



STATE ROAD 408 CAPACITY IMPROVEMENTS BETWEEN KIRKMAN ROAD & CHURCH STREET

PROJECT DEVELOPMENT AND ENVIRONMENT STUDY

PUBLIC MEETING SUMMARY

DATE: TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2023

LOCATION: CARVER MIDDLE SCHOOL AND VIRTUAL VIA ON24

The Central Florida Expressway Authority (CFX) held a public information meeting for the Project Development and Environment (PD&E) Study for the State Road 408/Spessard L. Holland East-West Expressway Capacity Improvements Project between Kirkman Road and Church Street on Tuesday, February 28, 2023. Participants could choose from an in-person and a virtual option for attendance:

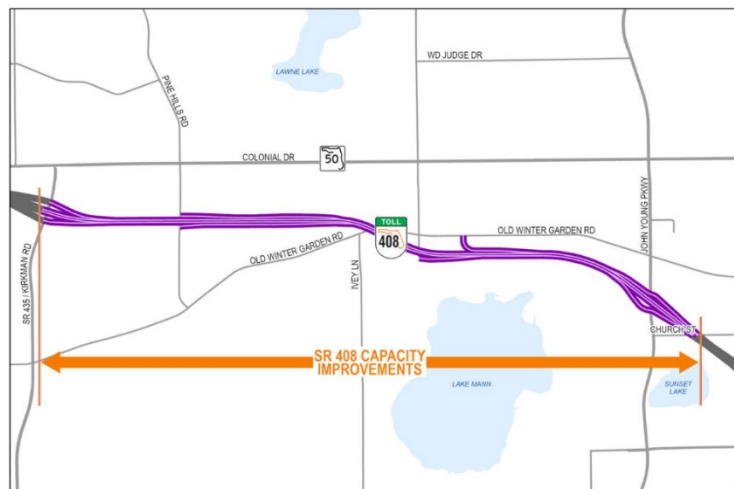
- The in-person public meeting was held at Carver Middle School (4500 Columbia St, Orlando, FL 32811) from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. The open house format provided attendees the opportunity to view displays and a looped video presentation, ask questions about the project and get answers from project staff, and submit comments.
- A simultaneous virtual (online) session was hosted from 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. through the online meeting platform ON24. Participants were able to view a presentation about the study and ask questions and provide comments in writing.



The project is anticipated to move into the design phase and another public meeting will be held.

I. Project Background

More than 164,000 vehicles per day travel on SR 408 near downtown Orlando. This study, which began in September 2022, has evaluated alternatives for improving traffic flow by adding a travel lane in each direction on SR 408 from Kirkman Road to Church Street.



Study Area Map

II. Public Notification

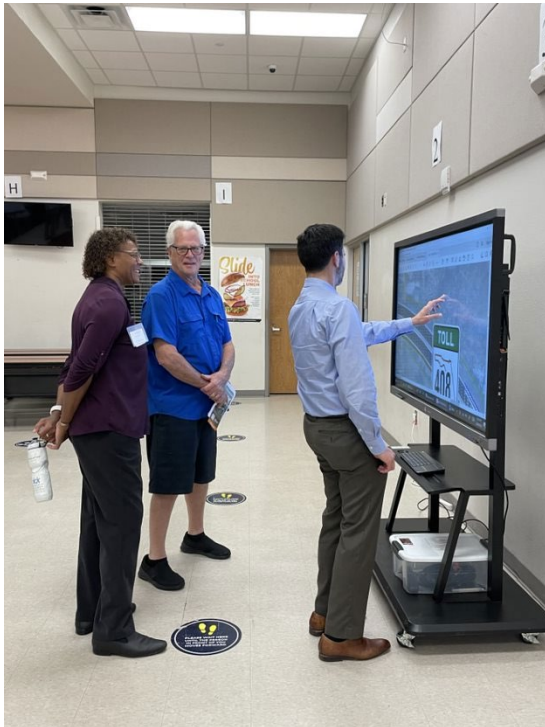
Public meeting invitation letters were mailed on February 10, 2023 to 395 property owners and tenants along the corridor. Invitations were also emailed and mailed to 22 elected officials and their aides. Meeting information was also posted on the project webpage and posted in the CFX lobby.

III. Media Notification

The public meeting was advertised with legal ads in the Orlando Sentinel on February 12, 2023, and February 26, 2023. A notice was published in the Florida Administrative Register (FAR) on February 6, 2023, and a press release was distributed to 62 media contacts on February 12, 2023.

IV. Public Meeting

The in-person public meeting at Carver Middle School was set up as an informal open house, where participants were welcome to come and go at their convenience, view displays, submit comments, and talk to the study team. The use of one large smart screen allowed the design team to provide meeting attendees with a more detailed view of the study exhibits. A looping PowerPoint presentation gave attendees an overview of the project's need, scope, and other details.



The following display boards were exhibited at the in-person public meeting:

- Project Location Map
- Roll Plot
- Typical Section

The presentation for the virtual meeting mirrored the presentation shown at the in-person meeting. Online attendees were able to view the same materials and displays shown at the in-person meeting. Throughout the virtual meeting, meeting attendees were able to submit comments and ask questions of the design team in writing via the ON24 chat function.

A recording of the presentation shown at the virtual meeting is available at:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=O0LJR7Caau0>

V. Meeting Attendance

Thirteen people attended the meeting at Carver Middle School and six people attended the virtual meeting. Attendees included representatives from the City of Orlando and Orange County Public Schools. Members of the media also covered the public meeting.

VI. Public Comments

Five comments were submitted during the in-person public meeting, and three comments were sent via the ON24 chat function during the virtual meeting. The following section summarizes the categories of comments received, as well as some related statements for each category.

Comment Categories and Related Statements

Comments and questions about noise barriers:

- “Noise barriers being installed to protect residential properties?”
- “I would like to see more trees added in front of the barrier wall for noise control.”
- “If it is possible, can you please add a sound barrier wall between Pine Hills Road and the toll plaza, just east of there?”
- “Please consider a noise barrier on the south side of the existing roadway. Currently there is 15 feet between the home and a road – conversation outside is impossible.”

Comments and questions about right of way:

- “Our property has been impacted by eminent domain twice since 1971, so we are relieved it appears not to be the case this time.”
- “We saw your Google Earth model at the meeting, and it appears that you will expand within the existing right of way.”

Comments and questions about landscaping:

- “Replant trees and shrubs on City and County sides.”
- “I would like to see more trees added in front [of] the barrier wall for noise control. Over the course of a couple of years trees have been removed in front of my property and not replaced.”

VII. Publicizing Public Meeting Materials

Study materials and the presentation were posted on the study webpage (<https://bit.ly/3nn5lJt>) on March 10, 2023.

