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**OLD MIDDLEBURG ROAD PROJECT ON TRACK FOR PUBLIC REVIEW**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE** Willie Coleman IV

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**Jacksonville, FL (July 5, 2023)** – Duval County Voters passed a half-cent sales tax in 2000 to fund a growth management program called the Better Jacksonville Plan.

One of the major components of the plan was the widening of Old Middleburg Road from 103rd Street to Argyle Forest Boulevard. The last public update on the project was in early 2022. Rahman Johnson, the newly-elected District 14 representative is planning an update about the project next week.

“For more than 20 years and through development and land acquisition, this project has stalled. I am excited to share the final design phase of the project. I am optimistic that people on the westside will finally see shovels in the ground by the beginning of the year”, said Johnson.

The informal meeting will be held on **Monday, July 10, 2023, from 5:30 pm to 7:30 pm** at the Argyle Branch Library, located at **7973 Old Middleburg Road South, Jacksonville, Florida, 32222**.

During the meeting, engineering consultants and the team from Public Works will be on hand to answer any questions.

Former City Council member John Draper who has been vocal about this project for years said that the growth in the area makes the project necessary right now.

“That road has more than 10,000 cars passing every day. After more than 20 years, I’m looking forward to seeing the plans, and most importantly starting the project”, he said.

The current plan (as of 2018) is four lanes, with curb & gutter, bike lanes, and sidewalks.

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