

# **PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT PLAN**

## **International Drive Pedestrian Overpass Intersection Analysis and Overpass Conceptual Design Study**

***Y21-803-CH***



Prepared for Orange County Government

**March 14, 2022**

*Prepared by HHCP&AVCON A Joint Venture*

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## PURPOSE OF THE PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT PLAN

The public's involvement in the International Drive Pedestrian Overpass Intersection Analysis and Overpass Conceptual Design Study ("I-Drive Pedestrian Overpass Study") is critical to the success of this long-sought-after project to improve pedestrian safety and traffic and serve as an aesthetic gateway to one of Orange County's most-heavily traveled tourism corridors.

This Public Involvement Plan (PIP) sets the groundwork for contacting the public, businesses, and other interested parties, and for responding and recording their input so the County ultimately may develop a pedestrian overpass structure that meets the area's unique transportation needs and is supported by the community it intends to serve. The PIP's purpose is to provide for two-way communication during all phases of this Study, with ample opportunities to involve the community in the project development and decision-making process. This PIP is comprised of several primary elements that will extend through the project's duration:

- Small group and advisory meetings
- Public notifications
- Public information meetings and hearings

The sections below detail communication strategies to ensure an open and transparent flow of information between the Study team and stakeholders, as well as delineate efforts between the County and HHCP&AVCON A Joint Venture to inform and involve Orange County's citizens, appropriate State and local agencies, and responsible appointed and elected public officials throughout the Study process.

## PROJECT CONTACTS

### **Blanche Hardy, PG**

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Orange County Planning, Environmental and Development Services (PEDS) Department  
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## PROJECT INFORMATION

This project is in Orange County and proposes a pedestrian overpass structure with appropriate end treatments/approaches transversely across SR 482/Sand Lake Road on International Drive located generally 400 feet north of SR 482/Sand Lake Road and extending approximately 400 feet south of the intersection (*Figure 1*). The overpass shall provide access to, and allow passage between, each of the four corners of the intersection.

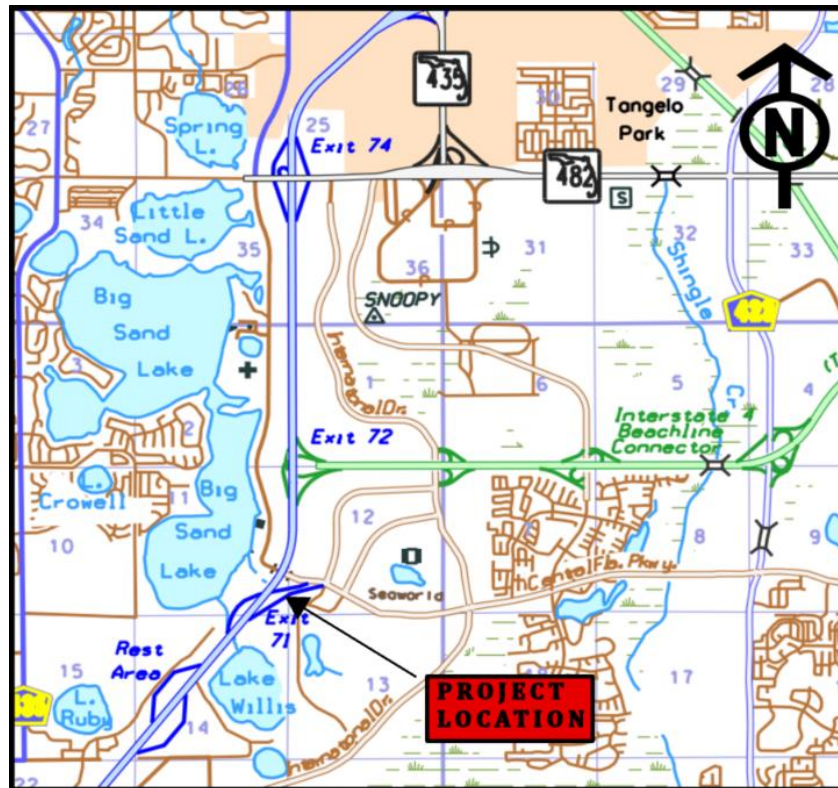


Figure 1: Project Location Map

The Study will consider and reflect the direction and objectives of the I-Drive 2040 Strategic Vision, the I-Drive 2040 District Overlay Zone, the I-Drive Activity Center, the current Orange County Comprehensive Plan International Drive Element, and the I-Drive Signage and Wayfinding Plan, as well as the I-4 Beyond the Ultimate plans for the I-4 and Sand Lake Road intersection.

## **PROJECT STAKEHOLDERS**

Elected and appointed officials and additional interested parties who will be included on the project mailing list are shown below. The Study Collaborative Team will develop and maintain contact lists with the following stakeholder groups, as well as additional interested parties identified throughout the Study process. Further details on the mailing list are included later in the PIP.

### **ORANGE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

**Mayor Jerry L. Demings**

**Commissioner Nicole H. Wilson** – District 1

**Commissioner Christine Moore** – District 2

**Commissioner Mayra Uribe** – District 3

**Commissioner Maribel Gomez Cordero** – District 4

**Commissioner Emily Bonilla** – District 5

**Commissioner Victoria P. Siplin** – District 6

### **ORANGE COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD**

**Teresa Jacobs** – Chair

**Angie Gallo** – District 1

**Johanna López** – District 2

**Linda Kobert** – District 3

**Pam Gould** – District 4

**Vicki-Elaine Felder** – District 5

**Karen Castor Dentel** – District 6

**Melissa Byrd** – District 7

### **U.S. AND FLORIDA SENATE AND REPRESENTATIVES**

**U.S. Senator Marco Rubio**

**U.S. Senator Rick Scott**

**Congresswoman Val Butler Demings** – District 10

**State Senator Randolph Bracy** – District 11

**State Representative Geraldine F. “Geri” Thompson** – District 44

### **METROPLAN ORLANDO**

**Gary Huttman, AICP** – Executive Director

**Nick Lepp, AICP CTP** – Director of Transportation Planning

**Keith Caskey, AICP** – Manager of Planning Services

**Virginia L. Whittington** – Director of Regional Partnerships

### **CENTRAL FLORIDA REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY (LYNX)**

**Norm Hickling** – Director of Operations

**Bruce Detweiler** – Interim Director of Planning and Development

### **SOUTH FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT**

**Richard Lott, P.E.** – Engineering Section Leader

### **FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION**

**Aaron Watkins** – Director, Central District



**FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

Jared Perdue – District 5 Secretary

**FLORIDA FISH & WILDLIFE CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

Greg Workman – Northeast Regional Director

**ORANGE COUNTY KEY STAFF**

Jeffrey Newton – County Attorney

Byron Brooks – County Administrator

Daniel Banks – Deputy County Administrator

Carla Bell Johnson – Deputy County Administrator

Eduardo Torres – Utilities Director

Joe Kunkel – Public Works Director

Diana M. Almodovar, P.E. – Public Works Deputy Director

Dale V. Mudrak, P.E. – Manager, Development Engineering Division

Mike Drozeck, P.E., CFM – Manager, Stormwater Management Division

Jonathan Weiss – Planning, Environmental and Development Services Director

Renzo Nastasi, AICP – Manager, Transportation Planning Division

Alissa Barber Torres, FAICP, CLTD – Chief Planner, Transportation Planning Division

Blanche Hardy, PG – Project Manager, Transportation Planning Division

Mindy T. Cummings – Manager, Real Estate Management Division

David Jones, P.E., CEP – Manager, Environmental Protection Department

**INTERNATIONAL DRIVE BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT**

*(Members not already listed in the above categories)*

Orlando Commissioner Bakari F. Burns – District 6

Sibille Pritchard – Vice President, Orlando Plaza Partners

Harris Rosen – President, Rosen Hotels & Resorts

Joshua Wallack – Chief Operating Officer, Mango's Tropical Café

Russ Dagon – Senior Vice President of Resort Development, Universal Orlando Creative

Marco Manzie – President, Paramount Hospitality Group

Luann Brooks – Executive Director, International Drive Business Improvement District

Caitlin Glassman – Special Projects and Communications

**INTERNATIONAL DRIVE CRA ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Marc S. Reicher – Mayor's Representative

Chadwick Hardee – At Large Representative

Melanie H. Becker – University Boulevard Property Owners Association, Inc. Representative

Samuel Butler, Jr. – Tangelo Park Civic Association Representative

Daniel P. Giordano – International Drive Resort Area Chamber of Commerce Representative

Robert Haywood – International Drive Master Transit and Improvement District Representative

Tim Swan – Efficient Transportation for the Community of Central Florida, Inc. Representative

## PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT ACTIVITIES

Public involvement in this Study process will be critical to its success. This section summarizes the various types of public involvement activities that will be used to ensure an open and transparent flow of information and provide for two-way communication between the Study team and stakeholders during all phases of the project.

## MEETINGS

### AGENCY COORDINATION MEETINGS

HHCP&AVCON, with the County, will conduct initial meetings/telephone calls and up to 10 follow-up conversations with the following local and state organizations to provide details about the Study and solicit initial input on the project:

Florida Department of Environmental Protection	Orange County Public Schools
Florida Department of Transportation	Orange County Real Estate Management Division
International Drive Business Improvement District	Orange County Sheriff's Office
LYNX	Orange County Utilities Department
Orange County Environmental Protection Department	Regional Power Providers
Orange County Fire Rescue	South Florida Water Management District
Orange County Planning Department	St. Johns River Water Management District

### PROJECT ADVISORY GROUP MEETINGS

The Study Collaborative Team will create a Project Advisory Group, subject to approval by County staff, that will meet five (5) times to review the Study findings and recommendations and provide input that will help move the project forward. This group could include, but is not limited to, representatives from the following organizations:

City of Orlando	Orange County Convention Center
Clear Channel Outdoor	Orange County Convention Center Client Advisory Board
Dowdy Realty North International Drive	Paramount Hospitality Management Group/Avanti Hotel
Efficient Transportation for the Community of Central Florida, Inc.	Plaza International/Brooksville Group
Florida Department of Transportation	Rosen Hotels & Resorts
Hilton Orlando	SeaWorld
Hyatt Regency Orlando	Unicorp National Developments
ICON Orlando	Visit Orlando



International Drive Master Transit and Improvement District	Westwood Property Association
International Drive Resort Area Chamber of Commerce	Universal Boulevard Property Owners Association
Mango's Tropical Café	Universal Orlando
McDonald's (Intersection Corner)	

These Project Advisory Group meetings will be scheduled into summer 2022.

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## SMALL GROUP MEETINGS

HHCP&AVCON will conduct up to 14 small group meetings with organizations interested in the project, which could include citizen advisory committees, homeowners, businesses, property owners, and tourist or business associations. These meetings will be organized in a manner that promotes the exchange of information and proactively involves citizens in the Study process. The team will provide the County with support materials, meeting summaries, and any requested follow-up information, subject to approval by County staff.

## PUBLIC NOTIFICATION

This project will involve multiple types of outreach strategies to ensure stakeholders receive information about the Study and have an opportunity to provide feedback or other comments.

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## MAILING LIST

The Study Collaborative Team will maintain and update a mailing list (initially provided by County staff) of all homeowners/property owners located within the Study corridor. This list may be expanded during the Study process to include additional interested parties (businesses, organizations, or individuals), including potential permitting or review agencies, area elected and appointed officials, community leaders, and media representatives. The Study Collaborative Team will provide an updated mailing list for public meetings, including Local Planning Agency (LPA) and Board of County Commissioners (BCC) public hearings.

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## NEWSLETTERS

HHCP&AVCON will develop and distribute a newsletter branded for Orange County in English and Spanish five (5) times during the Study, according to the following schedule:

- **Edition 1:** Prior to Kick-Off Alternatives Information Public Meeting (*TBD*)
- **Edition 2:** Prior to the Recommended Improvement Concept Meeting (*TBD*)
- **Edition 3:** Prior to the LPA Public Hearing (*TBD*)
- **Edition 4:** Prior to the BCC Public Hearing (*TBD*)
- **Edition 5:** After final action by the BCC (*TBD*)



The newsletters will be designed and printed in color on 8.5" x 11" sheets with content and design subject to approval by County staff. In addition to providing pertinent project information, newsletters will include project contact information and a project webpage address to ensure multiple avenues for input and exchange of information.

Each English newsletter shall include a Spanish point of contact supplied by the County. English copies of the newsletter will be printed in 110% quantities of totals from the mailing list, along with 15 additional copies for County internal distribution. The Assistant Manager of Transportation Planning Division and the County Communication Office will approve all final newsletter proofs prior to printing. All newsletters will adhere to the County's Title VI Nondiscrimination Policy and Plan.

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## WEBSITE

The Study Collaborative Team will maintain a microsite within Orange County Government's website at least three (3) weeks prior to the Public Kick-Off Alternatives Meeting. This site will provide updates about the project, including meeting minutes and materials and project updates, as well as an interactive comment form for public feedback. The site will be compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act, with materials maintained online for the duration of the project. At the conclusion of the Study, the team will transfer the website to the County for archival purposes.

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## ADVERTISEMENTS/NEWS RELEASES

Advertisements will announce the purpose, date, time, and location of each public meeting and hearing. HHCP&AVCON and its team will prepare and coordinate the publication of display advertisements and calendar of events listings in the Sunday Orange County Extra section of the *Orlando Sentinel* and *El Sentinel* at least two (2) weeks prior to each public meeting or hearing. The advertisements shall be display ads approximately 4" x 5" in size. The Study Collaborative Team also will create news releases prior to each public meeting. News releases will be delivered to the County Project Manager at least four (4) weeks prior to each public meeting or hearing. All advertisements and news releases will be approved by the Assistant Manager of the Transportation Planning Division and the County Communication Office.

## PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETINGS AND HEARINGS

The Study Collaborative Team will coordinate two (2) public information meetings as part of this process, to include all preparations and presentation materials for the meetings whether virtual or in-person. The Study Collaborative Team will receive direction from the County prior to beginning work on meeting materials, such as PowerPoints, scripts, or displays, and will provide materials for review to the County at least (3) three weeks prior to each meeting.

The public information meetings will be:

- A **Kick-Off Alternatives Information Public Meeting** within 20 weeks of the Notice to Proceed meeting to present data collection findings, alternative intersection improvements, and the aesthetic design concepts of the preferred alternative.

- A **Recommended Improvement Concept Public Meeting** after completing the alternative analysis activities and identification of a Recommended Improved Concept. This meeting will present the draft Recommended Improvement Concept to the public for review and comment prior to presentation to the LPA and BCC.

As part of each meeting, the Study Collaborative Team also will document and summarize comments gathered in-person/virtually and through the preparation and distribution of comment forms or surveys to meeting participants. Comments will be submitted to the County and evaluated during the alternative analysis process to help guide the selection of a Recommended Improvement Concept for the project.

## PUBLIC HEARINGS

Nearing the final stages of the project, the Study Collaborative Team will prepare for, participate in, and provide all necessary support to County staff to conduct a Work Session and Public Hearing with the LPA, and later with the BCC for a final decision. The Work Session and Public Hearing presentations to the LPA will reflect the Recommended Improvement Concept. Backup materials and related reports will be due to the County at least three (3) weeks prior, with the final digital presentation due to the County at least two (2) business days prior to the scheduled LPA meeting time.

The Final Public Hearing presentation to the BCC will reflect the Recommended Improvement Concept and any comments received from the LPA and BCC Work Sessions and LPA Public Hearing. The Study Collaborative Team will provide backup materials and supporting reports for the BCC Work Session and Public Hearing at least three (3) weeks prior to these meetings. The final digital presentation will be due to the County at least two (2) business days prior to the meeting.

## PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT ACTIVITIES SCHEDULE

<b>Agency Coordination Meetings</b>	Up to 14 meetings (TBD)
<b>Small Group Meetings</b>	Up to 14 meetings (TBD)
<b>Project Advisory Group (PAG) Meetings</b>	5 meetings (TBD)

<b>PAG Meeting</b>	<b>Date</b>
<b>PAG Meeting #1</b>	TBD
<b>PAG Meeting #2</b>	TBD
<b>PAG Meeting #3</b>	TBD
<b>PAG Meeting #4</b>	TBD
<b>PAG Meeting #5</b>	TBD
<b>Kick-Off Alternatives Meeting</b>	Thursday, July 21, 2022
<b>Recommended Improvement Concept Meeting</b>	Thursday, August 25, 2022
<b>LPA Work Session and Public Hearing</b>	Thursday, September 22, 2022
<b>BCC Work Session and Public Hearing</b>	Thursday, October 13, 2022

## **FINAL SUMMARY**

The Study Collaborative Team will provide a final summary to the County of all public involvement activities during the Study, including copies of presentations, handouts, informational displays, comments, response letters, and related materials.

## **TITLE VI NONDISCRIMINATION POLICY AND PLAN COMPLIANCE**

All activities in this plan will actively support and follow nondiscrimination laws and regulations, including Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and other nondiscrimination authorities as outlined in Orange County Government, Florida's Title VI Nondiscrimination Policy and Plan approved by the Orange County Board of County Commissioners.

This policy states that Orange County, Florida values diversity and welcomes input from all interested parties, regardless of cultural identity, background, or income level. Moreover, the County believes that the best public policy and governmental services result from careful consideration of the needs of all of its communities and when those communities are involved in the public policy and governmental services decision-making process. Thus, the County does not tolerate discrimination in any of its programs, services, or activities. Pursuant to Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, 42 U.S.C. § 2000d et seq. (Title VI, and related laws and regulations), and Orange County, Florida Regulations and Standard Operating Procedures, the County will not exclude from participation in, deny the benefits of, or subject to discrimination any person on the grounds of race, color, national origin, sex, age, disability, religion, income, or family status.