

MEMORANDUM

AGENDA ITEM #15b

DATE: DECEMBER 1, 2008

TO: COUNCIL MEMBERS

FROM: STAFF

SUBJECT: I-95 EXPRESS HIGH OCCUPANCY TOLL (HOT)

The purpose of this presentation is to provide an update of the I-95 Express High Occupancy Toll (HOT) Lanes that the Florida Department of Transportation is constructing.

The HOT Lanes are exclusive traffic lanes that are managed by the use of technology to vary the price of tolls charged to vehicles entering these separated traffic lanes. The price of toll charged varies based on traffic congestion. The toll rate that is charged for the HOT lanes is derived by the amount of congestion in the non restricted lanes on I-95. The intent is to allow the HOT roadway to operate at 50 miles per hour during the peak driving periods. The length of this current HOT lanes project extends between I-395 in Miami-Dade County and I-595 in Broward County.

The FDOT received funding for the I-95 Express HOT Lanes pilot project through an Urban Partnership Agreement (UPA) with the U.S. Department of Transportation. The UPA focused on four congestion management techniques: tolling, transit, technology and telecommuting. This project is viewed as a transit project because it will fund the capital and operational cost of express bus service operating within the two Counties within these lanes. In addition, hybrid cars and registered High Occupancy Vehicles (HOV) with a minimum occupancy of 3 persons can use the HOT lanes with no additional cost.

FDOT District VI staff will provide an update of the current status of this project.

Recommendation

Information only.