



PASCO COUNTY, FLORIDA

"Bringing Opportunities Home"

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Pasco County receives Federal approval for a new I-75 Interchange

~ The Interchange will be located at I-75 and Overpass Road ~

WESLEY CHAPEL, FL- The Florida Department of Transportation District 7 Secretary, Paul Steinman spoke to the Pasco County Board of County Commissioners Tuesday and announced that the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) has approved the proposed interchange request at I-75 and Overpass Road.

"This is a huge accomplishment as all new interchange requests along the interstate system go up to Washington, D.C for approval," said Secretary Steinman." "I want to thank Pasco County for the hard work in developing the Interchange Justification Report for submittal to the Federal Highway Administration."

The I-75 and Overpass Road interchange will provide additional access in the Wesley Chapel area which has experienced a large amount of population growth and to east Pasco County where several developments have been approved or are in various stages of planning or construction, such as Pasadena Hills. The interchange will facilitate mobility within Pasco County and the Tampa Bay Region and divert traffic from the existing interchanges at County Road 54, State Road 52 and State Road 56.

"Now that the Federal Highway Administration has approved the interchange, Pasco will have eight years to be under construction of the interchange or the approval process must be reinitiated," said Pasco County's Planning & Development Director, Richard Gehring. "There are funding plans in place using Mobility Fees, Penny for Pasco, and special contributions from the Villages of Pasadena Hills. We will continue to seek help from the Florida Department of Transportation as well."

In the proposed Fiscal Year 2014/2015 Transportation Capital Plan, funds are being programmed for all project phases, with construction beginning in Fiscal Year 2019/2020. The initial cost estimate of the project is expected to be \$55 million.