

Wednesday, June 5, 2024 | 11 a.m.
Hilochee Wildlife Management Area, Osprey Unit
 6239 County Road 557, Polk City, FL 33868

Reference Sheet

I-4 AT CR 557 INTERCHANGE AND WILDLIFE IMPROVEMENTS



Late 2020

Start of Construction Phase



72.5M

Construction Cost



July 2024

Completion of Construction Phase

- **Started construction phase on October 8, 2020**
- **Completion end date, 2nd week of July, 2024**
- **Traffic started using new bridge on January 13, 2023**

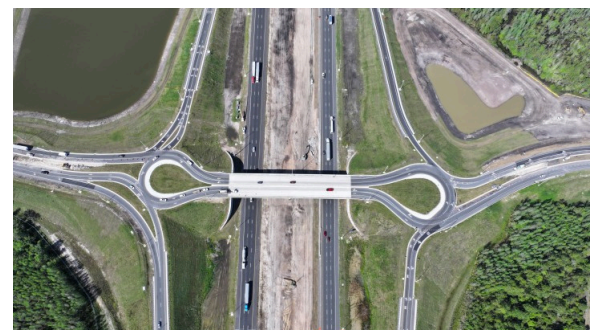
This Design-Build project replaced the existing partial cloverleaf interchange with a new diamond configuration with dual teardrop shaped roundabouts at the entrance and exit ramps of the interchange. These changes are designed to improve traffic circulation and enhance safety, emergency access, and truck access in Polk County, Florida. The project is located at Exit 48 along the I-4 corridor. Traffic started using the new bridges on January 13, 2023.

The new bridges and road are higher and wider to accommodate the future I-4 Master Plan (Ultimate) improvements with provisions for special purpose (express) lanes and a high-speed rail (HSR) corridor. Existing eastbound and westbound general-use travel lanes were moved to the outside to coincide with the I-4 Ultimate alignment. CR 557 was widened to four travel lanes, two in each direction within the limits of the state's right-of-way. Other improvements include emergency stopping locations on both the I-4 off-ramps to CR 557, and new conventional lighting along I-4 and CR 557.

Additionally, a new wildlife crossing under the interstate just east of the interchange was constructed allowing wildlife to safely cross between the north and south sides of I-4. For 50 years animals on either side of I-4 have been separated. The addition of the wildlife crossing is significant in providing safe passage for animals to access protected lands on both sides of the interstate, while also protecting drivers from crashes that may otherwise occur when animals attempt to cross the roadway.



BEFORE



AFTER