

# Florida's Turnpike Enterprise

## Hurricane Evacuation Plan

### Support Component for the Transportation of Stranded Motorists



Prepared for:  
**Florida Department of Transportation**  
**Florida's Turnpike Enterprise**

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# Hurricane Evacuation Plan

## Support Component for the Transportation of Stranded Motorists

Florida's Turnpike Enterprise (FTE) has developed this component of the Hurricane Evacuation Plan to use privately-owned motor coaches (buses) to supplement other strategies designed to facilitate the flow of high volume vehicle traffic and the safe movement of Turnpike users prior to hurricane landfall or during other major incidents prompting large-scale evacuations.

The goal of this plan component is to transport motorists and passengers from vehicles that have become **disabled** on Florida's Turnpike to the nearest Turnpike Service Plaza, and from there to designated shelters in communities adjacent to the Turnpike. (See Attachment A for a list of available shelters.)

- The Turnpike Service Plaza buildings are not hurricane shelters and will be closing as wind speeds increase. Persons picked up along the roadway will not be permitted to remain at the plazas; they will be shuttled to local shelters.

This plan component may be activated alone or in conjunction with the Wrecker Support plan component that provides roving tow trucks to quickly move disabled vehicles out of travel lanes and off the Turnpike shoulders. Both plan components are designed to enhance the existing Turnpike Roadway Operations elements to optimize highway capacity and move a maximum number of travelers and citizens out of harms way.

- The intent and top priority of this effort is life safety and humanitarian assistance for stranded Turnpike travelers. Like the services and accommodations at local evacuation shelters, this motorist transportation program is designed for personal safety and not for individual comfort and personal convenience.

This plan component would be activated when extremely heavy evacuation-type traffic is encountered or anticipated in advance of an approaching named tropical storm or hurricane. It is expected that the plan component activation would begin well before predicted hurricane landfall. Activation of the plan component may occur prior to any official evacuation orders. The plan component may also be activated for other evacuation situations.

### Sectors:

Six coverage sectors have been designated (Table 1). It is anticipated that up to three buses could be deployed per sector. The plan component may be activated for each sector separately or all at one time as conditions warrant. Sector Maps are included in this document.

Note: Buses will be assigned coverage areas by sector. However, the FTE and the Florida Highway Patrol (FHP) may jointly determine that units from any of the

participating companies be re-deployed to any areas along the Turnpike corridor as needed.

<b>Sector</b>	<b>Begin Point</b>		<b>End Point</b>	
1	Exit 1	S. Dixie Highway US 1	Exit 47	Turnpike Main Line
2	Exit 0X	Golden Glades Interchange	Exit 75	Glades Road Boca Raton
3	Exit 75	Glades Road Boca Raton	Exit 152	SR 70 Fort Pierce
4	Exit 152	SR 70 Fort Pierce	Exit 193	SR 60 Yeehaw Junction
5	Exit 193	SR 60 Yeehaw Junction	Exit 249	Osceola Parkway
6	Exit 249	Osceola Parkway	Exit 309	I-75 Wildwood

**Table 1 - Bus and Wrecker Sectors**

## **Vehicles:**

The buses provided shall be minimum 47-passenger intercity motor coaches with lavatories. All buses will be licensed, insured, in good mechanical condition, and shall fully comply with Federal Motor Carrier Safety standards. Each unit will start with a full fuel tank, and be stocked with bottled drinking water and a 'Human Needs' kit described in Attachment B. FTE will provide the Human Needs kit and a quantity of bottled water as described. Any additional supplies are the responsibility of the bus contractor.

## **Staffing:**

Each bus will be staffed with an operator and an assistant / attendant. Relief drivers and attendants shall be supplied by the bus contractor as needed to comply with appropriate State and Federal regulations. The assistant/attendant shall assist with boarding and provide instructions on restrictions and information as to the destination of the bus. The assistant will also be responsible for securing and issuing the drinking water and items from the Human Needs Kit.

In addition, the company will provide a coordinator on-site at the Turnpike Emergency Operations Center (TEOC) at Turkey Lake and/or Pompano as appropriate.

## **Operator certification:**

Each operator shall be fully trained and certified to operate the class of bus being operated and have in their possession a commercial driver license (CDL) valid for the vehicle and function. The bus company is solely responsible for validating training, certification and licensing of the operators.

## Communication methods:

Each bus will remain in contact with and receive instructions from a bus company coordinator. The coordinator for each participating bus company will be assigned to a Turnpike Emergency Operations Center (TEOC). The TEOCs are located at the Pompano Service Plaza (Mile 65) in Pompano Beach and at the Turkey Lake Service Plaza (Mile 263) in Ocoee.

All buses shall have a primary and a backup means of communication between the bus and the bus company coordinator. In the unlikely event that all communications are lost the bus operators will continue on patrol but will be given verbal instructions when unloading passengers at the Service Plazas or at the sector turn around points from the Wrecker support coordinator if activated.

## Operations:

When contacted by the FTE, the bus company will have the appropriate number of buses report to the designated Service Plaza(s) or other predetermined location(s) within six hours of notification (Table 2). The company coordinator will also report to the designated TEOC within six hours.

Note: The plan component may be implemented with one, two or three buses assigned to a sector.

Sector	Service Plaza	Mile Post
1	Snapper Creek	19
2	Pompano	65
3	West Palm Beach (Lake Worth)	94
	Port St. Lucie / Ft. Pierce	144
4	Fort Drum	184
5	Canoe Creek	229
6	Turkey Lake	263
	Okahumpka	299

**Table 2 - Florida's Turnpike Service Plazas by Sector**

When the plan is activated the buses will remain staged at the Service Plaza and await instructions and notice to proceed:

- In each activated sector, Bus One will begin driving the assigned sector, stopping for and offering transportation to individuals, families or groups of people stranded due to a disabled vehicle. These and all other pedestrians encountered along the way will be taken to the nearest Service Plaza. The passengers will then transfer to or wait for another bus to shuttle them to a designated local shelter. Bus One will then return to the assigned sector and resume patrol.
- Bus Two may be assigned to shuttle persons from Bus One, along with other evacuees stranded at the Service Plaza, to designated local shelters. After unloading passengers at the shelter, Bus Two will immediately return to the Service Plaza. (If there is only one bus in the sector, the same bus will patrol the sector and shuttle passengers to the local shelter.)

- Bus Three, if activated, will be given instructions to assist in the patrolling of the sector, or shuttling persons to the shelter, or utilized as directed by the TEOC through the company coordinator.

The operator (or the assistant) will maintain a trip log with time and odometer readings and number of passengers loaded or unloaded at each stop.

Additional diesel fuel, if needed, may be obtained at the Service Plazas. **While the contractor will be responsible for the cost of the fuel, priority will be given for participants of this program.**

Sector patrols could be halted within individual sectors at the direction of the TEOC if dangerous sustained winds are experienced in the Sector. When directed, buses are to return to the Service Plaza with their passengers and stand by for instructions. If direct communication is lost between the bus and the TEOC, and if weather conditions have deteriorated to the point that continued operation of the bus is unsafe the operator shall, at the operator's discretion, return to the Service Plaza, or proceed to the next service plaza away from the storm path. The operator will then make contact with the coordinator at the TEOC.

The FTE may activate a contra-flow traffic plan, wherein the southbound lanes of portions of the Turnpike would be utilized for northbound traffic. If and when the contra-flow plan is implemented, buses reaching the northern end of their assigned sector will utilize the designated arterial roadway system to return to the patrol area (See Sector maps and Attachment C).

## **Travelers with disabilities:**

Stranded Turnpike travelers with disabilities will be provided assistance with boarding. In all cases this assistance will be provided if it can be accomplished in such a manner that it does not compromise the safety of all those involved. Travelers with disabilities accompanied by a service animal are welcome. The service animal is the sole responsibility of its owner and must be under control of its owner at all times including a leash, harness or carrier.

## **Restrictions:**

It is the intent of this program to take stranded travelers to the safety of a shelter, therefore only items needed or allowed into the shelters should, within reason be carried on to the bus. A complete list of restricted or prohibited items based on company and government regulations will be available and supplied to each bus prior to activation.

### Pay Items:

Pay Item 1. Buses will be contracted for 24-hour periods. The unit price per bus per period includes all costs, including driver(s), attendant(s), and fuel.

- Bus (motor coach)                      \$\_\_\_\_\_.00 per 24-hour period

Pay Item 2. Provide staff to serve as the company bus coordinator for the period of time the program is in operation. (Coordinators will be stationed at the appropriate TEOC.)

- Company coordinator                      \$\_\_\_\_\_.00 per 24-hour period

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**The vendor shall indicate:**

The number of buses that could be supplied for this program: \_\_\_\_\_

The sector or sectors that could be covered:

Sector #s:    1       2       3       4       5       6

# **Hurricane Evacuation Plan**

## **Support Component for the Transportation of Stranded Motorists**

# **Shelters**

To Be Determined

# Hurricane Evacuation Plan

## Support Component for the Transportation of Stranded Motorists

### HUMAN NEEDS KIT

Each motor coach shall be stocked with drinking water and a kit to anticipate some basic human needs:

Water:

- Bottled drinking water ,12 oz min 4 cases (96 bottles)

Human Needs Kit:

- Plastic trash can w/lid 1ea. (30 gal.)
- Heavy duty trash can liners 1 box (30 gal.)
- Zip-lock freezer bags 4 boxes
- Paper towels 12 rolls
- Toilet Tissue, RV 24 rolls
- Baby diapers, disposable 2 cases (infant & toddler)
- Liquid anti-bacterial hand soap 2 bottles
- All purpose cleaner/disinfectant 2 bottles
- Disinfectant spray 2 spray cans
- Disposable latex gloves 1 box

Note: With the exception of the paper products and diapers the above listed items will fit into the 30 gal. trash can

# Hurricane Evacuation Plan

## Support Component for the Transportation of Stranded Motorists

### Contra Flow Operation Bus Return Route

- Sector 4      Exit 193, Left on SR 60 West
- SR 60 West to US 441 South, turn left
  - US 441 South to CR 68, turn left
  - CR 68 East to Kings Highway, turn right
  - Kings Highway South to Turnpike Entrance 152 at SR 70
- Sector 5      Exit 249, Left on Osceola Parkway West
- Osceola Parkway West to US 192/441 South, turn left
  - US 192/441 South to CR 523 South, turn right
  - CR 523 South to US 441 South, turn right
  - US 441 South to SR 60 East, turn left
  - SR 60 East back to Turnpike Entrance 193
- Sector 6      Exit 285, Left on US 27 South
- US 27 South to US 192 South, turn left
  - US 192 South to Osceola Parkway East, turn left
  - Osceola Parkway East back to Turnpike, turn left

# Hurricane Evacuation Plan

## Support Component for the Transportation of Stranded Motorists

# Restricted Items

This program being provided to transport stranded travelers to the safety of an emergency shelter. Consequently, passengers are urged to only bring those items that will be accepted in the shelters.

Most shelters will **allow**:

- change of clothing
- toilet articles
- bedding and pillows
- prescription medications
- special dietary food
- board games
- reading material
- battery operated radio
- flashlight.

Some shelters will also allow laptop computers and hand held electronic games.

**No dogs, cats, birds or other animals will be transported.** However, a trained service animal may accompany a disabled passenger. The service animal is the sole responsibility of its owner and must be under control of its owner at all times, and shall be on a leash or harness, or confined to a carrier.

Only food and non-alcoholic beverages that are for personal consumption will be allowed on the bus. Only small coolers that fit between the seats will be allowed. **Alcoholic beverage, drugs and weapons of any kind are strictly prohibited.** If a small suitcase or duffel bag is required, it may be stored in the baggage compartment.

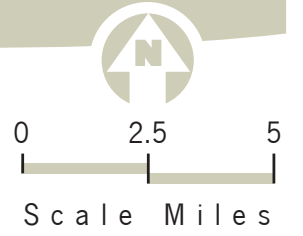
Additional **prohibited** items on the bus or in the baggage compartment:

- acid
- combustible liquids
- compressed gases\*
- explosives and fireworks
- firearms and ammunition
- hazardous materials
- materials with a disagreeable odor
- large oversize coolers, crates or multiple cartons
- machinery
- merchandise for resale.

\*If required a passenger may carry a respirator and portable oxygen canister with them. A maximum of two (two) spare canisters can be placed in the baggage compartment, but must be in protective cases with safety caps.



# Hurricane Evacuation Plan Stranded Motorist Transportation Component Sector Map

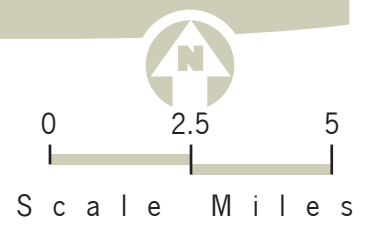


## LEGEND

- Sector 1**  
- Exit 1 to Exit 47
- Interchange**
- Toll Plaza**
- Service Plaza**
- Mile Post**



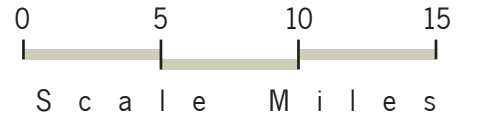
# Hurricane Evacuation Plan Stranded Motorist Transportation Component Sector Map



- **Sector 2**  
- Exit OX to Exit 75
- **Interchange**
- ▬ **Toll Plaza**
- ★ **Service Plaza**
- 240 **Mile Post**



# Hurricane Evacuation Plan Stranded Motorist Transportation Component Sector Map



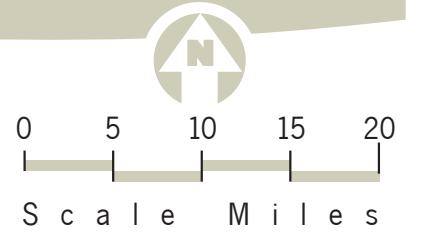
## LEGEND

- Sector 3**  
- Exit 75 to Exit 152
- Interchange**
- Toll Plaza**
- Service Plaza**
- Contra-Flow Crossover**
- Mile Post**





# Hurricane Evacuation Plan Stranded Motorist Transportation Component Sector Map



## LEGEND

- **Wrecker Support Sector 4**  
- Exit 152 to Exit 193
- **Wrecker Support Sector 5**  
- Exit 193 to Exit 249
- **Wrecker Support Sector 6**  
- Exit 249 to Exit 309
- ⇄ **Contra-Flow Operation Return Route**
- **Interchange**
- **Toll Plaza**
- ★ **Service Plaza**
- ⊕ **Contra-Flow Crossover**
- ↖ **Local Access Point**
- 240 **Mile Post**