

Road Closure Alert

KEYS TOURISM ADVISORY June 17, 2009 1 p.m.
News and Information From the Monroe County Tourist Development Council

FDOT TO CLOSE NORTHBOUND LANES OF 18-MILE STRETCH FOR UP TO FOUR WEEKS BEGINNING THURSDAY, JUNE 18

Repairs to sections of "The 18-mile Stretch" between mile markers (MM) 106 and 126 will close the northbound lanes of that road beginning Thursday, June 18, for up to four weeks officials at the Florida Department of Transportation announced Wednesday.

"The Stretch" is a segment of U.S. Highway 1 that connects the South Florida mainland to the Florida Keys.

During closures, northbound traffic is to be rerouted to Card Sound Road (a secondary route between the mainland and the Keys) and the normal \$1 toll is to be suspended for northbound traffic only. Motorists should allow an additional 10 to 15 minutes of travel time to their normal commute.

Southbound traffic will continue to flow as usual on "The Stretch," officials said.

DOT officials said even if the work was not completed, northbound lanes would reopen to traffic Friday, July 3, and remain open through Sunday, July 5. Work, if needed, would resume Monday, July 6, and the detour could be in effect through July 16.

Officials said that residents and business personnel that reside between MM 106 in Key Largo and MM 113 should use northbound Card Sound Road to get gain access to U.S. 1 on the mainland. Residents and businesses located from MM 113 to MM 126 in Florida City will have access to northbound U.S. 1 as usual.

Emergency services personnel and permitted wide-load vehicles will be provided access to the U.S. 1 northbound lane as needed, officials said.