



Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

May 28th, 2021

President Joseph R. Biden, Jr.
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20500

Secretary Pete Buttigieg
U.S Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC, 20590

Dear President Biden and Secretary Buttigieg,

As the Administration coordinates with the U.S. Congress on fixing America's crumbling infrastructure, we write in support of the I-4 Beyond the Ultimate Project. The I-4 Beyond the Ultimate Project would significantly benefit from federal investment. The project is widely supported but is facing an elongated project schedule as a result of budgetary limitations. We want to make you aware of the project's importance to our constituents and to the economy of the State of Florida.

As you are undoubtedly aware, Florida, with over 21 million residents, is the third most populated state in our union. Florida is also a travel destination for millions of non-residents. Last year, 86 million people came to visit the state. In 2019 the number of total visitors was 131 million¹. A large share of Florida's growth has been in Central Florida. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, Central Florida is the state's fastest growing region².

Unsurprisingly, this growth places a strain on our existing infrastructure. Interstate 4 (I-4) stretches 132 miles from Volusia through Seminole, Orange, Osceola, Polk, and Hillsborough counties. There is no doubt that I-4 is crucial in connecting Central Florida from coast to coast. Therefore, we believe your administration should make the I-4 Beyond the Ultimate project a priority.

Supporting this project will alleviate congestion for millions of commuters and help facilitate commerce across our state. There are state, regional, and local commitments for completing the project.

¹ <https://www.visitflorida.org/resources/research/>

² <https://www.census.gov/data/datasets/time-series/demo/popest/2010s-counties-total.html>



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We invite your administration to visit the great state of Florida to experience firsthand the need for infrastructure investment. Thank you for your attention to I-4 Beyond Ultimate Project.

Sincerely,

Darren Soto
Member of Congress

Michael Waltz
Member of Congress

Kathy Castor
Member of Congress

Charlie Crist
Member of Congress

Val B. Demings
Member of Congress

C. Scott Franklin
Member of Congress

Stephanie Murphy
Member of Congress

Bill Posey
Member of Congress