnpike means closer proximity to noise, noxious fumes and other safety concerns. If your property is close to or abuts Florida's Turnpike on either the east or west side, please refer to the relevant project maps for your particular area in FDOT's recently-presented "Palm Beach County Florida's Turnpike Enterprise Projects" presentation:

[FDOT Palm Beach County Florida's Turnpike Enterprise Projects Presentation.pdf](#). Should you have any questions or comments, please don't hesitate to contact my office.

Upcoming Public Hearings!

The Florida Department of Transportation and Florida's Turnpike Enterprise will be jointly holding two public hearings for the Florida's Turnpike (SR 91) widening project concerning the stretch of Florida's Turnpike from just north of Glades Road to north of the L-38 Canal in Palm Beach County:

Virtual Hearing

- Date: **TODAY** - Wednesday, July 15, 2026
- Time: 6:00 p.m.

- Location: Online or by phone
- Description: The virtual hearing will consist of a brief presentation about the project followed by responses to frequently asked questions submitted in advance. To attend online, visit the project website at floridasturnpike.com/widenturnpikegladestol38/ or follow the hearing link provided in your registration confirmation email. Dial-in attendees may join as listen-only participants by calling **1-877-568-4108** and using access code **606-130-089** when prompted. Those interested in attending can **register for the virtual hearing at register.gotowebinar.com/register/59072816420760925**.

In-Person Hearing

- Date: **TOMORROW** - Thursday, July 16, 2026
- Time: 5:30 p.m.
- Location: Dr. André Fladell Civic Center, [16700 Jog Road, Delray Beach, FL 33446](#)
- Description: This hearing will be conducted in an open house format with project exhibits on display and team members available to answer questions. Following the initial period, a formal presentation will be conducted, after which the public comment period will begin. **If the hearing cannot be held on this date** due to severe weather or unforeseen conditions, it will be held on the **alternate date of Monday, July 27, 2026**, at the same time and place.

PROJECT SCHEDULE

Subject to change.



PUBLIC HEARING

The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT), Florida's Turnpike Enterprise invites you to participate in a Design Public Hearing. Visit the project website www.floridasturnpike.com/widenturnpikegladestoL38 to register for the hearing. Once registered, you will receive a confirmation email that includes instructions on how to join the virtual hearing. Please note that registration works best in Google Chrome, Microsoft Edge, or Firefox. Information presented at all attendance options will be the same.

JOIN US ONLINE

Wednesday, July 15, 2026
6:00 p.m.

Attend online or by phone. To attend online, visit the project website or follow the hearing link provided in your registration confirmation email. Dial-in attendees may join as listen-only participants by calling 1-877-568-4108 and using access code 606-130-089 when prompted.

The virtual hearing will consist of a brief presentation about the project, followed by responses to frequently asked questions submitted in advance of the hearing.

JOIN US IN PERSON

Thursday, July 16, 2026
5:30 PM

Dr. André Fladell Civic Center
16700 Jog Road
Delray Beach, FL 33446

The in-person hearing will be conducted in an open house format, during which project exhibits will be on display and members of the project team will be available to answer questions.

Following the initial period, a formal presentation will be conducted, after which the public comment period will begin.

If the in-person Public Hearing cannot be held on **Thursday, July 16, 2026**, due to severe weather or unforeseen conditions, it will be held on the alternate date of **Monday, July 27, 2026**, at the same time and place.



HEARING MATERIALS

Public hearing materials will be available for review on the project website on the day of the virtual hearing. A video recording of the virtual hearing will also be posted to the project website under the "Documents" section following the hearing.

Scan the QR code to access the project website, register for the hearing, download hearing materials, or leave a comment.



COMMENTS

You may submit comments or questions during the registration process or by contacting the project manager, Paul Naranjo, P.E., using the contact information provided below. We would appreciate your comments by **Wednesday, July 29, 2026**.



CONTACT INFORMATION

PAUL NARANJO, P.E.

Consultant to Florida's Turnpike Enterprise
P.O. Box 613069
Ocoee, FL 34761

Paul.Naranjo@dot.state.fl.us
407-264-3429

Public participation is solicited without regard to race, color, national origin, age, sex, religion, disability, or family status. Persons who require special accommodations under the Americans with Disabilities Act or persons who require translation services (free of charge) should contact Paul Naranjo, P.E. at least seven (7) days prior to the hearing. If you are hearing or speech impaired, please contact the agency using the Florida Relay Service, 1 (800) 955-8771 (TDD) or 1 (800) 955-8770 (Voice).

(Source: Florida's Turnpike Enterprise)

All interested parties are welcome to have their voices heard and meet with and be heard directly by officers from both the Florida Department of Transportation and Florida's Turnpike Enterprise. You can find more

information about this project at floridasturnpike.com/widenturnpikegladestol38/.

Please contact us with any questions or concerns.

561-355-2205

MSachs@pbc.gov

**Commissioner Maria Sachs | District 5
Palm Beach County Board of County Commissioners**

PBC Commission District 5 | [301 N. Olive Avenue](#) | [West Palm Beach, FL 33401](#) US