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UPDATE: Brightline to close E. Melbourne Ave. through June 2022

ORLANDO, Fla. (June 25, 2021) – E. Melbourne Ave. in downtown Melbourne will close for one year to allow Brightline to complete work on the Crane Creek bridge project. The section of E. Melbourne Ave. under the Florida East Coast Railroad bridge will be closed from east of Henley Ct. to west of Brecht Ct. beginning at 7 a.m., Monday, June 28, 2021 and will remain closed until June 2022. The work is part of Brightline’s Orlando extension project, connecting South Florida to Orlando International Airport with high-speed rail.

Local businesses on E. Melbourne Ave. west of the work area will maintain local business access only off the section of E. Melbourne Ave. between E. Melbourne Ct. and Henley Ct. All other eastbound traffic will be detoured up E. Melbourne Ct., to E. New Haven Ave. while E. Melbourne Ave. is closed. Brightline began construction to replace and double track the Crane Creek bridge in 2020. Over the next year, Brightline will continue work on the new east bridge, which is expected to be completed in early 2022. At that time, trains will be switched from the old bridge to the new east bridge. The old bridge will then be demolished and a new bridge constructed in the footprint of the old main track.

Brightline’s work will include the following improvements for traffic on E. Melbourne Ave. and for watercraft on Crane Creek:

- The bridge span over E. Melbourne Avenue will increase vertical clearance by 11 inches.
- The clear waterway openings between the supports on Crane Creek will increase from 45 feet to 65 feet.
- In two of the bridge spans, to serve as navigation channels, the vertical clearance for boats under the bridge will increase by approximately one foot. For the remaining in-water spans, the vertical clearance will decrease by approximately 21 inches.

Detailed closure and detour information can be found below and on the [Brightline website](#). *Motorists and boaters should proceed with extra caution through work zones and adhere to posted detour signs, speed limits and other signage.*

Melbourne – E. Melbourne Ave under railroad bridge (LONGTERM CLOSURE)

Full road closure, beginning 7 a.m., June 28, 2021 through June 2022 for bridge work at Crane Creek.

Detour Information:

- Eastbound E. Melbourne Ave. traffic will be directed to travel north on E. Melbourne Ct., to E. New Haven Ave., travel east on E. New Haven Ave. to Front St and travel south on Front St. to access E. Melbourne Ave.
- Westbound E. Melbourne Ave traffic will be directed to travel north on Front St. to E. New Haven Ave., travel west on E. New Haven Ave. to E. Melbourne Ct. and travel south on E. Melbourne Ct. to access E. Melbourne Ave.

About Brightline

Brightline is the first privately funded passenger rail system in America in over a century and was recognized by Fast Company as one of the Most Innovative Companies in travel. Brightline is designed to reinvent travel and take cars off the road by connecting city pairs and congested corridors that are too close to fly and too long to drive. Providing fast, efficient, hospitality-driven transportation featuring the latest in customer-friendly amenities, Brightline currently operates in Florida between Miami, Fort Lauderdale and West Palm Beach, with plans to develop new stations in Boca Raton, Aventura and Port Miami. Construction to Orlando is underway and will be complete in late 2022. Brightline West, which will connect Las Vegas and Southern California, is shovel ready and expects to launch service in 2024.