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## South Florida Sun-Sentinel.com

### **I-75 interchange work at Miramar Parkway, noise walls held up by bidding protest**

**Construction of new ramps at I-75 and Miramar, sound barriers could begin in September or October if protest is resolved in the state's favor.**

Michael Turnbell

TRANSPORTATION COLUMNIST

10:22 PM EDT, April 10, 2010

**Q: When will construction begin on noise barriers as part of upcoming improvements at the Interstate 75 interchange at Miramar Parkway?**

Lionel Kaminsky, Miramar

A: The answer depends on the outcome of a protest currently holding up the bidding process.

The Florida Department of Transportation had intended to start construction in June. But a contractor filed a protest, objecting to the state's "short-listing" of firms qualified to bid on the project.

A second protest was filed after the state re-advertised for bids.

If the protest is resolved in the state's favor, construction could begin as early as September or October.

Noise walls will be built along southbound I-75 between the Broward-Miami-Dade county line and Bass Creek Road and along northbound I-75 between the county line and the eastbound Miramar exit ramp.

The \$17 million project will replace the exit ramps from northbound I-75 to eastbound Miramar and from southbound I-75 to westbound Miramar with new ramps that lead to traffic signals.

The new ramps should make it safer for exiting I-75 drivers to make left turns onto Dykes Road, which is just west of I-75, and onto Southwest 148th Avenue, the first street east of the interchange.

I-75 will be widened with an additional lane in each direction between Miramar Parkway and the Homestead Extension of Florida's Turnpike to ease merging between the two interchanges.



**Q: Gov. Charlie Crist says the Interstate 595 reconstruction will create 30,000 jobs. How does a local resident get one of those jobs?**

Tom Connard, Southwest Ranches

A: Contractors will list their job openings with the Agency for Workforce Innovation, a state agency. Job seekers can view job listings at <http://www.employflorida.com>.

Or you can call I-595 Express at 954-671-5500. I-595 Express is subsidiary created by ACS Infrastructure Development, the concessionaire hired to design, build, finance, operate and maintain I-595 for 35 years.

The Florida Department of Transportation's website for the project — <http://www.i-595.com> — has a list of 28 major firms involved with all facets of the project from design and construction to media relations to operations of the Road Ranger trucks.

On 595.com, click on the documents tab, then scroll down to "Category 2" and select "I-595 Project Team" to see a list of the firms.

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