



Public Hearing on October 14, 2020

**Access Management and
Safety Improvements along U.S. 441
from Griffin Road to Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard
Leesburg (Lake County)**

Financial Project Identification (FPID) Number: 443546-1
Sam Jumber, P.E. – FDOT Project Manager



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We will now begin the Public Hearing for the U.S. 441 design project in Leesburg. It is 5:45 p.m. on Wednesday, October 14, 2020.

As a reminder, this public hearing is being recorded.



WELCOME

Public Hearing on October 14, 2020

**Access Management and
Safety Improvements along U.S. 441
from Griffin Road to Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard
Leesburg (Lake County)**

Financial Project Identification (FPID) Number: 443546-1
Sam Jumber, P.E. – FDOT Project Manager



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Welcome to the public hearing for the access management and safety improvements along U.S. 441 in Leesburg.

This hearing is focusing on U.S. 441 from Griffin Road to Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard.

My name is Sam Jumber and I am the Florida Department of Transportation Project Manager for this project. The Financial Project Identification Number for this project is 443546-1.



Public Hearing Format

- Getting settled
 - Log in
 - Call in
 - Be seated
- Project presentation
- Public testimony



www.cflroads.com/project/443546-1

U.S. 441 Access Management

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This hearing is being held to give all interested persons the opportunity to understand the U.S. 441 access management design project and to share their comments with the Florida Department of Transportation. The feedback and public input received will be included in the public hearing record. In addition, a video recording is being made of these proceedings. The submitted comments, the video, and the handouts will be available for review by October 16, 2020 on cflroads.com/project/443546-1.

From 5:30 p.m. to 5:45 p.m., you had the opportunity to get settled whether logging in, calling in, or attending in person. The public hearing will consist of a project presentation followed by public testimony.



PUBLIC HEARING LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

U.S. 441 Access Management

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Carolyn Fitzwilliam, our virtual host, will review the legal requirements associated with this public hearing.



Legal Requirements

Title VI

This public hearing is being conducted without regard to race, color, national origin, age, sex, religion, disability or family status. Persons wishing to express their concerns relative to FDOT compliance with Title VI may do so by contacting:

District Five

Florida Department of Transportation
District Five Title VI Coordinator
Jennifer Smith
719 South Woodland Boulevard
Deland, FL 32720-6834
(386) 943-5367
Jennifer.Smith2@dot.state.fl.us

Tallahassee Office

Florida Department of Transportation
Statewide Title VI Coordinator
Jacqueline Paramore
605 Suwannee Street, MS 65
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0450
(850) 414-4753
Jacqueline.Paramore@dot.state.fl.us

All inquiries or complaints will be handled according to FDOT procedures and in a prompt and courteous manner.

U.S. 441 Access Management

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The Florida Department of Transportation has complied with various non-discrimination laws and regulations, including Title VI of the Civil Rights Act and related amendments.

The hearing and project are being conducted without regard to race, color, national origin, age, sex, religion, disability, or family status.

Persons wishing to express their concerns related to FDOT compliance with Title VI may do so by contacting either Jennifer Smith, Title VI Coordinator for District Five or Jacqueline Paramore who is the Statewide Title VI Coordinator for FDOT. Both can be reached as shown here.

All inquiries or complaints will be handled according to FDOT procedures and in a prompt and courteous manner.



Legal Requirements

Additional Public Hearing Items

- Section 339.155, Florida Statutes (public hearings)
- Section 335.199, Florida Statutes (access management)
- Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990
- Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended

U.S. 441 Access Management

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This hearing is being held to afford persons the opportunity to express their views relative to the U.S. 441 access management improvements, in accordance with related Florida Statutes and federal legislation.



Legal Requirements

Public Notifications

- Letters emailed to elected officials on September 18, 2020
- Letters emailed to agency partners on September 18, 2020
- Letters mailed to property owners and businesses within at least 300 feet of the project's right of way on September 18, 2020
- Display ads published in *Lake Sentinel* on September 20, 2020 and October 4, 2020
- Notice posted on FDOT website (www.fdot.gov) on Public Notices Page for District Five on September 28, 2020
- Ad published in *Florida Administrative Register* on September 29, 2020
- Public hearing announcement on cflroads.com/project/443546-1 on September 30, 2020
- News release emailed to local media outlets on October 7, 2020

U.S. 441 Access Management

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This public hearing was advertised by using several techniques that included:

- Emails to elected officials and agency partners;
- Letters mailed to property owners and businesses within at least 300 feet of the project's right of way;
- Advertisements in the *Lake Sentinel* and *Florida Administrative Register*;
- Notices posted on FDOT websites; and
- A news release emailed to local media outlets.



PROJECT BACKGROUND

U.S. 441 Access Management

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Dajana Gibson, the Project Consultant, will review the proposed design concept for U.S. 441.



Existing Conditions

- **U.S. 441**
 - 7 lanes (six travel lanes plus two-way continuous left turn lane)
 - 4 traffic signals (Griffin Road, Bealls Shopping Center, Picciola Road, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard)
 - Evacuation route
- **Lake County Public Schools**
 - Crossing guards at Griffin Road
 - 1 bus stop on U.S. 441 (north of Key Scale Ford)
- **LakeXpress Bus Stops (Route 1A)**
 - 12 stops along U.S. 441 (six northbound & six southbound)

U.S. 441 Access Management



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Today, U.S. 441 is a 7-lane roadway with six travel lanes plus a center two-way, continuous left turn lane.

For this stretch of U.S. 441, there are 4 traffic signals, which are located at: Griffin Road, the Bealls Shopping Center, Picciola Road, and Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard.

U.S. 441 also serves as an evacuation route.

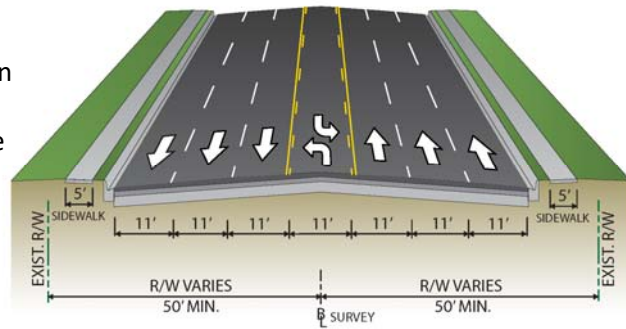
There are 2 school crossing guards at the Griffin Road/U.S. 441 intersection for students attending nearby Beverly Shores Elementary School (to the east) and Carver Middle School (to the west). There is 1 school bus stop on U.S. 441, just north of Key Scale Ford.

LakeXpress Route 1A has 12 bus stops along U.S. 441; 6 northbound and 6 southbound.



Existing Conditions

- Six Travel Lanes – each 11 feet wide
- Two-way, continuous left turn lane in middle (11 feet wide)
- Sidewalks – 5 feet wide on each side
- No designated bicycle lanes



U.S. 441 Features (Typical Section)

U.S. 441 Access Management

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Currently, this part of U.S. 441 has a total of six travel lanes; three in each direction. Each lane is 11 feet wide.

In the middle, there is a two-way, continuous left turn lane which is 11 feet wide.

The sidewalks are each 5 feet wide. While there are no bicycle lanes on this segment of U.S. 441, cyclists may use nearby alternate facilities.



Project Need

- **Access Management Study (June 2018)**
 - 384 crashes on U.S. 441, from 2011 through 2015
 - 151 injuries and 5 fatalities
- **Study Recommendations**
 - Replace the continuous two-way left turn lane with a raised median
 - Include auxiliary left turn lanes at directions or full median openings
 - Design and then construct



U.S. 441 Access Management

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The need for this design project was identified in the *Access Management Study* completed in June 2018. From 2011 through 2015, there were 384 crashes on this section of U.S. 441, accounting for 151 injuries and 5 fatalities.

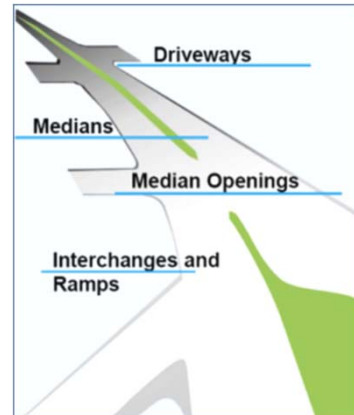
Based on these findings, the study recommended that access management and safety improvements are needed on U.S. 441 by replacing the center 2-way, continuous left turn lane with a raised median.



Access Management

What is Access Management

- Location, design, and operation of
 - Driveways
 - Median openings
 - Interchanges
 - Street connections
- Purpose of access management
 - Access to development
 - Preserve the safety and efficiency of the transportation system
- Separate conflict points
 - Distance between driveways and between median openings



U.S. 441 Access Management

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Access management is the careful planning of the location, design, and operations of driveways, median openings, interchanges, and street connections.

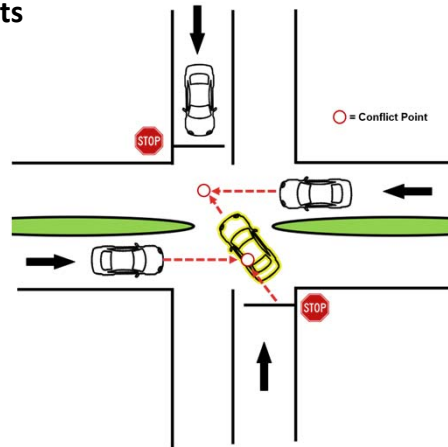
The intent is to separate conflict points by providing a reasonable distance between driveways and between median openings.



Access Management

Conflict Points

- Conflict points are places where two vehicles could cross paths and potentially collide



U.S. 441 Access Management

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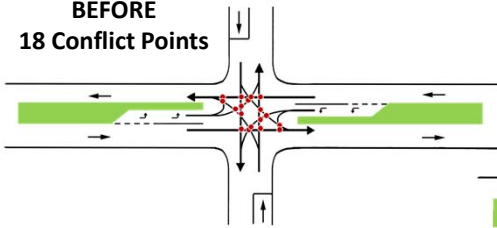
Conflict points are places where two vehicles could legally cross paths and potentially collide.



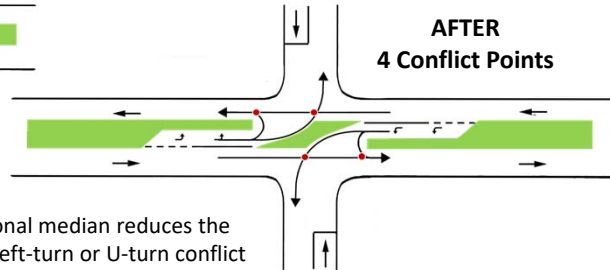
Access Management

Two-Way Directional Median Example

BEFORE
18 Conflict Points



AFTER
4 Conflict Points



A two-way directional median reduces the number of angle, left-turn or U-turn conflict points from 18 to 4.

U.S. 441 Access Management

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A key component of access management is to reduce the number of potential conflict points.

For example, a four-leg intersection (shown on the left) has 18 crossing or left-turn conflict points. Each conflict point is a location where a crash can occur.

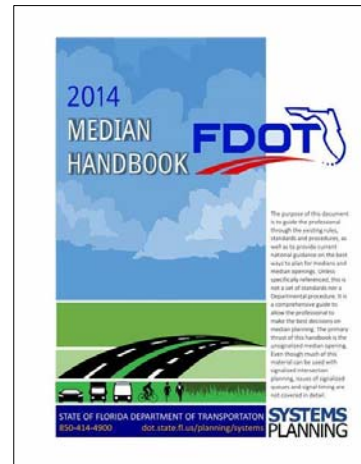
A two-way directional median (shown on the right) reduces the crossing conflict points to 4.



Access Management

- Spacing of median openings based on roadway characteristics
- Full median openings for this project will be 1,320 feet apart (1/4 mile)
- Directional median openings are proposed to be 660 feet apart on this project

U.S. 441 Access Management

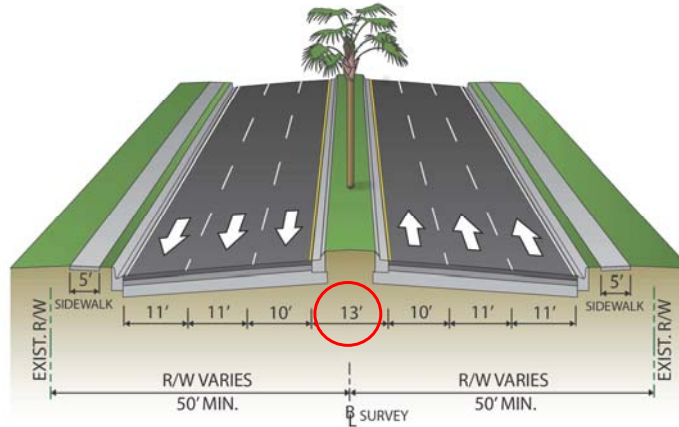


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Spacing of median openings is based on characteristics of the specific roadway. In this case, on U.S. 441, there will be 1,320 feet (or ¼-mile) between full median openings and 660 feet (or 1/8- mile) between directional median openings.



Proposed Typical Section



U.S. 441 Access Management

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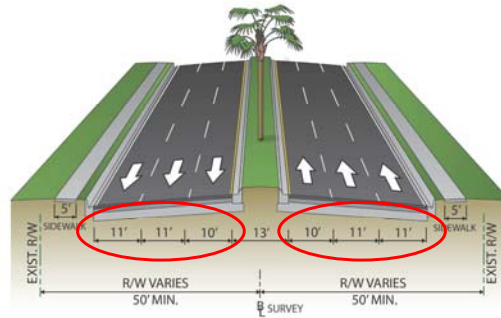
Let's review the proposed roadway features, or typical section, for U.S. 441, from Griffin Road to Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard.

The existing two-way, continuous left turn lane (in the middle of the roadway) is 11-feet wide and will be replaced with a 13-foot raised median.

The new median will have full or directional openings.



Proposed Typical Section



- Six travel lanes remain (three in each direction).
- In each direction, middle and outside lanes will be 11 feet wide.
- In each direction, inside lanes will be 10 feet wide.

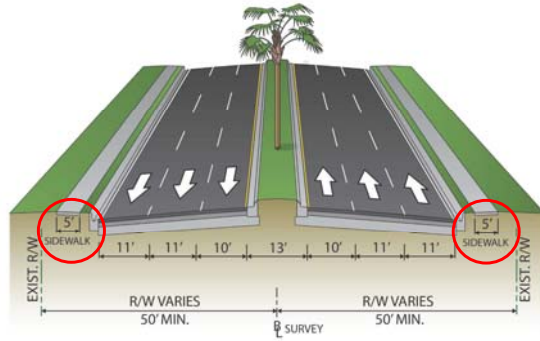
U.S. 441 Access Management

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There will continue to be six travel lanes. In each direction, the middle and outside lanes will be 11 feet wide (as they are today). The inside lanes (in each direction) will be 10-foot wide.



Proposed Typical Section



Sidewalks remain on both sides; each being 5 feet wide

U.S. 441 Access Management

There will continue to be a 5-foot wide sidewalk on each side of the road.



Griffin Road to Akron Road

- Full median and traffic signal at Griffin Road
- Raised median begins at Ramshackle Cafe
- Directional medians at Chevron driveway and N. Shore Drive



U.S. 441 Access Management

Design Solutions

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Using this new typical section, here are the proposed access and safety changes along U.S. 441.

- The project begins at the intersection at Griffin Road, which will continue to have a traffic signal.
- Today, there is a full median opening at Griffin Road and that will continue to be there.
- The raised median will begin north of this intersection at Ramshackle Café.
- The directional median opening at the Chevron driveway will allow left turns if you are traveling north on U.S. 441.
- The other directional median will allow left turns from southbound U.S. 441 onto N. Shore Drive.



Akron Road to Tally Road

- Full median at Rural King/Bealls Shopping Center
- At traffic signal, all turns can be made (including U-turns)
- Right turns in/out at Lake County Tax Collector's Office and at Georgia Avenue



U.S. 441 Access Management

Design Solutions

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As you travel north along U.S. 441 and you want to make a left turn onto Akron Road, you will need to go past this intersection and make a U-turn at the traffic signal at Rural King and the Bealls Shopping Center, which will continue to have a traffic signal.

A directional median opening will be at Tally Road. You will be able to make all turning movements with one exception. To go north on U.S. 441 from Tally Road, you will need to go south on U.S. 441 and make a U-turn at the Rural King traffic signal.

In addition, you will be able to only make right turns "in and out of" the Lake County Tax Collector's office and at Georgia Avenue.



U.S 441 at Picciola Road



- Reconfigure right turn lane from U.S. 441 onto Picciola Road
- Crosswalk added (southern leg of intersection)
- Replace all four strain poles and new pedestrian signals added



U.S. 441 Access Management

Design Solutions

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Several safety improvements are proposed at the intersection with Picciola Road.

- The right turn lane on U.S. 441 will be reconfigured to slow down drivers as they make a right turn onto Picciola Road.
- A crosswalk will be added along the southern leg of the intersection.
- All four strain poles will be replaced and new pedestrian signals will be added.

All turning movements that can be done today will continue to be allowed once the improvements are in place.



Picciola Road to Dr. MLK Boulevard

- Directional median at Eureka Avenue
- Directional median at Indian Trail
- Full median opening at Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. with traffic signal
- Driveways for businesses in the area will be “right in” and “right out” only



U.S. 441 Access Management

Design Solutions

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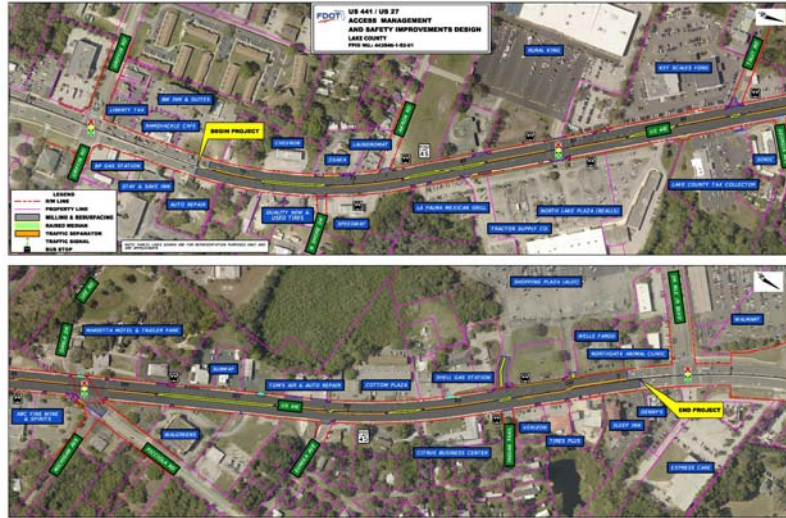
North of Picciola Road,

- Directional median openings will be at Eureka Avenue and Indian Trail.
- A full median opening will be at Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard, which will continue to have a traffic signal.
- The driveways for the area businesses (including the Aldi Shopping Center) will be “right in” and “right out” only.



Design Solutions

U.S. 441 Access Management



All of these improvements will be available to review as one file on cflroads.com by October 16th.



Local Coordination

- Agency Meetings
 - February 13, 2020
 - October 8, 2020



U.S. 441 Access Management

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The proposed design solutions have also been reviewed with local stakeholders during two agency coordination meetings.



NEXT STEPS

U.S. 441 Access Management

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Sam Jumber will now review the next steps.



Project Schedule

Design Spring 2021

Construction Fall 2021

No additional right of way will
be needed.



U.S. 441 Access Management

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This design project will be completed by Spring 2021 with construction expected to begin in Fall 2021.

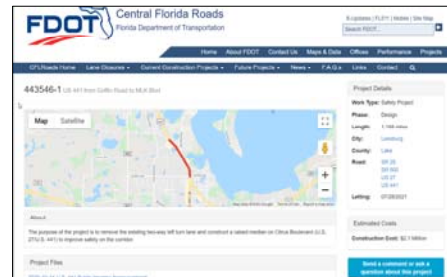
No additional right of way will be needed for the proposed improvements.



www.CFLRoads.com



- Click the magnifying glass
- Type project number 443546-1 in the search box
- Click “Go”



U.S. 441 Access Management

www.cflroads.com/project/443546-1

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This hearing presentation along with the comment form and other project files may be viewed by visiting the project website page at cflroads.com/project/443546-1.

By October 16th, you'll find:

- A video of this hearing, along with pdf formats of;
- The presentation slides and script;
- Only the presentation slides;
- The public hearing handout (which has the typical sections and the design concept, known as a “roll plot”); and
- The comment form.



Contact Information

If you have any questions or would like more information, please contact.

Sam Jumber, P.E.
Project Manager
Florida Department of Transportation
719 S. Woodland Boulevard, MS 2-542
DeLand, Florida 32720-6834
Telephone: 386-943-5244
Email: Samuel.Jumber@dot.state.fl.us

U.S. 441 Access Management

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If you have any questions or would like more information about this project, you may contact me, Sam Jumber (the FDOT project manager) by phone at 386-943-5244 or by email at Samuel.Jumber@dot.state.fl.us.



Ways to Share Your Comments

Tonight at the Public Hearing – Online

Go to the Control Panel

- Written Comments
 - Click on “Questions” tab and type in comments or questions
- Verbal Comments
 - Click on “Questions” tab and type in your name, followed by “I want to speak”



U.S. 441 Access Management

All comments matter, regardless of submittal format.

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FDOT values your input and there are several ways you may share your comments with the project team. Please note that we are here to listen to your comments and questions. We will not be answering questions at tonight’s public hearing. However, we will be responding to all submitted questions and comments in writing after the hearing.

If you are attending tonight’s hearing online, you may submit a written comment by using the “Questions” tab on the control panel. The “Questions” box is on the right side of your screen. Just click on the tab and you can type inside the box. Please note that the audience will not be able to see what you have typed in; however, any written comments or questions provided will become part of the public hearing record.

If you wish to make a verbal statement, click on the “Questions” tab and type in your name, followed by “I want to speak”. When it’s your turn to speak, the host will unmute your microphone first and then you need to unmute your microphone before you begin to speak.




Ways to Share Your Comments

Tonight at the Public Hearing – In Person

- Submit completed comment form

COMMENT FORM
Public Hearing
October 14, 2020



U.S. 441 Access Management and Safety Improvements
Design Project
Leesburg in Lake County, FL
Finance Project Identification Number: 4455463

We'd like to hear from you! Please share your ideas and comments by writing them down here.
Additional space for your comments is provided on the back of this form.

How to Submit Your Comments
If you would like your comments to be included in the meeting summary, you may return this form tonight or email comments by October 27, 2020. Comments created or postmarked by October 27, 2020 will become part of the public hearing record.

Please return to:
Ms. Sarah Jirkee, P.E.
FDOT Project Manager
FDOT - 316115174
720 S. Woodland Boulevard, MS 2-542
Dunedin, Florida 32710-0834
Phone: 888-943-5248
Email: Sarah.Jirkee@dot.state.fl.us

Mailing List Information
Please check the box below if you would like to be added to the mailing list and please provide your name and mailing address.

Add to mailing list

Name: _____
Mailing Address: _____
Email address (optional): _____

NOTE: This information you provide on this comment form becomes part of the U.S. 441 access management design project JMW. This information may be provided to other individuals who may make a request for project information.

U.S. 441 Access Management

All comments matter, regardless of submittal format.

Tonight, if you are participating in person, you may share your comments two different ways.

- By submitting a completed comment form and placing it in the Comments Box before you leave;
- or



Ways to Share Your Comments

Tonight at the Public Hearing – In Person

- Verbally during the Public Testimony

FDOT

SIGN-IN CARD

PUBLIC HEARING on October 14, 2020

U.S. 441 Access Management and Safety Improvements
Design Project in Leesburg, Florida
Financial Project ID Number: 443546-1

Please sign in below so you may be added to the project mailing list. We also need this information for the public hearing records if you would like to speak at tonight's hearing.

Name: _____

Group (if applicable): _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Email (optional): _____

Speaker at Public Hearing

Yes, I would like to speak at tonight's public hearing.

No, I do not want to speak at tonight's public hearing.

The information you provide here becomes part of the official public record for the U.S. 441 public hearing. This information may be provided to other individuals who may make a request for project information.



U.S. 441 Access Management

All comments matter, regardless of submittal format.

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... Verbally during the public testimony period.

If you wish to speak, please be sure to check that box on the sign in card at your seat and turn it in to the venue host during the break.



Ways to Share Your Comments

After Public Hearing

- Complete a comment form and mail it to Sam Jumber by October 27, 2020, to the address shown on the form
- Send an email to Sam Jumber by October 27, 2020, at Samuel.Jumber@dot.state.fl.us
- While visiting the project website page (www.cflroads.com/project/443546-1)

FDOT welcomes comments throughout the project. All comments postmarked or emailed by October 27, 2020 will become a part of the public hearing record.

U.S. 441 Access Management

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There are several opportunities for you to share your comments with the project team ***after the public hearing:***

You may complete a comment form and mail or email it me (Sam Jumber), send an email to me, or mail a written statement to me.

Also, while visiting the project website page (cflroads.com/project/443546-1), you may submit your written comments or questions.

FDOT welcomes comments throughout the project. All comments postmarked or emailed by October 27, 2020 will become part of the official public hearing record for this project. Remember, all comments matter regardless of submitted format.



Public Hearing on October 14, 2020

**SHORT BREAK
Before
Public Testimony**



U.S. 441 Access Management

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We will now take a short break before we begin the public testimony portion of the hearing.

Online participants who would like to speak and have not yet signed up, please do so by going to the "Questions" tab and type in your name, followed by "I want to speak".

If you want to make a verbal statement in person, please make that note on the sign in card at your seat and hand it to a project team member.



Public Testimony

Public Hearing on October 14, 2020

Access Management and Safety Improvements along U.S. 441 from Griffin Road to Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard Leesburg (Lake County)

Financial Project Identification Number: 443546-1
Sam Jumber, P.E. – FDOT Project Manager



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It is now __:__ p.m. and we are beginning the Public Testimony portion of the hearing. This is when the project team listens to your statements and comments about the U.S. 441 design project. We will not be answering questions at tonight's public hearing. However, we will be responding to all submitted questions and comments in writing after the public hearing.

We will begin with the individuals who are participating in person, followed by online participants. Before you begin your statement, please be sure to state your name and address for the record. You will have three minutes to make your statement.

[After all comments are shared, double check for any other individuals who wish to speak at the hearing and repeat instructions. When there are no more speakers conclude the hearing.]

We now are closing the public testimony portion of the public hearing.



THANK YOU

Public Hearing on October 14, 2020

**Access Management and
Safety Improvements along U.S. 441
from Griffin Road to Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard
Leesburg (Lake County)**

Financial Project Identification Number: 443546-1
Sam Jumber, P.E. – FDOT Project Manager



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Thank you for sharing you comments with us. It is now __:__ p.m. and the U.S. 441 access management public hearing is now closed.

Thank you and have a good evening!