

**Feb 19<sup>th</sup> Town Hall Meeting, FGCU Campus**  
**FGCU Presentation**

- *Panelists* – Dr. Joe Sheppard, Vice –President FGCU  
Arthur “Skip” Henderson, President Affinity Networks
  
- *Issues* - The overarching issue that will be addressed by these panelists is the need for transportation infrastructure planning in Southwest Florida that will reduce evacuation times and implement early warning and flexible traffic management systems for emergency events such as hurricanes, an issue underscored by last year’s multiple hurricanes. Dr. Sheppard will discuss the results of a study commissioned by FGCU in 2004 that evaluated the potential benefits to Lee County residents of alternative transportation infrastructure improvements. The study recommends the construction of an interchange at Coconut Rd. and I-75. Mr. Henderson is an expert at Information Technology applications to transportation systems and has been working closely with FGCU and FDOT on implementing a technology based approach to the design and operation of the proposed Coconut Rd. Interchange that contemplates a high tech command and control center to be located on the FGCU campus that will be integrated into a learning environment. Dr. Sheppard will discuss the potential benefits to the University and the Region (indeed to the Nation) of leveraging the center to build a world class Transportation Engineering program at FGCU.
  
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