

For Immediate Release September 18, 2020

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MEDIA ADVISORY: Virtual and In-Person Community Open Houses Provide More Public Engagement Opportunities in the M-CORES Planning Process

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. – The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) continues to increase opportunities for the public to stay informed and engaged in the M-CORES planning process, by providing online and in-person options for the public to attend the upcoming Multi-use Corridors of Regional Economic Significance (M-CORES) Community Open Houses.

Members of the public who wish to attend in person will be able to view displays, speak to project staff and submit handwritten comments. Those wishing to attend online will be offered a similar experience to view displays and submit comments virtually. Meeting information can be found below.

As safety remains FDOT's top priority, enhanced safety and sanitation measures will continue to be taken at all in-person M-CORES events, including:

- Using CDC-recommended products to sanitize high-touch areas before, during and after the event
- Requiring all FDOT and consultant staff to wear masks
- Requesting that all attendees wear masks
- Providing hand sanitizer and masks for attendees
- Limiting the number of people in a room at one time to 50
- Utilizing signage and other tools to facilitate social distancing
- Implementing the use of single use sign-in materials and speaker cards

Public engagement is a critical element of the M-CORES program. Comments can be submitted several ways and will be part of the public record:

- Visit FloridaMCORES.com
- Email to FDOT.Listens@dot.state.fl.us
- Mail to 605 Suwannee St, MS 54, Tallahassee, FL 32399-0450

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Community Open Houses

Northern Turnpike Corridor Community Open House

Date: Wednesday, September 23 **Time**: 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

In-person Location:

Tommy Usher Community Center

506 SW 4th Avenue Chiefland, FL 32626

Online Community Open House: Those wishing to view all the same materials online without visiting the in-person Community Open House can visit <u>FloridaMCORES.com</u> on Tuesday, September 22. The online materials will be available on M-CORES website through Tuesday, September 29.

Southwest-Central Florida Corridor Community Open Houses

Date: Thursday, September 24 **Time**: 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

In-person Location:

North Collier Park - Exhibit Hall

15000 Livingston Road Naples, FL 34109

Online Community Open House: Those wishing to view all the same materials online without visiting the in-person Community Open House can visit <u>FloridaMCORES.com</u> on Wednesday, September 23. The online materials will be available on M-CORES website through Wednesday, September 30.

Date: Tuesday, September 29 **Time**: 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

In-person Location: Nora Mayo Hall 500 3rd Street NW Winter Haven, FL 33881

Online Community Open House: Those wishing to view all the same materials online without visiting the in-person Community Open House can visit <u>FloridaMCORES</u> on Wednesday, September 23. The online materials will be available on M-CORES website through Wednesday, September 30.

Suncoast Corridor Community Open House

Date: Tuesday, September 29 **Time**: 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

In-person Location:

Gilchrist County Woman's Club

2107 S Bronson Memorial Highway (CR 339)

Trenton, FL 32693

Online Community Open House: Those wishing to view all the same materials online without visiting the in-person Community Open House can visit <u>FloridaMCORES</u> on Thursday, September 24. The online materials will be available on the M-CORES website through Thursday, October 1.

For more information, please visit FloridaMCORES.com.

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