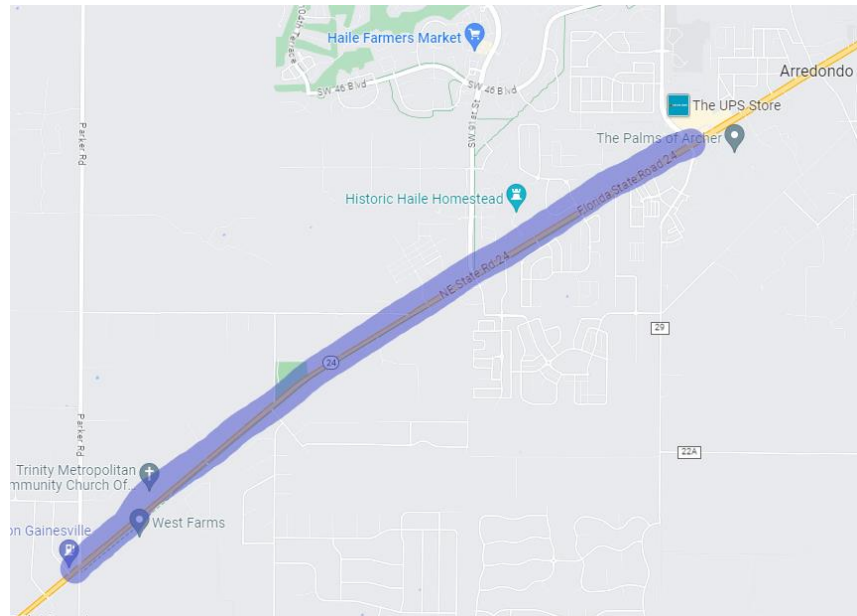


## State Road 24 / Archer Road Widening Request

This project proposes the design phase of the conversion of State Road 24 (Archer Road) from SW 75<sup>th</sup> Street (Tower Road) to SW 122<sup>nd</sup> St (Parker Road) in Alachua County from a rural 2-lane undivided section to a 4-lane divided roadway. Alachua County estimates design costs for this project at \$2,500,000, with construction costs of approximately \$15,875,000. With a complete design in hand Alachua County, or the Florida Department of



Transportation, would stand on solid ground in applying for a construction grant from any number of Federal transportation grants.

The importance of this project can be seen from the recent impacts of Hurricane Idalia. State Road 24 serves a primary arterial between the coastal areas of Levy County and the largest nearby hub for commerce, the Gainesville Urbanized area. Alachua County offers a large number of hotels, a range of restaurant and shopping, and direct access to I-75. This section of State Road 24 is the logical first step in extending a four-lane section towards the Gulf Coast from Gainesville to be better prepared to get residents inland to services to support them.

This project is currently included in the Gainesville Metropolitan Transportation Planning Organization's adopted Long Range Transportation Plan Cost Feasible Plan. The project is also included in Alachua County's Comprehensive Plan in a forthcoming amendment to its Capital Improvements Element, and is included in the basis of the County's adopted Multi-modal Transportation Mitigation program, and it's proposed replacement Mobility Fee. In addition to the regional benefits gained from this project, transportation capacity within the County will be increased even for non-emergency operations providing for a more efficient network that benefits residents of Alachua County as well as those of Levy County and beyond.