

January 2023

**I-95 Overview** 



# Agenda

01 | Corridor Significance

02 | Past Projects

**03** | Current Efforts

04 | Future Plans

**05** | Pioneer Trail Interchange



# **Corridor Significance**



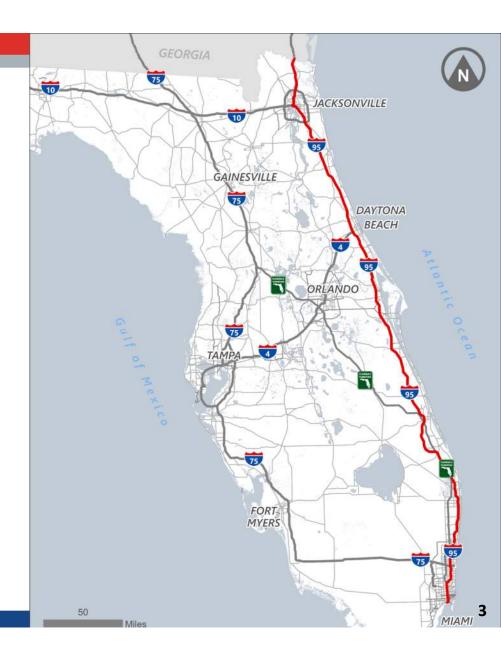
Connects 110 million people



Serves 40% of the country's GDP



**Evacuation route** 



# **District Five Segments**



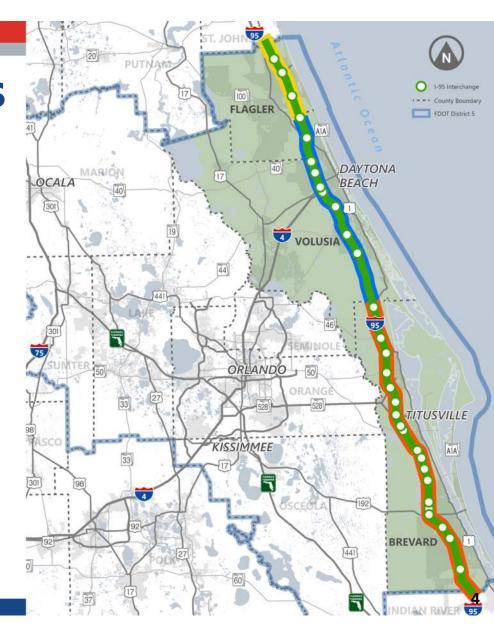
72.7 Miles19 Interchanges



45.7 Miles
8 Interchanges



18.7 Miles4 Interchanges



**Past Projects** 

Matanzas Woods Rd. Interchange

Widened from 4 lanes to 6 lanes

Pineda Causeway Interchange

Viera Blvd. Interchange

Ellis Rd. Interchange

Malabar Rd. Interchange



VOLUSIA

ORANGE

TITUSVILLE

BREVARD

AIA

ORLANDO 50

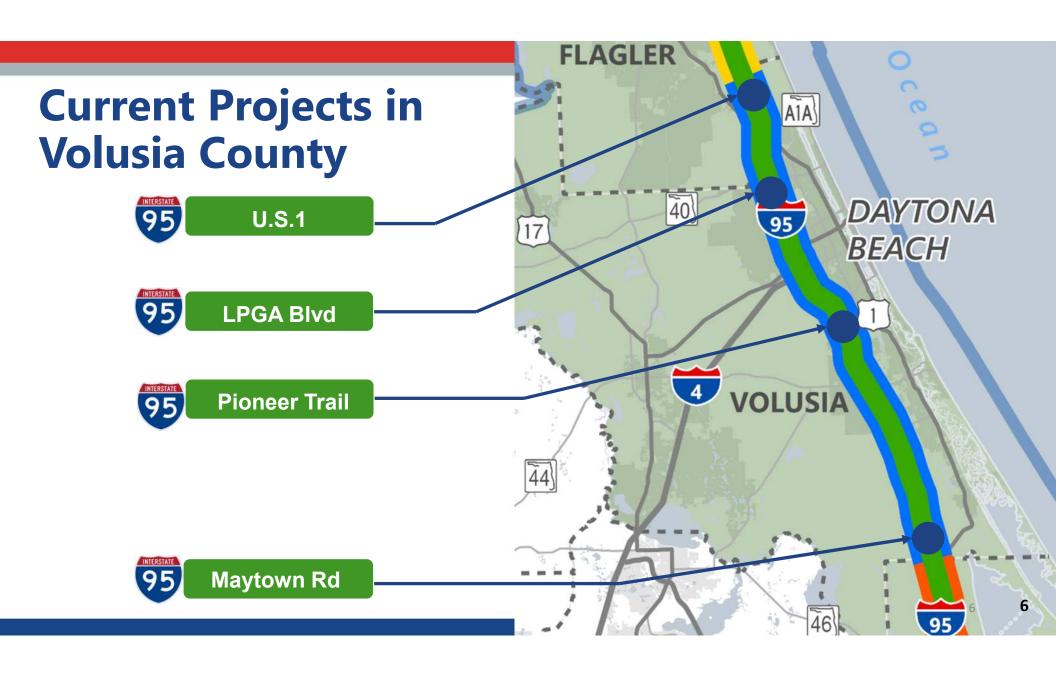
KISSIMMEE

I-4/I-95/US 92 Interchange reconstruction

SR 44 Operational Improvements

SR 442 Signal

Widened from 4 lanes to 6 lanes







419772-2

Partial Right of Way: Fiscal Year 2027

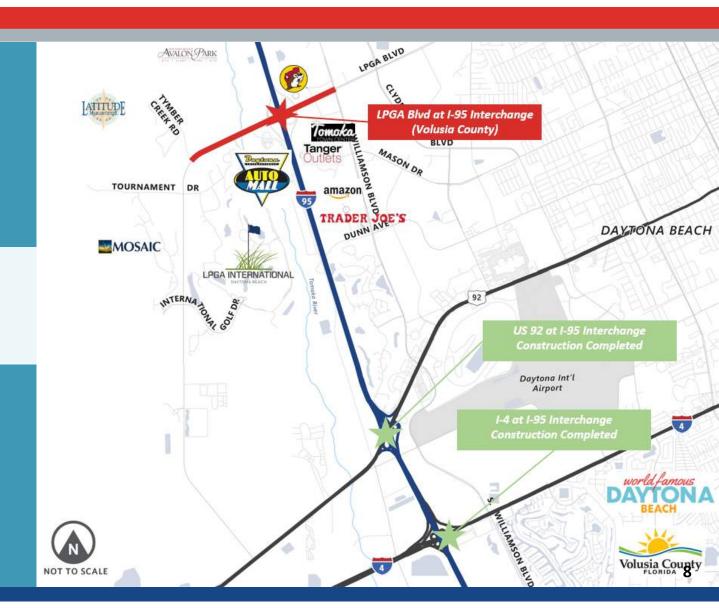




LPGA Blvd

448456-1

**Construction Unfunded** 

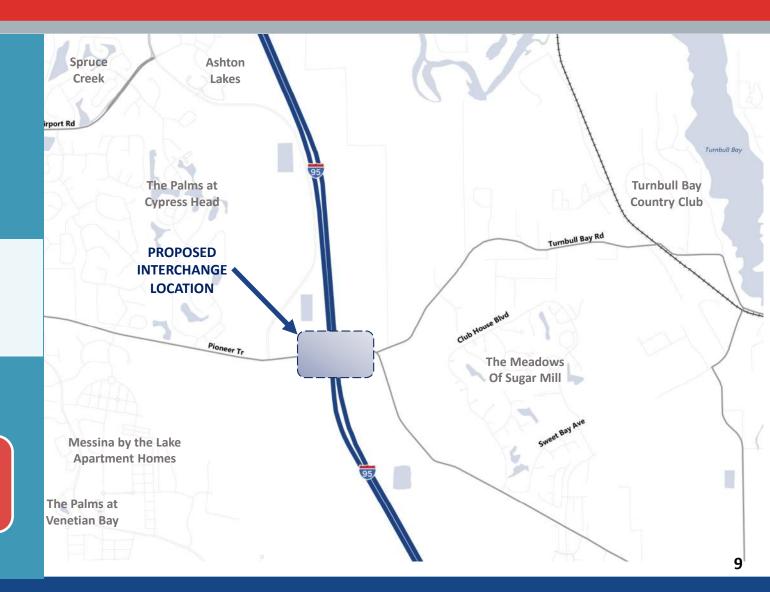




**Pioneer Trail** 

436292-1

Right of Way: FY 2023 Construction: FY 2023





### **Maytown Rd**

446826-1

PD&E Study Fiscal Year 2026



### **Future Plans**













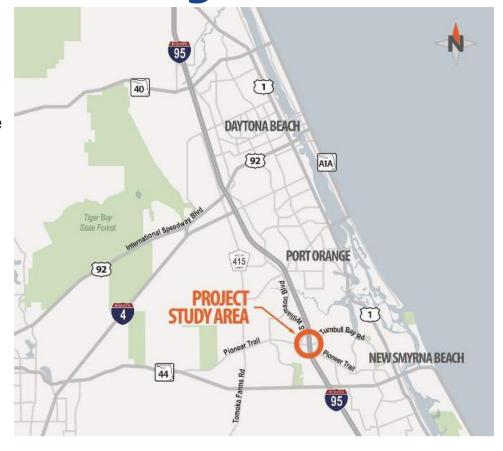
## I-95 at Pioneer Trail Interchange

#### Location

 The proposed interchange would be located between the existing I-95/State Road 44 (Lytle Avenue) interchange to the south and the I-95/ State Road 421 (Dunlawton Avenue) interchange to the north.

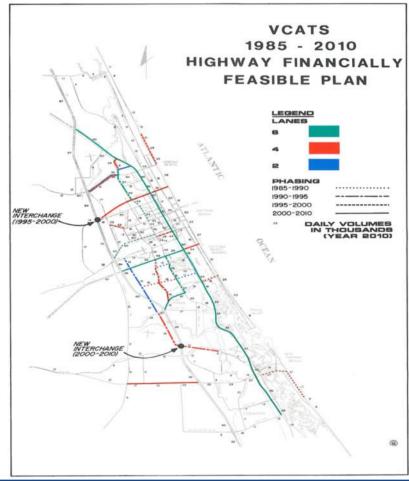
#### **Purpose and Need**

- Reduce congestion at adjacent interchanges (Dunlawton Avenue and S.R.44 interchanges)
- Improve regional mobility
- Enhance emergency evacuation
- Accommodate approved future developments in the area
- Provide logical and safe connections for future roadways expected as part of local growth.



### **Local Priority Project For Nearly 40 Years**

- May 1985 Volusia Coastal Area MPO adopted the Volusia Coastal Area Plan 2010 Update
- December 1995 Volusia MPO adopted the 2020 LRTP
- November 2000 Volusia MPO adopted the 2020 LRTP Plan Refinement
- November 2005 Volusia MPO adopted the 2025 LRTP
- August 2013 Volusia TPO amended the 2035 LRTP I-95 Interchange at Pioneer Trail was amended into the plan based on requests from Volusia County and the City of Port Orange
- January 2019 River to Sea TPO amended the 2040 LRTP Cost Feasible Plan
- September 2020 River to Sea TPO adopted the 2045 LRTP



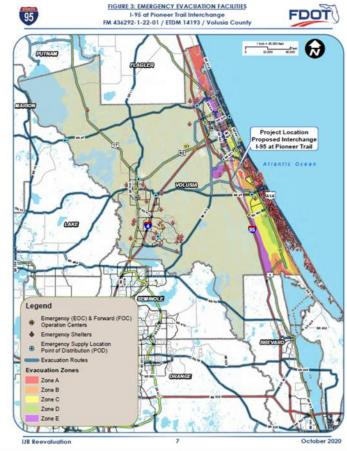
### Federal Approvals and ETDM Screening

#### **NEPA** and IJR approvals:

- National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Type 2 Categorical Exclusion (CE) was completed on January 27, 2021, and a design revaluation was completed on November 9, 2021.
- An Interchange Justification Report (IJR) was approved by FHWA on May 26, 2017. The IJR was later reevaluated to accommodate design changes on November 10, 2020, and January 13, 2022.
- Both Volusia County and the City of Port Orange were the combined requestor for the Pioneer Trail IJR.
- FHWA published a limitation on claims notice in the Federal Register on February 26, 2021.

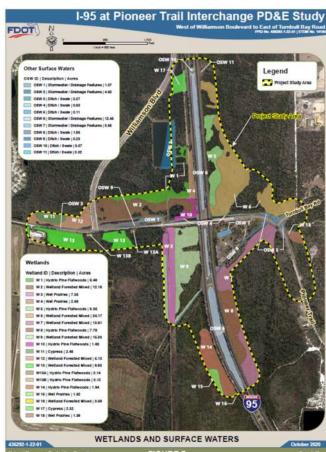
### Early environmental agency coordination:

- The project was screened through the Efficient Transportation Decision Making (ETDM) tool where both state and federal agencies review and provide input on the project.
- Several agencies including USACE, SJRWMD, USFWS, and FWC reviewed and concurred on the purpose and need for the project and provided comments on potential degree of effect of the project.



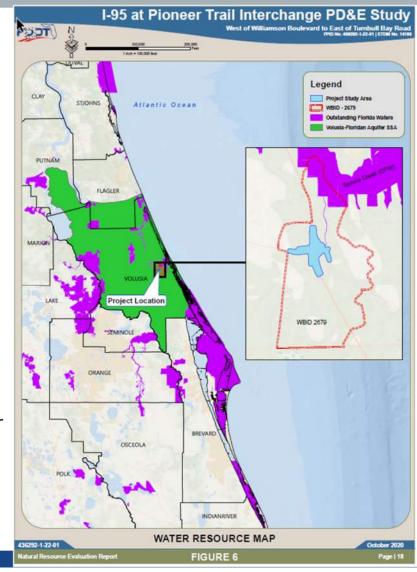
### **Wetland Impacts and Mitigation**

- The project will require an Environmental Resource Permit (ERP) from SJRWMD and a Section 404 Dredge and Fill Permit from the FDEP. The SJRWMD and FDEP permit applications were both submitted on February 2, 2022.
- The project will directly impact approximately 49 acres of wetlands.
- The Uniform Mitigation Assessment Method (UMAM) was used by SJRWMD and FDEP to determine the amount of mitigation credits necessary to offset the impacts.
- The final UMAM scores for the project evaluated a 35.64
   Functional Loss (34.62 FL-direct and 1.02 FL secondary). The
   scores for vegetative community and water environment
   averaged 7 out of 10 with an average score of 6 for the
   location and landscape support. These scores are high
   considering the location of the corridor to Interstate I-95, with
   manmade canals and ditching, the existing utility corridor, and
   past timber practices.
- FDOT will offset this impact using Farmton Mitigation Bank. This bank provides both wetland and wildlife conservation areas and will not result in a net loss of wetlands within the basin.



### **Water Quality**

- This project does not directly drain into any FDEP impaired water. The project's stormwater runoff will drain into an unnamed canal (WBID 2679) that eventually drains into Spruce Creek.
- The FDOT recognizes that Spruce Creek is an Outstanding Florida Water (OFW). While the project study area is within the Spruce Creek Hydrologic Basin, the actual project area does not contain any designated OFW.
- Western Spruce Creek (WBID 2674) is impaired for fecal coliform. FDOT is not a contributor of this pollutant.
- Eastern Spruce Creek (WBID 2674a) is impaired for nutrients and dissolved oxygen. Nutrients are a known parameter of stormwater runoff. The project's stormwater system will have the capacity to treat 150 percent of the expected stormwater runoff (1.5 times the project volume), which will improve existing water quality and provide a net benefit to the system.



### Wildlife and Habitat

- USFWS required additional conservation measures for the Eastern Indigo snake, which will be implemented during construction.
- General ground based biological surveys were conducted between the months
  of August 2017 through May 2020. A five-day survey for the Florida scrub-jay
  was conducted in late July and early August 2019. No federal listed species
  were observed during any of the surveys. Except for two gopher tortoise
  burrows, no state listed species were identified during the surveys.
- The project area does not contain any habitat for manatees.
- The Department provided a copy of the Natural Resources Evaluation (NRE)
  Report to USFWS North Florida Ecological Services Office, FWC, Office of
  Conservation Planning Service, the USACOE, and SJRWMD on September 24,
  2020. The USFWS concurred with FDOT's effect determinations and had no
  further comment. The USACOE provided additional data on available mitigation
  bank options, FWC and SJRWMD did not provide comment on the final NRE.
- FWC required additional conservation efforts related to the gopher tortoise and pine snakes, Any impacted gopher tortoises will be relocated and protections for pine snakes will be implemented during construction.





This project is not expected to impact any other protected species, and both USFWS and FWC have concurred with this determination.

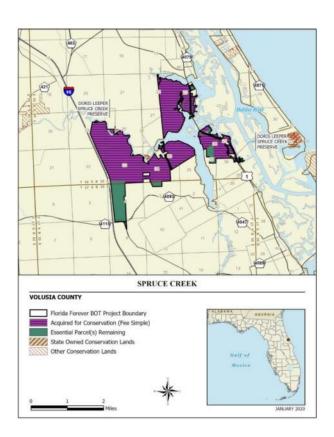
### **Floodplain**

- Floodplain impacts resulting from the project were evaluated pursuant to Executive Order 11988 of 1977, Floodplain Management.
- The project is within an open basin this limits the post development peak discharge rate to the pre-development peak discharge rate.
- Primary design storms for the stormwater facilities are governed by SJRWMD and are the 25 year/24 hour mean annual storm event. FDOT also examined the 100 year/24 hours mean annual storm event.
- 7.23-acre feet of floodplain are being encroached upon with this project. FDOT is compensating with 8.70-acre feet.
- Six Floodplain Compensation (FPC) ponds as well as roadside swales will provide this compensation volume for the floodplain volumes displaced by the roadway improvements.



### **Doris Leeper Spruce Creek Preserve**

- This project does not encroach into the existing boundaries of the Doris Leeper Spruce Creek Preserve.
- The Doris Leeper Spruce Creek Preserve consists of 2,475 acres of publicly owned preservation lands. The acquisition of the preserve began in the mid-1980's and involved several individuals, conservancy groups, and state and local governments and agencies.
- The Doris Leeper Spruce Creek Preserve is listed in the Florida Forever 2021 update as a substantially complete project. These projects have achieved at least 85% of their project goal, but still seek future acquisitions of inholdings, linkages between preserved areas, and other additions to meet their original conservation and protection objectives.
- Currently 2,475 acres of the overall 2,841 acres have been acquired, leaving 366 acres remaining.
- The land located in the northeast quadrant of the Pioneer Trail interchange is included in the remaining acreage, although it is currently privately owned.
- The project does not meet the requirements for a wildlife crossing, which
  include public conservation lands on both sides of the road, and
  documentation of road kills of wildlife species with high conservation
  values.



### Summary

- Locally prioritized project of regional significance
- NEPA and IJR have been approved
- Wetland impacts will be will mitigated and the project will not result in a net loss of wetlands
- The project will improve existing water quality, due to overtreatment of stormwater
- The project will undertake conservation measures for protected species during construction
- Floodplain compensation for the project will overcompensate by 1.47 acre-feet.
- The project does not encroach into the Doris Leeper Spruce Creek Preserve.
- The project involved significant extensive coordination with environmental agencies, as well as numerous coordination meetings with local officials.
- The project will reduce congestion, improve regional mobility, and enhance emergency evacuation

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