



## US 17 Four-Lane Project

**Start:** November 29, 2010

**Estimated Completion:**  
End of 2012

**Cost:** \$13.9 Million

**Contractor:**  
Better Roads, Inc.

### Safe Driving Tips

-  Always buckle up
-  Pay attention
-  Don't tailgate
-  Watch your speed

***Work zone safety is  
everyone's job!***

### ***Questions?***

**Ken Nelson**  
Public Information Officer  
US 17 Project  
941-232-5590  
knelson@aimengr.com

--or--

**Debbie Tower or JoAnn May**  
Public Information Officers  
Florida Department of Transportation  
239-461-4300  
debbie.tower@dot.state.fl.us  
joann.may@dot.state.fl.us

# US 17 Four-Lane Project

## From the Charlotte/DeSoto County Line To SW Collins Street in DeSoto County

### **Project Description**

In this four-mile segment of US 17, construction crews will build two new travel lanes and a new two-lane bridge over Thornton Branch Creek just east of the existing two travel lanes. Existing travel lanes will be reconstructed and resurfaced.

At project completion, the two new lanes will carry northbound traffic and the existing lanes will carry southbound traffic.

A grassy median with paved median openings will separate northbound and southbound travel lanes.

During the job, crews also will install new storm drains and stormwater detention ponds.

### **Construction Work**

Crews began work on the project on Monday, November 29, 2010 with placement of construction signs and installation of erosion control. Early work involves clearing land for the two new travel lanes and starting drainage activities.

After the new lanes and the bridge are paved and striped, traffic will be shifted to them so work to resurface and, in some areas, to reconstruct existing lanes can begin.

The contractor's crews are working from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday. Construction activities predominantly will occur during daytime hours, although some work will be done at night. It also is possible the work week may expand to six days during some stages of the job.

The contractor will maintain two-way traffic (one lane in each direction) during most of the job. Flagmen will be present for some operations requiring one-lane traffic.

### **Median Openings**

Engineers have determined the types and locations for 11 paved median openings based on criteria and guidelines established by the Federal Highway Administration and the Florida Department of Transportation.

Key factors considered were traffic counts, proximity of median openings to one another, and their effects on safety and traffic flow.

**Full median openings – northbound/southbound left turn lanes from US 17 to side streets and left turns from them onto US 17:**

- Live Oak RV Park
- Enterprise Boulevard (entrance to Wal-Mart Distribution Center)
- SW Liverpool Road
- CR 761/SW Madison Avenue
- SW Senate Street
- River Street

**Dual directional median opening – northbound/southbound left turn lane from US 17 and right turn from side street onto US 17:**

- Massachusetts Street (from west side of US 17 use median opening at River Street to travel northbound on US 17; from east side of US 17 turn at SW Collins to travel southbound on US 17)

**Directional median opening – left turn lane from northbound US 17 to side streets and right turn from them onto US 17:**

- Duncan Road (use crossover 1000 feet south to travel northbound on US 17)
- Nottingham Road (use crossover 2000 feet south to travel northbound on US 17)
- SW Clematis Drive (use median opening at SW Liverpool Road to travel northbound on US 17)

**Directional median opening – left turn lane from southbound US 17:**

- SW Belvoir Drive (use median opening at SW Liverpool Road to travel southbound on US 17)