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## **ICYMI: FDOT to Host Oct. 11 Open House to Provide Update on Starke Railroad Overpass Interchange Improvements Project**

**STARKE, Fla.** – The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) will host an open house to provide citizens with an update on the Starke Railroad Overpass Interchange Improvements project.

The hybrid open house will be held Tuesday, Oct. 11 at the Governor Charley E. Johns Conference Center, 1610 N. Temple Avenue, Starke, FL 32091. Project staff will be available to answer questions in-person, online at nflroads.com/VPH or by phone at (631) 992-3221, access code 213-631-455. Citizens may drop by anytime between 5 and 6:30 p.m. to ask questions about the project and view renderings.

Currently, the City of Starke is divided by the CSX railroad that runs parallel to U.S. 301. With 29 trains traveling through the city each day, emergency vehicles and other traffic experience frequent delays, and train traffic is expected to increase in the future. This project will ease congestion and improve emergency response times.

J.B. Coxwell Contracting began work on this \$23.6 million project project in summer 2020 and is estimated to complete it in summer 2023, weather and unforeseen circumstances permitting.

October is National Pedestrian Safety Month, and all roadway users share the responsibility for keeping everyone safe. Pedestrians should always use designated crosswalks and avoid distractions like using cell phones while walking. Motorists must yield to pedestrians in crosswalks and watch for pedestrians at all times. Together, we can reach the goal of ZERO pedestrian fatalities on Florida's roads.

Stay informed about lane closures and roadwork in your area by following FDOT District 2 at <u>@MyFDOT\_NEFL</u> on Twitter, at <u>MyFDOTNEFL</u> on Facebook or by visiting nflroads.com.

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The Florida Department of Transportation's mission is to provide a safe transportation system that ensures the mobility of people and goods, enhances economic prosperity, and preserves the quality of the state's environment and communities. The department is committed to building a transportation system that not only fits the current needs of Florida's residents and visitors, but also enhances mobility throughout the state to accommodate its consistent and rapid growth. The unique nature of the Sunshine State and its year-round warm climate provides numerous opportunities to achieve the department's mission through multiple transportation modes including highways/streets, air, rail, sea, spaceports, transit, and the ever-expanding deployment of bicycle & pedestrian facilities.