



March 20, 2009

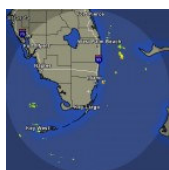
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I-595 makeover a stimulus — for Spain

March 10, 2009

Is it true we are hiring a Spanish company to finance and execute a mammoth infrastructure project on I-595? Sure, it will create jobs. Anything that costs \$1.79 billion will. But where is the overhead and profit going — to Spain?

If the state is going to guarantee finance payments for major infrastructure projects, why can't an American, or better yet, a South Florida company put a proposal together? Sounds like another bad idea disguised as stimulus. I thought the movement was for green infrastructure that motivates people to use less foreign oil? How does adding asphalt to an already wide road get people out of their cars? How about commuter light-rail transit along the same corridor? It will probably cost less, require less land and give folks an alternative to our dependency on foreign oil. Right now, South Florida needs to focus on setting responsible policies that positively affect our future and quality of life. A super-wide super-highway built by Spain sounds like a bad idea.

Alan Hooper, [Fort Lauderdale](#)



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