

I-4 Economic Corridor Study Open House May 29, 2008 Comment Summary

How do you perceive the future of the I-4 Corridor?

Twenty (20) responded with a negative future of gridlock or requesting that the corridor remains as it is today.

Fourteen respondents (14) commented in support of change.

Interesting suggestions:

- Few large roadways allow traffic to flow smoothly north or south.
- Bullet train down the middle.
- Planned right, the area should be self-sustaining, not requiring people to commute into the city.
- Adjacent to I-4: Light Industrial/Manufacturing, shopping centers, warehouses, public transportation and hubs. Next to the above: multi-family, apartments/condos. Single-family housing more than ½ mile away from I-4. More than 2 miles beyond should be agricultural.
- It is good to study the whole area rather than piecemeal.

Tell us why you feel that the corridor is well suited or not well suited as an employment or research center.

Fifteen (15) respondents felt the corridor is not well suited for employment or research center.

Interesting comments include:

- Concern about inadequacy of transportation infrastructure.
- A desire is stated to retain rural lands in Hillsborough County.
- Comments were made about the large number of environmentally sensitive areas along the corridor.

Sixteen (16) respondents found the corridor well suited:

- Location of business and industry along the corridor would keep traffic focused and away from residential areas of the county.
- Many commented that the proposed development should be done with attention to design standards and making an attractive entry into the Tampa Bay area.
- Some commented that the area should be self-sustaining and should consider the incorporation of housing options.
- Comments acknowledged the need for large investments in transportation infrastructure and the need to plan carefully around environmentally sensitive areas.

Is the proposed study area – 1 mile on either side of the interstate – too large or too small?

Twelve (12) respondents thought the study area to be too small.

Sixteen (16) respondents thought the study area to be too large.

One person commented that the study area line should be drawn based on existing land uses, and another stated that the study area should focus on the interstate interchanges. Two (2) people were satisfied with the proposed study area.

If you have any unanswered questions or ideas to share, please include them below (*please continue on reverse, if necessary*).

- You should focus heavily on Hwy 92. You should also include the I-4 McIntosh Intersection in the Urban Service Area.
- Please, seriously consider the continuity of roads. The design should be tasteful and attractive. Strict regulation of the types of business or employment that is allowed in the area.
- Environmental areas and current wetlands must not be disturbed! Planning is needed and good as long as it is not ignored in favor of special interest. In my estimation, small is better! Large means more crime, more traffic, more toxicity in the air, etc. If it has to be done, please do it correctly!
- Roads need improvement along with better plans for intersection and traffic lights.

- Creating more traffic on I-4 and on Hwy 92 would be idiotic!
- Hillsborough County is known and depended upon for food supply, nurseries, farmland and animals. We need this preserved to keep food costs down, eat local food and protect the environment.
- I believe more than enough land is still available closer to Tampa to accommodate light industry and commercial ventures.
- I do not believe you can study the I-4 corridor without focusing on the portions of I-75 which are directly connected to I-4 and USF. Frontage roads absolutely must be included for this project to be feasible. Those roads should have wide medians which are tree lined to reduce the ozone impact and carbon impact generated by increased traffic and development.
- We will have to be connected to water and sewer. Right?
- Where's the money for road improvements?
- Regional class medical services. A hospital at 21st Street, 22nd Street (Exit 1) on the north side (East Tampa) would breathe new life in an under-utilized urban area that has yet to overcome the devastation of the 1967 and 1968 riots. Facilities that could stand-in should Davis Island Tampa General Hospital become inaccessible after a category 3-4-5 hurricane etc.
- Please set aside park and preserve areas for wild life.
- This plan is for 30 years and there will be a paradigm shift and drift to a California –Europe model where high density housing is very close to non-manufacturing/commercial areas that makes public transportation cost effective.
- How exactly will wetlands, lakes, ponds, wildlife, corridors be protected? Where exactly will potable water come from?
- Get a monorail from Tampa to Plant City/Orlando with lots of parking.
- Three schools in area would be harmed by adding more intense traffic danger! Make sure the majority of the development is research type, paying jobs and not more of the same.