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Subject: February 8th, 2024 Broward MPO Board Meeting - Enterprise Response to Public Comments

Hello all,

We appreciate the opportunity to respond to comments made by City of Coconut Creek Vice Mayor Welch at the Broward MPO Board Meeting on February 8, 2024, regarding the Sawgrass Expressway Widening from west of US 441 to Powerline Road PD&E Study. This is a regionally significant project that proposes to add all direct ramp connections between Florida's Turnpike and the SW 10th Street Connector and local lanes.

In December 2023, in advance of the February 2024 public hearing, the Enterprise met with six local agency partners and SOS Children's Villages to discuss the preferred project alternative. The same information was presented at each meeting and the project presentation was shared via email. In January 2024, the Enterprise presented the same information to the City of Coconut Creek.

To accommodate forecasted travel demand through the project Design year 2045, the preferred alternative on Florida's Turnpike from Wiles Road to the Broward/Palm Beach County line consists of ten travel lanes. Meeting notes distributed by the Enterprise after the January 2024 meeting with City of Coconut Creek acknowledged the City's opposition to the proposed 10-lane widening of Florida's Turnpike, while the other proposed improvements appeared to have been well-received.

We would like to take this opportunity to highlight how the Enterprise incorporated community feedback into the preferred project alternative.

1. The edge of pavement near SOS Children's Villages for the Sawgrass Expressway eastbound ramp to Turnpike southbound will remain as an existing condition, not moving any closer to the Turnpike right of way line. The existing 16-foot-high noise walls will be replaced with 22-foot-high noise walls and extended several hundred feet to the south to overlap with proposed shoulder-mounted noise walls at the Coco Lakes subdivision. At the December 2023 meeting with SOS Children's Villages, the Enterprise was asked by Coconut Creek staff to also extend the wall to the west. The Enterprise will comply with this request.
2. At the time of the Alternatives Public Information Meeting in January 2023, the Enterprise proposed to add only four of the eight possible direct ramp connections to and from Sawgrass Expressway, Florida's Turnpike, SW 10th Street Connector and SW 10th Street local. The cities of Deerfield Beach and Coconut Creek asked for additional

movements to be accommodated. The preferred project alternative now includes all possible connections.

3. Providing all possible connections eliminates the need for a Texas U-turn that was previously proposed at Lyons Road. Removal of the U-turn will improve traffic operations at Lyons Road and address concerns raised from the City of Coconut Creek.
4. The Sawgrass Expressway/Florida's Turnpike/SW 10th Street interchange concept underwent several iterations to tighten the footprint and reduce the height of the direct connect ramps. This revised preferred alternative addresses concerns the Enterprise received from our local agency partners and the public regarding visual impacts.

The Enterprise looks forward to continued coordination on this vital project.

James Brown

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Florida's Turnpike Enterprise

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