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FDOT Accelerates Significant Portions of I-4 Ultimate Project

~ Segments of westbound general use lanes and SR 408 interchange to be completed 1-2 months early ~

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. – Furthering Governor Ron DeSantis' direction to accelerate transportation projects across Florida, the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) is expediting significant portions of the I-4 Ultimate Project in Orlando. With the ability to increase lane closures and extend work hours because of the reduction in traffic from COVID-19, FDOT plans to complete segments of the westbound general use lanes and their connection to the SR 408 interchange by Summer 2020, which is 1-2 months earlier. This acceleration will also help continue to provide much-needed jobs throughout Central Florida.

"The Department completely understands that I-4 is a major artery within our state's transportation system and delivering these significant portions of the I-4 Ultimate Project is a huge win for Florida's residents and economy," said Florida Department of Transportation Secretary Kevin J. Thibault, P.E. "We are thrilled to accelerate as many segments of the project as possible so Central Florida residents can experience enhanced mobility on the corridor once we return to normal after COVID-19."

The \$2.3 billion I-4 Ultimate project will reconstruct 21 miles of I-4 from west of Kirkman Road to east of State Road 434 in Longwood. The specific segments of the I-4 Ultimate project that will be accelerated include:

- o Segments of Westbound I-4 through downtown Orlando.
- o Portions of the SR 408 interchange.

Acceleration of work in these areas will put more lanes of westbound I-4 into final configuration, reduce the number of construction sequences that would have occurred, and greatly reduce congestion through the most heavily traveled interchange within the I-4 Ultimate project.

No additional costs will be incurred or paid to accelerate these work activities. Maps of the planned detours and lane closures are attached and posted <u>here</u> for reference.

FDOT continues to look for opportunities to accelerate projects across the state during this low traffic period and will share those updates as they are available.