




Memorandum

Memorandum No: 21-029

Date: April 09, 2021

To: Honorable Mayor and Commissioners

From: Chris Lagerbloom, ICMA-CM, City Manager 

Subject: Florida East Coast Railway Construction to Close Broward Boulevard

On April 7, 2021, Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) notified the City of Fort Lauderdale that Broward Boulevard will be completely shut down. The Florida East Coast Railway (FEC) will be conducting railroad rehabilitation work from Tuesday, April 13 at 6:00am through Thursday, April 15, 2021 at 11:59pm. In the event of unforeseen circumstances, the closure will be extended through April 16, 2021 at 11:59pm.

City staff has relayed concerns to FDOT about the impact to the overall transportation network and requested that the work be rescheduled to a weekend period. FEC denied the request and will perform the work as originally scheduled. FEC has coordinated police details at the closure site, variable message boards, and all Maintenance of Traffic equipment. In addition, FDOT will be changing the traffic signal timing, monitoring real-time conditions via their traffic cameras, and programming their fixed message boards. The message boards on Interstate 95, Interstate 595, the Florida Turnpike, and other major corridors entering the City of Fort Lauderdale, will notify motorists of the closure to encourage alternate routes.

During the closure period, vehicles will be detoured to the north and to the south at NW/SW 7th Avenue and Andrews Avenue as follows:

Northern Route:

- Eastbound Traffic: Broward Boulevard to NW 7th Avenue to NW 6th Street to Andrews Avenue
- Westbound Traffic: Andrews Avenue to NW 6th Street to NW 7th Avenue to Broward Boulevard

Southern Route:

- Eastbound Traffic: Broward Boulevard to SW 7th Avenue to SW 2nd Street to Andrews Avenue
- Westbound Traffic: Andrews Avenue to SW 2nd Street to SW 7th Avenue to Broward Boulevard

Given the anticipated traffic impact, City staff is conducting an extensive public outreach campaign, including but not limited to:

- Notifying the Council of Fort Lauderdale Civic Associations
- Notifying City staff through email, LauderShare, and Department Directors
- Sending an email blast to over 15,000 email addresses
- Specific department outreach including the utilization of Fire/Rescue, NITE Team, and the Economic Development contact lists
- Frequent distribution of social media posts which includes sharing posts by FDOT, as well as our own messaging, including photos / video from work zone
- Working with Total Traffic Management to expand the market outreach
- Utilization of Facebook Alerts with a geo-target to anyone in Fort Lauderdale
- Sharing of information with the local media channels
- Notifying schools in the area including Virginia Shuman Young Elementary, North Fork Elementary, and any other school services that may be affected

Staff will continuously monitor the closure and remain flexible to modify operations as needed. If you have any questions, please contact Ben Rogers, Director of Transportation and Mobility, at brogers@fortlauderdale.gov.

Attachment: Traffic Advisory

c: Tarlesha W. Smith, Esq., Assistant City Manager
Greg Chavarria, Assistant City Manager
Alain E. Boileau, City Attorney
Jeffrey A. Modarelli, City Clerk
John C. Herbst, City Auditor
Department Director
CMO Managers

Full Closure of Broward Boulevard | April 13-15

The Florida East Coast Railway (FEC) crossing on Broward Boulevard will be closed to thru traffic between NW/SW 7 Avenue and Andrews Avenue starting at 6:00 a.m. Tuesday, April 13 through 11:59 p.m. Thursday, April 15 to allow workers to safely perform necessary repairs to the railroad crossing. Workers will rehabilitate the existing track to repair defective rails and replace the crossing surface to improve ride quality. If necessary to complete the scheduled work, this closure will extend to Friday, April 16 at 11:59 p.m.

DURING THE CLOSURE:

- Broward Boulevard between NW/SW 7 Avenue and Andrews Avenue will be open to local traffic only on either side of the FEC crossing.
- From 4 p.m. to 6 p.m., westbound Broward Boulevard traffic will be rerouted at NE/SE 3 Avenue.

DETOUR INFORMATION:

Westbound Broward Boulevard

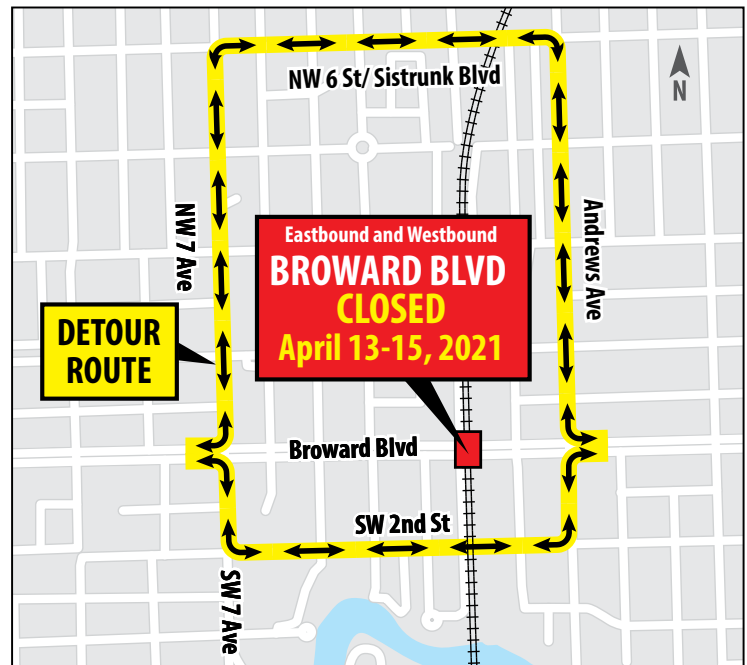
- Traffic will be detoured north at Andrews Avenue to NW 6 Street / Sistrunk Boulevard, west to NW 7 Avenue, and south to Broward Boulevard.
- Traffic will be detoured south at Andrews Avenue to SW 2 Street / Himmarshee Street, west to SW 7 Avenue, and north to Broward Boulevard.

Eastbound Broward Boulevard

- Traffic will be detoured north at NW 7 Avenue to NW 6 Street / Sistrunk Boulevard, east to Andrews Avenue, and south to Broward Boulevard.
- Traffic will be detoured south at SW 7 Avenue to SW 2 Street / Himmarshee Street, east to Andrews Avenue, and north to Broward Boulevard

Additional delays in travel times can be expected, especially during peak hours. Alternate routes include Sunrise Boulevard, Davie Boulevard, and US 1 / Federal Highway. Carpooling, telecommuting, or staggering schedules is recommended.

During the closure, the City of Fort Lauderdale will be sharing updates on FEC's progress and any additional traffic alerts. We thank everyone for their patience while this necessary work is completed in our community. If you have any questions or concerns about this work, please contact FDOT District 4 Communications Manager Guillermo Canedo at (954)777-4302 or Guillermo.Canedo@dot.state.fl.us.



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