

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Blueprint 2000 Announces \$7 million from The Florida Department of Transportation for the construction of Capital Circle Southeast, from Woodville Highway to Tram Road**

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**Tallahassee, Tuesday, June 6, 2006** -The Blueprint 2000 & Beyond Intergovernmental Agency is happy to announce they have been awarded an additional \$7 million from the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) Transportation Regional Incentive Program (TRIP) fund allocation. This amount is in addition to the \$4.3 million in TRIP funds awarded in 2005 from for right-of-way acquisition.

Chairman of the Intergovernmental Agency and City of Tallahassee Commissioner Mark Mustian remarked, "Improvements to this section of Capital Circle have long been a priority of the Blueprint 2000 program as well as the Capital Regional Transportation Planning Agency (CRPTA) which has been instrumental in making it a reality." These funds will be used for improvements to Capital Circle Southeast, from Woodville Highway to Tram Road, a distance of 3.25 miles. The renovations will include widening the existing two-lane undivided rural road to a six-lane divided urban roadway. Furthermore, curbs and gutters, significant stormwater management improvements, sidewalks, bicycle lanes, substantially landscaped medians, extensively landscaped borders, and a multi-use trail will be installed.

Jim Davis, Executive Director of Blueprint remarked, "This is another example of successful collaboration and great partnership with The Florida Department of Transportation, the CRPTA and the St. Joe Company who is donating portions of the right-of-way. These corridor improvements will provide many benefits to all citizens of the City and the County as well as the region. The driving public will receive a greatly improved corridor which will be an aesthetically pleasing, more efficient, and safer roadway. Economic growth in the area is sure to follow these improvements. The years of hard work toward a clear and consistent community vision are certainly paying off. The strategy of funding for Blueprint 2000 is coming together. With this new money we are hoping to have a contract for the construction of the project by mid 2007."

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