

Bridge Opening and Closing Regulations

The US Coast Guard regulates the opening and closing of draw bridges through the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Title 33 Part 117 – Navigation and Navigable Waters. While a schedule is defined for each draw within the City of Fort Lauderdale, there are exceptions to when bridges may open outside of the schedule. Some of these exceptions include passage of emergency vessels, for barges, or when a vessel is under tow or tug.

Regular Schedule for Bridges Within City Limits:

SE 17th Street

The draw shall open on the hour and half-hour.

Las Olas Boulevard

The draw shall open on the quarter-hour and three-quarter hour. On the first weekend in May, the draw need not open from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday, and, on the first Saturday in May, the draw need not open from 9:45 p.m. to 10:45 p.m.

Sunrise Boulevard

The draw shall open on the hour and half-hour. On the first weekend in May, the draw need not open from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday, and, on the first Saturday in May, the draw need not open from 9:45 p.m. to 10:45 p.m.

Oakland Park Boulevard

The draw shall open on the quarter-hour and three-quarter hour.

Commercial Boulevard

The draw shall open on the hour and half-hour.

SE 3rd Avenue

Shall open on signal; except that, from 7:30 a.m. to 9 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. to 6 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays, the draw need not open. Public vessels of the United States, tugs with tows, and vessels in distress shall be passed at any time.

Andrews Avenue

Shall open on signal; except that, from 7:30 a.m. to 9 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. to 6 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays, the draw need not open. The draw need not open for inbound vessels when the draw of the Florida East Coast Railroad bridge, mile 2.5 at Fort Lauderdale is in the closed position for the passage of a train. Public vessels of the United States, tugs with tows, and vessels in distress shall be passed at any time.

Avenue of the Arts

Shall open on signal; except that, from 7:30 a.m. to 9 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. to 6 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays, the draw need not open. Public vessels of the United States, tugs with tows, and vessels in distress shall be passed at any time.

Davie Boulevard

Shall open on signal; except that, from 7:30 a.m. to 9 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. to 6 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays, the draw need not open. Public vessels of the United States, tugs with tows, and vessels in distress shall be passed at any time.