



## Florida Department of Transportation

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## Moving I-4 Forward's Congestion Relief Lanes Now Open

Drivers already experiencing shorter travel times

**Celebration, Fla.** — The newly added congestion relief lanes on Interstate 4 (I-4) fully opened to motorists on Monday, April 28, marking a significant milestone for a program aimed at delivering impactful transportation improvements at an accelerated pace.

The completion of the congestion relief lanes, an additional lane in each direction of I-4 from U.S. 27 in Polk County to World Drive in Osceola County, fulfills a promise made in 2024 to quickly relieve congestion in one of the busiest sections of I-4 by adding new lanes. Not only has this commitment been met, but it has been exceeded with these lanes being ready for use eight months ahead of schedule.

More than 140,000 people travel this section of I-4 on a daily basis. Travelers have already been experiencing shorter drive times and congestion relief throughout the day which normally experiences heavy congestion.

"Delivery of this critically needed transportation improvement in record time demonstrates how impactful transportation funding can be for Floridians," said FDOT Assistant Secretary of Engineering and Operations Will Watts, Jr., P.E. "We're excited to deliver this innovative and accelerated congestion relief lane to the I-4 Corridor, and we will be maintaining this lane while we build the needed future improvements."

To deliver at this accelerated pace, the Florida Department of Transportation launched the Moving I-4 Forward program and introduced a new Modified Phased Design-Build method, accelerating construction through collaboration and innovation. The dedicated I-





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4 team and its Design-Build partner worked at record speed to complete improvements well ahead of schedule.

And the team isn't done yet. FDOT is expediting full-build work at the County Road 532 and World Drive interchanges and preparing to commence construction of additional segments along the 14-mile corridor from U.S. 27 in Polk County to State Road 536 in Orange County. Improvements include two new express lanes and intermittent auxiliary lanes in each direction, interchange upgrades, bridge work, resurfacing, and added safety features. These improvements will enhance traffic flow, safety, and regional connectivity—creating a continuous express lane system from Seminole County to Polk County and boosting Florida's economy.

As work continues to improve this area of roadway, motorists can visit Movingl4forward.com to learn more about the project and receive project updates. For real-time travel information, including planned lane closures from construction work, please follow Moving I-4 Forward on X or visit FL511.com. A video about the Accelerated Start and congestion relief lanes can be found on Moving I-4 Forward's YouTube page.

Media inquiries should be directed to the Corridors Program Office at <u>FDOT-CPOCOMM@dot.state.fl.us</u> or by phone: Matthew Richardson, Moving I-4 Forward Director of Communications, at 386-279-5478.

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