



NEWS CLIPS

Your "Voice" for Transportation!

Quote of the Week: "**Success comes before work ... only in the dictionary.**" -
Unknown

MONDAY, 11/15/04

[Strengthening phosphate mining laws top county's legislative agenda](#)

(11/15/2004 © Charlotte Sun Herald)

PORT CHARLOTTE -- Phosphate mining regulations and a wide range of transportation issues are among the legislative priorities Charlotte County Commissioners will discuss during a workshop Monday.

[The port's battle to grow](#)

(11/15/2004 © Florida Times-Union)

Gazing out at the land just north of the Talleyrand Marine Terminal, Rick Ferrin sees more than just an abandoned box-making factory. He sees the key to growing the Jacksonville Port Authority.

[Work to reduce skids on Mathews Bridge closes lanes tonight](#)

(11/15/2004 © Florida Times-Union)

A machine that hammers like a migraine headache will roll across Jacksonville's Mathews Bridge starting tonight and scuff the bridge's steel grating for more traction in rainy weather. The machine is a short-term fix that won't eliminate the side-to-side shifting motorists experience when their cars cross the grating, or reduce the bouncing sensation on the grating.

[Railroad crossings get upgrades](#)

(11/15/2004 © Florida Today)

The Florida East Coast Railway Co. has been working on the railroad -- tracks, that is -- all the livelong fall as grade crossings in Brevard County are brought up to snuff.

[DeFuniak looks to get a jump on traffic problems](#)

(11/15/2004 © Northwest Florida Daily News)

DeFUNIAK SPRINGS — Ongoing problems with traffic congestion on State Road 85 in Crestview have prompted DeFuniak Springs officials to take a look at traffic in their city.

[Commissioners clash over Village road deal](#)

(11/15/2004 © Sumter County Times)

A somewhat contentious Sumter County Commission on Tuesday approved a hike in impact fees and a \$14.3 million road deal with the Villages of Lake and Sumter, Inc.

[The Right Read On The Rail Votes](#)

(11/15/2004 © Tampa Tribune)

Voting on one question every four years is no way to run a railroad. Floridians said they wanted a bullet train four years ago, then said earlier this month that they didn't, or more precisely didn't want to be constitutionally forced into the project regardless of costs.

TUESDAY, 11/16/04

[Camera project tries to decrease risk at red lights](#)

(11/16/2004 © Bradenton Herald)

MANATEE - A pilot project under way will make drivers with a habit of running red lights think twice about doing it. County officials recently approved a demonstration of the cameras. But when or where the test will take place has not been established.

[Crews begin repair of signs](#)

(11/16/2004 © Ft. Lauderdale Sun-Sentinel)

STUART The county has contracted a Coral Gables firm to help replace hurricane damaged and lost signs, a job officials say might take up to six months to complete.

[Glitch sends 1,350 traffic lights around Broward out of sync](#)

(11/16/2004 © Ft. Lauderdale Sun-Sentinel)

Broward County's 1,350 traffic signals were out of sync for up to 45 minutes Monday afternoon after a computer that sets signal timing crashed. The computer lets motorists hit a steady stream of green lights on major roads during key commuting times. When it fails, drivers hit a string of red lights, or wait longer for turn signals onto side streets.

[Panel calls for new training airport](#)

(11/16/2004 © Ft. Lauderdale Sun-Sentinel)

A regional flight training center is needed near Yeehaw Junction and new homes should not be built in most areas heavily affected by airport traffic, a committee working to decrease jet noise impacts recommended Monday.

[Council OKs improving trolley system](#)

(11/16/2004 © Ft. Myers News-Press)

Visitors of the sandy shore at Fort Myers Beach may not have to sit in a long line of cars this season. This year, it looks like beach-goers will be able to hop on a trolley at Summerlin Square and bypass traffic via an express lane to the island.

[Sanibel bridge traffic dwindles](#)

(11/16/2004 © Ft. Myers News-Press)

Traffic crossing the Sanibel Causeway has decreased 13 percent since Lee County doubled the toll, according to an analysis comparing the first 10 days of the month with the same period last year.

[US Airways Glitch Causes Drawn-Out Lines At TIA](#)

(11/16/2004 © Tampa Tribune)

US Airways' computer system at Tampa International Airport crashed Monday, stranding hundreds of passengers in long lines as employees wrote out boarding passes and searched carry-on luggage by hand.

WEDNESDAY, 11/17/04

[Turnpike to install guardrail](#)

(11/17/2004 © Ft. Lauderdale Sun-Sentinel)

The Florida Department of Transportation will install a turnpike guardrail in January south of Glades Road, the stretch where three children died in August when a church bus from Coconut Creek plunged into a murky canal beside the highway.

[Group says enough is enough](#)

(11/17/2004 © Ft. Myers News-Press)

Finally! Some ordinary people frustrated and harmed by the Sanibel Causeway impasse are standing up and demanding that common sense and the public interest be served. Their voice is very welcome.

[Big Dig Leaks Even More Widespread](#)

(11/17/2004 © Lakeland Ledger)

BOSTON Leaks in the Big Dig highway tunnel system are more widespread than state officials have acknowledged, and top construction managers had warned as far back as 1998 about problems that could cause failures in tunnel waterproofing, the Boston Globe reported Wednesday.

[No more free rides](#)

(11/17/2004 © Northwest Florida Daily News)

After suffering a dramatic loss in passengers this summer, Okaloosa County Transit will begin charging 50-cent fares in January for its shuttle bus service between Fort Walton Beach and Destin in part to deter vagrants from using the buses.

[Flight attendants edge toward national strike](#)

(11/17/2004 © St. Petersburg Times)

PITTSBURGH - Flight attendants raised the ante Tuesday in the long negotiations to keep alive a fleet of struggling airlines. Though pilots groups have accepted wage cuts, the flight attendants threatened to strike.

[Roads shape county's future, so budget accordingly](#)

(11/17/2004 © St. Petersburg Times)

State Sen. Mike Fasano likes to boast of his ability to bring the bacon home to his district. Now the New Port Richey Republican has a chance to prove his pork acumen. Senate President Tom Lee on Monday named Fasano chairman of the Senate's Transportation and Economic Development Appropriations Committee.

[U.S. Extends Deadline to Switch Screeners](#)

(11/17/2004 © Tallahassee Democrat)

WASHINGTON - The government announced Tuesday that it will make it easier for airports to replace federal baggage and passenger screeners with privately employed workers. A three-week period for airports to apply to make the switch, scheduled to begin Thursday, will be extended indefinitely, the Transportation Security Administration has decided.

THURSDAY, 11/18/04

[Car-deer collisions taking higher toll in lives, dollars](#)

(11/18/2004 © Bradenton Herald)

WASHINGTON - Cars and motorcycles crash into deer more than 4,000 times a day, and it's taking an increasingly deadly toll - on people. Last year a record 210 motorists were killed in collisions with animals, mostly deer. That was 40 more than the previous year and more than twice the number in 1993.

[Click! Gotcha!](#)

(11/18/2004 © Bradenton Herald)

Would you be less inclined to sneak through a yellow light if you knew for sure you would get a \$115 ticket? Certainly. Enforcement is the missing ingredient in traffic safety in Manatee County as well as in many other areas.

[Student fatality brings attention to seat belt debate](#)

(11/18/2004 © Bradenton Herald)

WEST PALM BEACH - A school bus crash that left one teenager dead has revived the debate about whether students should be required to wear seat belts as they ride. Diana Kautz, a freshman at Royal Palm Beach High School, was not wearing the lap belt on her school bus when it collided with a pickup truck and rolled over last week.

[Votran adds services for West Volusia](#)

(11/18/2004 © Daytona Beach News-Journal)

Some of Volusia County's longest-distance commuters are getting a boost. Votran is expanding bus service on routes that link West Volusia with Daytona Beach and Orlando.

[Airport to keep federal screeners](#)

(11/18/2004 © Ft. Myers News-Press)

Southwest Florida International is taking a pass on a government offer starting today that aims to make it easier to replace federal baggage and passenger screeners with privately employed workers.

[Improved routes slated to begin in area Sunday](#)

(11/18/2004 © Miami Herald)

Beginning Sunday, Miami-Dade Transit will introduce new and expanded bus service,

including improvements to about 50 bus routes aimed at making public transportation more convenient along some of the county's busiest corridors.

[Turnpike bonds receive high rating](#)

(11/18/2004 © South Florida Business Journal)

Moody's Investor Service has upgraded the Florida Department of Transportation Florida's Turnpike revenue bonds from "Aa3" to "Aa2" with a stable outlook, Turnpike officials said, adding it is the first time Moody's has rated a toll road or turnpike so highly.

FRIDAY, 11/19/04

[JTA rejects Skyway ads at Bowl time](#)

(11/19/2004 © Florida Times-Union)

A satellite radio business hoped to turn the white Skyway trains into blue moving billboards as they glide through downtown Jacksonville on elevated tracks during the Super Bowl. It would have been a financial money-maker for the Jacksonville Transportation Authority, raking in \$140,000 after expenses. But tempting as the money was, JTA board members blanched Thursday at the thought of Skyway riders climbing into a train with marketing slogans splashed across the train's outside walls.

[American Airlines cuts fares on flights at Miami](#)

(11/19/2004 © Ft. Lauderdale Sun-Sentinel)

American Airlines on Thursday lowered fares and simplified ticket rules for domestic flights at Miami International Airport, an effort designed to bring back customers lost to Fort Lauderdale-Hollywood International Airport and to discount carriers that operate there.

[Bonita-Naples connector road to open today](#)

(11/19/2004 © Ft. Myers News-Press)

The final stretch of Livingston Road designed to link Bonita Springs and Naples will open by midnight tonight. But Collier County officials won't wait that long. A ceremony to celebrate the opening of the new north-south route is scheduled to take place at 2:30 p.m. today at the intersection of Livingston Road and Vanderbilt Beach Road Extension.

[Design tweak spares more houses, lots at I-95 and Becker interchange](#)

(11/19/2004 © Ft. Pierce Tribune)

PORT ST. LUCIE — City engineers may be able to spare homes and property originally slated to be purchased to make way for the Interstate 95 interchange at Becker Road.

[BayLink not a priority, group says](#)

(11/19/2004 © Miami Herald)

Miami Beach voters may have finally convinced their elected leaders that they really want streetcar-style mass transit, but that doesn't mean they are going to get BayLink built any faster. A key transportation policy group Thursday blocked an attempt by Miami Beach to push the proposed \$488 million light-rail project to connect the island city and the mainland.

Sinkhole on U.S. 41 holds up afternoon rush

(11/19/2004 © St. Petersburg Times)

LAND O'LAKES - A sinkhole on U.S. 41 backed up traffic Thursday afternoon, as work crews scrambled to fill in the gaping hole in the northbound lane.