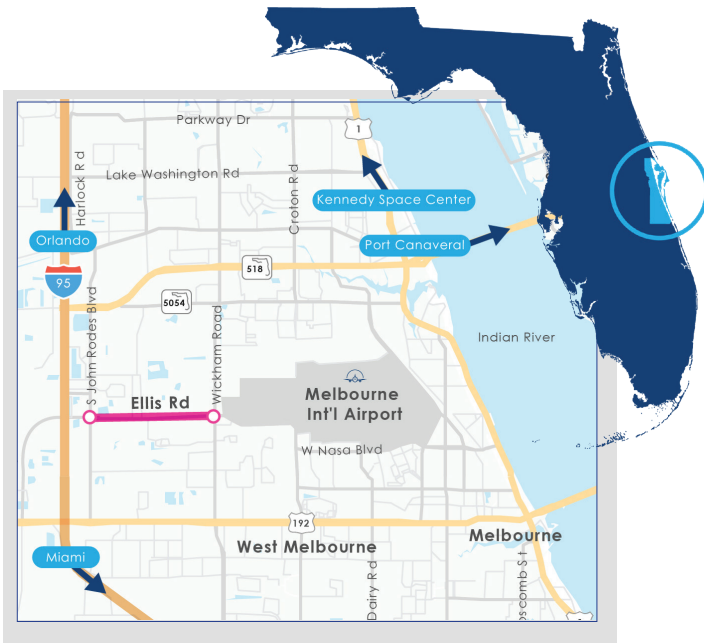


Ellis Road: Linking Aerospace, National Defense, and Community



Ellis Road, located in Central Brevard County, Florida, has become increasingly congested as a main east-west thoroughfare for both commuter and freight traffic. The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) constructed a new interchange at I-95 and Ellis Road in 2020, which has increased traffic along **Ellis Road, a direct link to the Melbourne Orlando International Airport (MLB) and the surrounding aerospace and aeronautical economic centers.**

Ellis Road in its current state, is unable to accommodate travelers and poses safety risks. **It is an important gateway for the 20,000 employees who work in the surrounding vicinity.** Beyond the employees and residents that will benefit from this expansion, over 500,000 travelers will arrive at MLB in the next year, thanks to the arrival of TUI Airways and other air service providers (Source: Melbourne Regional Chamber of Commerce).

Widening Ellis Road from two to four lanes for approximately 1.7 miles will address current **vehicular congestion, safety issues, reduce freight bottleneck, increase modal options, and improve stormwater drainage.**

PROJECT PURPOSE

- Strengthen access for economic growth
- Relieve congestion for freight and commuters
- Provide critical relief for surrounding I-95 Interchanges @ US 192 and SR 518
- Improve safety
- Provide new multimodal transportation choices (sidewalks and bicycle lanes)
- Improve drainage through inter-connected stormwater management system
- Utilize intelligent transportation system technologies at signalized intersections



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PROJECT DETAILS

- ✓ **#1 Strategic Intermodal System (SIS) Priority** for the Space Coast Transportation Planning Organization (TPO) and Central Florida MPO Alliance and on the FDOT D5 2022 Freight Project Priority List
- ✓ **Project Limits:** John Rodes Blvd to Wickham Rd (~ 1.7 miles)
- ✓ **Typical Section:** Widening from undivided two lanes to four-lane, divided, 12-foot travel lanes, 7-foot bike lanes, and 6-foot sidewalks on both sides
- ✓ **Safety Improvements:** Conventional highway lighting throughout corridor, access management, addition of new bike lanes and sidewalks
- ✓ **Resiliency:** Drainage improvements, enclosing canal and constructing an interconnected stormwater management system, three regional ponds to treat and attenuate runoff, relocation of a sanitary lift station, improve access to major hurricane evacuation routes
- ✓ **Innovative Technologies:** New signalized intersections and existing signalized intersections, ITS facilities will add CCTV and Bluetooth within the project limits for 100% coverage of traffic incident detection
- ✓ **Economic Vitality:** Accommodating future growth, access to existing and future employment centers and job opportunities, including vital National Defense contractors, improve access to intermodal facility, reduce freight bottleneck, support access to business community, improve regional connectivity to sea port, space port, and regional tourism destinations, incorporates access to low cost transportation options
- ✓ **Working Group:** Brevard County, City of Melbourne, City of West Melbourne, Space Coast TPO, FDOT, and Melbourne Orlando International Airport

