



Florida Department of Transportation

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Florida Department of Transportation Statement on Status of Mid-Bay Bridge

To ensure the safety of the traveling public, the Florida Department of Transportation closed the Mid-Bay Bridge in Okaloosa County on Tuesday, January 8. It will remain closed until initial repairs are completed. We understand this closure has inconvenienced residents, visitors and other road users. Safety is our number one priority and balancing driver needs with safety is never an easy task, but one we take seriously. We are very concerned with the safety of the bridge and are working as hard as we can to make the repairs. We appreciate the patience and understanding of those who have been inconvenienced by this emergency repair.

Florida Department of Transportation District 3 Secretary, Phillip Gainer, said, “We are working day and night to repair, inspect, and prepare the Mid-Bay Bridge for safe travel as soon as possible. I am deeply sorry for the delay and any inconvenience our work may have caused. We are doing all we can to ensure safe and reliable transportation on our roads and bridges.”

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Mid-Bay Bridge Closed for Emergency Repairs

Chipley, Fla. (January 8, 2019) – The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) has closed the Mid-Bay Bridge (State Road 293) in Okaloosa County effective immediately for emergency repairs. Temporary message boards will be placed on both ends of the bridge to alert drivers about the temporary closure. The bridge will open to traffic once repairs are complete.

The closure was placed after a routine inspection of the Mid Bay Bridge where FDOT inspectors found corrosion on post-tensioning tendons, a pre-stressed steel cable inside the bridge that reinforces concrete. Post-tensioning tendons are one of the internal support systems placed inside the bridge. There are multiple tendons in each span of the Mid-Bay Bridge.

The closure is a cautionary measure intended to minimize the stresses on the bridge while FDOT personnel repair the tendons. FDOT's number one priority is the safety of the traveling public and routine bridge inspections are one tool the department uses to provide a safe and efficient transportation system.

The Mid-Bay Bridge, a 3.6-mile, two-lane toll bridge spanning the Choctawhatchee Bay, was built in 1993 and averages 22,000 vehicles per day.

Planned activities are weather dependent and may be rescheduled in the event of inclement weather. For more information, follow the Florida Department of Transportation District Three on Twitter

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