

District One Lane Closure Policy & Procedures

PURPOSE: To establish lane closure guidelines in conjunction with any construction and/or maintenance activity of the State Highway within the district.

NO LANE CLOSURE SHALL OCCUR ON ANY STATE ROAD UNLESS ALL VIABLE ALTERNATIVES HAVE BEEN EXPLORED AND REASONS FOR THE CLOSURE ARE WARRANTED, JUSTIFIED AND DOCUMENTED. LANE CLOSURES MUST BE APPROVED IN ADVANCE BY THE DEPARTMENT, WHEN ABOVE CONDITIONS ARE MET.

I. General Requirements:

The following statements outline the District One Lane Closure Guidelines for all construction and maintenance activities, including all permits, utilities, railroad and other on all roadways of the State Highway System within the district:

- Allowable lane closure time for all activities authorized by a Florida Department of Transportation (referenced as “department” from this point) permit will be specified by the department, on the permit.
- Allowable lane closure time in a department project will be specified in the Maintenance of Traffic Plans.
- Contractors must provide notification to law enforcement agencies, local fire departments and emergency medical services for lane closures in excess of two (2) hours in duration. For maintenance activities the responsible operations center is required to provide the notification. For surveying, pavement coring, or geotechnical boring activities, the responsible office shall provide notification. For any other lane closures required as part of the design phase of the project, the design project manager shall provide notification.
- All lane closure requests must include consideration for special events such as major community events, sporting events and concerts.
- A MINIMUM OF ONE WEEK ADVANCE notification of any proposed lane closure exceeding two hours must be provided to the local operations center and district public information office. Two (2) week notification is recommended. This notification will be provided by the same responsible parties identified to notify law enforcement/fire/EMS above.
- The Department reserves the right to modify previously approved or specified times of closures when, in the opinion of the Engineer, it becomes necessary to do so.
- Work activities with lane closures will be monitored. If, in the opinion of the Engineer, the lane closure is creating undo traffic delay and congestion, he/she may suspend the work and/or modify the lane closure time.

II. Lane Closure Policy for Interstate Highways:

- The allowed time periods for one lane per direction lane closures along Interstate highways in District One are specified in Attachment “A”.
- Attachment “B” provides allowable time periods for two lanes per direction lane closures. Final approval will be provided by the local Operations Center Engineer with concurrence from either the District Maintenance Administrator or the District Construction Engineer.
- Lane closures along ramps will be limited to 11:00 PM to 5:00 AM.
- Special requests deviating from the referenced time periods must be approved by the Director of Transportation Operations or his designee.

Notification requirements:

- The contractor shall notify the appropriate Traffic Management Center when a lane closure is implemented and when lanes are reopened for traffic.
- If the lane closure is going to impact traffic in multiple counties along Interstate 4, one or more Traffic Management Centers need to be notified (District 5 and District 7).
- Traffic Management Center to Notify:
 - I-4: Traffic impact in Hillsborough/Polk Counties - District 7 TMC
 - I-4: Traffic impact in Polk County - District 7 TMC
 - I-4: Traffic impact in Polk/ Osceola Counties - District 5 and District 7 TMCs
 - I-275: District 7 TMC
 - I-75: Manatee/Sarasota/Charlotte/Lee/Collier Counties – District 1 TMC
- Traffic Management Center Contacts:
 - District 1 TMC: 239-225-9860
 - District 5 TMC: 407-736-1900
 - District 7 TMC: 813-615-8657

III. Lane Closure Policy for Other State Highways:

- Lane closures are not allowed from 6:00 AM to 9:00 AM or 4:00 PM to 7:00 PM along state highways within an urban area as identified on the official Straight Line Diagrams (SLD). Deviations from these time periods must be approved by the local Operations Center Engineer with concurrence from either the District Maintenance Administrator or the District Construction Engineer.
- Lane closure analysis is required for all work activities requiring closure of one or more lanes along the state highway system to determine further restrictions which may apply. Lane closure analysis for each roadway segment will be prepared by a designated person in each Operations Center for maintenance and permit projects. The engineer of record is responsible for preparation of the analysis on FDOT construction projects.
- The analysis should be done using the automated lane closure worksheet prepared by and available from the District Design Office. This worksheet is based on Section 10.12.7 in Chapter 10, Transportation Management Plan in the latest version of the Plans Preparation Manual (PPM).

IV. Emergency Condition

- Restricted hours of lane closure are waived under emergency conditions affecting the roadway.
- Work is to be performed on a continuous, round-the-clock basis to minimize time of closure, unless otherwise approved by the Director of Transportation Operations.
- The local Operations Center, District Maintenance, the local Traffic Management Center and Public Information Office are to be notified of any lane closure expected to exceed two (2) hours.

V. Other Conditions

- Ensure lane closure restrictions are included on all applicable construction, maintenance and permit projects for schools during the morning drop-off (i.e., 7:00 AM – 10:00 AM) and afternoon pick-up hours (i.e., 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM). The above times are examples only and need to be determined specifically for each project based on input from local government officials, our community liaisons and the District Bicycle/Pedestrian Coordinator, as necessary.
- Coordination by the responsible production or operations personnel with our local government partners, community liaisons, construction personnel and public information office shall occur to ensure scheduled construction time impacts are avoided or mitigated to the greatest extent possible in regards to project specific tourist seasons and localized special events.