I4Ultimate.com

Your source for improvements to I-4 in Orange and Seminole counties

I-4 ULTIMATE IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

THE TOWN THAT FREEDOM BUILT — EATONVILLE, FLORIDA — EST. 1887

Noise Barrier Public Meeting

January 20, 2015

FDOT

Project Overview

- 21 miles
- From Kirkman Road to SR 434
- Complete reconstruction of existing lanes
- 15 major interchanges
- More than 140 bridges
  - New pedestrian Bridges at Maitland Blvd, Kirkman Rd & Lake Lucerne
  - SR 436 Pedestrian Tunnel
- 4 Express Lanes
- Increase posted speed 55-60 mph

Interstate Tomorrow

6 general use lanes + auxiliary lanes

4 Express Lanes (2 in each direction)

Noise Barrier Evaluation

Consideration for the implementation and construction of noise barriers along Interstates is mandated by the Federal Highway Administration and follows certain criteria.

Evaluation for I-4 Ultimate included noise studies to determine areas that would exceed Florida's Noise Abatement Criterion of 66 decibels (dB).

"Reasonableness and Feasibility Factors" for the placement of noise barriers are derived from federal guidelines. These guidelines determine if a barrier should or should not be placed in a local community.

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Common Sound Levels

The goal of a noise barrier is to reduce traffic noise by 10 decibels, with a minimum of 5 decibel noise reduction.

Who Benefits

Only homes next to the noise barrier, or within the noise reduction zone (typically 200 feet) receive a noticeable noise reduction.

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What Barriers Do and Don't Do

Noise barriers work by reflecting sound waves back towards traffic. People on the opposite side of the roadway from barriers will NOT notice a significant increase in sound, if any at all. If there is an increase it is usually between 1-2 dB, less than the average person can audibly detect.

Noise barriers are not used to block views of traffic from residential communities. They are strictly for noise abatement.

Noise barriers are not protective barriers. They may slow vehicles down during a crash, but are not build for safety purposes. Shoulder mounted barriers have been crash tested.

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RECOMMENDED NOISE BARRIER LOCATIONS

NOISE BARRIER TYPES

Proposed Noise Barriers

Noise Sensitive Area 4-A along the westbound side of I-4
- Approximately 880 feet long
- Noise barrier would be 14 feet tall
- Constructed on the shoulder of I-4

Noise Sensitive Area 4-B along the eastbound side of I-4
- Approximately 3,550 feet long
- Noise barrier would be a combination of 8 and 14 feet tall
- Constructed on the shoulder of I-4

Height and length of the proposed barriers are subject to change during final design.

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Typical Shoulder Mounted Barriers

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Advantages - Disadvantages

Advantages

- Can provide an audible reduction in highway traffic noise to areas directly behind the barrier
- Can be designed to be aesthetically pleasing from both the highway and property owner sides of the barrier
- Can provide privacy from passing motorists

Disadvantages

- Can block the view of commercial or landmark signs
- Can adversely affect existing ornamental vegetation in proximity to the barrier
- Trees within FDOT Right-of-Way may be removed in order to construct barriers
- Can create nighttime shadow areas
- Noise barriers can obstruct breezes and sunlight
- Noise barriers may attract graffiti
- Noise barriers may reduce, but not eliminate, traffic noise

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NOISE BARRIER HEIGHTS

Noise Barrier Survey

Noise Barrier Surveys were mailed to benefited and adjacent property owners/residents on January 9, 2015 to solicit their opinions.

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Noise Barrier Survey

Please return surveys to FDOT by January 27, 2015

Your survey documents your official position regarding the proposed barrier

A majority of survey respondents must support the barrier for it to be designed and constructed with I-4 Ultimate

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Next Steps

Tally results of submitted public surveys

Mail and post results of surveys on www.I4Ultimate.com

Complete design of noise barriers, if supported by a majority of the benefited residences

Construction of the proposed barriers can begin once roadway work in the area is complete

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Keep Informed

Learn more about the job

Interchange by interchange

Closures and detours

Real-time traffic updates

Alternative travel options

Motorists assistance in the work zone

Ask questions

Sign up for e-newsletters

Sign up for route specific email and text alerts

844-ULT-INFO (858-4636)

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Conclusion

Our presentation is complete

Please take a few moments to review the graphics on display

Project staff are available to answer questions

Copies of materials displayed at this meeting are available online at www.I4Ultimate.com

Be sure to complete, sign and submit your survey

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I-4 Ultimate Project Questions

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FDOT

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