

### PUBLIC MEETING SUMMARY REPORT PINE BAY SOUND BARRIER

Seminole County, Florida — July 2018 Financial Project ID: 439682-3



#### Report Compiled by

Global-5 Communications 2180 West State Road 434 Suite 1150 Longwood, FL 32779 407-571-6789 Public Information Consultant for FDOT District 5 I-4 Beyond the Ultimate Project

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

Public Meeting Summary Report	Tab 1
Letter to Residents and Survey	Appendix A
Meeting Announcements	Appendix B
Handouts	Appendix C
Display Boards	Appendix D
Presentation	Appendix E
Notification Letter to Residents	Appendix F

### Public Information Meeting for Pine Bay Sound Barrier July 24, 2018, 7 p.m.

- Location: Longwood Hills Congregational Church 1255 E.E. Williamson Road Longwood, FL 32750
- **Purpose:** The purpose of the meeting is to seek input from residents and present information on a sound barrier in the vicinity of the residential community located east of Interstate 4 (I-4) and along Pine Bay Drive.

### **Summary of Meeting**

A successful public meeting regarding the Florida Department of Transportation's FDOT proposed sound barrier near a Seminole County residential community was held on July 24, 2018. The meeting provided residents with information from a traffic noise evaluation that determined a sound barrier in the vicinity of the residential community located east of I-4 and along Pine Bay Drive is a cost-reasonable and feasible measure for reducing traffic sound from the interstate.

The selected meeting site was the Longwood Hills Congregational Church, located approximately 3 miles east of the proposed sound wall location. The meeting **site** proved to be ideal due to its easy-to-find, central location near the project site and the ample space in the meeting facility.

Global-5 developed a PowerPoint presentation, letters to residents, survey, door hanger, map handout, display boards and general information sheet. Global-5 distributed the letter and survey to residents on July 6 prior to the public meeting, Global-5 collected the survey results prior, during, and after the meeting.

Mike Wacht from Global-5 gave a presentation about the proposed sound wall barrier. Attendees had the opportunity to ask questions regarding the construction.

Two attendees signed in at the meeting. FDOT officials and consultants **also were** in attendance. Attendees took surveys to share with neighbors who did not attend the meeting. Global-5 received most of the completed surveys via mail.

### Summary of activities leading up to the meeting:

- Global-5 used the aid of the Seminole County Property Appraiser's Office to procure a list of resident addresses in the nearby area. The area that the letters were sent to residents that live on Pine Bay Drive. The letters to the residents, surveys and door hangers was sent to 37 addresses.
- Global-5 staff coordinated with the Longwood Hills Congregational Church to review meeting site information.
- Global developed a letter to residents on information about the sound barrier wall and a survey on whether or not they are in favor of the construction of the wall.

- Global-5 created a door hanger about the public meeting, including a map to the meeting venue that was posted to i4beyond.com. The door hanger was distributed to affected properties on July 3.
- Global-5 developed a PowerPoint presentation that was presented at the meeting. The video included an overview of the sound barrier wall.
- Global-5 developed display materials for the meeting, including a welcome board, a poster board map of the area where the proposed wall could be constructed and a Title XI display board.
- Global-5 created sound barrier wall handouts that were distributed at the public meeting.
- Global-5 collected survey responses from residents for the sound barrier wall and answered questions prior to the public meeting.

### Information on display and/or presented at the meeting:

- Meeting Welcome Board
- Title XI Compliance Board
- Financial ID # 439682-3 Pine Bay Sound Barrier Community Meeting
- PowerPoint presentation

Attendees were given the opportunity to share their thoughts, opinions and suggestions either verbally during the meeting or in writing.

#### Summary of written comments:

- Surveys received prior to meeting 17
- Surveys received at the meeting: 3
- Surveys received after the meeting: 2
- Number of attendees who singed in at the meeting: 2

### Summary of activities after the meeting:

- Global-5 continued to collect survey responses from residents for the sound barrier wall and answered questions after the public meeting.
- Global-5 developed a letter to residents notifying them the final results of the property/resident voting on the proposed sound barrier wall.
- Global-5 submitted the letter to residents that stated they received enough votes in support of the sound barrier wall to proceed with design and construction. The aesthetic treatments of Ashlar Stone and Light Gray color received the most votes.



### Florida Department of Transportation

RICK SCOTT GOVERNOR 719 S. Woodland Blvd. DeLand, FL 32720 MIKE DEW SECRETARY

October 1, 2018

PROPERTY OWNER NAME OR RESIDENT ADDRESS CITY, STATE, ZIP

RE: Sound Barrier Survey Proposed Longwood Sound Barrier Financial Project ID: 439682-2, -3, -4, -5 I-4 Beyond the Ultimate Project Seminole County, Florida

Dear Property Owner or Resident:

This is to notify you that the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) is seeking input for a proposed sound-barrier wall in your area.

The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) is proposing to increase the safety and capacity of Interstate 4 (I-4) through a traffic operation and capacity improvement project. Construction in Seminole County will begin with a project that will add a new lane to eastbound I-4 from west of E.E. Williamson Road to Lake Mary Boulevard and construct a new E.E. Williamson bridge over I-4. Construction is expected to begin in the winter of 2020/2021.

As part of the preparation process for I-4 construction, a traffic noise evaluation has determined that a sound barrier in the vicinity of the residential community located east of I-4 and along Pine Bay Drive is a cost-reasonable and feasible measure to reduce traffic sound from the interstate. Before proceeding with plans to design the sound barrier, FDOT is seeking input from you, as an affected property owner or resident, to verify your support for or opposition to the construction of sound barriers within the FDOT right of way. The decision to construct a sound barrier will be dependent upon the support or opposition provided by the affected property owners or residents. As part of the process to obtain input, FDOT is surveying property owners and residents who will benefit from the proposed barrier.

Only property owners and residents in the area that will benefit from the sound wall get to vote (see sound wall location map enclosed in this package to see the benefitted area). Owners and renters in the area will receive one weighted vote, according to the following formula:

- Owner occupied 100% weighting factor
- Owner non-occupied 90% weighting factor
- Renter occupied 10% weighting factor

For example, if a renter of a single family home wishes to have noise abatement but the owner does not, the opinion of the home owner would prevail. If the owner of the home did not respond for or against the noise abatement measure, then the renter's opinion would be used to be the equivalent of 10 percent of the vote of a home owner. This means that 10 renters in favor of the noise abatement would equal the vote of one owner occupied home.

www.dot.state.fl.us

If constructed, a concrete sound barrier would be permanently located within the existing FDOT right of way. The sound barrier would be 12 feet tall and extend approximately 1,802 feet from just north of the eastbound rest area on ramp to just past Pine Bay Drive, as shown on the enclosed exhibit for the sound sensitive area (NSA) referred to as NSA-D. Please note that the length of the sound barrier is subject to change during final design.

FDOT will take reasonable steps to minimize any potential construction impacts. However, please note that the proposed sound barrier may adversely affect adjacent vegetation and will require the removal of existing trees and vegetation within the FDOT right of way. The sound barrier will not require the displacement of adjacent residents or the acquisition of additional property.

The construction of the sound wall is in anticipation of the upcoming I-4 Beyond the Ultimate construction projects. This sound wall has been approved for construction with I-4 Beyond the Ultimate Segment 3, and the Department opted to include it with this widening project to mitigate the impact of the addition of the new lane. The sound wall is designed to mitigate the sound impact that is anticipated as a result of the I-4 Beyond the Ultimate project.

A public meeting that will provide more information about the sound barrier is scheduled for July 24, 2018, at the Longwood Hills Congregational Church at 1255 E.E. Williamson Rd, Longwood, FL 32750. The meeting begins at 7:00 p.m. and ends at 8:30 p.m. The meeting will be an open house format with a brief presentation at 7:30 p.m. followed by the opportunity to ask questions regarding the proposed sound barrier. You are invited to come to this meeting, learn more about the proposed sound barrier, meet with project staff and ask questions about the project that may help you when responding to the Sound Barrier Survey.

Enclosed is a Sound Barrier Survey to document your position. A Sound Barrier Information Sheet is also enclosed for your review.

Please complete and return the Sound Barrier Survey to FDOT by July 31, 2018, using the enclosed stamped envelope, or by sending it electronically to info@i4ultimate.com or by returning your completed survey at the public meeting. If you do not submit a response, a decision will be made without your input.

Thank you in advance for participating in this important survey. We appreciate your prompt attention to this matter.

Pursuant to the provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act, FDOT asks anyone requiring special accommodations to participate in the public meeting to advise the agency by contacting Jennifer Smith, FDOT, Title VI Coordinator at 386-943-5367 or via email at jennifer.smith2@dot.state.fl.us at least seven days before the meeting. Also, if you have any questions, please contact David Parks, Public Communications Coordinator at 407-670-2358 or by email at davidparks@i4ultimate.com.

Sincerely,

Beata Styś-Pałasz P. E. I-4 Beyond the Ultimate Program Manager Florida Department of Transportation

Enclosures



### Florida Department of Transportation

RICK SCOTT GOVERNOR 719 S. Woodland Blvd. DeLand, FL 32720 MIKE DEW SECRETARY

### Pine Bay Sound Barrier Survey Seminole County, Florida Financial Project Numbers: 439682-2, -3, -4, -5

The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) is considering construction of a concrete sound barrier wall within the Interstate 4 (I-4) roadway right of way adjacent to the residential area located east of I-4 from just north of the eastbound rest area on-ramp to just past Pine Bay Drive, as shown on the aerial exhibit sent with this survey form. The sound barrier will be ground mounted (please refer to enclosed exhibit), and its height will be 12 feet. Please note that the length of the sound barrier is subject to change during final design. FDOT is seeking your position regarding support for or opposition to the sound barrier, because you are a property owner or resident near the proposed sound barrier location.

A sound barrier is a permanent structure primarily designed to reduce traffic sound from a roadway to the properties within the area of influence. While the reduction in traffic sound is an advantage, there are also disadvantages to constructing the sound barrier. For instance, a sound barrier can create a shadow zone that can adversely impact nearby vegetation. Please refer to the Sound Barrier Information Sheet provided in this package for a listing of other potential advantages and disadvantages of this sound barrier.

Before giving further consideration to a sound barrier at the designated location, FDOT requires documented support in favor of the barrier from affected property owners and residents. If a majority of property owners and residents surveyed do not indicate support, a barrier will not be constructed. If a majority of affected property owners and residents indicate support, then FDOT is committed to constructing the barrier as part of I-4 Beyond the Ultimate. If during the design process it is determined that a sound barrier is no longer a feasible and reasonable measure for reducing traffic sound, then a sound barrier will not be constructed. The final decision regarding any aspect of the sound barrier will rest solely with FDOT.

If a property owner or resident votes in favor of the sound wall, they then should express their preference for the texture and color of the side of the sound wall facing the residences. There are two textures and three colors from which to choose.

This survey has been distributed to you as an affected property owner or resident to document your support for or opposition to the proposed sound barrier. One vote per address is permitted. We ask that you complete, sign and return the entire survey form to FDOT in the enclosed stamped envelope by July 31, 2018 or bring to the meeting July 24, 2018. Your expeditious reply is greatly appreciated.

Name of	of person completing this survey:		
Status o	of person completing this survey:		
	Property Owner & Occupant	□ Non-occupant Property Owner	
	□ Property Owner's Legal Representative	□ Tenant	
Propert	y Address:		
Teleph	one number:	_	
1.	1. Are you in favor of constructing a sound barrier wall between I-4 and your property to reduce traffic sound levels? Please check one: □ Yes □ No		
	Additional comments:		

2. If you are in favor of the sound wall, please express your preference for the texture and color of the side of the wall facing your property:

□ Ashlar Stone	🗆 Plain	□ Split Face Block	
□ 33446 Sand	□ 33690 Light Tan	□ 36622 Light Gray	
Signature:			

Return this survey in the enclosed stamped envelope, or return at the meeting July 24, 2018



### I–4 Sound Barrier Public Meeting

Date: Tuesday, July 24, 2018

Time: 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Place: Longwood Hills Congregational Church 1255 E.E. Williamson Rd, Longwood, FL 32750



Learn about commuter options in Central Florida at reThinkYourCommute.com Sign up for I-4 Construction Updates and Alerts at I4Beyond.com





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BEYOND

**BUILDING A BETTER I-4** 

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# **BUILDING A BETTER I-4**

Stay Informed:

- » Project Hotline: 844-ULT-INFO (858-4636)
- » Sign up for email and text alerts at fdot.tips/I4Alerts
- » Follow @i4Ultimate on Twitter
- » Subscribe to our monthly newsletter at fdot.tips/I4News

# **Sound Barrier Information Sheet**

The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) is considering construction of a sound barrier between your property and Interstate 4 (I-4). The proposed sound barrier would be constructed within the existing FDOT right-of-way. The maintenance of the sound barrier would be the responsibility of the FDOT.

The FDOT is soliciting the opinion of adjacent property owners and residents regarding the construction of a sound barrier and would like you to consider the following information when making your decision.



### Advantages and Disadvantages

A sound barrier is a permanent structure of significant height. For this reason, it is important that you understand the advantages and disadvantages of a sound barrier adjacent to your property.

### Advantages

- Sound barriers, when designed at the proper height and length, can reduce the loudness of traffic noise by as much as half.
- Sound barriers can be visually pleasing in order to preserve aesthetic values and scenic vistas.
- Sound barriers provide privacy from passing motorists.
- Sound barrier construction is at no additional cost to residents, and only proceeds if it is cost-effective.

#### Disadvantages

- Sound barriers will reduce, but cannot fully eliminate, traffic noise.
- Sound barriers cast fairly large shadows, permanently shading some areas which may adversely impact nearby vegetation.
- Existing trees within the right-of-way must be removed to construct a sound barrier.
- Motorists' view of commercial or landmark signs may be blocked.



Sign up for I-4 Construction Updates and Alerts at I4Beyond.com Learn about commuter options in Central Florida at reThinkYourCommute.com





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## INTERSTATE 4 (I-4) & SAXON BOULEVARD IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

This Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) improvement project focuses on improving traffic flow at the eastbound I-4 exit to Saxon Boulevard (Exit 111A) by realigning the exit ramp, adding a traffic signal at the end of the ramp, and adding a third lane on eastbound Saxon Boulevard between the ramp and the intersection of Finland Drive. Approximately 4 miles of Interstate 4 will be milled and resurfaced from west of Saxon Boulevard to east of State Road 472.

- » The purpose of this project is to accommodate current traffic and future needs.
- » Based on FDOT traffic counts, more than 90 percent of the traffic on this section of Saxon Boulevard is generated by people going to or coming from I-4 and the highest volume of traffic at this interchange is drivers going from eastbound I-4 to eastbound Saxon Boulevard.
- » Construction is scheduled to begin Spring 2018.
- » Construction is scheduled to be completed by Summer 2019.

- » Access to businesses will be maintained throughout construction.
- » Pedestrians will be accommodated when sidewalk closures occur on Saxon Boulevard. Pedestrians will always have access to at least one sidewalk along Saxon Boulevard.
- » During construction, lane closures on Saxon Boulevard will be limited to overnight hours between 10 p.m. and 7 a.m. When necessary, closure of the eastbound I-4 exit ramp to eastbound Saxon Boulevard will be be limited to overnight hours between 8 p.m. and 4 a.m.



Persons with disabilities who require accommodations under the Americans with Disabilities Act or persons who require translation services (free of charge) should contact Todd Helton, Project Manager, by phone at 386-943-5207, or via email at Todd.Helton@dot.state.fl.us. If you are hearing or speech impaired, please contact us by using the Florida Relay Service, 1-800-955-8771 (TDD) or 1-800-955-8770 (Voice).

Public participation is solicited without regard to race, color, national origin, age, sex, religion, disability or family status. Persons wishing to express their concerns relative to FDOT compliance with Title VI may do so by contacting Jennifer Smith, FDOT District Five Title VI Coordinator at Jennifer.Smith2@dot.state.fl.us.

### For more info, visit **fdot.tips/Saxon**

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Last Updated 02/02/2018



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### For more info, visit **fdot.tips/Saxon**

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472

Deltona

Sanford

417

DeBa

Lake Mary

17-92

429

Wekiya

429



- Project B: E.E. Williamson Bridge replacement
- <u>Project C:</u> Add eastbound general purpose lane on I-4 from the end of I-4 Ultimate to Lake Mary Boulevard
- Projects E & F: Resurfacing I-4 north and south of the Wekiva Parkway Interchange

FDOT opted to include a sound barrier wall in this project to mitigate future sound impacts

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## **Sound Barriers**

- Reduce the loudness of traffic noise, but do not completely block all traffic noise
- Must be tall and long with no openings
- Are most effective within 300 feet of a highway (usually the first row of homes)
- Must be designed to be visually appealing, and to preserve aesthetic values and scenic vistas
- Do not increase noise levels perceptibly on the opposite side of a highway

Source: FHWA, Keeping The Noise Down, Highway Traffic Noise Barriers



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# **Sound Barrier Walls**

### **Advantages**

- Sound barriers, when designed at the proper height and length, can reduce the loudness of traffic noise by as much as half.
- Sound barriers can be visually pleasing in order to preserve aesthetic values and scenic vistas.
- Sound barriers provide privacy from passing motorists.
- Sound barrier construction is at no additional cost to residents, and only proceeds if it is cost-effective.

### **Disadvantages**

- Sound barriers will reduce, but cannot fully eliminate, traffic noise.
- Sound barriers cast fairly large shadows, permanently shading some areas which may adversely impact nearby vegetation.
- Existing trees within the right-of-way must be removed to construct a sound barrier.
- Motorists' view of commercial or landmark signs may be blocked.





# **Sound Barrier Evaluation**

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) mandates that sound abatement must be considered if predicted noise levels:



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- Approach or exceed FHWA Noise Abatement Criteria (maximum allowable sound level) for the Land Use Category
- Are expected to exceed existing noise levels by 15 decibels or more





# **Pine Bay Drive Sound Barrier Wall**

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- Huntington Pointe/Pine Bay Drive is in land use Category B: Residential Area
- Noise Abatement Criteria (maximum level) for Category B is 66 decibels
- Predicted sound level for some Pine Bay Drive sites is approximately 70 decibels

Common Outdoor Sound Levels					
Jet Flyover at 1000 ft. Horn Noise - Train at 100 ft.	110	110			
Gas Lawnmower at 3 ft.	100	100	Dance Club Inside Subway Train (NY)		
Diesel Truck at 50 ft. heral Freight Train at 100 ft. Nolsy Urban Daytime	90	90	Food Blender at 3 ft.		
Gas Lawnmower at 100 ft.	80	80	Garbage Disposal at 3 ft. Very Loud Speech at 3 ft.		
Commercial Area	70	70	Vacuum Cleaner at 10 ft.		
Heavy Traffic at 300 ft.	60	60	Normal Speech at 3 ft.		
	50	50	Large Business Office Quiet Speech at 3 ft. Dishwasher Next Room		
Quiet Urban Nighttime	40	40	Small Theater, Large Conference Room (Background)		
Quiet Suburban Nighttime			Library		
	30	30	Bedroom at Night		
Quiet Rural Nighttime	20	20	Concert Hall (Background)		
	10	10	Broadcast & Recording Studio		
	0	0	Threshold of Hearing		

# **Pine Bay Drive Sound Barrier Wall**

- A 12-foot-high, 1,802-foot-long, ground-mounted wall from just north of the eastbound rest area onramp to just past Pine Bay Drive
- This barrier wall will result in:
  - 25 sites with at least a
    5 decibel sound reduction
  - A total cost of \$648,709, for an average cost of \$25,948
- Designed to mitigate predicted sound from I-4 Beyond the Ultimate

## Ground Mounted Sound Barrier





## FDOT: Improving Mobility & Safety in Central Florida

FDOT is ...

- Designing and building a better I-4 through Central Florida
- Improving mobility and safety on 60 miles of I-4 from Polk County into Volusia County
  - I-4 Ultimate (opening late 2021)
  - Wekiva Parkway Section 8 (opening 2022)
  - I-4 Beyond the Ultimate, North and South

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# I-4 Beyond the Ultimate

- Two 20-mile sections on either end of I-4 Ultimate
  - North: from east of S.R. 434 to east of S.R. 472
  - South: from west of U.S. 27 to west of S.R. 435 (Kirkman Road)
- I-4 Beyond the Ultimate will include
  - 140 rebuilt, new or widened bridges
  - 71 new drainage ponds
  - 23 interchanges improved or significantly rebuilt









# **Sound Barrier Surveys**

Please return completed surveys to FDOT by July 31, 2018.

Your survey documents your official position regarding the proposed sound barrier wall.

A majority of property owners/residents must support the barrier for it to be designed and constructed.

Not returning your survey counts as a "No" vote on the sound wall.







# **Next Steps**

- Please take a few moments to review the graphics on display
- Project staff are available to answer questions
- Copies of materials displayed at this meeting are available at i4Beyond.com
- Be sure to complete, sign and submit your survey





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ULTIMATE



# **Get Connected and Stay Informed**

- Visit i4Beyond.com for project documents, design plans and more
- Sign up for the I-4 Ultimate and I-4 Beyond the Ultimate monthly e-newsletters
- Get advance construction alerts on the parts of I-4 you drive
- Follow @I4Ultimate on Twitter for regular I-4 construction updates







### Florida Department of Transportation

RICK SCOTT **GOVERNOR** 

719 S. Woodland Blvd. DeLand, FL 32720

**MIKE DEW** SECRETARY

October 1, 2018

PROPERTY OWNER NAME OR RESIDENT **ADDRESS** CITY, STATE, ZIP

RE: Sound Barrier Results Notification Proposed Longwood Sound Barrier Financial Project ID: 439682-2, -3, -4, -5 I-4 Beyond the Ultimate Project Seminole County, Florida

Dear Property Owner or Resident:

This is to notify you of the final results of property owner and resident voting on the proposed sound barrier wall adjacent to your neighborhood. As of the deadline of July 31, 2018, the Florida Department of

Transportation (FDOT) received enough votes in support of the sound barrier wall to proceed with design and construction. The aesthetic treatments of Ashlar Stone and Light Gray color received the most votes.

As you were previously notified, FDOT plans to build a permanent concrete sound barrier wall within the existing FDOT right of way behind the homes located on Pine Bay Drive. The sound barrier wall would be a minimum of 12 feet tall and extend approximately 1,802 feet from just north of the I-4 eastbound rest area on-ramp to just past Pine Bay Drive. Please note that the length of the sound barrier wall is subject to change during final design.

Construction of the sound barrier wall will be part of a project that will add a new lane to eastbound I-4 from west of E.E. Williamson Road to Lake Mary Boulevard and also construct a new E.E. Williamson bridge over



Property owners and residents selected Ashlar Stone and Light Gray aesthetics treatments for the side of the sound barrier wall facing their homes. This is the same treatment currently under construction along Howard Avenue in Longwood as part of the I-4 Ultimate project.

I-4. Construction is expected to begin in the early spring 2020.

FDOT will take reasonable steps to minimize any potential construction impacts. However, please note that the sound barrier wall may adversely affect adjacent vegetation and will require the removal of existing trees and vegetation within the FDOT right of way. The sound barrier wall will not require the displacement of adjacent residents or the acquisition of additional property.

As part of the construction of the sound barrier wall, FDOT will remove the existing fence along the rightof-way line creating a 5-foot gap between the end of private property and the side of the sound barrier wall facing the residences. FDOT is currently researching options for the ongoing maintenance of the property in this gap, and representatives will reach out to property owners and residents in early 2019 to discuss those options.

Stay up-to-date on I-4 Beyond the Ultimate by signing up for the monthly e-newsletter, registering for advance construction alerts and more at <u>i4beyond.com</u>.

Thank you for participating in this important process.

Sincerely,

Beata Styś-Pałasz P. E. I-4 Beyond the Ultimate Program Manager Florida Department of Transportation