



MIAMI BEACH

OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

NO. LTC # 154-2009

LETTER TO COMMISSION

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TO: Mayor Matti H. Bower and Members of the City Commission

FROM: Jorge M. Gonzalez, City Manager *JM Gonzalez for*

DATE: June 12, 2009

SUBJECT: I-95 Ramp Closure

The purpose of this Letter to Commission (LTC) is to inform you of the upcoming full closure of the ramp connecting southbound I-95 to State Road (SR) 112 / I-195 / Julia Tuttle Causeway. Contractors for the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) District Six will close the ramp from June 15, 2009 to June 29, 2009 to perform construction work for the 95 Express Project.

The 2009 USA Volleyball Girls Junior Olympic Championship will occur at the time of this ramp closure, from June 26- July 5, 2009. This event will be held at the Miami Beach Convention Center and is estimated to generate a large amount of traffic in and around Miami Beach. City staff has coordinated extensively with FDOT through several meetings, including one with Miami-Dade County, to request that FDOT reschedule the closure of the ramp to avoid possible increased traffic congestion as a result of this event. However FDOT has repeatedly indicated that they are unable to delay the project due to federal deadlines. FDOT must also complete the ramp closure prior to the start of the MacArthur Causeway Terminal Island Milling and Resurfacing Project, which will begin on July 6, 2009. Additionally, the majority of event attendees will be staying in downtown Miami and Miami Beach, and will most likely access the Convention Center via the MacArthur Causeway. Those who are traveling to the Convention Center from north of the Julia Tuttle Causeway will have to comply with FDOT's detour route.

FDOT will implement the following detour route for all motorists who wish to go east on S.R. 112 during the ramp closure:

- Exit southbound I-95 at NW 81<sup>st</sup> / NW 79<sup>th</sup> Street Exit
- Proceed across NW 81<sup>st</sup> Street and turn left (east) onto NW 79<sup>th</sup> Street
- Proceed east on 79<sup>th</sup> Street to Biscayne Boulevard
- Turn right (south) on Biscayne Boulevard
- Proceed south to NE 36<sup>th</sup> Street to access the S.R. 112 eastbound on ramp

FDOT indicated that the I-395 / S.R. 836 / McArthur Causeway can serve as an alternate eastbound detour route. FDOT will place advance notice detour signs at various locations in Miami-Dade and Broward counties and along the Florida Turnpike. FDOT will also provide police support at key intersections throughout the detour, such as at the off-ramp at 79<sup>th</sup> Street, which is a high crime area. FDOT will coordinate with the County Traffic Signal and Signs Division for traffic signal optimization to improve traffic flow and reduce delays.

A traffic advisory on the upcoming ramp closure has been placed on the City's website with a direct link to FDOT's 95 Express Project website.

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For more information about construction-related activities, please contact Tish Burgher at (305) 499-2391 or via email at [patricia.burgher@dot.state.fl.us](mailto:patricia.burgher@dot.state.fl.us) or call the 24-hour Project Hot Line at 1-877-95X-FDOT (or 1-877-959-3368).

  
TH/FHB/FAV/XF/CB

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