

## 1.0 Introduction

R.J. Behar & Company, Inc. (RJ Behar) was retained by the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT), District Four to provide professional traffic engineering services in connection with the I-95 at 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue South Interchange Project Development and Environment (PD&E) Study. RJ Behar developed an Interchange Operational Analysis Report (IOAR) to assess the existing year (2015) and future years' traffic operations of the interchange and develop improvement recommendations to address the identified deficiencies. The study included a No-Build alternative as well as recommended improvements for the project Opening Year (2020) and project Design Year (2040). A copy of the Methodology Letter of Understanding (MLOU) is provided in **Appendix A**.

## 2.0 Purpose and Need for the Project

The purpose of this study is to identify short-term and long-term needs and develop design concepts to address traffic spillback onto I-95, improve Interchange operations, reduce congestion, and increase safety at the study Interchange through the 2040 design year horizon. The study will consider SIS connector improvements needed within the project area and is consistent with plans for the I-95 mainline, including the potential extension of I-95 Express Lanes through Palm Beach County. Additional considerations for the need for this project are further described in the following sections that include capacity, transportation demand, safety, planning consistency, social demands/economic development, modal interrelationships, and system linkage.

## 3.0 Area of Influence

The area of influence (AOI) of the proposed study of the interchange along I-95 extends from north of Lantana Road Interchange (on the south) to south of the 10<sup>th</sup> Avenue North Interchange (on the north). The local termini for the interchange analyses were defined by the adjacent intersections of Wright Drive to the west of I-95 and the South A Street (S A Street) intersection located east of I-95. **Figure 1** on the following page illustrates the project location. The study area includes the following intersections listed from west to east:

- 1) 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue South at Wright Drive (unsignalized);
- 2) 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue South at I-95 southbound on and off ramps (signalized);
- 3) 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue South at I-95 northbound on and off ramps (signalized);
- 4) 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue South at South A Street (signalized).