Talking Points
US 17-92 from north of Lake Mary Boulevard to north of Airport Boulevard
Project #436679-1 and #436857-1
Contract: T5686

IMPORTANCE & IMPACT:

- This project used an effective pedestrian crosswalk signal design to promote safety and improved mobility on state roadways.
- The Pedestrian Hybrid Beacon is replacing a traditional crosswalk that was not signalized and will now force drivers to stop, further reducing fatalities in the area.
    - A traffic study involving pedestrian traffic found that pedestrian/bicycle crashes were reduced when the mid-block crossing was installed, and maintaining the crossing was recommended.
    - The threshold of 20 pedestrians per hour for a mid-block crossing was not met during the study (the highest hourly count was 19). But, it was found that they provided a safer crossing location for pedestrians.
    - The study also found that rectangular rapid flashing beacons (RRFBs) were recommended. However, those should be limited to roadways with four lanes or less. Since the newly added lanes will create a six-lane roadway, a PHB was found to be the best option.
    - A PHB at this location will improve pedestrian safety and increase driver awareness.
- The project has improved movement through the corridor through the addition of turn lanes in both directions while maintaining through lanes.
- Improvements to bicycle accommodations, lighting at crosswalks, and drainage on Airport Boulevard have also been completed through the project.

Detailed Project Overview:

The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) has resurfaced and widened U.S. 17-92 (Orlando Drive) from north of Airport Boulevard to north of Lake Mary Boulevard to include right-turn lanes in both directions. The project also consisted of adding a westbound turn lane to Airport Boulevard and the replacement of signal mast arm poles. A raised, curbed median is also being added, as well as 7-foot buffered bike lanes in each direction. A Pedestrian Hybrid Beacon is also being added to enhance pedestrian and cyclist safety at an existing mid-block crossing.