

## ***South Parkway Interchange Benefits***

- The proposed new interchange with Interstate 95 is located between Grant Road and Micco Road in the City of Palm Bay, South Brevard County.
- The proposed interchange is located within a 17 mile segment of Interstate 95 that is not currently served by an interchange. This is one of the longest segments along the east coast of the United States, with the exception of northern Maine.

### ***Regional/National Significance:***

The project will provide an interchange approximately mid-way between two interchanges that are 17 miles apart. This will not only relieve congestion at the existing interchanges, but will provide improved traffic circulation benefits in two counties, serving several towns, cities and unincorporated areas. Improved emergency response to incidents on the interstate is also expected. The currently undeveloped location is a prime area for regional economic development opportunities.

### ***Jobs Creation:***

Over 2000 jobs will likely be created relating to the construction of a \$40 million (estimated) interchange project and a \$36 million (estimated) interstate widening project (Malabar to the South Parkway Interchange) (based on American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO) figures).

The institutional and commercial economic development hub proposed in the vicinity of the new Interchange will generate a conservative estimate of 600 jobs in sectors such as health care and education. The number will only continue to grow as the interchange area development continues to evolve.

### ***Safety Benefits:***

Because the adjacent interchanges are 17 miles apart, emergency response on the interstate can be delayed. The new interchange will improve access for emergency vehicles and improve access to area medical facilities.

### ***Mobility Benefits:***

The Interchange Modification Report indicated that the proposed interchange will reduce congestion at the adjacent interchanges. In particular, the interchange (and the affected local road network) at Malabar Road to the north is already experiencing severe congestion, which will be substantially relieved by the new interchange.

### ***Environmental Benefits:***

The proposed interchange has replaced the Micco Road interchange, which was previously approved in 1987. Since 1987, much of the property in the vicinity of the Micco Road Interchange was purchased for environmental preservation. The new interchange location avoids these conservation areas and provides the transportation benefit with significantly reduced environmental impact.