



## Florida Department of Transportation

RON DESANTIS  
GOVERNOR

719 South Woodland Boulevard  
DeLand, Florida 32720

JARED W. PERDUE, P.E.  
SECRETARY

January 4, 2024

RECEIVED

JAN 08 2024

MARION CO ADMIN

Mounir Bouyounes, P.E.  
County Administrator, Marion County  
301 SE 25<sup>th</sup> Ave.  
Ocala, FL 34471

RE: I-75 at NW 49<sup>th</sup> Street Interchange Funding Update

Dear Mr. Bouyounes,

I would like to thank you and Marion County for your continued support in the planning, funding, development, and eventual construction of the new Interstate 75 (I-75) interchange at 49<sup>th</sup> Street. The new interchange, as well as the overall vision for this area, represents the successful partnership between the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) and Marion County to the benefit of all who live, work and visit the region.

Today, I am pleased to inform you that the diligent efforts of Marion County and FDOT to explore all available funding sources to advance the project have been rewarded. All phases of this project are now fully funded. Construction on the interchange will begin in 2025, and, based on early calculations, should be completed in 2028.

This new interchange will provide direct access to I-75, improve interstate and regional mobility, accommodate future traffic growth, and relieve the traffic congestion experienced at surrounding interchanges. Additionally, Marion County and the City of Ocala are a central freight hub within Florida, and this interchange will further connect and improve the safety of the distribution network. Future economic development will also positively impact the region and will provide new employment opportunities.

Like other agencies, FDOT has experienced overall higher project costs in almost every area. Together, we were able to overcome the deficit by tapping alternate funding options, such as the \$4 million Job Growth Grant awarded by Gov. Ron DeSantis. The current right of way and construction funding breakdown is as follows:

**Right-of-Way: \$34,644,110**

Local Funds - \$11,700,000  
State Funds - \$18,071,080  
Federal Funds - \$ 4,873,030

**Construction: \$101,277,129**

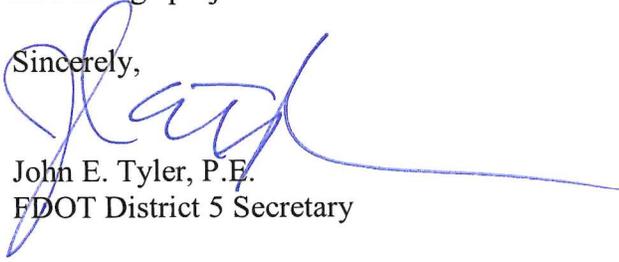
Local Funds - \$14,843,288

State Funds - \$21,983,725

Federal Funds - \$ 64,450,116

I look forward to FDOT's continued collaboration with Marion County to deliver this critical interchange project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "John E. Tyler", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

John E. Tyler, P.E.

FDOT District 5 Secretary