



NEWS CLIPS

Your "Voice" for Transportation!

Quote of the Week:

"Learn from the mistakes of others; you'll never live long enough to make them all yourself." - Admiral Hyman Rickover

MONDAY, 8/1/05

[Entrepreneurs push idea for more secure ports](#)

(08/01/2005 © Florida Today)

Giant floating platforms use scanners and X-ray machines to probe rows of cargo containers while still miles away from port. Crane-topped ships perform surgical extractions of suspect containers on the pitching sea. A ring of computer-filled buoys beeps approval to ports around the country. This isn't the plot of an upcoming science fiction movie. This is the big-budget idea from a group of local entrepreneurs who want to prevent a terrorist from getting biological agents, explosives or a suitcase-sized "tactical nuke" into our ports.

[Miami-Dade Transit leaves riders on a new route clueless](#)

(08/01/2005 © Miami Herald)

There's a postscript to last week's report on Pembroke Lakes Mall refusing to let Miami-Dade Transit run a new express bus onto the mall property. By the time you read this, the new Northwest Dade Express (Route 175) should be kicking off its inaugural runs between Pembroke Pines and the Palmetto Metrorail station.

[TIA investment in new customs facility levels the runway for FBOs](#)

(08/01/2005 © Tampa Bay Business Journal)

TAMPA -- The Hillsborough County Aviation Authority is spending approximately \$3 million to keep two fixed-base operators at Tampa International Airport happy.

[\\$90,000 In Landscaping Gives Busch Interchange A `Tropical Feel'](#)

(08/01/2005 © Tampa Tribune)

TAMPA - It's not the multimillion-dollar makeover, but it's a start. The Florida Department of Transportation this month spent \$90,000 on landscaping improvements at the interchange of Interstate 275 and Busch Boulevard.

[Grass-roots drive to ban 4-lane roads](#)

(08/01/2005 © Miami Herald)

While many Southwest Broward residents complain about clogged roads, some residents in one town are fighting to make sure their roads don't get any wider. The Committee for the Preservation of Our Rural Lifestyle is a Southwest Ranches group whose leaders want to make two-lane roads the law of their town.

[Commuters Turn To Tech Tools For Traffic Reports](#)

(08/01/2005 © Tampa Tribune)

Can technology alleviate road rage? The humble traffic bulletin, long a staple of local television and radio stations, is becoming a hot commodity in the fast-growing world of mobile technology, as tech companies look for ways to get real-time reports to commuters while they are driving.

[Quip about Metrorail credited to Teele](#)

(08/01/2005 © Miami Herald)

It's March 4, 1985. President Ronald Reagan is addressing a luncheon crowd of 2,500 county officials convening in the nation's capital. Reagan, who wants to dismantle several major federal spending programs, decides to use Miami-Dade's brand-new Metrorail system as a punching bag.

TUESDAY, 8/2/05

[Alcohol-related deaths on highways fall](#)

(08/02/2005 © Florida Today)

WASHINGTON (AP) -- The number of alcohol-related fatalities on U.S. highways dropped for a second straight year, as did traffic deaths overall, the government reported Monday.

[GROWTH: So many questions](#)

(08/02/2005 © Florida Times-Union)

When it comes to managing growth, Jacksonville residents do not have to look far for negative examples: the boom areas of South Florida and Atlanta. Now Jacksonville is experiencing rapid growth. New homes, stores and offices are gobbling up vacant land at a whirlwind pace. What might be a surprise is what various local growth experts see on the horizon.

[Fix to Volusia hole lets trains resume but schedules off-track](#)

(08/02/2005 © Ft. Lauderdale Sun-Sentinel)

DELAND -- Amtrak trains that normally slip through the woods of Central Florida at nearly 80 mph slowed to a chug on Monday as they rolled over a soft patch of earth north of DeLand that a day earlier closed miles of tracks and stalled hundreds of rail passengers across Florida.

[Expressway planned through Cape, Fort Myers, Lehigh](#)

(08/02/2005 © Ft. Myers News-Press)

An L-shaped expressway possibly charging tolls would connect Cape Coral, Fort Myers and Lehigh Acres under an ambitious proposal unveiled Monday.

[Parents want to know. . . HOW'S MY TEEN DRIVING?](#)

(08/02/2005 © Tallahassee Democrat)

Erin Henochowicz was driving down the street last year when she spotted a commercial vehicle with a bumper sticker that read: "How's My Driving?" The idea hit her. Her soon-to-be 16-year-old son, Robert, was about to get his license. Wouldn't it be great if other drivers knew he was a beginner and could let her know how he was doing?

[New highway worry: Nails fall from above](#)

(08/02/2005 © St. Petersburg Times)

TAMPA - First, drivers on the Lee Roy Selmon Expressway had to worry about sealant, showering from construction above, that could mess up their car's paint jobs. Now, they may need to look out for more dangerous falling debris: nails.

[Extend Sawgrass as best option](#)

(08/02/2005 © Ft. Lauderdale Sun-Sentinel)

Palm Beach County commissioners refused to accept a proposal to extend the Sawgrass Expressway north into Palm Beach County, proposing to widen heavily traveled commercial State Road 7 (U.S. 441), which in the morning-evening rush hour may require two or three traffic light changes to cross intersections.

WEDNESDAY, 8/3/05

[Bill has record number of lawmaker-requested projects](#)

08/03/2005 © Daytona Beach News-Journal)

WASHINGTON -- When President Eisenhower proposed the first national highway bill, there were two projects singled out for funding. The latest version has, by one estimate, 6,371 of these special projects, a record that some say politicians should be ashamed of.

[\\$35 million for buses, new roads](#)

(08/03/2005 © Miami Herald)

The federal transportation bill will pump more than \$35 million into Broward County, but politicians disagree about whether the money will make it any easier to get from here to there. Big-ticket items include new county buses, a Pembroke Road overpass at Interstate 75 and a new road to make it easier to leave Fort Lauderdale-Hollywood International Airport.

[Congress OKs \\$18.5 million for SJ roads](#)

(08/03/2005 © The Beaches Leader)

St. Johns County will get \$18.5 million in federal money for road projects over the next five years, including \$5.28 million for the U.S. 1 interchange at County Road 210, U.S. Rep. John Mica announced Monday. The money is part of a highway bill passed 412-8 by the House of Representatives Friday and OK'd Friday night by the Senate, 91-4.

[Mack: I-75 widening plan expected within weeks](#)

(08/03/2005 © Naples Daily News)

A plan for widening Interstate 75 in Lee and Collier counties may be released soon. U.S. Rep. Connie Mack, R-Fort Myers, said Tuesday in Naples that he had met with Florida Department of Transportation officials Monday and had been promised a specific plan on how soon the road widening would occur.

[Orlando-area roads among nation's most deadly](#)

(08/03/2005 © Ft. Lauderdale Sun-Sentinel)

In 2003, metro Orlando had a rate of 17.6 traffic fatalities per 100,000 residents, a survey finds. Experts say simple and cheap fixes can alleviate deadly problems on urban roads.

[Gov. Bush targets gas, evacuation confusion](#)

(08/03/2005 © Palm Beach Post)

TALLAHASSEE — Gov. Jeb Bush wants to change Floridians' gasoline consumption habits and build a petroleum pipeline to avoid future fuel shortages similar to those that created frustration and anger as 800,000 residents and visitors fled in advance of Hurricane Dennis.

[All 309 survive Air France jetliner crash](#)

(08/03/2005 © Bradenton Herald)

TORONTO - All 309 passengers and crew aboard an Air France jet survived a dramatic runway crash by sliding down escape chutes from the burning plane and scrambling up a ravine during a pounding thunderstorm. The plane skidded off the runway at Toronto's Pearson International Airport after landing at around 4 p.m. Tuesday in a heavy rain storm accompanied by lightning and strong winds.

THURSDAY, 8/4/05

[Federal bill ladles cash into Sand Lake Road, airport-entry projects](#)

(08/04/2005 © Orlando Sentinel)

Drivers are going to get some relief on Sand Lake Road and the southern entrance to Orlando International Airport from the new federal highway bill approved by Congress last week.

[Transportation bill passage good news for Tampa wish list](#)

(08/04/2005 © Tampa Bay Business Journal)

A transportation bill currently awaiting the President's signature would bring \$10.4 billion to Florida.

[Roads to get \\$3.6M boost](#)

(08/04/2005 © Bradenton Herald)

MANATEE - The \$286 billion highway bill Congress passed will bring almost \$4 million in federal funds to two local road projects once it's signed by President Bush. But the congressional agreement, passed Friday, is just one step in a multi-step process that involves local officials, members of Congress and a state agency.

[Plane evacuated because of suspicious suitcase](#)

(08/04/2005 © Charlotte Sun Herald)

FORT MYERS -- A plane leaving Southwest Florida International Airport bound for New York was evacuated and searched this afternoon after a suitcase for the flight was flagged as suspicious by Transportation Security Administration workers.

[Bomb scare ties up trains](#)

(08/04/2005 © Ft. Lauderdale Sun-Sentinel)

Tri-Rail riders were delayed for about an hour Wednesday morning all because someone may have left behind their breakfast at the Delray Beach train station.

[Broward officials threaten action against FAA for using runway at Lauderdale airport](#)

(08/04/2005 © Ft. Lauderdale Sun-Sentinel)

A Delta-Song Boeing 757 took off from Fort Lauderdale on Wednesday into a smooth, sunny sky -- and created angry turbulence on the ground. The jet was the first of eight aircraft to depart from the diagonal runway at Fort Lauderdale-Hollywood International Airport between 10:06 and 10:23 a.m. The control tower instructed them to do so to ease delays on the main east-west runway. That prompted Broward County officials to cry foul.

[Officials consider how to keep Highway 98 off the road to ruin during gales](#)

(08/04/2005 © Northwest Florida Daily News)

Sen. Charlie Clary says purposeful minds can figure out how to protect U.S. Highway 98 on Okaloosa Island and sees no reason to delay efforts to prevent another storm washout.

FRIDAY, 8/5/05

[Honk If You Hate Highway Bill And How It Fleeces Florida](#)

(08/05/2005 © Tampa Tribune)

Florida gets to keep a few pennies more of its federal gasoline taxes under the new spending plan approved by Congress, but motorists have a right to be mad about the deep skimming that continues. Florida drivers are forced to send about 10 percent of their much-needed tax dollars to other states. What's most irking is that much of the money isn't even spent on urgent priorities.

[Funds tied to seat-belt use](#)

(08/05/2005 © Ft. Myers News-Press)

Florida could be in line for an extra \$35 million in highway money if state lawmakers pass a bill requiring all motorists to wear seat belts. A new federal transportation bill containing the funding says the state also could get the money if it has 85 percent compliance with seat-belt use a rate that is now between 65 and 75 percent, the AAA Auto Club and lawmakers said.

[Orange weighs position on train](#)

(08/05/2005 © Orlando Sentinel)

Orange County commissioners might seek more public input before considering a deal for a Central Florida commuter train, but state officials say a delay now could put at risk hundreds of millions of dollars in state and federal money -- and the train itself.

[Broward to review airport contract after allegations firm was funded with drug money](#)

(08/05/2005 © Ft. Lauderdale Sun-Sentinel)

Allegations that a company with an \$8 million airport deal with Broward County has been supported by drug money have given county commissioners added impetus to investigate the company and possibly cancel the contract.

[Congress pitches in to widen Ulmerton](#)

(08/05/2005 © St. Petersburg Times)

Last week, Congress earmarked \$16-million for two of several road-widening projects planned for Ulmerton Road. The projects are part of a long-term plan by the Florida

Department of Transportation to expand a 12-mile stretch of the busy east-west corridor from four to six lanes from Oakhurst Road to Interstate 275.

[Mica's folly](#)

(08/05/2005 © Orlando Sentinel)

With congressional approval of a new, multiyear transportation bill, the traffic noose strangling Central Florida was yanked a notch tighter. And it was on the political whim of a single lawmaker. U.S. Rep. John Mica of Winter Park may not like the notion of special toll lanes on Interstate 4. But he had no business secretly imposing his personal will on the entire region, scuttling a reasonable state plan to create the lanes on the region's heavily congested thoroughfare.

[Airport move still possible](#)

(08/05/2005 © Panama City News Herald)

Airport relocation is still feasible, but securing grant commitments, maintaining construction costs and schedules, and timing the sale of the existing airport are critical to any move, an Infrastructure Management Group Inc. official said Thursday.