



## *Florida Department of Transportation*

CHARLIE CRIST  
GOVERNOR

2198 Edison Ave.  
Jacksonville, FL 32204

STEPHANIE KOPELOUSOS  
SECRETARY

**FEBRUARY 5, 2009**  
**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**FOR MORE INFORMATION:**  
**MIKE GOLDMAN, 360-5457**

### **DETOURS WILL BEGIN FOR HART BRIDGE REPAINTING**

**JACKSONVILLE**— Full bridge closings with detours needed to repaint the Hart Bridge are expected to begin on the evening of Friday, February 13.

The repainting project is scheduled to start on Monday, February 9 and should be completed by the spring of 2011. Single non-rush hour lane closings without detours may start on Monday. Weekend and nightly closings of the bridge will occur regularly throughout the duration of the project.

The 3,844-foot long, 65-foot wide and approximate 150-foot high bridge will be repainted. Bridge maintenance activities will also occur including repairs to the structural steel. The decorative lighting on the bridge will be removed, stored and replaced with new wiring which will be put up at the end of the project. The bridge will keep its same green color.

Complete closings of the bridge at night and on weekends will be necessary to perform work for the \$26.2 million project. The bridge will be completely closed on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday nights from 7 p.m. to 6 a.m. and on Wednesday nights from 9 p.m. to 6 a.m. Complete weekend closings will occur on the bridge from 7 p.m. on Friday until 6 a.m. on Sunday and from 9 p.m. on Sunday until 6 a.m. on Monday. No individual lane closings are permitted during rush hours between 6:30 a.m. and 9 a.m. and from 3:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. The Mathews Bridge is the recommended detour while the bridge is closed. The Main Street and Acosta bridges also can be used as alternative routes.

Maritime traffic will be maintained, but extra caution should be taken by boaters since the area will be a construction zone.

The repainting process involves fully containing the structure with tarps starting from the middle of the truss and working from the top down on the main part of the bridge. The bridge will be encapsulated in sections to handle the paint removal, repainting and related activities. The section of the bridge below the roadway will be fully contained to minimize disruptions to navigational traffic.

The contractor will not be able to close the bridge during designated special events such as Jacksonville Jaguar football games, the Florida/Georgia football game, the Greater Jacksonville Agricultural Fair, the Gate River Run and major holidays.

M&J Painting of Campbell, Ohio is the contractor on the job. The Jacksonville office of Greenman-Pedersen, Inc. is managing the job for the Florida Department of Transportation.