



Florida Department of Transportation/Florida's Turnpike Enterprise

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KEVIN J. THIBAUT, P.E.
SECRETARY

For Immediate Release

July 14, 2021

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FDOT to Host Public Hearing

Florida's Turnpike Enterprise to Host a Hybrid Public Hearing for the Project Development & Environment (PD&E) Study of Florida's Turnpike (SR 91) Widening from Jupiter (Indiantown Road/SR 706) to Ft. Pierce (Okeechobee Road/SR 70) in Palm Beach, Martin and St. Lucie counties

Ocoee, Fla. – The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT), Florida's Turnpike Enterprise (FTE) will hold a Hybrid Public Hearing for the **Project Development & Environment (PD&E) Study of Florida's Turnpike (SR 91) widening from Jupiter (Indiantown Road/SR 706) to Ft. Pierce (Okeechobee Road/SR 70) in Palm Beach, Martin and St. Lucie counties (Financial Project Identification Number 423374-1 and Efficient Transportation Decision-Making Number 14295).**

The Public Hearing will be held at 5:30 p.m. Thursday, July 22, 2021, with an informal open house. A formal presentation will begin promptly at 6 p.m., followed by a public comment period.

Interested persons may participate in the Public Hearing:

- 1) In-person by going to the Schreiber Conference Center, CORE Communities Auditorium at Indian River State College, 500 NW California Boulevard, Port St. Lucie, FL 34986 or the Clare & Gladys Wolf High-Technology Center, Susah H. Johnson Auditorium at Indian River State College, 2400 SE Salerno Road, Stuart, FL 34997, on **Thursday, July 22, 2021**. These two sites are being provided to accommodate stakeholders with limited Internet connections and allow attendees to view the virtual meeting and speak with project staff in-person; or
- 2) Virtually from a computer, tablet, or phone. Participants attending virtually may join in listen-only mode by calling 1-415-930-5321 and entering the access code 970-667-502 when prompted. All participants, regardless of the platform they choose, will participate in the same live Public Hearing.

If you wish to participate in the Public Hearing virtually, please visit the project website at www.TreasureCoastTurnpike.com to register for the Public Hearing and to select your participation option. Please note that registration works best in the Google Chrome, Microsoft Edge, or Firefox web browser. Once registered, you will receive a confirmation email that includes instructions on how to join.

If you wish to participate in the Public Hearing in-person, the Department requests advance registration to help ensure attendees are accommodated safely in accordance with current social distancing guidelines. Please visit the project website at www.TreasureCoastTurnpike.com or contact Brian Ribaric, P.E., FTE Project Manager (Atkins) at (407) 264-3095 or by email at Brian.Ribaric@dot.state.fl.us to register for the in-person option. You should not attend the Public Hearing in-person if you are not feeling well.

Draft project documents are available now for public review on the project website at www.TreasureCoastTurnpike.com. Project documents are also currently available for public review through August 2, 2021, at the Havert L. Fenn Center, located at 2000 Virginia Avenue, Fort Pierce, FL 34982 and at the Clare & Gladys Wolf High-Technology Center, at Indian River State College, located at 2400 SE Salerno Road, Stuart, FL 34997, Monday through Friday, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. The project

Hybrid Public Hearing Notice

documents will also be available at the Public Hearing. Project information and updates will be posted on the project's website, www.TreasureCoastTurnpike.com.

Persons wishing to submit public comments or questions may do so whether attending virtually or at the in-person locations. Those who are unable to participate in the Public Hearing may submit comments by contacting Brian Ribaric, P.E., using the information provided above or below. All comments received postmarked on or before Wednesday, August 11, 2021, will be included in the records for the Public Hearing.

The environmental review, consultation, and other actions required by applicable federal environmental laws for this project are being, or have been, carried out by the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) pursuant to 23 United States Code (U.S.C) § 327 and a Memorandum of Understanding dated December 14, 2016, and executed by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and FDOT.

Public participation is solicited without regard to race, color, national origin, age, sex, religion, disability, or family status. Persons who require special accommodations under the Americans with Disabilities Act or persons who require translation services (free of charge) should contact Brian Ribaric at the contact information below at least seven (7) days prior to the Public Hearing. If you are hearing or speech impaired, please contact the agency using the Florida Relay Service, 1(800) 955-8771 (TDD) or 1(800) 955-8770 (Voice).

If you have any questions about the project or the scheduled hearing, please contact:

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The Florida Department of Transportation's mission is to provide a safe transportation system that ensures the mobility of people and goods, enhances economic prosperity, and preserves the quality of the state's environment and communities. The department is committed to building a transportation system that not only fits the current needs of Florida's residents and visitors, but also enhances mobility throughout the state to accommodate its consistent and rapid growth. The unique nature of the Sunshine State and its year-round warm climate provides numerous opportunities to achieve the department's mission through multiple transportation modes including highways/streets, air, rail, sea, spaceports, transit, and the ever-expanding deployment of bicycle & pedestrian facilities.