

September 9, 2017

Dick Kane, 850-414-4595 FDOT Communications Director <u>dick.kane@dot.state.fl.us</u> Beth Frady, 850-617-3102 Cell: 850-694-9313 FLHSMV Communications Director <u>bethfrady@flhsmv.gov</u>

Media Advisory

FDOT, FHP Implement Limited Emergency Shoulder Use (ESU) Plan for Hurricane Irma on I-4 from 50th Street in Tampa to east of SR 429/Western Beltway in Orlando

Tallahassee, Fla. - The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT), working with the Florida Highway Patrol (FHP), has implemented a limited Emergency Shoulder Use (ESU) plan for Hurricane Irma evacuations on I-4 from 50th Street in Tampa to east of SR 429/Western Beltway in Orlando. This plan is anticipated to assist the large number of motorists evacuating from Florida's west coast. **Motorists may only use the left shoulder when directed by law enforcement and highway signs.**

- There is no contraflow or one-way operation in use on Florida state roadways
- No other state roadways are currently approved for shoulder use
- Although there are heavy pockets of evacuation traffic in some areas; traffic is flowing on this section of roadway
- Law enforcement urges motorists to use caution when driving on the shoulder right shoulder use is prohibited
- FDOT has 13 Traffic Management Centers where hundreds of DOT workers are monitoring traffic cameras 24/7 to ensure traffic flows continue and evacuations proceed without interruption.

www.fdot.gov