



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

SR 544 (MLK Boulevard) from 5th Street NW to 1st Street North

Financial Project ID: 447877-1

June 2023
Polk County, FL

CONSTRUCTION PROJECT

A traffic study was conducted in late 2021 that evaluated turning movements, traffic counts and crash history along MLK Boulevard in Winter Haven. As a result of that study, the Florida Department of Transportation is modifying the median on MLK Boulevard from west of 5th Street Northwest to 1st Street North. The changes are designed to improve safety.

PROJECT IMPROVEMENTS

- For improved safety, the two-way center turn lane is being replaced with a concrete traffic separator that extends from west of 5th Street Northwest to 1st Street North.
- A dedicated left turn lane from MLK Boulevard to 1st Street North will be extended.
- A directional median opening with dedicated left turn lane will allow left turns onto 3rd Street Northwest from eastbound MLK Boulevard.
- The new traffic separator will only allow right turns in and out of 5th Street Northwest, Unity Way Northwest and 2nd Street Northwest.
- Unity Way Northwest will also be resurfaced to address access changes in the median.

PROJECT INFORMATION

- Construction begins: June 12, 2023
- Estimated Completion: Summer 2023
- Construction Costs: \$544,000
- Lane closures are only restricted to nighttime hours around 1st Street North. Motorists should expect daytime and nighttime lane closures throughout the remainder of the project.
- This project is one of four to be constructed under the same contract.
- Although work is currently planned to begin on June 12, and be completed within two months, the contractor has until the end of 2023/early 2024 to complete all four projects in any order.
- See the back of this flyer for project location and layout.

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PROJECT CONTACTS

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Project Location: SR 544 (MLK Boulevard) from west of 5th Street Northwest to 1st Street North



New median configuration on MLK Boulevard from east of 5th Street Northwest to 1st Street North

