

RE-EVALUATION FORM

1. GENERAL PROJECT INFORMATION

A. Re-evaluation Type: Design Change

B. Original approved Environmental Document:

Document Type: EIS

Date of Approval: 09/15/2020

Project Numbers:

N/A

258337-2-21-01

N/A

412531-2-43-01

ETDM (if applicable)

Financial Management

Federal-Aid

Project Name: DISTRICTWIDE TAMPA INTERSTATE IMPROVEMENT STUDY

Project Location: FDOT District 7 (District 7)

Project Limits: I-275 (SR 93) from Howard Frankland Bridge to North of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard (SR 574) and I-4 (SR 400) from I-275 (SR 93) to East of 50th Street (US 41) with New Alignment from I-4 South to the Existing Selmon Expressway and Improvements to the Selmon Expressway from the Kennedy Boulevard Overpass East to Maydell Drive

C. Prior Re-evaluation(s):

FM Number	Type				Date District Approved	Date Lead Agency Consultation	Date Lead Agency Approved (if applicable)
	PE	DC	ROW	CON			
445056-1	☐	☒	☒	☐	06/27/2021	06/28/2021	06/29/2021
Description of Approval: FHWA approved, minor changes to the design. Eliminated Pond 4B; area will be used for bicycle and pedestrian connectivity and buffer.							
445056-2	☐	☒	☒	☐	06/27/2021	06/28/2021	06/29/2021
Description of Approval: FHWA approved, minor changes to the design. Modified alignment of westbound I-4 exit to downtown and widened existing structures.							
445056-1	☐	☐	☐	☒	09/18/2021	09/19/2021	09/20/2021
Description of Approval: FHWA approved							
445056-2	☐	☐	☐	☒	09/18/2021	09/19/2021	09/20/2021
Description of Approval: FHWA approved							
445057-1	☐	☐	☐	☒	09/18/2021	09/19/2021	09/20/2021
Description of Approval: FHWA approved							
447534-1	☐	☐	☐	☒	02/21/2022	02/22/2022	02/23/2022
Description of Approval:							

RE-EVALUATION FORM

FHWA approved

447615-1	☐	☐	☐	☒	02/21/2022	02/22/2022	02/23/2022
----------	--------------------------	--------------------------	--------------------------	-------------------------------------	------------	------------	------------

Description of Approval:

FHWA approved

447107-2	☐	☒	☐	☐	09/09/2022	08/19/2022	N/A
----------	--------------------------	-------------------------------------	--------------------------	--------------------------	------------	------------	-----

Description of Approval:

District approved following consultation with FDOT Office of Environmental Management (OEM). Minor change to the design. Westshore Blvd./Trask St. northbound entrance ramp realigned. I-275 realigned from SR 60 to Lois Ave. I-275 footprint reduced from south of Reo St. to SR 60.

447107-3	☐	☒	☐	☐	09/09/2022	08/19/2022	N/A
----------	--------------------------	-------------------------------------	--------------------------	--------------------------	------------	------------	-----

Description of Approval:

District approved following consultation with OEM. Minor change to the design. Westshore Blvd./Trask St. northbound entrance ramp realigned. I-275 realigned from SR 60 to Lois Ave. I-275 footprint reduced from south of Reo St. to SR 60.

447107-4	☐	☒	☐	☐	09/09/2022	08/19/2022	N/A
----------	--------------------------	-------------------------------------	--------------------------	--------------------------	------------	------------	-----

Description of Approval:

District approved following consultation with OEM. Minor change to the design. Westshore Blvd./Trask St. northbound entrance ramp realigned. I-275 realigned from SR 60 to Lois Ave. I-275 footprint reduced from south of Reo St. to SR 60.

D. Project or project segment(s) being evaluated

FAP Number	FM Number	Project/ Segment Name	Project/ Segment Location	Type				Project/ Segment Letting Type	Funding
				PE	DC	ROW	CON		
	445057-1-52-01	I-275/SR 93 SB OFF RAMP TO I-4 FR N OF FLORIBRASKA TO W OF 21ST	District 7 - HILLSBOROUGH	☐	☒	☐	☐	Design Build	Federal

2. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) approved the Tampa Interstate Study (TIS) Supplemental Environmental Impact Study (SEIS) on September 15, 2020, to reconstruct/widen I-275 from Howard Frankland Bridge (HFB) to north of SR 574 (Dr. Martin Luther [MLK] Jr. Boulevard), and I-4 from I-275 to east of 50th Street (US 41) with new alignment from I-4 South to the Existing Selmon Expressway and Improvements to the Selmon Expressway from the Kennedy Boulevard Overpass East to Maydell Drive.

All project segments located within the TIS SEIS PD&E Study limits, including the segment numbers below which show the most recent project limits (**Figure 1**), are consistent with FDOT's 5-Year Work Program, and the statuses are described below:

- I-275/SR 93/SR 60 Interchange (WPIS: 412531-2). Status: ROW Acquisition Underway. ROW is the only phase funded under this number for 447107-2, 447107-3 & 447107-4.

**RE-EVALUATION
FORM**

- I-275/SR 93 from north of Howard Frankland Bridge to south of SR 60 (WPIS: 447534-1). Status: Construction Underway.
- Reo Street from Gray Street to Cypress Street (WPIS: 447615-1). Status: Construction Underway.
- I-275/SR 93 from north of Howard Frankland Bridge to north of Lois Avenue and SR 60 from Kennedy Boulevard to north of Spruce Street/TIA Interchange (WPIS: 447107-2). Status: Pre-Construction Underway, Future Construction Advertisement Re-evaluation.
- I-275/SR 93 from north of Howard Frankland Bridge to north of Lois Avenue and SR 60 from Kennedy Boulevard to north of Spruce Street/TIA Interchange (WPIS: 447107-3). Status: Pre-Construction Underway, Future Construction Advertisement Re-evaluation.
- I-275/SR 93 from north of Howard Frankland Bridge to north of Lois Avenue and SR 60 from Kennedy Boulevard to north of Spruce Street/TIA Interchange (WPIS: 447107-4). Status: Pre-Construction Underway, Future Construction Advertisement Re-evaluation.
- I-275/SR 93 from north of Lois Avenue to north of Howard Avenue (WPIS: 434045-2). Status: Pre-Construction Underway.
- I-275/SR 93 from north of Howard Avenue to north of Hillsborough River (WPIS: 434045-3). Status: Pre-Construction Underway.
- I-4 (SR 400) WB to I-275 (SR 93) NB from west of 14th Street to Floribaska Avenue (WPIS: 445056-1). Status: ROW Acquisition Underway. Design/Build Underway.
- I-275 (SR 93) SB I-4/SR 400 WB from north of Morgan Street to west of North 12th Street (WPIS: 445056-2). Status: Design/Build Underway.
- I-275 (SR 93) SB Off Ramp to I-4 from north of Floribaska Avenue to west of 21st Street (WPIS: 445057-1). Status: **This is the subject of this Design Change Re-evaluation. Design/Build Underway.**
- Scott Street from North Morgan Street to North Jefferson Street (WPIS: 447616-1). Status: Pre-Construction Underway.

RE-EVALUATION FORM

I-275/SR 93 from north of Howard Frankland Bridge to south of SR 60
(WPIS: 447534-1)

Status: Construction Underway

I-275 (SR 93) from north of Howard Frankland Bridge to north of Lois Avenue and SR 60 from Kennedy Boulevard to north of Spruce Street/TIA Interchange
(WPIS: 447107-2, -3, & -4)

Status: Pre-Construction Underway

I-4 (SR 400) WB to I-275 (SR 93) NB from West of 14th Street to Floribraska Avenue
(WPIS: 445056-1)

Status: ROW Acquisition Underway. Design/Build Underway

I-275/SR 93 from north of Lois Avenue to north of Howard Avenue
(WPIS: 434045-2)

Status: Pre-Construction Underway

I-275 (SR 93) SB/I-4/SR 400 WB from North of Morgan Street to West of North 12th Street
(WPIS: 445056-2)

Status: Design/Build Underway

Scott Street from North Morgan Street to North Jefferson Street
(WPIS: 447616-1)

Status: Pre-Construction Underway

Reo Street from Gray Street to Cypress Street
(WPIS: 447615-1)

Status: Construction Underway

I-275/SR 93 from north of Howard Avenue to north of Hillsborough River
(WPIS: 434045-3)

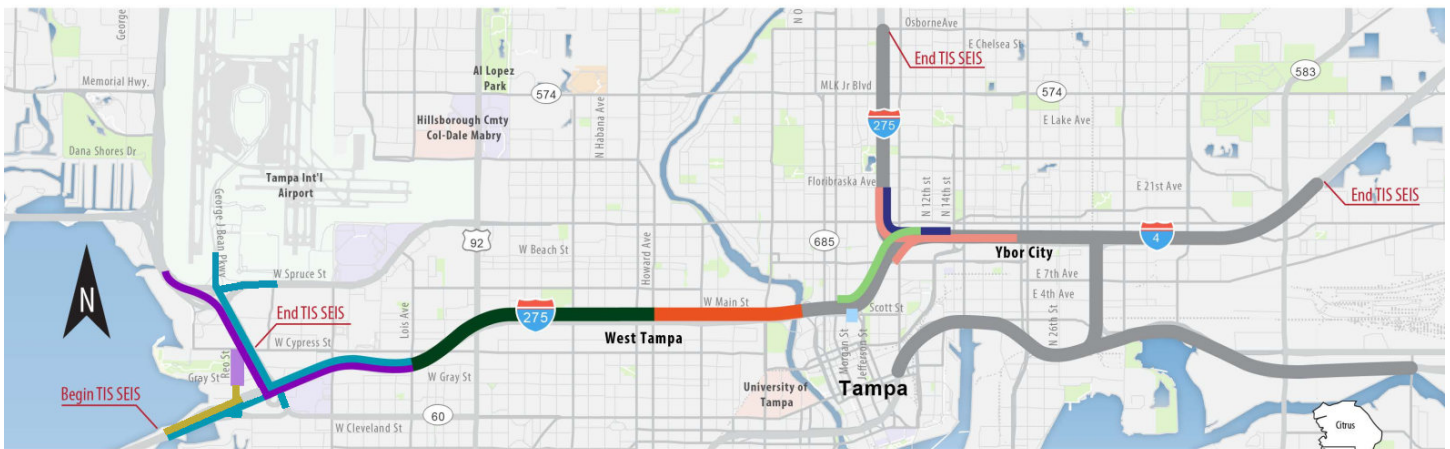
Status: Pre-Construction Underway

I-275 (SR 93) SB Off Ramp to I-4 from North of Floribraska Avenue to West of 21st Street
(WPIS: 445057-1)

Status: This segment is the subject of this Design Change Re-evaluation. Design/Build Underway.

I-275 (SR 93)/SR 60 Interchange
(WPIS: 412531-2)

Status: ROW Acquisition Underway. ROW is only phase funded under this WPIS for 447107-2, -3, & -4.



The Downtown Interchange

Design Change Re-evaluation
I-275 (SR 93) SB Off Ramp to I-4 from north of Floribraska Avenue to west of 21st Street
Hillsborough County, Florida
WPIS: 445057-1



3. CHANGES IN APPLICABLE LAW OR REGULATION

Are there changes in federal or state laws, rules, regulations, or guidance that require consideration since the date of the original Environmental Document or subsequent Re-evaluation(s)? Yes

In October 2022, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service found that listing the gopher tortoise as a threatened or endangered species under the Endangered Species Act was not warranted throughout its entire range. The agency determined that the eastern and western portions of the gopher tortoise's range meet the criteria of Distinct Population Segments (DPS). The populations in the eastern segment, which includes Florida, Georgia, South Carolina, and most of Alabama, do not require protection under the Endangered Species Act (ESA) and were withdrawn as a candidate for listing.

4. EVALUATION OF MAJOR DESIGN CHANGES AND REVISED DESIGN CRITERIA

Are there major design changes, including but not limited to changes in the alignment(s), typical section(s), drainage/stormwater requirements, design control and criteria, or temporary road or bridge? Yes

Status: A System Interchange Modification Report Update (SIMR Update) was prepared to document the safety, operational and engineering acceptability of the design changes. The SIMR Update dated October 2023 was approved by

**RE-EVALUATION
FORM**

the FHWA on October 23, 2023. The 90% Design-Build Plans (90%DBP) (April 2023) and SIMR Update were reviewed and compared to the conceptual plans from the approved TIS SEIS and subsequent Reevaluations. There are two major design changes - (1) modification of the southbound I-275 to eastbound I-4 ramp configuration, and (2) addition of an inside auxiliary lane along eastbound I-4 to Selmon Expressway connector. These changes do not require any additional right of way.

Modification of the Southbound I-275 to Eastbound I-4 Ramp Configuration

Figure 2 shows a general location of the design change showing a red "bubble" surrounding the area on the SEIS Plan (approved in TIS SEIS) and the design change (90% Design-Build Plans). This modification includes: Relocating the proposed two-lane southbound I-275 to eastbound I-4 flyover ramp from a right side entrance to I-4 to a left side entrance to I-4. The two-lane exit to the flyover ramp is proposed to split approximately 1970 feet downstream of the exit gore from southbound I-275, where the outer (rightmost) lane departs the main alignment of the two-lane roadway to a single-lane exit to 14th and 15th Street using the existing flyover bridge and connecting to the approved exit ramp from northbound I-275 to 14th and 15th Street. The two-lane southbound I-275 exit to I-4 eastbound ramp continues to a new flyover bridge structure to enter the eastbound I-4 lanes on the inside (leftmost) as a right merge entrance ramp.

RE-EVALUATION FORM

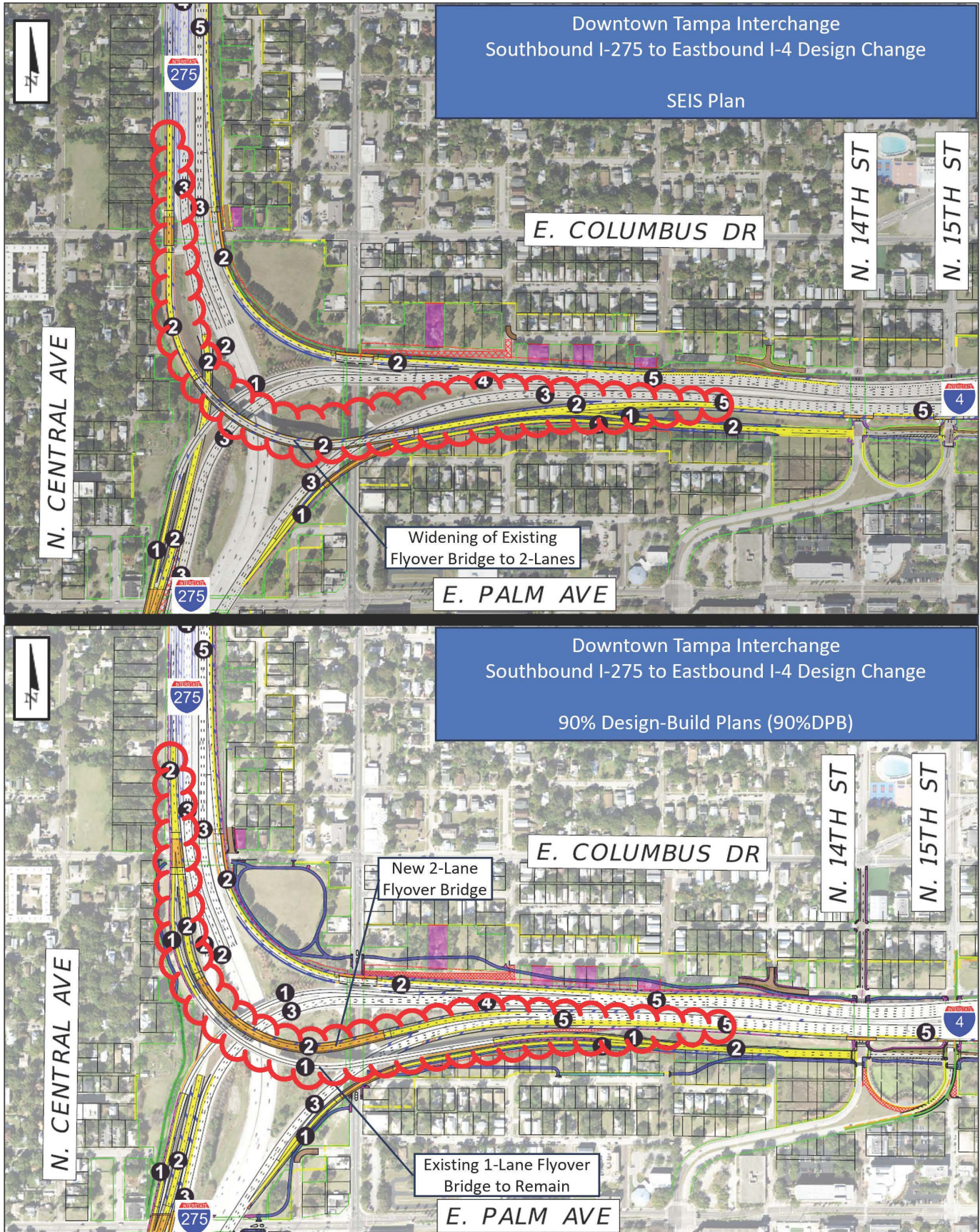


Figure 2 - Design Change Southbound I-275 to Eastbound I-4

**RE-EVALUATION
FORM****Addition of Inside Auxiliary Lane to Selmon Expressway Connector**

The design change also includes extending the entrance lanes to eastbound I-4 from southbound I-275 for approximately 4,800 feet, where the inner (leftmost) ramp lane, serving as an auxiliary lane, drops as an exclusive left exit to the Selmon Expressway connector, and the outer (right) lane from the entrance ramp converts to an option lane consisting of a shared left exit to Selmon Expressway/through lane continuing to eastbound I-4. **Figure 3** shows a general location of the design change with the red "bubble" surrounding the area on the SEIS Plan (approved in TIS SEIS) and the design change (90% Design-Build Plans).

RE-EVALUATION FORM

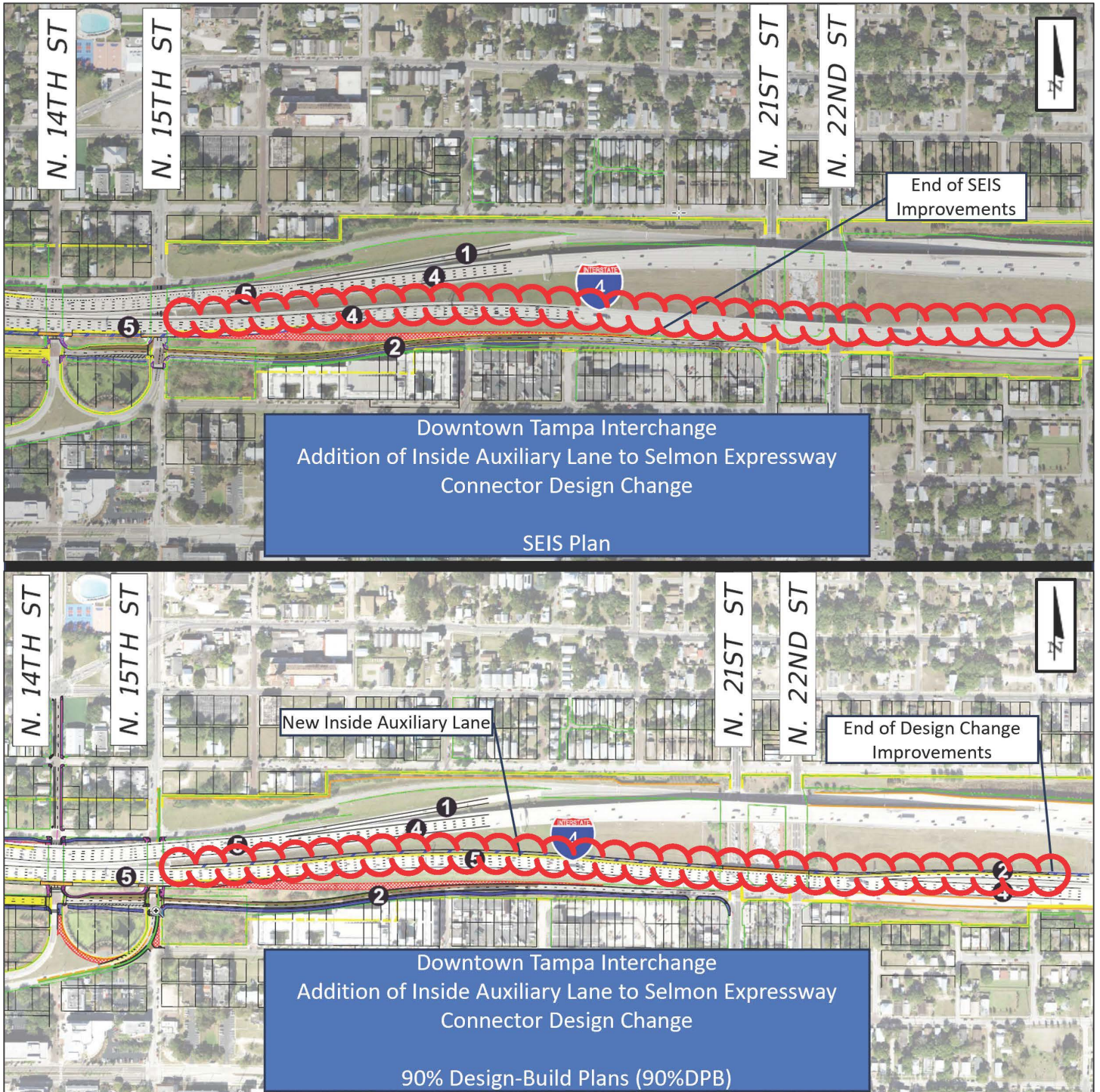


Figure 3 - Design Change Addition of Inside Auxiliary Lane Eastbound I-4

5. PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

Were there additional public involvement activities? Yes

**RE-EVALUATION
FORM**

In January 2023 and June 2023, FDOT held public meetings referenced as Community Conversations which FDOT indicated would take place several times each year to disseminate information updates regarding the projects specifically, in proximity to communities surrounding the Downtown Interchange (Segments 2B & 3A). The design changes which are the subject of this re-evaluation were presented and noted in the notices for these meetings.

The January 2023 Community Conversations involved two in-person public meetings and one virtual public meeting. The in-person meetings were held on Thursday January 19, 2023 at Children's Board of Hillsborough County in Tampa from 5:30pm-7:30pm (20 public attendees participated) and on Thursday January 26, 2023 at Ragan Recreational Center in Tampa from 5:30pm-7:30pm (33 public attendees participated). The virtual session was held on Tuesday January 31, 2023 from 11:00am-1:00pm via GoToMeeting (20 public attendees participated). Public notices were placed in the Tampa Bay Times, online at TampaBayNext.com and FDOT Public Notices, Florida Administrative Register, emails to elected officials, appointed officials, FDOT project listserv, Guerilla marketing, FDOT social media and targeted outreach with community members from January 5-19. In-person meetings were open-house style with staff and exhibits in one room and a pre-recorded informational video available for viewing. The virtual option played the informational video 4 times and had staff available to answer questions via the GoToMeeting chat function. The design changes presented in video and on displays included the changes involving the southbound I-275 connection to eastbound I-4 and the additional auxiliary lane along eastbound I-4 to the Selmon Expressway connector. There were no public comments in opposition to the design changes. Comments at the three meetings included aesthetics, updates shown for trail connections, and community spaces.

The June 2023 Community Conversations involved one in-person public meeting and one virtual public meeting. The in-person meeting was held on Tuesday June 20, 2023 at Hillsborough County Bar Association in Tampa from 5:30pm-7:30pm (39 public attendees participated). The virtual session was held on Wednesday June 21, 2023 from 11:00am-1:00pm via GoToMeeting (24 public attendees participated). Public notices were placed in the Tampa Bay Times, online at TampaBayNext.com, FDOT Public Notices, Florida Administrative Register, emails to elected officials, appointed officials, FDOT project listserv, Guerilla marketing, FDOT social media and targeted outreach with community members from May 30-June 20. In-person meetings were open-house style with staff and exhibits in one room and a pre-recorded informational video available for viewing. The virtual option played the informational video 4 times and had staff available to answer questions via the GoToMeeting chat function. The meetings provided an update from the January 2023 Community Conversations on aesthetics, uses for community spaces, and proposed design changes to the Downtown Tampa Interchange (I-275/I-4) project. The meetings also provided updates on other FDOT projects in the vicinity and the OnBoard Tampa Bay workforce initiative. The design changes presented in video and on displays included the changes involving the southbound I-275 connection to eastbound I-4 and the additional auxiliary lane along eastbound I-4 to the Selmon Expressway connector. There were no public comments in opposition to the design changes. One person provided written comment in opposition to the project as a whole, community spaces, pickle ball courts and the 14th/15th St exits. Comments at the meetings included aesthetics, updates shown for trail connections, noise and visual barriers, community spaces, timing of construction, and maintenance of landscaping.

Coordination with the communities adjacent to the project has continued throughout the design and construction phases of this project.

6. PROJECT or SEGMENT(S) PLANNING CONSISTENCY

Planning Consistency is not required for this re-evaluation.

**RE-EVALUATION
FORM****7. EVALUATION OF CHANGES IN IMPACTS****a. SOCIAL & ECONOMIC**

Are there changes in impacts to the social, economic, land use, mobility, and/or aesthetic effects? No

Are there changes in right-of-way needs? No

Is there a change in anticipated relocation(s)? No

Are there changes in impacts to Prime or Unique Farmlands? N/A

b. CULTURAL

Are there changes in impacts to cultural resources pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (historic sites/districts and archaeological sites)? No

Are there changes in effects to Section 4(f) of the Department of Transportation Act protected resources or other protected public lands? No

Are there changes in impacts to lands purchased under Section 6(f) of the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act? N/A

Are there changes in impacts to recreational areas or protected lands? No

c. NATURAL

Are there changes in impacts to protected species and habitat, wetlands and other surface waters, and/or essential fish habitat? No

The project corridor was assessed for suitable habitat for federal- and state-listed species and US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) Critical Habitat in accordance with 50 CFR Part 402 of the Endangered Species Act (ESA) as amended, Chapters 5B-40: Preservation of Native Flora of Florida and 68A-27 (FAC), the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA), in the 1996 TIS FEIS and the 2020 TIS SEIS.

Status: The I-275/I-4 corridor including the segment of the project being assessed in this re-evaluation was reviewed during design, with updated field reviews performed in June 2023. The 90%DBP were reviewed and compared to the conceptual plans from the approved TIS SEIS. No additional wetlands or surface waters will be impacted with the Design Changes. One listed or protected species was observed in the project area during the June 2023 field reviews - a single Gopher Tortoise burrow. A Gopher Tortoise Relocation Permit has been obtained from the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC). No additional protected species habitat will be impacted that was not included in the approved TIS SEIS.

RE-EVALUATION FORM

Are there changes in impacts to designated Aquatic Preserves, Coastal Barrier resources, Wild and Scenic Rivers, Nationwide Rivers Inventory Rivers, and/or Outstanding Florida Waters? N/A

Are there changes in impacts to Floodplains or Water Resources? No

d. PHYSICAL

Are there changes in Air Quality? No

What is the status of Highway Traffic Noise?

A July 2023 Design Noise Study Report Update (NRSU) was prepared to evaluate changes in traffic noise for the design changes and is included in the project file. The 90%DBP were reviewed and compared to the conceptual plans from the approved TIS SEIS. The design changes have the potential to change predicted future traffic noise levels at 682 properties (662 residences and twenty special land uses [i.e., nonresidential land uses]). Based on the results of analysis that considered the design change, traffic noise levels are predicted to approach, meet, or exceed the Noise Abatement Criteria (NAC) at 107 residences, 15 more than from the approved TIS SEIS. Noise barriers were considered as an abatement measure; however, the required Noise Reduction Design Goal could not be achieved. Therefore, additional noise barriers are not considered to be a reasonable abatement measure.

As noted in the earlier September 2021 NRSU the improvements to I-275 and I-4 would require that existing noise barriers or segments of existing barriers be removed. Although replacement noise barriers were not found reasonable or feasible, FDOT will reconstruct noise barriers that are altered in length or location as a result of the current design in similar locations to where they currently exist as committed to in the TIS SEIS. There are no changes in replacement or proposed noise barriers.

What is the status of Contamination?

As part of the Contamination Screening Evaluation Report (CSER) update (September 2018) prepared for the TIS SEIS, seven "High" and twelve "Medium" Ranking facilities are located within the limits of the segment being assessed with this Design Change Re-evaluation.

"High" Ranking Sites

1. Former Morgan Street Jail (1301 N. Morgan St), Site No. 25
2. Bazarte Rene, former Ray's Bail Bonds (801 E. Scott St), Site No. 26
3. Tampa City - Fire Dept. Communications (2904 N. Mitchell Ave), Site No. 42
4. Goldstar Foods (2317 N. Nebraska Ave.), Site No. 65
5. Former BP #130 (2040 E. 14th Avenue), Site No. 83
6. NJC Investment Co. (2101 E. 13th Avenue), Site No. 86
7. FDOT Site (2501 N. 22nd Street & I-4), Site No. 88

"Medium" Ranking Sites

1. Gene's Service, former Amigo's Auto Service (2318 N. Nebraska Ave.), Site No. 51
2. Coastal Mart #643 (2309 N. Nebraska Ave.), Site No. 66
3. Jason Sink, former Norman Leroy Stykes (2604 N. 22nd Street), Site No. 87

RE-EVALUATION FORM

4. Sunoco, former United Oil Co #207 (2207 E 13th Ave), Site No. 89
5. ERNS (22nd Street and Westbound Entrance to Crosstown Expressway), Site No. 138
6. FDOT Right-of-Way: Former Gas Station (North of Scott St. between Orange and Jefferson St.), Site No. 162
7. FDOT Right-of-Way: Former Gas Station (NE corner of Nebraska Ave & 12th Ave), Site No. 166
8. Eastside Funeral Home (2301 N Nebraska Ave), Site No. 167
9. Burger King: former Gas Station (2301 N 21st St), Site No. 178
10. FDOT Right-of-Way: former Gas Station (NW corner of 22nd St & 13th Ave beneath I-4), Site No. 179
11. FDOT Right-of-Way: former Gas Station (SW corner of 22nd St & 14th Ave beneath I-4), Site No. 180
12. Former McKenny Garage (2106 15th Ave), Site No. 181

Status: Based on a Level II testing documented in Level II report dated December 8, 2021, it was determined that the following sites listed above contained soil contamination (Site Nos. 25, 26, 87, 89, 162, 179, 181) and the following sites for ground water contamination (Site Nos. 25, 26, 42, 86, 88, 89, 138, 162, 179, 180). No soil nor groundwater contamination was noted for Site Nos. 51, 65, 66, 83, 166, 167, 178 and the Level II report recommends no further testing. The Level II report indicates a 50-gallon diesel fuel spill occurred along the westbound I-4 ramp to southbound I-275 on November 2, 2021 and was remediated to the satisfaction of the FDEP representative, so no further remediation is recommended per the Level II report. Separate provisions have been made to remediate/mitigate identified contamination impact prior to or during construction in the affected project area. Review of the 90%DBP (April 2023) compared sites listed from the conceptual plans from the approved TIS SEIS and found no additional sites. There is no change in impact status.

Are there changes in impacts to Utilities and Railroads? No

Are there changes in impacts to Navigation? No

8. COMMITMENT STATUS

Are there prior commitments from the Environmental Document or previously approved re-evaluation(s)? Yes

Are there new environmental commitments? No

[\[1 - 258337 2 TIS SEIS 445057 1 DTI Revised PCR 102623\]](#)

9. STATUS OF PERMITS

Federal

None anticipated.

State

Segment	Name	Descriptor	Status	Date
445057-1-52-01	DEP or WMD Environmental Resource Permit (ERP)	Permit 49020990.019	Obtained	08/24/2021
445057-1-52-01	DEP National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permit		Needed	08/17/2023
445057-1-52-01	FWC Gopher Tortoise Relocation Permit	Permit GTT-23-01036	Obtained	08/02/2023

**RE-EVALUATION
FORM****Local**

None anticipated.

Other

None anticipated.

10. CONCLUSION

- ☒ The project has been re-evaluated pursuant to 23 CFR § 771.129. The FDOT has determined that no changes to the project affect the original decision. Therefore, the Administrative Action remains valid and the project can advance.

11. DISTRICT REVIEW AND APPROVAL**Name and title of FDOT Preparer:** Robin M. Rhinesmith, FDOT D7 Environmental Administrator

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 the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) pursuant to 23 U.S.C. § 327 and a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) dated May 26, 2022 and executed by the Federal Highway Administration and FDOT.

Robin Rhinesmith

October 4, 2023

District approving authority or designee

Date



Electronically signed within SWEPT
on October 4, 2023 9:11:07 AM EDT
(electronic signature on file)

12. OEM CONCURRENCE

Jennifer Marshall, P.E.

October 27, 2023

Print Name

Date

Director of the Office of Environmental Management or Designee



Electronically signed within SWEPT
on October 27, 2023 3:06:25 PM EDT
(electronic signature on file)

13. Links to Supporting Documentation

- 1 - [25833722101-EIS-D7-258337_2_TIS_SEIS_445057_1_DTI_Revised_PCR_102623-2023-1026.pdf](#)