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## Florida Department of Transportation Completes Interchange Project at Interstate 4 (I-4) and County Road (C.R.) 532 near ChampionsGate

**OSCEOLA COUNTY, Fla.** – The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) has completed improvements in Osceola County at the Interstate 4 (I-4) and County Road (C.R.) 532 interchange near ChampionsGate. These improvements include a new diverging diamond interchange (DDI), widening the exit and entrance ramps, and operational changes to area surface roads. This innovative project is designed to improve safety and mobility in the ChampionsGate area.

While the addition of auxiliary lanes and milling and resurfacing projects continue nearby along I-4 and State Road (S.R.) 429, the DDI is now complete and is the first of its kind in the Orlando area. The project began in July 2021 and traffic shifted into the DDI configuration in July 2022.

As part of this construction project, crews expanded the eastbound and westbound I-4 entrance and exit ramps to improve capacity. Additionally, the intersection of ChampionsGate Boulevard and Goodman Road has been reconfigured. The project also added bike lanes and sidewalks along C.R. 532 to improve safety and connectivity for bicyclists and pedestrians, who now have dedicated routes through the interchange for the first time.

In the new DDI, motorists approaching the interchange on C.R. 532 switch to the left side of the road at a traffic signal. After passing under the interstate, they return to the right side at another traffic signal.

A DDI improves safety and mobility in several ways. First, it eliminates the need for left turns across oncoming traffic. Compared to a conventional interchange, a DDI has fewer conflict points, or places where vehicles cross paths, reducing the potential for

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collisions. Furthermore, it reduces the number of traffic signal phases, allowing more cars to travel through the interchange.

More DDIs are coming soon to improve the efficiency of other I-4 interchanges, including the ongoing Daryl Carter Parkway project and the upcoming improvements at Sand Lake Road.

Media inquiries should be directed to the FDOT District Five Communications Office at <u>FDOT-D5Comm@dot.state.fl.us</u> or by phone at 386-943-5593.

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