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**GOVERNOR BUSH AND LT. GOVERNOR JENNINGS ANNOUNCE 2006-2007  
BUDGET RECOMMENDATIONS FOR TRANSPORTATION IN FLORIDA**

*~ Funding continues implementation of landmark growth management reform ~*

**TALLAHASSEE** – Governor Jeb Bush and Lt. Governor Toni Jennings today announced their 2006-2007 budget recommendations, allocating \$8.3 billion to transportation services for Florida’s citizens, visitors and businesses. The Bush/Jennings budget reinforces the Governor’s commitment to diversifying Florida’s economy, developing growth management plans to support emerging infrastructure and strengthening families by improving the quality of our communities.

“Continued investment in our transportation system strengthens the economy, while supporting efforts to create and implement a blueprint for Florida’s future,” said Florida Department of Transportation Secretary Denver Stutler. “The Governor’s record funding level for transportation will benefit Florida’s families, visitors and businesses by moving people and goods more efficiently.”

The Bush/Jennings budget for 2006-2007 includes:

- **Implementation of Growth Management Reform, \$780.6 million** – The department is in the process of implementing the landmark growth management legislation signed into law during the 2005 Legislative Session. Recognizing that Florida’s infrastructure has not kept pace with growth and with more than 1,000 new residents moving to the state daily, this “pay-as-you-grow” system bases decisions for new development on the ability of Florida’s communities to provide adequate infrastructure.
- **Development of the Strategic Intermodal System (SIS), \$2.1 billion** – As the state’s top transportation priority, these critical highways, airports, seaports, railroads and other key transportation assets are the catalysts for Florida’s future growth and the diversification of our economy. They have also proven critically important to Florida’s recent disaster response efforts and the economic recovery of those areas hardest hit by the 2004 and 2005 hurricanes.

The proposed work program budget of \$7.4 billion includes funds to construct 298 new lane miles, reconstruct and rehabilitate 3,492 existing lane miles, replace 10 bridges and invest \$2.6 billion in road building contracts.

**(more)**

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Major projects slated to begin in the upcoming fiscal year include:

- Replacement of the State Road 46 Lake Jesup bridge in Seminole County
- Construction of an interchange on the Polk Parkway at Pace Road in Polk County
- Construction of an interchange on I-10 at State Road 23 (Branan Field Chaffee Road) in Duval County
- Addition of frontage roads and grade separated interchanges to improve US 19 from north of Sunset Point Road to south of Countryside Blvd. in Pinellas County
- Construction of the Miami Intermodal Center/Earlinton Heights Metrorail Connector in Miami-Dade County
- More than \$613 million for land purchases in anticipation of future projects.

The Bush/Jennings recommended budget provides continued emphasis on the development and use of Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) to better manage traffic flow, along with implementation of the department's transit plan, which will maximize and leverage state transportation dollars to attract greater federal funding for public transportation.

For more information, visit [www.myflorida.com](http://www.myflorida.com) or <http://www.dot.state.fl.us>.

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