Legislative Issue: FY2024-25 Culbreath Road / Ayres Road / Hayman Road - Intersection Improvements

Funding Request: \$ 2,100,000 County Match: \$ 500,000

<u>Action</u>

By securing funding for the intersection improvements for the Culbreath Road / Ayres Road /Hayman Road intersection it improves the safety of the intersection to reduce congestion and provide better movement of vehicles. With the construction of a roundabout, we will enhance the resiliency of the infrastructure in Hernando County as the traffic controls will continue to function during emergencies with or without power. We are requesting \$2,100,000 for the intersection improvement construction, as the county will fund the design and any property acquisition needed.

Background

The intersection of Culbreath Road (CR 581) at Ayers/Hayman Road (CR 576) is located in Hernando County, Florida. All roads connecting to the intersection are major collector roads and the configuration of the current intersection is with Culbreath Road as the through road and Ayres Road/Hayman Road having stop conditions at the intersection. The intersection has an overhead flashing beacon with LED flashing stop signs at the stop conditions. The major traffic flow direction during the AM period is from the East along Ayres Road to the South along Culbreath Road and during the PM period from the North along Culbreath Road to the West along Ayres Road.

A 3-year period (January 1, 2016, to December 31, 2018) crash data was obtained from the University of Florida's Signal 4 Analytics. A total of 22 crashes were reported within 3 years. During the 3-year period there was no fatalities, but since this time there has been one fatality at this intersection.

State Interest

Improvements to this intersection would not only address concerns during a disaster, by continuing to operate and provide traffic control with or without power, they would also improve operation and safety to the public for everyday commuting. Roundabouts (1) Improve Safety, having fewer crashes, 90% fewer fatalities and 75% fewer injuries. (2) Reduced Congestion, 30 to 50% increase in traffic capacity at the intersection with less delay waiting at stops and signal. (3) Cost Saving, no cost for traffic signal and yearly maintenance, intersection still operates in power outages, no need for police to direct traffic.



Proposed Condition

