

# Questions from the Public Hearing and Answers Provided

## Neptune Road Project Development and Environment Study

Updated November 4, 2020

**Question:** Will there be a left hand turn available onto Neptune Road from Henry Partin Road?

**Answer:** Yes, vehicles will be able to turn left from Henry Partin Road onto Neptune Road.

**Question:** How will the Fish Lake be affected?

**Answer:** Fish Lake will not be affected. All drainage associated with the proposed Neptune Road improvements will be captured in new or expanded stormwater ponds.

**Question:** Why are full median openings not proposed at some access streets? What about the safety of having to turn right then do a U-turn instead of simply turning left?

**Answer:** We understand that the thought of making a right turn followed by a U-turn, rather than directly making a left turn, may sound like a more complicated movement. There are two turns to complete instead of one and you will travel a short distance in the opposite direction from where you are trying to head. However, according to the Federal Highway Administration, the right turn and U-turn are both statistically much safer movements to make, between 25 to 50 percent safer. The impact sustained during a crossing crash (the left turn) can result in much greater damage and higher injury severity than merging into traffic traveling in the same direction (the right turn and U-turn). The left turn type of crash is often the one that results in fatalities upon collision. On a national level, transportation agencies across the country are trying to eliminate the crossing movement wherever possible to reduce some of the 40,000 annual traffic deaths. While a directional median opening may seem like an inconvenience and a restriction, they are intended to keep the overall roadway and traveling public safer where appropriate. The County will continue to evaluate the best treatment for all median openings moving into design and incorporate your concerns as applicable.

**Question:** Can the proposed restriction for left turns out of Sugar Cane Drive be removed?

**Answer:** The County will consider providing a full median opening at the intersection of Neptune Road and Sugar Cane Drive during the design phase of the Project's development.

**Question:** Did the study consider implementing a "super street" which utilizes innovative intersections?

**Answer:** As part of this study, we evaluated constructing a superstreet, including the evaluation of Signalized Restricted Crossing U-Turns (RCUTs), Unsignalized RCUTs, Displaced Left Turns (DLTs), Partial DLTs, Median U-Turns and Partial Median U-Turns. The analysis resulted in the recommendation of a traffic signal as the appropriate type of control for all study area intersections (when warranted at unsignalized intersections). It was noted that the intersection of Neptune Road and US 192 may perform well as a Signalized RCUT or as a Partial DLT intersection. Recognizing that an RCUT or DLT intersection at this location will have major impacts to adjacent areas along US 192 that require further consideration, it has been recommended that FDOT evaluate impacts along US 192 to determine if a DLT or RCUT is preferred in this location at some point in the future. The detailed analysis can be found in the Project Traffic Analysis Report which is located in the documents section of the project website at [ImproveNeptuneRoad.com](http://ImproveNeptuneRoad.com).

**Question:** Is the installation of water and sewer along Neptune Road part of this project?

**Answer:** Water line extensions within the County right of way could be accommodated, but they are not part of the County's Planned and Budgeted Transportation improvements. Since it is the Utility provider's (City of St Cloud) decision to provide any designs and improvements to their infrastructure within their Service area in conjunction with the County's project, the County will coordinate with the Utility provider during design to determine feasibility.

**Question:** What are the plans for drainage, at current time water drains from a ditch on Neptune - through G&H mobile home park then into Twelve Oaks and down to the lake. Will this drainage be eliminated with the new road as I am worried that the current drainage would be overwhelmed with the new road. The present ditch has never been maintained in the Twelve Oaks subdivision by the county. If the drainage is changed - can it be filled by the homeowner?

**Answer:** The proposed improvements include adding curb and gutter with stormwater ponds to handle the drainage. Thus, under improved conditions, drainage for Neptune Road will be handled separately from the existing system. The existing Neptune Road cross drainpipe in question will either be preserved or replaced at the same size to maintain existing drainage patterns adjacent to the road; thus, the existing ditch will continue to operate as it does today.

**Question:** Can the County consider providing access from Emperor Drive to Henry Partin Road so the homes in this area will have access to turn left onto Neptune Road? Possibly providing a connection to Cross Prairie Parkway.

**Answer:** The County will consider providing a full median opening at the intersection of Neptune Road and Sugar Cane Drive during the design phase of the Project's development. Additionally, the County will conduct a separate feasibility analysis to potentially create a connection from Emperor Drive to Henry Partin Road. According to the most recent Preliminary Subdivision Plan for Kindred, a connection between Henry Partin Road and Cross Prairie Parkway would be provided when that phase of Kindred development moves forward.

**Question:** What will happen to utility poles serving my home?

**Answer:** Utility poles will be relocated as needed to accommodate the improvement. Specific details will be identified during the design phase of project development.