EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this study is to evaluate current traffic operations, identify operational deficiencies, and recommend operational improvements for the I-275 at 31st Street South interchange. The proposed improvements were a product of the coordination between FDOT and the City of St. Petersburg.

The proposed improvements are expected to improve the operations and safety of the I-275 and 31st Street South intersection and the study area.

The proposed improvements include:

- Improving the current 4-foot bike lanes to 6-foot bike lanes on the east and west sides of 31St Street South from Melrose Avenue South to north of 7th Avenue South
- At the I-275 at 31st Street South intersection:
    - A traffic signal replacing the existing Two-Way Stop Control (TWSC) control
    - Changing the existing eastbound shared through/left turn lane to a left turn lane and changing the existing eastbound right turn lane to a shared through/left turn lane
    - Adding a 375 ft right turn lane on the eastbound approach
    - Adding concrete right turn channelized islands to provide refuge for pedestrian crossing the west leg of the intersection
    - Changing the outside southbound through lane to an exclusive right turn lane
    - Providing one through lane going northbound and southbound through the intersection
- At the intersection of Gibbs High School student drop-off/pick-up driveway with 31st Street South, the northbound left turn lane was removed and the inside northbound through lane changed to a shared through/left turn lane.
- 31st Street South between Melrose and I-275 will be changed from two through lanes in each direction to one lane in each direction.

The overall intersection of I-275 at 31st Street South is expected to operate at level of service (LOS) C in the design year 2040 compared to LOS F under no-build conditions. Also, the proposed improvements are expected to reduce intersection crashes by 46%. The cost estimate for the proposed improvements is $804,309.

The proposed improvements will enhance the traffic operation and safety of the I-275 and 31st Street South interchange study area.