

Florida transportation project prescribes solutions to unclog artery

The Florida Department of Transportation selected CH2M HILL to conduct a project development and environmental (PD&E) study for the expansion of 43 miles of Interstate 95 — the major East Coast highway that runs from northern Maine to South Florida. The study will examine widening I-95 from four to six lanes between State Route 514 interchange and SR 50 near the John F. Kennedy Space Center.

Our scope of work includes:

- preliminary design
- alternatives development
- preliminary engineering report
- preparation of environmental documents
- public involvement

The results of the study will help the department make specific decisions regarding the type, design and location of improvements to relieve traffic congestion and improve safety along this stretch of highway.

"This is a key hurricane evacuation route, and the corridor runs through both



The project will address a number of environmental issues — the I-95 corridor runs adjacent to the St. Johns River headwaters and other environmentally sensitive areas.

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**— Mark Callahan
Project Manager**



The team will develop design alternatives for improving safety at existing intersections.

developed and environmentally sensitive areas," said Project Manager Mark Callahan/ORL. "So we'll be addressing a variety of safety and environmental issues. In addition, the public involvement aspect of our work will address many of the quality-of-life issues that residents and other stakeholders may have. These include traffic noise, visual impacts, safety, property values, and the various design alternatives."

Callahan credits the CH2M HILL team's previous work for FDOT as a key factor in being selected for this important project. "We have an excellent project team, and the Orlando transportation group has developed very good relationships with FDOT based on its performance on previous projects," he said.

Based on the team's glowing past performance, the future also looks bright — FDOT can award the detailed design work to the team without conducting another selection process. ♦

Florida's Mobility 2000

This project is part of Florida's Mobility 2000 Initiative:

- Governor Jeb Bush's statewide initiative seeks to advance roadway programs by redirecting diverted funds from general government needs back to transportation projects, as well as by acquiring additional funding from other sources.
- The accelerated completion of nearly \$4 billion in transportation system improvements is anticipated over the next 10 years.
- Significant improvements to the state highway system will be made in three areas: 1) expanding Florida's major trade and tourism routes, 2) helping to relieve urban congestion, and 3) providing more effective emergency evacuation of the state's coastal areas.