Project Highlights

• The Orange-Meridian Placemaking project will create a neighborhood park and community gathering space at Orange Avenue and Meridian Street with the opportunity for trails, exercise activities, and a kids play area.

• The East Drainage Ditch between South Monroe and Meridian Street will be improved and enhanced.

• Contributes $1 million to StarMetro for the development of the planned South City Transit Center.

Current Status

• The park concept was approved by the IA Board at the September 27, 2021 meeting and permitting review is underway.

• Stormwater modeling is underway for improvements to the East Drainage Ditch (between Meridian Street and S. Monroe Street).

• On February 7, 2023, the project was awarded a $572,052 grant through the Resilient Florida Grant Program.
Next Steps

- Based on the stormwater modeling, Blueprint will refine concepts for improvements to the East Drainage Ditch.
- Design and permitting for the park component is anticipated to be completed in Q2 2024.
- Construction on the park is anticipated to begin in Q2 2024.

Timeline

**Community Engagement:** Public engagement is ongoing through all phases of a project, from concept to construction, programming, and maintenance. Public engagement is two-way communication inclusive of all decision-makers and stakeholders. Each Blueprint project will have a customized Public Engagement Plan that is developed at the start of the project, and outreach activities and techniques will vary from project to project, as each project’s outcome and stakeholder community character is unique.

**Design:** The design phase includes development of final plans and construction documents for the Orange-Meridian Placemaking Project. Stakeholder and community input will be taken into account for final design.

**Right of Way Acquisition:** This phase will consist of efforts to acquire any right of way and/or easements necessary to complete the project. Any right of way acquisitions necessitated will be undertaken consistent with Blueprint Real Estate Policy and Florida Statutes.

**Construction:** Construction work will fully implement the final design plans for the Orange-Meridian Placemaking Project.

**Q1:** January – March

**Q2:** April – June

**Q3:** July – September

**Q4:** October – December