



## Florida Department of Transportation

RON DESANTIS  
GOVERNOR

2198 Edison Avenue  
Jacksonville, Florida 32204

JARED W. PERDUE, P.E.  
SECRETARY

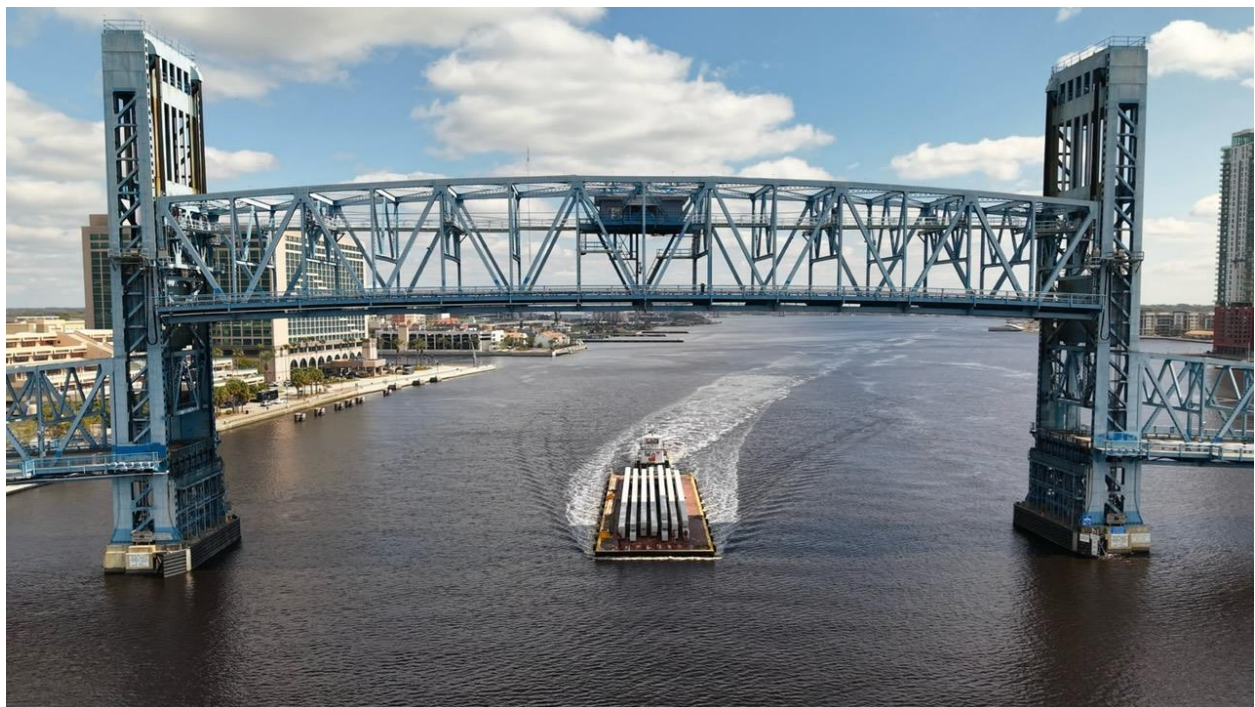
**For Immediate Release**  
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### FDOT Accepts Delivery of First Concrete Piles for New Shands Bridge

**JACKSONVILLE, Fla.** – The first delivery of concrete piles for the new Shands Bridge floated down the St. Johns River on Thursday, Feb. 20.

Thirteen 30-inch square piles traveled via barge from Gate Precast in Jacksonville to the First Coast Expressway construction site in Green Cove Springs. Deliveries from the facility will continue for the next several years, in addition to 60-inch cylinder piles being manufactured at Standard Precast in Savannah, Ga. In total, 924 concrete piles will be used to construct the new bridge just south of the existing Shands Bridge.



The joint venture team of Johnson Bros. Corporation and American Bridge was selected to complete the design-build project at a cost of approximately \$595 million. Work began in November 2022 with completion estimated in 2030, weather and unforeseen circumstances permitting.

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The Florida Department of Transportation's mission is to provide a safe transportation system that ensures the mobility of people and goods, enhances economic prosperity, and preserves the quality of the state's environment and communities. The department is committed to building a transportation system that not only fits the current needs of Florida's residents and visitors, but also enhances mobility throughout the state to accommodate its consistent and rapid growth. The unique nature of the Sunshine State provides numerous opportunities to achieve the department's mission through multiple transportation modes including highways/streets, air, rail, sea, spaceports, transit, and the ever-expanding deployment of bicycle & pedestrian facilities.



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Highlights of the 9,300-foot bridge include

- Two 12-foot wide travel lanes in each direction
- 12-foot wide outside shoulders
- 12-foot, 8.5-inch wide shared use path on the northbound side of the bridge to accommodate pedestrians and bicyclists
- 65-foot vertical clearance to enhance opportunities for marine commerce in the region
- 70 mph speed limit

The bridge is a key component of the larger First Coast Expressway project, a 46-mile limited-access toll road that will cross parts of Duval, Clay and St. Johns counties. The First Coast Expressway will reduce congestion on other major roadways in the region, providing new options for daily commuters while delivering additional capacity for storm-

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related evacuations and other emergencies. More information about the project is available at [www.firstcoastexpressway.com](http://www.firstcoastexpressway.com).

Stay informed about lane closures and roadwork in your area by following FDOT District 2 at [@MyFDOT\\_NEFL](https://twitter.com/MyFDOT_NEFL) on X, at [MyFDOTNEFL](https://www.facebook.com/MyFDOTNEFL) on Facebook or by visiting [nflroads.com](http://nflroads.com). Drivers seeking real-time traffic alerts may visit [www.FL511.com](http://www.FL511.com) or download the FL511 app.



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