



1. What is being proposed as part of this project?

Answer: The project consists of Safety Improvements for SR 70 from US 98 to west of 8th Ave along an east/west corridor located in the western portion of the City of Okeechobee, Florida in Okeechobee County. These improvements include implementing a raised median and a Pedestrian Hybrid Beacon (PHB) to enhance pedestrian safety.

2. Why is this project being conducted?

Answer: The recommended improvements emerged from a combination of an Access Management Study (2020) and a Corridor Safety Analysis (2022) which evaluated the corridor's operations, crash history, and existing conditions. The studies concluded that the raised median and the PHB, respectively, would improve the corridor's safety and traffic operations. This project is being conducted to enable the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) to coordinate with key stakeholders and the general public to ensure that the project's design adequately considers the needs of nearby residents, property owners, businesses, and other interests.

3. How does this project relate to the other projects happening in the City of Okeechobee?

Answer: Excluding this project, there are three other projects either ongoing or otherwise expected to begin within the City of Okeechobee. They are each being managed separately from SR 70 Safety Improvements.

- a. **446351-1 US 441 Parrott Avenue Feasibility Study** (<https://www.swflroads.com/project/446351-1>) – The FDOT, District One, is conducting a Feasibility Study to determine the viability of grade separating US 441/Parrott Avenue over CSX railroad in the City of Okeechobee. This study will include traffic operational and pedestrian safety improvements along US 441/Parrott Avenue between NE 4th Street and NE 13th Street.
- b. **419344-3 SR 710 Extension from US 441 to the L-63N Interceptor Canal** (<https://www.swflroads.com/project/419344-3>) – The FDOT conducted a Project Development and Environment (PD&E) Study to evaluate improvement alternatives for SR 710 from US 441 in Okeechobee County to CR 714 (SW Martin Highway) in Martin County.
- c. **448971-1 SR 70 W of US 98 to E of NW 5th Ave Milling & Resurfacing** – As part of the Pavement Outreach program for Fiscal Year 2026, the FDOT anticipates completing a milling a resurfacing project along SR 70 which will reduce four through-lane widths to 11-ft each, increasing the existing median width to 16-ft.

4. When will the project be completed?

Answer: The project team anticipates submitting final plans by the end of the first quarter of 2028. The letting date for construction is in July 2028. Construction typically begins 3 months after letting, though the actual start date may vary due to material acquisitions.

5. Where can I go to see up to date project information?

Answer: The project website will be regularly updated with information on upcoming public meetings and will house project documents for public review. You may access it at <https://www.swflroads.com/project/455189-1>