

The Florida Department of Transportation, FDOT, welcomes you to the public information meeting for the U.S. 17 safety improvements project, in Volusia County, Florida. Financial Project ID Number 445716-1.



TOPIC: ABOUT THE PUBLIC MEETIING

- This **meeting** is being conducted in a hybrid format to provide multiple ways for the public to receive information about the project and provide input.
- This **meeting** is being conducted in-person, virtually through GoToWebinar, and over the phone.
- If you dialed in today on a telephone line, the PowerPoint presentation is available on the project webpage at www.cflroads.com/project/445716-1 (spell out).



TOPIC: ABOUT YOUR COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS

- We encourage your input and feedback about this project.
- All public comments and questions are part of the public meeting record and every method for providing public comments and questions carries equal weight.
- While comments and questions will be accepted at any time, those submitted by February 18, 2022, 10 days after the public meeting, will become part of the project's public meeting record.
- All comments and questions will be responded to in writing after the comment period.
- This public **meeting** is being recorded and a presentation is available on the project's web page located at CFLRoads.com/project/445716-1.



TOPIC: TITLE VI COMPLIANCE

- This public meeting was advertised and is being held in accordance with all state and federal regulations, including Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.
- Public participation is solicited without regard to race, color, national origin, age, sex, religion, disability or family status.
- Persons wishing to express their concerns about Title VI may do so by contacting Jennifer Smith, District Five Title VI Coordinator by mail at 719 South Woodland Boulevard DeLand, Florida 32720, by phone at 386-943-5367, or email at jennifer.smith2@dot.state.fl.us. You may also contact Jacqueline Paramore, State Title VI Coordinator by mail at 605 Suwannee Street, Mail Station 65 Tallahassee, Florida, 32399-0450 by phone at 850-414-4753 or email at jacqueline.paramore@dot.state.fl.us
- This information is shown on a sign at the in-person location, on the project website, and in the meeting notifications.



FDOT is proposing improvements along US 17 from Spring Garden Avenue, also known as State Road 15A, to Ponce Deleon Boulevard in Deleon Springs. The project is 3.1 miles in length.

FDOT also plans to widen U.S. 17 to four lanes from Ponce Deleon Boulevard to Lake Winona Road. The widening is part of a separate project, Financial Project ID Number 410251-3, and is anticipated to begin construction around the same time as this safety improvements project.



This project is the result of an access management study completed in 2019. The purpose of this project is to improve traffic operations and enhance vehicle and pedestrian safety.

The goal of this project is to help reduce the number of traffic crashes while maintaining existing roadway capacity, and to receive feedback from the community and local businesses to help understand the need for safety improvements along the corridor.



To date, FDOT's outreach efforts for this project have included a coordination meeting with Louise S. McInnis Elementary school, a local agency coordination meeting, and a hybrid meeting for local business owners along the corridor.

The plans being shown tonight are based on the 2019 access management study, and do not represent the final recommendations for this project. The purpose of this public meeting is to receive feedback from the community about the proposed improvements and to better understand the needs of the community. Your feedback will be utilized to make necessary design changes.



There are currently a total of 26 full median openings along the project limits. This project proposes to close 14 median openings and modify 12 median openings to directional openings. The project also proposes to construct two new directional openings within the project limits. Additional improvements planned for the project corridor include repaving, drainage modifications, minor lighting and sidewalk improvements, and widened shoulders to accommodate U-turns, where needed.



The purpose of these improvements is to enhance safety. Safety can be enhanced through access management by limiting the number of conflict points at a given intersection. Conflict points are places where two vehicles could cross paths and potentially collide.

At a full median opening, there are more conflict points than at a directional median opening.

Adjusting a full median opening to a directional median opening reduces conflict points. Reducing conflict points helps decrease the frequency and severity of crashes, thus increasing safety for motorists.



Starting at the south end of the project at Spring Garden Avenue, the proposed improvements include modifications to the crosswalks and curb ramps at the signalized intersection. Median opening closures are proposed at the southern driveway of Blessing Motel and south of Better Fence. Modified median openings to directional openings are proposed at West Virginia Avenue and Woodbridge Road.



Continuing north, median opening closures are proposed south of Tangerine Inn and at Park Avenue. Median opening modifications to directional median openings are proposed at the north driveway of Tangerine Inn, at Golden Hills Boulevard, and at Mills Road south.



Median opening closures are proposed at the opening north of Heavensgate Road, at Fairport Avenue and at the Farmer's Market. A modified opening to a directional median opening is proposed at Mills Road North.



Continuing north, modified openings to directional openings are proposed at Citra Street, West Davis Street, and Katrina Street. Median opening closures are proposed at the median opening north of the Twin Brothers Bakery, at the median opening between Davis Street and Katrina Street, and at West Retta Street.



Continuing north, modified median openings to directional openings are proposed at Broderick Street and at Reynolds Road. A median opening closures is proposed at Berlin Street. The project plans to provide a median opening at Webb Avenue to allow left turns out of Webb Avenue.



At the northern end of the project, median opening closures are proposed at Spring Street and at west Baxter Street. A median opening modification to a directional median opening is proposed at the east Baxter Street and Ponce Deleon Boulevard intersection. The project plans to remove the existing crosswalk and provide a new crosswalk at the new directional median opening. Overhead school zone flashing beacons are proposed north and south of the intersection to direct attention to the reduced speed zone. A modification to Ponce Deleon Boulevard is proposed to encourage slower speeds as vehicles approach US 17.



North of Ponce Deleon Boulevard, improvements are being proposed near McInnis Elementary School. The project plans to close the existing median opening at the school loop exit, restricting left turns out of the school loop. A new median opening is proposed just north of the school to allow for U-turns, along with a dedicated receiving lane for Uturns that can accommodate larger vehicles. These improvements have been coordinated with school administration.

Our team will be coordinating with the team for the widening project throughout the design of both projects. As this coordination moves forward, some improvements planned as part of this project may be constructed instead with the widening effort (FPID No. 410251-3). A public meeting for that project is planned for later this spring.



Design plans are expected to be completed in fall 2022 and construction is funded for summer 2023. The cost of construction is estimated at 3.8 million dollars.



To follow the status of the project, please visit the project page on the FDOT's Central Florida website <u>www.cflroads.com</u>. Type the project number 445716-1 in the search box at the top right corner of the page. Then click on "go."

The recording of this presentation and all materials shown here tonight are currently available on the website.

FDOT	Public Comments and Questions			
	In-person	Virtually	Mail	By phone
		CFLRoads.com/project/445716-1		

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- To submit comments in person, you may speak to our project staff on the floor or complete a printed Comment Form and return it to project staff.
- If you are participating online, you may submit written questions or comments in the Question box on the GoToWebinar Control Panel.
- Written comments may also be submitted on the project website at www.cflroads.com/project/445716-1.
- You may also contact the project manager directly by email at **Shelley.Chinquee@dot.state.fl.us (spell out**.)
- Or by U.S. Mail at the Florida Department of Transportation, 719 S. Woodland Boulevard, Mail Station 542, DeLand, FL 32720
- You may also call the project manager at **386-943-5439** to provide verbal comments during normal business hours.
- The contact information is also available on the public **meeting** notification that you may have received by mail.



TOPIC: THANK YOU FOR PARTICIPATING

- On behalf of the Florida Department of Transportation thank you for attending this public **meeting** and providing your input on this project.
- If you have comments or questions after the **meeting**, please submit them by **February 18, 2022.**
- Contact information, a recording of this public meeting, project documents and other exhibits displayed at the public meeting will be posted on the project website at **CFLroads.com/445716-1.**

Have a good evening.