# Task A1e17 Comments Summary Working Paper

## TAMPA INTERSTATE STUDY

State Project No. 99007-1402, WPI No. 7140004, FAP No. IR-9999(43)

Interstate 275 (I-275) from the Howard Frankland Bridge/Kennedy Boulevard ramps to the Dale Mabry Highway Interchange on the east and just north of Cypress Street on Memorial Highway (S.R. 60), Hillsborough County.

### AND

Interstate 275 (I-275) from Dale Mabry Highway interchange north to Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard (formerly Buffalo Avenue), Interstate 4 (I-4) from I-275 (including interchange) to east of 50th Street (U.S. 41), and the Crosstown Connector from I-4 southward to the existing Tampa South Crosstown Expressway, Hillsborough County.

# Prepared For FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Prepared By GREINER, INC.

In Association With

KNIGHT APPRAISAL SERVICES, INC. PIPER ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICES

**MAY 1991** 

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### INTRODUCTION

The Tampa Interstate Study - Phase II Alternative Public Workshop was held on April 30, 1991 at the Tampa Convention Center at 333 South Franklin Street in rooms 5, 6, 7 and 8. The purpose of this meeting was to provide the public with an opportunity to review and comment upon the preferred alternative for the Environmental Assessment and the Environmental Impact Statement preferred alternatives. The meeting offered three options of commenting: through court reporters, by written comment forms provided to all attendees and by submission of supplemental comments after the meeting. Comments were also solicited from visitors, mail, and telephone to the Project Office and the Greiner Team at 7650 West Courtney Campbell Causeway, Tampa, Florida, 33607-1462. Newsletters were mailed to property owners of record and interested parties in the study area as well as elected and appointed, state and local officials.

Official letters notifying local governments, local elected officials and the media were mailed prior to the meeting. A meeting notice was published on April 25, 1991 in the Tampa Tribune during the week prior to the meeting.

The sign-in sheet indicated that 230 citizens attended the public meeting, 7 people gave their comments to court reporters, and 13 comment forms were submitted at the workshop. Of the 230 attendees, 63 requested to be added to the mailing list. No comments were submitted to the Study Team during the 10 day comment period ending May 10, 1991.

The next section of this report summarizes the comments received during and following the workshop. Appendix A contains the comments received at the Workshop.

Appendix B contains the transcripts of oral statements given to the court reporters. Appendix C contains the Workshop sign-in sheets. Appendix D contains a copy of the public notice, the handout provided at the Workshop, the newsletter, and newspaper articles.

The April 30, 1991 Workshop was the first meeting held during this phase of the project. The next and final meeting will be the Public Hearing. The Public Hearing for the Environmental Assessment study area is scheduled for February 1992 and May 1992 for the Environmental Impact Statement.

The 20 statements which were either written and deposited in the comment box at the meeting or given orally for transcription by a court reporter are presented in Appendices A and B of this report. The statements were reviewed by the Study Team and a summary of the comments and enumerations thereof contained in the statements is provided on the following page.

# COMMENTS RECEIVED IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE APRIL 30, 1991 ALTERNATIVE PUBLIC WORKSHOP

COMMENTS	NUMBER OF RESPONSES			
	Written Comments Received at the Workshop (Appendix A)	Given to Court Reporter at the Workshop Appendix B)	Received After the Workshop	<u>Total</u>
Relocate retention pond at Taliaferro Avenue and Floribraska to north side of Columbus and Elmore.	2	0	0	2
Oppose Tampa Heights Linear Park.	1	0	0	1
Have these meeting at Curtis Hixon Center.	1	0	0	1
Environmental insult.	1	0	0	1
Have meetings at Fort Homer Hesterly Armory.	1	0	0	1
Please mail me project schedules.	· <b>1</b>	0	0	1
Take my lot for retention.	1	0	0	1
Please send traffic volumes in Section C of Master Plan Report.	1	0	0	1
When planning future meetings, consider cost of parking.	1.	0	0	1
I support having noise barriers, linear park, and aesthetically pleasing retaining walls.	0	4	0	4
Retention pond is now impacting my home. It should be moved to take already condemned property.	0	2	0	2
I would like someone to give me a definite date when the project will impact me.	0	1	0	1
Staff member of the City of Tampa would like a copy of the TIS video.	1	0	0	1
Parking is being taken from Mt. Olive A.M.E. Church. This affects total usefulness of parcel.	1	0	0	1
Truck hauling, via 21st and 22nd Streets will no linger be possible. Will have to use Crosstown Connector via 34th Street.	1	0	0	1

# COMMENTS RECEIVED IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE APRIL 30, 1991 ALTERNATIVE PUBLIC WORKSHOP (Continued)

<u>COMMENTS</u>	NUMBER OF RESPONSES			
	Written Comments Received at the Workshop (Appendix A)	Given to Court Reporter at the Workshop Appendix B)	Received After the Workshop	Total
Why not upgrade the Dale Mabry Highway interchange. The TIS plan will not resolve problems.	1	0	0	. <b>1</b>
Who sits on the CAC, RTF, and CRC? Who appointed these people?	1	0	0	1
Relocation of Sligh Avenue between I-75 and U.S. 301 was brought up as an unnecessary roadway, proposed only because influential developers want to redevelop this area north of I-4.	<b>1</b>	0	0	. 1
The interchange of U.S. 92 and I-4 west of Six Mile Creek should have been designed to acquire the properties south of I-4 rather than taking five homes on the north side. A southern shift would probably acquire available land and perhaps one home.	1	0	0	1
The amenities shown at the meeting are admirable, however, we are skeptical that the FDOT's funding would allow for such treatments.	1	0	0	1

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NAME Charles Dolver

Toumpa, FL 336

TELEPHONE NO. 837-3617

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NAME Rodger King

ADDRESS 3005 Stovall Pl

Jampa 33629

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NAME JOAN KING

ADDRESS 28/6 ELMORE MmMA Fr

TELEPHONE NO. 837-3617

ORGANIZATION OF AFFILIATION OWNER. I WOULD LOVE TO HAVE THE EXPONSION PARCEL COMMENTS FOL: RETENTION PONS, COMMENTS MAINTENAISE EQUIPMENT 4ARE GREEN BELT, WHATEVER ELSE

YOU COULD NEED.

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NAME Debby Connay ADDRESS Bu E. Custic

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17		33 South Franklin Street ampa, Florida 33602
18	·•	S. CATHY J. JOHNSON
19	'	OTARY PUBLIC, CSR, RPR, CP and
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### 1 INDEX 2 STATEMENT OF PAGE NO. 3 CHARLES STRICKLAND. 4 ELIZABETH LOCKLEAR. FRANCIS HOLLIDAY. 5 5 6 JOANN COMFORT 7 DEAN E. BUNNELL 8 ROSEMARY FERNANDEZ. 9 MARTHA FERNANDEZ. 10 11 12 13 14 NOTARIAL CERTIFICATES 11 15 NOTARIAL CERTIFICATES 12 16 17 18 19 20 21 Computer-Aided Transcription 22 23 (WHEREUPON, the following statements 24 were had and taken.) 25 Johnson & Associates

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1 I want the interstate very much to I think that the design is great. happen. 2 the state-of-the-art noise barriers. I want the green wall. I want all of the design ammenities 3 and I want the linear park beginning at least from Columbus Drive to the river running through Tampa 4 Heights. 5 And I think the last interstate that was built was not neighborhood-friendly. very destructive to our historic neighborhood and 6 I feel that they should be very sensitive about 7 Tampa Heights particularly. 8 And therefore, I think the linear park is extremely important and I would like to see that in place before the interstate is built. 9 10 11 12 Mr. Charles Strickland 3701 Tampa Street 13 Tampa, Florida 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24

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1 I am very interested in the design ammenities, the retaining walls, the green walls, 2 the sound barriers, and particularly the linear I think that is the best idea out of the 3 whole plan and I especially would like to see that happen as proposed. And I'd like to see it happen before the interstate. 4 I understand that's a possibility to mitigate the effect of the 5 interstate on the neighborhood -- historic neighborhood of Tampa Heights. 6 I don't like that they're going to eliminate the 21st and 22nd Street in Ybor City 7 and 40th Street. As I understand, that means you're going to have to go from 15th to 50th 8 Street before you can get off the interstate and I think that would be very awkward and 9 inconvenient. That's the best word I can think 10 of. 11 12 Ms. Elizabeth Locklear 3701 North Tampa Street 13 Tampa, Florida

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1 They've changed the map in one year. They were going to take my property and put in a retention pond. Now the pond is going to not take 2 my property, but be adjoining it. 3 Our neighborhood feels that the 4 retention pond should not be taking the best houses on our block. It should be abutting the interstate on Marguerite Street, because there on 5 Marguerite Street there are two boarded up houses 6 and a vacant lot. I don't want to live next door to a retention pond. 7 8 9 Mr. Francis Holliday 4205 Central Avenue 10 Tampa, Florida 11 12 13 14 15

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I just wanted to say that I wish that if they're going to make these plans that they would make them now. They're turning my life upside down.

Not only do I have to move my home and move my business as well, if they could give me a date where I could plan the rest of my life

move my business as well, if they could give me a date where I could plan the rest of my life instead of putting me on hold and coming to these meetings and not getting any further -- it just -- it doesn't make sense to tell somebody you're going to have to move, but we don't know when, maybe in two years. I've been hearing two years for two -- four years now. I'm still hearing two years and I just would like to get a date on when I could start my life again. Just a date, that's all.

Ms. Joann Comfort 4407 West Carmen Street Tampa, Florida 33609

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behind us and laying different to us and of a, 1 quote, lesser value would be more beneficial to 2 the taxpayer and the State of Florida. 3 Excuse me. I don't know what else that I want to say. It just seems to me like there's so many other ways that they could spend 4 that for and take less from the people, you know what I mean, that are actually there. 5 6 We've got several pieces of property behind us that are condemned and some that need to 7 be condemned, and I think that just the layout of the retention pond, if necessary to be in that area, could be better situated. 8 9 Central Avenue has been an old street in the City of Tampa for years and years, and I know in talking with the homeowners across Central 10 Avenue from me which, quote, have even better homes than mine, they really don't want to look 11 out into a retention pond; where at least the 12 houses facing Central could be a buffer, you know, between Central Avenue and the Interstate. 13 I don't know what else. I guess that is. 14 15 Mr. Dean E. Bunnell 4209 Central Avenue 16 Tampa, Florida 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25

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1 You can't enclose the parkway throughout the city, but at least extend it some 2 It would be really good. That road needs a park like that. Okay. That's it. 3 4 Martha Fernandez 5 Ms. Rosemary Fernandez 2815 Central Avenue 6 Tampa, Florida 33602 7 8 9 10 11 1.2 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24

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STATE OF FLORIDA 1 2 COUNTY OF HILLSBOROUGH ) 3 I, DEBORAH J. GUEST, Registered Professional Reporter and Notary Public in and for 4 the State of Florida at large, hereby certify that 5 the Information Workshop was recorded in Stenotypy 6 and electronically by me and that the foregoing 7 pages constitute a true and correct transcription 8 9 of my recordings thereof. 10 I FURTHER CERTIFY that I am neither an attorney nor of counsel for the parties to this 11 cause nor a relative or employee of any attorney 12 or party connected with this cause and that I have 13 no interest in the outcome of this action. 14 15 WITNESS my hand and seal this 2nd day of May, 1991, at Tampa, Hillsborough County, 16 17 Florida. 18 19 20 21 22 My Commission Expires 23 August 4, 1994 24

TRANSCRIPT ORDERED: 4-30-91

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1 STATE OF FLORIDA 2 COUNTY OF HILLSBOROUGH ) 3 I, CATHY J. JOHNSON, Registered Professional Reporter and Notary Public in and for 4 the State of Florida at large, hereby certify that 5 the Information Workshop was recorded in Stenotypy 6 and electronically by me and that the foregoing 7 pages constitute a true and correct transcription 8 9 of my recordings thereof. 10 I FURTHER CERTIFY that I am neither an attorney nor of counsel for the parties to this 11 cause nor a relative or employee of any attorney 1.2 13 or party connected with this cause and that I have no interest in the outcome of this action. 14 15 WITNESS my hand and seal this 2nd day of May, 1991, at Tampa, Hillsborough County, 16 17 Florida. 18 19 20 21 22 23 December 9, 1992 24

TRANSCRIPT ORDERED: 4-30-91

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**APPENDIX C** 

SIGN-IN SHEETS

**MEETING ATTENDEES** DATE/LOCATION PLEASE PRINT If You Are Not On Th Mailing List And Would Like To Be, Check Box. NAME & COMPANY **MAILING ADDRESS** 4066 Temple

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Mario Febra	810 E. Wilder Tampa F1 3360	V
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FRANK KAlpakis	201 & KENNERY Sute 600 TAMPA	
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JOHN LONG ASTIN	4950, W KENNEDY, STE 304 MMM 33609 POBOX 22197 TO FII 33622	
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Nick Castellano	3919 15th Ave, Tampa Fla	CHECK BOX.	
Jon Sanchy	1406 N HABAILA AVE TAMPA	33607	
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David P. Rigney	2009 N. 18th Street Tampa	33605	
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Mark Saurman	801 E. EMMA ST TANDER F1 33603		
VELVA HICKS	YOU F CAULUR TAMPA 23403	237-566	
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John + Jame Withak	12845 N. BlvD, Tampa, Il 33612	
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FRANK GRECO	5409 N. LEE PL	
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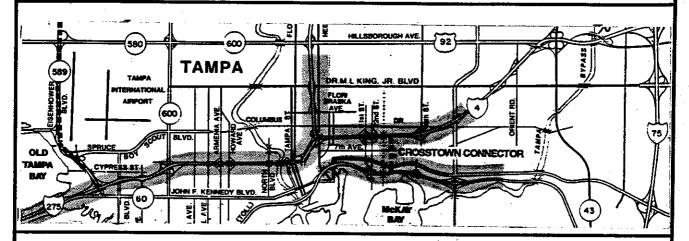
### **APPENDIX D**

PUBLIC NOTICE, WORKSHOP HANDOUT, NEWSLETTER,

NEWSPAPER ARTICLES, AND TELEVISION ADVERTISEMENT

#### PUBLIC INFORMATION WORKSHOP

## ON PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS TO 1-275 AND 1-4 Hillsborough County, Florida



Date: April 30, 1991

Time: 4:00 p.m. To 8:00 p.m.

#### Place:

New Tampa Convention Center 333 S. Franklin Street Rooms 5, 6, 7 and 8 Tampa, Florida

The Florida Department of Transportation will conduct a public information workshop on proposed improvements to I-275 and I-4 in Hillsborough County. The workshop will be held on April 30, 1991 from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the New Tampa Convention Center, 333 S. Franklin Street, Rooms 5, 6, 7 and 8, Tampa, Florida.

The workshop will present the Alternative Concepts for the type and location of multi-modal improvements, high-occupancy-vehicle (HOV) facilities and transit.

Department of Transportation representatives will be available beginning at 4:00 p.m. on the day of the workshop to answer questions and discuss the project. All persons will be afforded full opportunity to express their views and furnish specific data on matters pertinent to the project, including technical, economic, ecological, and environmental material.

Persons attending the workshop will be able to offer oral and written statements to become part of the official transcript of public workshop proceedings. Written statements and exhibits may also be submitted to be documented as part of the workshop if postmarked by May 10, 1991. These statements or exhibits should be addressed to Mr. W.H. McDaniel Jr., P.E., District Sercetary, Florida Department of Transportation, 4950 West Kennedy Boulevard, Suite 500, Tampa, Florida 33609. Attn: Mr. David Twiddy Jr., P.E., District Project Development and Environmental Engineer.

Residents are encouraged to attend and participate in this public workshop on the proposed improvements to I-275 and I-4 in Hillsborough County.

FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

## TAMPA INTERSTATE

A Florida Department of Transportation Project

April / 1991

## NEWS



### Phase II Public Workshop Scheduled April 30, 1991

he preferred alternative concepts for the Tampa Interstate Study (TIS) have been developed and refined from the recommended Master Plan Concept completed in August 1989 and accepted by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) in November 1989. Phase II began in May 1990. Phase II, the environmental documentation, will evaluate environmental, social and economic impacts in greater detail and further refine the Master Plan Concept.

Phase II of the project will develop two specific studies and documents as discussed below:

1. The Environmental Assessment

study limits encompass I-275 from the Howard Frankland Bridge eastward to Dale Mabry Highway,

2. The Environmental Impact Statement study limits encompass I-275 from Dale Mabry Highway northward to Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard (Buffalo Avenue); I-4 from the I-275 interchange eastward to 50th Street, and the Crosstown Connector in the vicinity of 30th Street on I-4 southward to the Crosstown Expressway.

This is the second newsletter providing a description of the Phase II study, a summary of what has been accomplished, and an indication of what will occur in the future. Topics addressed in this newsletter

#### include:

- Alternatives Public Workshop
- Preliminary Surveys
- Other Planned Improvements
- · Study Segments, and
- Public Involvement Program

The Tampa Interstate Study is being directed by the Florida Department of Transportation with sponsorship by the Federal Highway Administration. The Greiner, Inc. Consultant Team is conducting the study.

This is the second step of several leading to the reconstruction of the interstate system in Tampa. The study will refine the concepts further and evaluate the environmental, social and economic impacts of the alternatives in detail. This phase of the study has additional public hearings scheduled and provides the documentation stage for approvals for state and federal funding of the design, right-of-way acquisition and construction phases that follow. The overall program for the reconstruction of the interstate system in Tampa is expected to take 15 years.□

#### ALTERNATIVES PUBLIC WORKSHOP

DATE: April 30, 1991

TIME: 4:00 - 8:00 p.m.

PLACE:

Tampa Convention Center 333 S. Franklin Street Downtown Tampa Meeting Rooms 5,6,7 & 8

## Preliminary Surveys

The Florida Department of Transportation is currently surveying portions of I-275 and I-4 to establish both horizontal and vertical control points in the project area. This information will provide the basis for additional surveys necessary to prepare right-of-way maps and construction plans.

Field surveys will be made from the Howard Frankland Bridge on I-275 east and north along I-275 to State Road 54 in Pasco County; also from the I-275/I-4 interchange east along I-4 to Williams Road in Hillsborough County.

Right-of-way surveys will be made from the Howard Frankland Bridge on I-275 east and north along I-275 to Hillsborough Avenue; also from Nebraska Avenue east along I-4 to U.S. 301. These surveys will be used to establish the existing public rights-of-way for mapping purposes and to develop the right-of-way maps and parcel legal descriptions as needed for the project.

It is necessary that these surveys be coordinated with known elevations to ensure that the design and construction of the project will match other projects.

You will be invited, through the newsletter and other announcements, to review and comment as the study progresses.

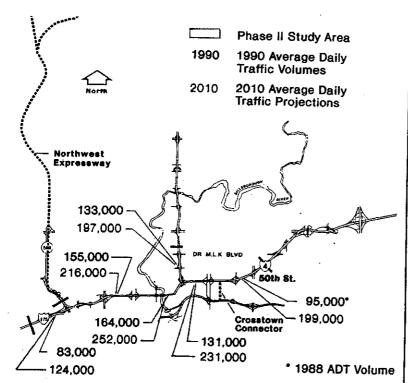
#### Final Document Schedule

Environmental Assessment

- Environmental Document
   February 1992
- Engineering Report September 1992

Environmental Impact Statement

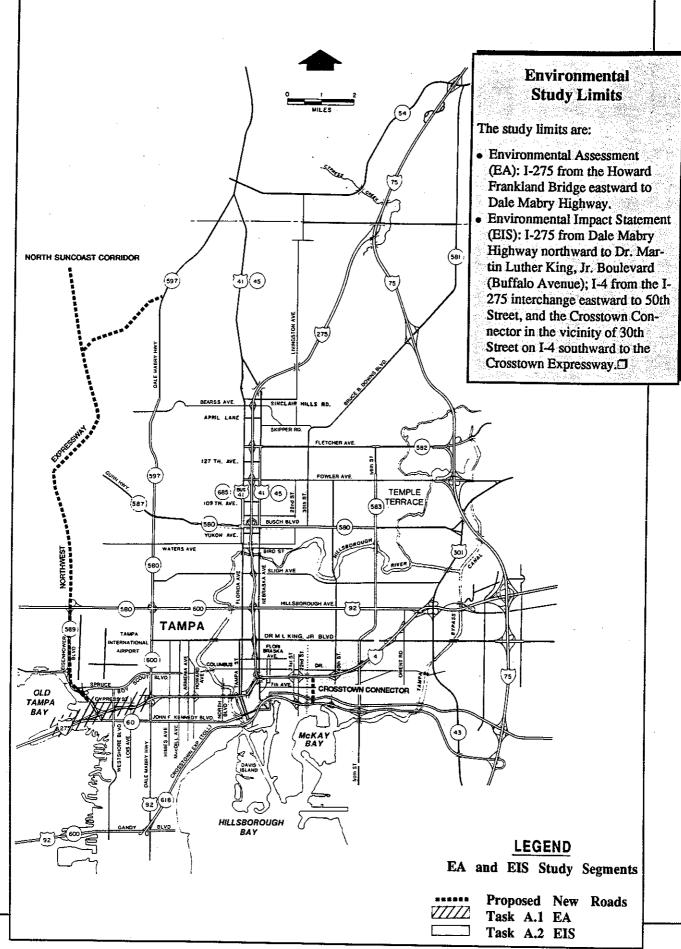
- Environmental Document
   August 1992
- Engineering Report January 1993



#### Conceptual Stage Relocation Plan

During Phase II of the Tampa Interstate Study, the Conceptual Stage Relocation Plan will occur. Obviously, everyone receiving this newsletter will not need to be relocated. The Conceptual Stage Relocation Plan is designed to assist people that are being relocated because of the project. A representative of the Florida Department of Transportation will be in contact with you if your residence is identified as a potential relocation by the project.

Existing and Projected Traffic Volumes.



## Other Planned Improvements

#### **Northwest Expressway**

Howard Needles Tammen & Bergendoff is now completing the design phase of the Northwest Expressway project. The appraisal and review began in January of this year and will be completed in April of this year. Right-of-way acquisition will begin immediately following the appraisal review in May 1991 and will be completed by February 1992. Occurring simultaneously with the appraisal reviews and right-of-way acquisition is the construction phase which began in February 1991 and will be completed in June 1994.

#### **I-4 Safety Improvements**

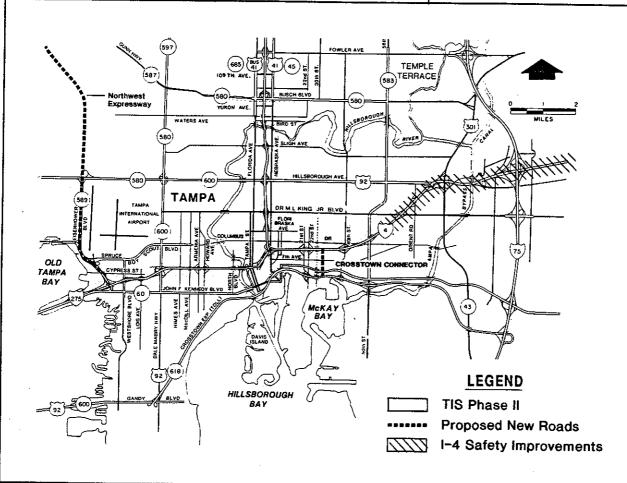
The FDOT is scheduled to begin construction of safety improvements to I-4 in July 1991. The safety improvements will include upgrading and replacement of all substandard roadway and double faced and bridge approach guardrail throughout the project. The improvements also include the construction of standard concrete, retro-fit barrier walls on both sides of bridges and the construction of a barrier within the I-4 median from U.S. 92 to C.R. 579. The estimated cost of this project is \$2,879,000.

The planned safety improvements

to I-4 will help reduce traffic accidents and alleviate traffic problems. On I-4, existing traffic volumes exceed 95,000 vehicles per day west of 50th Street to 131,000 vehicles per day west of 21st Street. Future (2010) traffic volumes in the area will exceed 200,000 vehicles per day on the average.

The construction of a barrier within the I-4 median will help reduce the number of automobiles crossing the center median, resulting in head-on collisions.

See map below for Safety Improvement Area.



## Public Involvement Program

As an integral part of the Tampa Interstate Study, an extensive program to ensure the involvement of area residents and local governments has been developed. The program has included intensive use of all media--newspapers, television and radio--to provide area residents with an awareness of the study's significance and encourage their participation. Following is a list of the primary components of the public involvement program:

- A dedicated Project Office with display space for graphic material plus a conference room for group meetings and presentations has been established in Greiner's offices located at 7650 West Courtney Campbell Causeway, Tampa. These offices provide a location for the public to obtain information and follow the study through its various stages. Key project staff are available during the week to respond to questions or comments from the public.
- Phone Service with a local access number (286-7667) and a toll-free number (1-800-624-0074) is provided to the public in Hillsborough, Pinellas and southern Pasco counties to receive calls requesting specific information about alternatives and the study's progress.
- FAX Service number for inquiries is 286-6587.
- A Speakers Bureau is available for presentations to interested community, civic and special interest groups about the study process, transportation needs and proposed improvements.
  - A Computerized Mailing List of agencies, public officials, community service organizations, special interest groups, interested residents and property owners has been prepared. Newsletters, meeting notices and information are provided to persons on the mailing

#### **Activity Schedule**

#### Environmental Assessment

- Alternatives Public Meeting April 1991
- Public Hearing
   February 1992

#### Environmental Impact Statement

- Alternatives Public Meeting April 1991
- Public Hearing May 1992

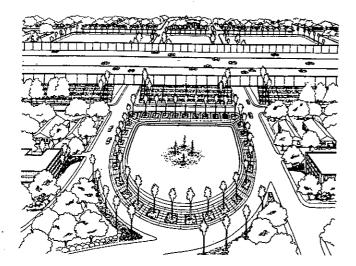
list. This list is updated periodically.

- A Citizen Advisory Committee
  has been created to encourage interaction with corridor users, land
  owners, businesses and residents.
  The committee has assisted the
  study team in identifying alternatives and assessing impacts.
- An Agency Task Force of local, state and federal agencies has been created to participate in the planning process and ensure the coordination of area studies, projects and proposed developments.
- A Relocation Task Force of local officials, community leaders, elected officials and area residents has been created to study the issue of property acquisition and relocation.
- A Cultural Resources Committee
  has been formed to coordinate
  federal, state and local interests
  in historic and archaeologic resources affected by the interstate
  program.

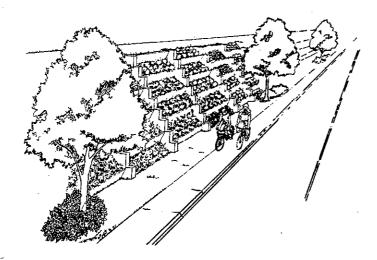
#### Commonly Used Acronyms in this Study

- ATF Agency Task Force
- CAC Citizen Advisory Committee
- CBD Central Business District
- CRC Cultural Resources Committee
  - EA Environmental Assessment
- EIS Environmental Impact Statement
- FHWA Federal Highway Administration
- FDOT Florida Department of Transportation
- HART Hillsborough Area Regional Transit Authority
- HOV High Occupancy Vehicle
- MPO Metropolitan Planning Organization
- PD&E Project Development and Environmental Study
  - RTF Relocation Task Force
- SMT Rail Transit Study Management Team
- TIS Tampa Interstate Study

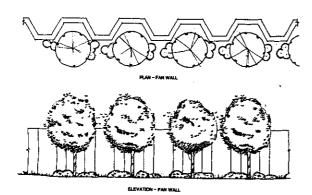
## **Design Amenities**



Gateways are used to instill a sense of arrival at specific neighborhoods within the urban area. Each has a unique character which can be complemented with an aesthetic treatment planned for the interstate system.



Use of modular components for construction instead of cast-inplace concrete can also provide visual interest.



Fan walls are another example of aesthetically pleasing walls used in the successful abatement of traffic-generated noise.

## You are invited to participate...

· ·	Zip Code:
If you have a Neighbor IIS Phase II mailing lis	hood or Civic Organization which can be placed on the st, please provide the name and mailing address:
Comments:	

Persons wishing to receive additional information or comment about the study may call Christopher DeAnnuntis at 286-7667 or 1-800-624-0074; or FAX 286-6587; or write The Greiner Team, Tampa Interstate Study, Post Office Box 31646 (33631-3416), 7650 West Courtney Campbell Causeway, Tampa, Florida, 33607-1462.



computerized mailing list of public officials, neighborhood organizations, civic groups, and interested persons has been initiated. A form is provided above for persons and organizations wishing to be added to the mailing list.

Future Phase II newsletters will be mailed only to those property owners located within the Environmental Assessment and Environmental Impact Statement segments of the project. These segments are shown on page 3 of this newsletter. Newsletters will also be mailed to those people who specifically express interest in the project.

If you are not receiving the newsletter and wish to do so, please complete the above form and return it to Christopher DeAnnuntis at the address provided.

e ha iniciado una lista computarizada de oficiales públicos, grupos cívicos, asociaciones de vecinos y de personas interesadas que desean recibir noticias sobre el Tampa Interstate Study. Un formulario ha sido adjunto para aquellas personas u organizaciones que deseen ser añadidas a esta lista.

Futuros boletines informativos serán enviados por correo, solamente a esos propietarios que se encuentran dentro de los limites de los segmentos de Avaluación Ambiental e Informe de Impacto Ambiental del proyecto. Estos segmentos se muestran en la página 3 de este boletín informativo. Boletines serán enviados también a aquellas personas que muestran un interés específico en el proyecto.

Si usted no está recibiendo el boletín y desea recibirlo, por favor llene el formulario adjunto y envíelo por correo a Christopher DeAnnuntis a la dirección indicada en el formulario.

# A Florida Department of Transportation Project

The Greiner Team
Tampa Interstate Study
Post Office Box 31646 (33631-3416)
7650 West Courtney Campbell Causeway
Tampa, Florida 33607-1462

Bulk Rate U.S. Postage PAID TAMPA, FL Permit No. 3435

## TAMPA INTERSTATE STUDY - PHASE II ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION Hillsborough County WPI No. 7140004 State Job No. 99007-1402 FAP No. IR-9999(43)

Welcome to the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) alternatives public information workshop on the proposed reconstruction of I-275 from the Howard Frankland Bridge northward to Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard, I-4 from the I-275 downtown Interchange eastward to 50th Street (U.S. 41), and the Crosstown Connector in the vicinity of 30th Street on I-4 southward to the Crosstown Expressway. This study has been identified as the "Tampa interstate Study - Phase II".

This workshop is being held to receive comments, ideas, and suggestions from the general public as well as to inform the public of the study's progress. Aerial photographs illustrating the study area and selected alternative corridors are on display and study team representatives are available to discuss the study and answer questions. There are three methods by which you can present your comments for the record:

<u>First</u>, you may make an oral statement to the court reporter present. The reporter will also accept any exhibits you may wish to become part of the public record of this project.

<u>Second</u>, you may fill out one of the statement forms provided at the registration table or located at the comment table. The completed forms should be placed in the boxes marked "Drop Box." Please note that these statements will become part of the public record.

Third, you may send in a completed statement form to The Greiner Team, c/o Christopher P. DeAnnuntis; Post Office Box 31646, Tampa, Florida 33631-3416. These statements will become part of the official public workshop record, if received by May 10, 1991.

#### PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

You are invited to participate in the study's extensive public involvement program. The program includes a local project office dedicated exclusively to the study, an information phone service and a computerized mailing list of interested parties for this study. A Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC), an Agency Task Force (ATF), a Relocation Task Force (RTF) and a Cultural Resource Committee (CRC) has been created to help the project team identify community issues and concerns during the study.

The project office is located at Greiner, Inc., 7650 Courtney Cambell Causeway, Tampa, Florida. This office is open 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. Experienced project team members will be available each Monday through Friday at the office to provide background information and solicit public comments. The project office can be reached by calling 286-7667 in Hillsborough and a toll free number 1-800-624-0074.

#### STUDY SCOPE

In 1987, the Greiner Team was retained by FDOT to perform an in-depth Master Plan (Phase I) for the Tampa Interstate System which includes I-275, I-75, and I-4 in and around the Tampa Bay area. The intent of Phase I of the Tampa interstate Study (TiS) was to develop an overall program of the needed and justified improvements to the interstate system. The overall objective of the study was to improve traffic operations and safety, and to upgrade the interstate where needed.

Services performed in Phase I included the following:

- \* A Master Plan of Improvements to I-4, I-75, and I-275 to accommodate transportation needs through the year 2010.
- Justification Report(s) for critical recommended new interchange locations sufficient to obtain Federal Interstate funding.
- \* Conceptual designs of the recommended improvements in sufficient detail to identify structural, environmental, and right-of-way impacts.
- Conceptual right-of-way requirements.
- Development and consensus of a multi-modal transportation system to accommodate year 2010 needs.
- Preliminary cost estimates of all improvements, time-phased in accordance with the Master Plan.

The preferred alternative concept for TIS has been developed and refined from the recommended Master Plan Concept completed in August 1989 and accepted by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) in November 1989. Phase II began in May 1990. Phase II, the environmental documentation, will evaluate environmental, social and economic impacts in greater detail and further refine the Master Plan concepts.

Phase II of the project will develop two specific studies and documents as discussed below:

- The study limits for the Environmental Assessment encompass I-275 from the Howard Frankland Bridge eastward to Dale Mabry Highway.
- The Environmental Impact Statement study limits encompass I-275 from Dale Mabry Highway northward to Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard (Buffalo Avenue); I-4 from the I-275 Interchange eastward to 50th Street, and the Crosstown Connector in the vicinity of 30th Street on I-4 southward to the Crosstown Expressway.

The Tampa Interstate Study is being directed by the Florida Department of Transportation with sponsorship by the Federal Highway Administration. The Greiner, inc. Consultant Team is conducting the study.

This is the second step of several leading to the reconstruction of the interstate system in Tampa. The study will refine the concepts further and evaluate the environmental, social, and economic impacts of the alternatives in detail. This phase of the study has additional public hearings scheduled and provides the documentation stage for approvals for State and Federal funding of the design, right-of-way acquisition and construction phases that follow. The overall program for the reconstruction of the interstate system in Tampa is expected to take 15 years.

#### PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

The study area encompasses a vast system of interstate and arterial highways providing the majority of surface travel for the urban area of Tampa. Future planning efforts, relating to the adopted MPO's Long Range Transportation Plan, clearly indicate that the reconstruction of the interstate is a basic component of their plan.

Over the next 20 years, traffic on Tampa's heavily traveled interstate highways is expected to increase by more than 50% over current levels in various locations – and more than double in some areas. Originally designed in the early 1960's as a four- and six-lane expressway, the system currently carries traffic as high as 160,000 vehicles per day on facilities designed to carry 61,000 to 91,000 vehicles per day. The resulting congestion, travel delay, cost to the public and degradation of the environment are a continuing problem for the Tampa Bay urban area. The interstate's proposed upgrading is the area's largest-ever public capital improvement program.

The comprehensive study of this major FDOT reconstruction program produced a master plan for improvements that enables I-4, I-75 and I-275 to handle interstate transportation needs through the year 2010. The 37-mile interstate network is especially complex in that it affects access to every major surface transportation facility in urban Tampa.

The project included extensive analyses to develop and evaluate a wide range of multi-modal alternatives and to prioritize reconstruction efforts. Among the numerous items studied are the preferred type and location of multi-lane improvements, use of light rail options, HOV/Transitway facilities, HOV priority ramps, traffic management techniques, and traffic surveillance and control systems. Factors affecting the viability of alternatives, such as right-of-way and relocation impacts, roadway and structural costs, drainage and permit impacts, traffic operations, maintenance of traffic, community cohesion, and local traffic circulation are currently being evaluated in a series of environmental documents.

Traffic counts and MPO projections for the next twenty years show the dramatic increase in travel demands. This is especially important since the MPO's study assumes a fully integrated multi-modal system of Park and Ride Lots, HOV, Bus, Light Rail and improved highway network in addition to the proposed interstate improvements. The projections have already taken significant transit travel diversion into consideration.

	Average Dally Traffic			
Location	1988	1990	2010	Increase
i-275/Howard Frankland Bridge	78,400	75,800	124.000	64%
I-275/Dale Mabry Highway	148,600	153,100	216,000	41%
I-275/North Boulevard	159,900	163,800	252,000	54%
I-275/M.L.King, Jr. Boulevard	129,800	135,000	197,000	46%
I-4/21st & 22nd Streets	118,900	131,200	231,000	76%
i-4/50th Street	95,500	N/A	199,000	108%

The cost of reconstructing and rehabilitating Tamps's aging interstate system area as significant as its problems. Total 1990 estimated costs of the interstate program are \$1,380,615,000 for engineering and construction, and \$274,853,000 for right-of-way and relocation. The economic return on this public investment is also significant – with a significant benefit to cost ratio for the public. The estimated user benefits derived from the improvements to the entire interstate in the year 2010 is calculated to equal \$1,780,000 daily or over \$649,700,000 yearly!

#### QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS REGARDING THE TAMPA INTERSTATE STUDY

QUESTION #1: When will construction of the new Interstate begin?

RESPONSE: The start of construction will depend upon available funding, receipt of federal and state environment and design

approvals, and the completion of right-of-way acquisition. With those constraints current estimate of construction for the Westshore area (Howard Frankland Causeway to Dale Mabry Highway) is 1995. Construction of Interstate 275 from Dale Mabry Highway to Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard and Interstate 4 from I-275 east to U.S. 41 (50th Street) is not on the Fiorida DOT's current work program and will be contingent upon the availability of federal

QUESTION #2: When will the State acquire/purchase my property?

Right-of-way can be purchased after environmental and design approvals have been received from federal and RESPONSE:

state agencies. Typically, the right-of-way acquisition process takes up to two years. Therefore, purchase of rightof-way could start by 1993-94 in the Westshore area and 1995-96 in the remaining area of this current study.

QUESTION #3: What does the State pay for property acquisition?

RESPONSE: The state pays reasonable and fair market value for property it acquires. For specific details concerning your

property or situation, please contract a member of the Florida DOT right-of-way staff.

What are some of the things that will be done to reduce the amount of noise that will come from the proposed QUESTION #4:

Interstate?

RESPONSE: There are techniques available to reduce potential noise from the reconstructed interstate. These primarily involve use of barrier to stop the sound either at its source (the road) or receptor (a home). The location of suggested

noise barriers and the types of barriers, are shown on the interstate drawings; please review these for more information. The determination of where and what type of noise barriers will be built will be made in the

environmental documents.

QUESTION #5: What will be done to preserve a sense of community that exists today?

RESPONSE: Several methods are proposed for mitigating the impact of interstate reconstruction on the local communities. The

extensive use of noise barriers, landscaping (to "soften" the visual impacts) and creation of buffer areas adjacent to

sensitive locations are all considered for use in the reconstruction.

QUESTION #6: Survey crews have been in my neighborhood, does this mean construction will begin soon?

RESPONSE: No, the survey crews are part of the Florida DOT's program to survey the Interstate system to assure they have

updated and accurate engineering data for future design work on the interstate.

QUESTION #7: Has the option of rail or other transit been addressed instead of making the interstate so expansive?

RESPONSE:

Transit is one of the most exciting features of the current interstate reconstruction program. Transit is a key element in the development of a balanced system: transit, highway and non-motorized travel modes. The TIS study coordinated extensively with the HART and MPO staffs to reach a consensus agreement on all facets of transit within the interstate program. These include dedicated High Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) lanes, exclusive entrance ramps for buses and carpools, new and expanded park and ride lots for HOV commuters, and the ability to provide for a light rail transit system in the future, if necessary. The original interstate plan was reduced to reflect these

Intensive transit system improvements; without the transit the interstate would have to be increased in size.

QUESTION #8: What is proposed for the historic districts such as West Tampa, Tampa Heights and Ybor City?

The interstate will have impacts on these districts. The FDOT and the various agencies and groups involved with RESPONSE:

maintaining these cultural resources have coordinated during the study to propose several mitigation measures to assure the improvements do not cause long-term problems. Several of these measures will increase the viability of the districts and include: a new linear park in the Tampa Heights area; remove truck traffic from 21st and 22nd

Streets in Ybor City; and the placement of noise barriers and landscaping throughout the project to reduce impacts.

QUESTION #9: Will existing thru and cross streets be closed due to the interstate improvements?

Roads to be closed are Henderson Avenue, 7th Avenue and 19th Street in the CBD/Ybor City area. There will also RESPONSE:

be new cross streets thru the interstate that do not exist today. These new streets include Sherrill and Trask

Streets in the Westshore area. All other existing cross streets will remain open.

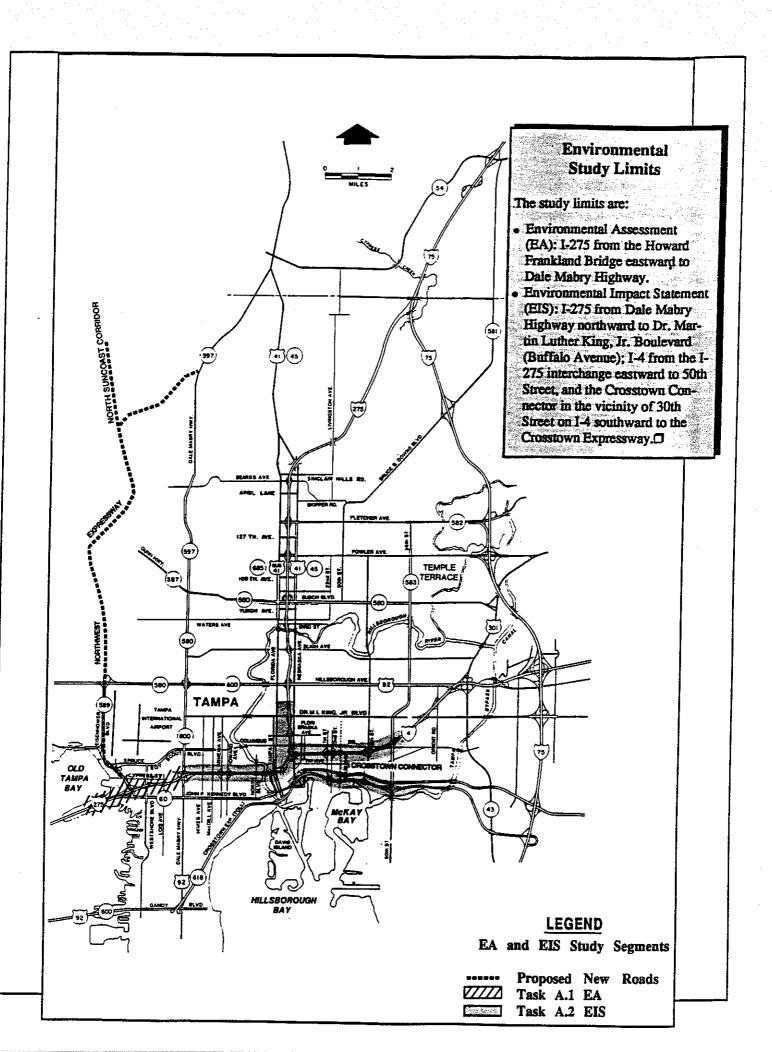
QUESTION #10: What will be done so that the interstate is not so visually intrusive?

There are several urban design features proposed to "soften" or reduce the appearance of the interstate. Terraced RESPONSE: walls with plantings, earthen berms, landscaping and aesthetic lighting are proposed to be used as mitigation for

the visual impact of the new interstate.

QUESTION #11: Will the drainage ponds be wet or dry?

RESPONSE: The proposed drainage ponds will consist of both wet and dry ponds.



### Officials show off future interstates

By TODD SIMMONS Tribune Staff Writer

TAMPA — State transportation officials showed off their high-tech vision Thursday afternoon of what Hillsborough County's interstate system could become during the next 15 years.

About 100 area residents — many of whom own homes or businesses near the highways — attended the public workshop on the Tampa Interstate Study, watching a video and scanning giant maps that show how the interstates will be expanded.

Few seemed upset over the proposed \$2 billion project. Most milled around the Tampa Convention Center meeting rooms asking questions of state Department of Transportation consultants about when the renovation of interstates 275, 75 and 4 will happen and how it will affect them.

"What am I going to do about it, cry? They've got to do it," said Tim Boykin, whose two-bedroom home near the Lois Avenue exit of I-275

would be replaced by a drainage pond and retention wall. "I'm not really broke up about it."

The plan encompasses I-275 from the Howard Frankland Bridge east through Tampa and north to where it merges with I-75 and includes I-75 north to State Road 54 in Pasco County. The project also will cover I-4 from the downtown interchange east to I-75.

The resulting highways will resemble today's interstates in name only.

The interstates will be widened in some places to 16 lanes. The highways will be divided into lanes that handle local traffic and those that cater to long-distance travelers.

Buffer walls three stories high will line the interstates near downtown areas. Slopes surrounding the walls will be terraced and set off with plant boxes and trees.

Several exit ramps would lead drivers to small parks featuring trees and fountains. Those areas will showcase exits to special areas of Tampa, such as Ybor City and the West Shore business district, said project consultant Ron Gregory.

None of it will happen anytime

The interstate expansion, which would be the most expensive capital project ever in Hillsborough County, is in the second of two planning stages that should be completed by the end of 1992. Construction isn't expected to begin at least until 1996.

But for Barney and Mary De-Guzman, it can't come soon enough.

Their property bordering the I-275 and I-4 interchange once was prestigious Tampa Heights. When construction started on I-275 in the mid-1960s, property values near the road plummeted and the DeGuzmans left for West Tampa, putting their old home up for rent.

Now they'd just like to get rid of the land that's been in Mary DeGuzman's family for nearly 80 years. The expanded interchange will run through the yard of what once was Mary's mother's home.

"I just wish they'd buy it. I don't want it anymore," Mary said.

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The Tampa Tribune, Wednesday, May 1, 1991



Tribune photograph by JAY CONNER

Vivian Johnson and Mark Jennings look over plans for expansion of the area's interstates

Tuesday at the Tampa Convention Center. Jennings works for the project's consultant.

## People state protest freeway widening

■ Some area residents say they don't want to make way for Interstate 275, while others say they don't want to stay near it.

By JACKIE RIPLEY
Times Correspondent

TAMPA — A year ago, John and Rosalind Blake were forced out of their Palm Beach County home to make room for an airport. Now, they may have to move again — this time for the widening of Interstate 275 in Tampa.

"We no more got in this place and heard rumors," Rosalind Blake said. "Selfishly, we don't want to go again. We moved here to take

care of elderly parents."

The Blakes and scores of others turned out for a workshop Tuesday to learn the fate of their property, in the path of proposed interstate work by the state Department of Transportation (DOT).

An overall \$1-billion-plus plan to widen and reconstruct Tampa's interstate system calls for adding lanes to I-275 from the Howard Frankland Bridge to Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard, and Interstate 4 from the I-275 downtown interchange east to 50th Street. Work will be finished in seven years.

"We're adding another freeway on the outside of the existing freeway," said David Twiddy, an engineer for the DOT. "It separates the long-distance traffic from

short-distance traffic."

For example, motorists will be able to get on I-275 at Westshore Boulevard and exit at Howard and Armenia avenues. Or they can enter at Westshore and travel all the way to Orlando by merging into the center express lanes bypassing local traffic, Twiddy said.

Some homeowners who will have to make way for the road weren't impressed.

"It can sure throw a monkey wrench in your life," said Jerry Sanchez, who has lived in his Habanna Avenue home for 24 years. "I spent \$3,000 on a new kitchen and two weeks later get this notice saying I'm in the right of way."

Other residents in the path of the construction — in Tampa's downtown area, Ybor City and West Tampa — echoed Sanchez's

frustration.

About 1,000 residents and 140 businesses will have to move, DOT officials have said.

In the Westshore area, about 221 residents and 39 businesses will be relocated, said Ron Gregory, the project manager for the engineering firm of Greiner Inc.

"We want to get those trucks

Please see FREEWAY Page 2

#### Freeway

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off the streets of Ybor and make the area more street-friendly," Gregory said.

The road project has received support from the Ybor business community and various city and county planning agencies, Gregory said.

Manuel Blanco wasn't upset about losing his home to the widening of I-275. He lives on LaSalle Avenue in west Tampa. The road crews will have to knock down his house, but leave his fuel oil business.

"I'd rather go than sit along side of an expressway," he said.

## Plan 380 BY Would ease traffic

■ A workshop today will show improvements planned for the Tampa interstates.

By JACKIE RIPLEY
Times Correspondent

TAMPA — In a few years, it will be easier for drivers to get through town — and around town — thanks to planned improvements in Tampa's interstate system.

The improvements call for widening two sections of the interstate system so that traffic can move into and out of downtown more easily — and, if drivers choose, bypass that area altogether.

Residents are invited to give their views on the reconstruction project during a public workshop from 4 to 8 p.m. today at the Tampa Convention Center, 333 S Franklin St.

Transportation officials are studying the environmental, economic and social impact of the proposed changes.

A video presentation and aerial photographs will be shown.

Among the changes is a main freeway that will provide a virtually straight shot through Tampa, and outside lanes for local traffic, said Lee Royal, spokeswoman for the Florida Department of Transportation.

"You'll be able to move quickly within town," Royal said. "And if you're going on a long-distance (trip) through Tampa, you'll be able to pass all those exits."

The proposal, part of an overall \$1-billion-plus plan to widen and reconstruct Tampa's interstate system, calls for reconstructing Interstate 275 from the Howard Frankland Bridge north to Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard, and Interstate 4 from the I-275 downtown interchange east to 50th Street.

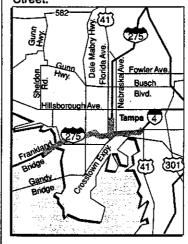
Though the project will provide welcome improvements, drivers will have to wait several years to enjoy them.

Right-of-way acquisition, which will occur between the Frankland Bridge and Himes Avenue, won't begin until 1994.

Actual construction won't begin until about 1996, Royal said.

#### **Road changes**

The screened areas indicate the proposed changes in portions of I-275 from the Howard Frankland Bridge to Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard, and on I-4 from the I-275 downtown interchange eastward to 50th Street.



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