

STATE ROAD 408 WESTBOUND CAPACITY IMPROVEMENTS I-4 TO GOLDENROD ROAD PROJECT DEVELOPMENT AND ENVIRONMENT STUDY

PUBLIC MEETING SUMMARY DATE: MONDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2023 LOCATION: 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 Westbound State Road 408/Spessard L. Holland East-West Expressway Capacity Improvements Project from I-4 to Goldenrod Road on Monday, February 27, 2023. The virtual (online) session was hosted from 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. During the meeting, 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 Summer 2023 and another public meeting will be held.

I. Project Background

More than 164,000 vehicles per day travel on SR 408, with a significant portion traveling westbound in the morning from east Orlando to reach downtown and I-4. This study, which began in September 2022, has evaluated alternatives for improving traffic flow by providing a continuous, five-lane section in the westbound direction within the project limits.



This PD&E Study has evaluated the addition of one westbound lane from I-4 to Bumby Avenue and from SR 436/Semoran Boulevard to Goldenrod Road, matching previous improvements between Bumby Avenue and SR 436.

II. Public Notification

Public meeting invitation letters were mailed on February 10, 2023 to 1,123 owners and tenants along the corridor. Invitations were also emailed and mailed to 24 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 public meeting was held as a live presentation where viewers could follow along with a slideshow and ask questions of and provide comments to the study team in writing via the ON24 chat function. The presentation included slides with the following information:

- The PD&E study process
- A study area map
- Improvements to the SR 408 Westbound/I-4 Eastbound ramp
- The segment from Rosalind Avenue to Mills Avenue
- Typical section: Rosalind Avenue to Mills Avenue
- Typical section: Mills Avenue to Bumby Avenue
- The segment from Mills Avenue to Bumby Avenue
- The segment from Semoran Boulevard to Goldenrod Road
- Typical Section: Semoran Boulevard to Goldenrod Road
- An overview of the noise wall criteria process
- Contact information

A recording of the presentation shown at the virtual meeting is available at: <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=O0LJR7Caau0</u>

V. Meeting Attendance

A total of 13 people attended the virtual meeting. Attendees included representatives from WKMG, Representative Maxwell Frost's office, and the City of Orlando.

VI. Public Comments

A total of 15 comments were submitted during the virtual public meeting, and three comments were sent via email during the public meeting comment period. The following section summarizes the categories of comments received, as well as some related statements for each category.

Comment Categories and Related Statements

Questions about study area:

• "To clarify the exit ramp onto I-4 will stay as it is but will include 3 lanes at the start of it on the 408?"

- "It appears that the additional lane west of the Rosalind exit will be located on the outside of the existing lane footprint. I understand that no new ROW is anticipated to be needed but will the bridge/lane footprint need to be expanded? Will there be additional cantilever over existing roadways?"
- "So, the lanes themselves would not change in size only how many lanes would be in the current space?"

Question about noise walls:

• "Would noise walls be considered near senior high-rise Magnolia Tower and the Dr. Phillips Performing Arts Center?"

Questions about public transportation:

- "Is CFX considering any public transportation alternatives to this project?"
- "What evidence do you have that an additional lane on SR 408 WB is a better alternative to investing in more public transportation?"

VII. Publicizing Public Meeting Materials

Study materials and the presentation were posted on the study webpage (https://bit.ly/40UgkW2) on March 8, 2023.