

Public Workshop Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

FPID: 435110-1-22-01 & 435347-1-22-01 Old 41 (CR 887) Project Development and Environment (PD&E) Study from US 41 in Collier County to Bonita Beach Road in Lee County

- 1. When will construction start?
 - a. The anticipated construction timeframe is subject to varying governmental priorities, funding availability and environmental permitting requirements. Without having construction funded, we do not have an estimate of when it might begin. The Design, Construction, and Right-of-Way (property) acquisition phases are not currently funded.
- 2. Will noise levels be impacted by proposed improvements?
 - a. This proposed build alternatives will provide for additional traffic capacity and require revisions to the horizontal and vertical geometry of the roadway, so there will be elevated noise levels from additional roadway traffic. As presented in the alternatives matrix shown at the public workshop, there are 81 noise-sensitive sites adjacent to Old 41 for Alternative 1 and 57 sites for Alternative 2. Following the selection of a preferred alternative, highway traffic noise impacts will be more thoroughly evaluated. The findings of this evaluation, along with any recommendations for noise abatement measures, potentially including feasible and cost-reasonable noise barriers will be made available for public review as part of the project's future public hearing.
- 3. Why are U-turn bulb-outs included in this project?
 - a. Old 41 is currently an undivided roadway where left-turns are allowed into and out of driveways throughout most of the study limits. With the addition of the proposed raised median, left turns will be consolidated to several median openings to reduce the number of conflict points and improve safety and mobility. Vehicles that wish to make a left turn from a side street that does not have a median opening will make a right-turn onto Old 41 and continue to the next median opening where they can make a U-turn. The proposed four-lane roadway does not provide enough room for single-unit trucks to make a U-turn without running over the curb. U-turn bulb-outs provide space for vehicles to safely make U-turns without running over the curb. Without the ability to make a U-turn, some vehicles may have to detour up to six miles out of their way.
- 4. Will U-turn bulb-outs cause safety issues for motorists?
 - a. No. U-turn bulb-outs provide space for vehicles to safely make U-turns without running over the curb. Similar to making a left turn, vehicles wishing to make a U-turn waits for a suitable gap in traffic or a green arrow before making the turn.

- 5. Will U-turn bulb-outs cause safety issues for cyclists and pedestrians?
 - a. No. U-turn bulb-outs outs provide space for vehicles to safely make U-turns without running over the curb and potentially the sidewalk. The sidewalk/shared use path will be routed behind U-turn bulb-outs to keep pedestrians out of the path of vehicles making U-turns. Traffic wishing to make a U-turn must yield to oncoming cyclists in the bike lane just as a left-turning vehicle would. In addition, cyclists have the option to ride on the shared use path behind the bulb-out.
- 6. Why was a potential U-turn bulb-out located at the entrance to Cordova at Spanish Wells (Via Palacio Avenue)? Can the bulb-out be moved to a different area along Old 41 to avoid impacts to this residential community?
 - a. A U-turn bulb-out is desired at a location north of Performance Way to allow trucks serving the businesses on the east side of Old 41 north of Performance Way to head south on Old 41 without needing to detour over five miles. One potential location for this bulb-out is the proposed signalized intersection at Via Palacio Avenue. The Study Team will evaluate other locations for this bulb-out to minimize impacts to the Cordova at Spanish Wells community.
- 7. Will the Old 41 entrance to Cordova at Spanish Wells (Via Palacio Avenue) be closed as part of this project?
 - a. No. This is not being considered as part of this project.
- 8. How will residents in Sterling Oaks be able to leave the community and head north on Old 41 with the proposed improvements?
 - a. A directional median opening is proposed at Sterling Oaks Drive. This median opening will allow northbound left turns into Sterling Oaks, but not eastbound left turns out of Sterling Oaks. Drivers wishing to leave Sterling Oaks and head north on Old 41 will make a right-turn onto Old 41 and continue approximately a quarter-mile south to the Veterans Memorial Boulevard intersection (future roadway to be constructed by Collier County) where they can make a U-turn.
- 9. Why do we need all of these new stop lights/traffic signals? What is wrong with the way things are now?
 - a. The proposed traffic signals are located to provide a balance between operations, safety, and access. With the projected increase in traffic, left turns into and out of many of the higher volume side streets will be harder and less safe to make. The proposed signals will allow left turns in a safer manner.