



*Florida Department of Transportation*

RON DESANTIS  
GOVERNOR

605 Suwannee Street  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0450

JARED W. PERDUE, P.E.  
SECRETARY

**TROPICAL STORM MILTON  
FDOT EMERGENCY ORDER 24-12  
(Pursuant to Executive Order No. 24-214)**

**WHEREAS**, on October 5, 2024, Governor Ron DeSantis issued Executive Order 24-214 regarding showers and thunderstorms associated with an area of low pressure located over the southwestern Gulf of Mexico, now identified as Tropical Storm Milton; and

**WHEREAS**, atmospheric and oceanic conditions are anticipated to support rapid intensification over the Gulf of Mexico, and Tropical Storm Milton is forecast to become a hurricane by early Monday; and

**WHEREAS**, this system could become a major hurricane near or at landfall along the West Florida Coast by the middle of next week; and

**WHEREAS**, there is an increasing risk of life-threatening storm surge and wind impacts for portions of the western Florida Peninsula beginning as soon as later Tuesday or Wednesday; and

**WHEREAS**, areas of heavy rainfall will impact portions of Florida well ahead of the tropical system, impacting Florida Gulf Coast communities still recovering from recent Major Hurricane Helene; and

**WHEREAS**, current computer modeling shows rainfall predictions of four to eight inches across the Florida Peninsula, with locally higher amounts in excess of eight to twelve inches possible; and

**WHEREAS**, much of Florida has recorded above normal rainfall over the past 30 days; North Florida has experienced rainfall totals of six to twelve inches above normal, with portions of the eastern Florida Panhandle measuring fifteen to twenty inches above normal for this time of year; and

**WHEREAS**, this level of soil saturation will likely lead to a more rapid onset to flash, urban, and riverine flooding next week; and

**WHEREAS**, heavy rainfall, flooding and gusty winds will cause power outages due to downed trees and powerlines due to the already vulnerable state of Florida's vegetation and coastal infrastructure; and

**WHEREAS**, the consequences of these impacts could damage the operational capability of critical infrastructure including major interstates and roadways, bridges, airports, schools, hospitals, power grids, in addition to prolonging recovery efforts from Major Hurricane Helene; and

**WHEREAS**, the Florida Department of Transportation is prepared to deploy resources to support the disaster response efforts related to Tropical Storm Milton.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, JARED W. PERDUE, P.E., Secretary of the Florida Department of Transportation, hereby find that the Department of Transportation's timely performance of disaster response functions related to Tropical Storm Milton is hindered by the application of procedures imposed by statute, rule, or order.

Therefore, pursuant to the authority granted by Executive Order No. 24-214, I hereby:

1. Waive and suspend the following rules and statutes: sections 316.515(1)-(3), 316.535(1) and (3), 316.545(2) and (4), 316.550(1), and 337.401(1)(a), Florida Statutes, and Rules 14-28.002(4) and (5), and 14-46.001(2), Florida Administrative Code, to the extent

needed to allow the establishment of alternate size and weight restrictions for divisible loads on any vehicles transporting emergency equipment, services, supplies or personnel, or to transport FEMA mobile homes or office style mobile homes, and agricultural commodities and citrus as recommended by the Commissioner of Agriculture, and as needed to waive by special permit the warning signal requirements in the Utility Accommodation Manual to accommodate public utility companies from other jurisdictions to render assistance in restoring vital services, subject to the limitations expressed in Executive Order No. 24-214.

2. Waive and suspend sections 112.061, 216.292, 216.313, 287.055, 287.056, 287.057(1)-(10), (12), (17), (20) and (25), 287.0823, 287.15, 337.02(2), 337.107, 337.11, 339.08, and 339.135(6), Florida Statutes, and Rules 60A-1.002, 60A-1.017, 60A-1.021, 60A-1.043, and 60A-1.045, Florida Administrative Code, as they relate to leasing, printing, purchasing, travel, the conditions of employment and the compensation of employees, or the use of State Transportation Trust Funds off the State Highway System, to the extent necessary to ensure the timely performance of the Department of Transportation's disaster response functions as prescribed in the State Comprehensive Management Plan or as directed by the State Coordinating Officer.
3. In accordance with section 1 of Executive Order No. 24-214, the foregoing waivers and suspensions of statute are limited to Brevard, Broward, Charlotte, Citrus, Collier, DeSoto, Flagler, Glades, Hardee, Hendry, Hernando, Highlands, Hillsborough, Indian River, Lake, Lee, Manatee, Marion, Martin, Miami-Dade, Monroe, Okeechobee, Orange, Osceola, Palm Beach, Pasco, Pinellas, Polk, Putnam, Sarasota, Seminole, St. Johns, St. Lucie, Sumter, and Volusia counties.

4. All actions taken by the Florida Department of Transportation with respect to this emergency before the issuance of this Emergency Order are hereby ratified.

This order shall expire on October 21, 2024, the expiration or rescission of Executive Order No. 24-214, or my further order, whichever is earlier.

Effective Date: October 6, 2024.

DocuSigned by:

*Jared W. Perdue*

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Jared W. Perdue, P.E., Secretary  
Florida Department of Transportation