

FDOT Adds New Interactive Features to FL511

Department encourages Floridians to use FL511 in hurricane preparedness planning

Today, the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) announced upgrades to the Florida 511 (FL511) Advanced Traveler Information System in order to provide the most innovative product for road users ahead of the 2021 hurricane season. Customers using FL511 can expect to see new features including live streaming video, map legend enhancements, and a voice interaction feature on FL511 platforms. “The department is consistently looking for innovative ways to improve safety and enhance mobility across our transportation system,” said Florida Department of Transportation Secretary Kevin J. Thibault, P.E. “The updates to FL511 will allow Florida’s road users to efficiently reach their daily destinations, navigate safely around traffic conditions, and make travel plans in case of an emergency, such as a hurricane. The department encourages all Floridians to incorporate FL511 into their preparedness plans.”

New to FL511.com is a live streaming video feature so passengers can view current driving conditions on all interstates, toll facilities, and other major Florida routes. This improvement provides real-time views of many of the state’s roadways. Users can now select certain camera feeds and click the “Show Video” button to view a full live stream. The additional live streaming video functionality to the FL511 system is just another aspect of the department’s commitment to keeping the public informed about its roadways. Additionally, drawbridge crossings were added to the website’s map

legend to show when drawbridges are raised and may be impacting traffic. At this time, the Brickell Avenue Bridge in Miami is the first drawbridge to be displayed on the FL511 website.

In addition, the FL511 Mobile App has a voice interaction feature, which provides real-time traffic information in a viewable format. Motorists can request traffic information for a city, county, or roadway. The mobile app provides directions with travel times to any destination in Florida and real-time traffic information on incidents, congestion, construction, closures on interstates, toll roads, and other major roadways. To continually offer the most efficient, innovative product, FL511 will evolve solely to digital platforms starting this month. FL511’s phone Interactive Voice Response system will transition to the mobile app, and the department encourages motorists to download the free FL511 mobile app or visit FL511.com to use as a planning tool to obtain real-time traffic information. FL511’s phone system, as it is today, requires users to dial to reach the Interactive Voice Response system for road conditions and travel times. The mobile app provides the same traffic information and much more. FL511 encourages motorists to register for a personalized account on FL511.com to receive real-time traffic updates on incidents, congestion, construction, and more.

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About The FDOT

The goal of the DBE Supportive Services Program is to increase the number of DBEs participating on FDOT contracts and facilitate the opportunity for DBEs to obtain contracts. The services are designed to:

- Assist established construction firms to move them from bidding as a subcontractor to bidding as a Prime Contractor to produce sound bids.
- Provide access to training increases DBE expertise in handling of daily business operations.



About The Program

The Construction Estimating Institute (CEI) works with FDOT as the statewide provider of the federally funded Disadvantaged Business Enterprises (DBE) Supportive Services Program. We want to increase the number of certified DBEs participating in highway and bridge construction, as well as assist DBEs in growing and eventually becoming self-sufficient. Additionally, CEI provides supportive services by assisting prime contractors and consultants with identifying DBEs for subcontracting opportunities on priority projects.

Connected Construction Is Rapidly Approaching: Are You Ready?

The construction industry has shown an unparalleled level of resiliency over the past year. In navigating one of the most difficult periods in recent history, companies have been forced to adapt to an entirely new way of working—adopting new technologies, new processes and new mindsets.

Leaders across the industry have acknowledged and responded to the galvanizing impacts of the pandemic, with two-thirds of executives agreeing that COVID-19 has accelerated industry transformation and half reporting they've increased investments to prepare for the new future.

Out of necessity, the industry has hit the fast-forward button on this technology adoption—abandoning paper, automating workflows and optimizing data.

Now more than ever before, leaders have the opportunity to embrace and capitalize on this current transformation and make construction more predictable, safe and sustainable by adopting a methodology that sounds simple, yet is incredibly powerful: connected construction.

The Future of Construction

Connecting construction projects, teams and businesses is a worthy endeavor. Breaking down information and communication silos, as well as connecting teams and data helps to reduce rework, delays and risk—while gaining valuable insight and visibility into the entire building process. But contractors still have a long way to go to bring this concept into a reality that permeates the industry.

New workflows and technologies have generated unprecedented volumes of data and, according to FMI, 95% of data captured in construction and engineering industry currently goes unused. Disconnected people and information will continue to hinder firms and projects across the sector.

It's time to address these gaps and seize the future of connected construction to help mitigate the disruption caused by the pandemic, build resiliency and ensure the industry is prepared to act on the vast opportunities that connected construction will bring.

Data Holds the Key

One fundamental opportunity is the introduction of better integrated workflows across the entire project lifecycle. Whether it's setting teams up for success using risk management tools during preconstruction or delivering a data-rich handover to owners, companies can enhance critical workflows with digital tools that connect information—and people—across the different phases of a project.

Simultaneously, connected construction can also enable the industry to make greater use of advanced analytics. Data holds the insights to drive better outcomes across projects and throughout companies, and new analytical tools are helping firms to extract and collate information more easily. In turn, leaders have a more holistic and historical view of data and, more importantly, what that data means and what should be done, if anything, as a result.

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Supportive Services Offered:

- Estimating Training
- Building Capacity
- Mobilization Financing
- Bonding Assistance
- Marketing Plan Development
- Creating a Business Plan
- Building a Website



Within the past 3 months,
CEI assisted DBEs
in obtaining

**\$6 MILLION
IN BONDING!!**

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5016 Calle Minorga
Sarasota, FL 34242



CEI is an educational organization providing the highest quality construction training in the industry. Over 100,000 owners, estimators, project managers, field supervisors, office support staff, foremen, laborers, and key management personnel have attended courses that are offered nationwide. The courses provide students with construction skills training and the critical information needed to be effective within their companies and organizations.