

Florida Department of Transportation  
District Seven  
11201 N. McKinley Drive, MS 7-500  
Tampa, FL 33612



### Get Involved Today!

We invite you to get involved! The public plays an important role in the project development and decision-making process of these studies. Opportunities for you to provide your input will be available throughout each study by means of submitting comments or attending the public hearing. There are multiple ways to get involved - call, write, or email us. Details on how to provide your input and attend the public hearing are included in this newsletter. You can also invite us to speak at one of your own meetings.

#### Non-Discrimination

Public participation is solicited without regard to race, color, national origin, age, sex, religion, disability, or family status. Persons who require special accommodations under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) or persons who require translation service (free of charge) should contact **Roger Roscoe**, Title VI Coordinator, at **Roger.Roscoe@dot.state.fl.us**, by telephone at **(813) 975-6411** or toll-free at **1 (800) 226-7220**, or by written correspondence at least (7) days prior to the hearing to the Florida Department of Transportation, District Seven, 11201 N. McKinley Drive, MS 7-500, Tampa, FL 33612

#### Comuníquese Con Nosotros

Si usted tiene preguntas o comentarios, o si simplemente desea más información, por favor comuníquese con nuestro representante, **Manuel Flores**, **(813) 975-6279**, **Manuel.Flores@dot.state.fl.us**.

### Right-of-Way Acquisition Procedure

We understand when a transportation project proposes the acquisition of private property, you may have questions and concerns. To better educate and inform you about the Right-of-Way acquisition process and your rights, FDOT has created real estate acquisition and relocation brochures.

These brochures and other education materials will be available at the public hearing along with representatives from the FDOT's Right-of-Way acquisition and relocations department. Copies of the brochures may also be found on our website at:

[www.fdot.gov/rightofway/documents.shtm](http://www.fdot.gov/rightofway/documents.shtm)



We are interested in hearing your concerns and answering your questions. Please feel free to speak with the FDOT's Project Manager or a District Seven Right of Way Office representative at your convenience either at the hearing or by phone at (813) 975- 6495.



## McIntosh Road and Branch Forbes Road Project Development & Environment (PD&E) Studies from south of US 92 to north of I-4 Hillsborough County | WPI Segment Nos.: 447157-1 & 447159-1



Hillsborough  
County Florida

### HEARING DATE

September 26, 2024  
5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.  
Formal presentation  
6:30 p.m.

### In-person Session Location

Hillsborough Community  
College, Trinkle Center  
2206 E. Cherry Street  
Plant City, FL 33563

### Registration to Virtual Session

<https://www.fdotd7studies.com/projects/mcintosh-rd-us92-to-i4/>  
or  
<https://www.fdotd7studies.com/projects/branch-forbes-road-us92-to-i4/>

### JOIN THE CONVERSATION

about the  
**McIntosh Road PD&E  
Study and Branch Forbes  
Road PD&E Study**  
We want your comments  
and suggestions  
throughout each study.

### HAVE QUESTIONS?

We're here to help.  
Give us a call, send us an  
email, or let us come speak  
to your group:

Craig Fox, P.E.  
FDOT Project Manager  
FDOT District Seven  
11201 N. McKinley Dr.  
Tampa, FL 33612  
[Craig.Fox@dot.state.fl.us](mailto:Craig.Fox@dot.state.fl.us)  
(813) 975-6082  
(800) 226-7220

— Or —

Media Inquiries  
Kris Carson  
Public Information Officer  
FDOT District Seven  
11201 N. McKinley Dr.  
Tampa, FL 33612  
[Kristen.Carson@dot.state.fl.us](mailto:Kristen.Carson@dot.state.fl.us)  
(813) 975-6202  
(800) 226-7220

### Dear Property Owner and/or Interested Citizen:

The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) District Seven, in coordination with Hillsborough County, invites you to attend and participate in the public hearing for the Project Development and Environment (PD&E) Studies (WPI Segment Nos. 447157-1 and 447159-1) for the proposed improvements to McIntosh Road and Branch Forbes Road, from south of US 92 to north of Interstate 4 (I-4) in Hillsborough County, a distance of approximately 1.03 miles and 0.86 miles, respectively. The proposed improvements are intended to reduce traffic congestion along with improving safety and system linkages for both Hillsborough County roadways.

The public hearing will be held Thursday, September 26, 2024, at the Hillsborough Community College, Trinkle Center, 2206 E. Cherry Street, Plant City, FL 33563.

This public hearing is being conducted both in-person and virtually to present information to and receive public input from interested persons regarding the proposed improvements to McIntosh Road and Branch Forbes Road. Citizens who choose to attend the virtual public hearing session must do so through a computer, tablet, or smartphone via GoToWebinar.

**Virtual attendees must register online at either project website:**

[www.fdotd7studies.com/projects/mcintosh-rd-us92-to-i4/](http://www.fdotd7studies.com/projects/mcintosh-rd-us92-to-i4/)

or

[www.fdotd7studies.com/projects/branch-forbes-road-us92-to-i4/](http://www.fdotd7studies.com/projects/branch-forbes-road-us92-to-i4/)

Additional information related to the public hearing is included in the newsletter insert.

This public hearing will be conducted in accordance with all federal, state, and local requirements. This newsletter also serves as notice to property owners (pursuant to Florida Statutes 339.155) that all or a portion of their property is within a minimum of 300 feet of the centerline of each project's alignment; however, this does not mean that all properties will be directly affected.

Draft PD&E reports will be available for public review from September 5, 2024, to October 10, 2024, on the each project's website and at the following locations:

- **Seffner-Mango Branch Library**, 410 N. Kingsway Road, Seffner, FL 33584; Mon. - Sat.: 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- **Florida Department of Transportation, District Seven**: 11201 N. McKinley Drive, Tampa, FL 33612; Mon. - Fri.: 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

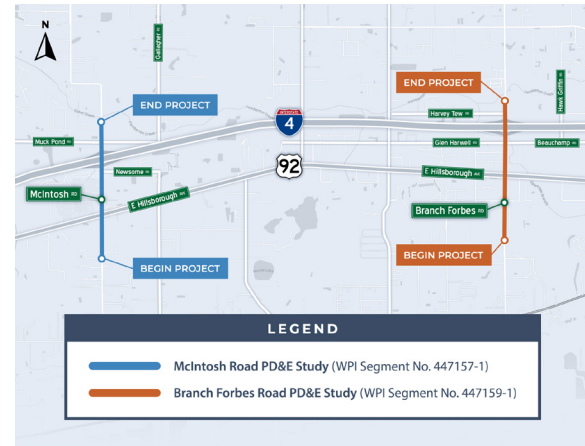
Maps, drawings, and other project information will be available at the in-person public hearing session and for review online starting on September 23, 2024 at [www.fdotd7studies.com/projects/mcintosh-rd-us92-to-i4/](http://www.fdotd7studies.com/projects/mcintosh-rd-us92-to-i4/) and [www.fdotd7studies.com/projects/branch-forbes-road-us92-to-i4/](http://www.fdotd7studies.com/projects/branch-forbes-road-us92-to-i4/).

The environmental review, consultation, and other actions required by applicable federal environmental laws for these projects are being, or have been, carried out by FDOT pursuant to 23 U.S.C. § 327 and a Memorandum of Understanding dated May 26, 2022, and executed by the Federal Highway Administration and FDOT.

FDOT welcomes and appreciates everyone's participation. If you have questions about the project or the scheduled hearing, please contact **Craig Fox, P.E.**, FDOT Project Manager at (813) 975-6082 or (800) 226- 7220 or visit our project websites at <http://www.fdotd7studies.com/projects/mcintosh-rd-us92-to-i4/> and [www.fdotd7studies.com/projects/branch-forbes-road-us92-to-i4/](http://www.fdotd7studies.com/projects/branch-forbes-road-us92-to-i4/)

Sincerely,

**Kirk Bogen, P.E.** | Environmental Management Engineer



What is a PD&E Study?

A PD&E Study is a comprehensive study that evaluates social, economic, and environmental effects associated with the proposed transportation improvements so that FDOT, in cooperation with Hillsborough County, can reach a decision on the type, location, and conceptual design to meet each project’s proposed purpose and need. Engaging the public by sharing and receiving information is a key component of this process and is required by the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).

Study Purpose

The purpose of each project is to reduce traffic congestion along with improving safety and system linkage on McIntosh Road and Branch Forbes Road.

Project Description

The proposed action is to reduce traffic congestion by widening McIntosh Road and Branch Forbes Road from a 2-lane undivided roadway to a 4-lane divided roadway. Each project includes safety improvements for bicyclist and pedestrians with proposed shared-use path on both sides of the road. The proposed action will also improve system linkage to I-4 with on-ramp and off-ramp operational improvements.

Existing Conditions

McIntosh Road and Branch Forbes Road are both an existing two-lane undivided Hillsborough County roadway within the study limits. Both roadways are classified by Hillsborough County as a major urban collector with a posted speed of 40 miles per hour (mph) on McIntosh Road and 35 mph on Branch Forbes Road.

Traffic and Crash Data

Crash data along McIntosh Road and Branch Forbes Road within each of project limit was obtained from the FDOT crash records database for the 5-year period 2015 through 2019 within Hillsborough County. McIntosh Road had a total of 175 crashes reported, of which 47% rear-end type, and no pedestrian and bicycle-related crashes. Branch Forbes Road had a total of 183 crashes reported, of which 44% rear-end type, and no pedestrian and bicycle-related crashes. These segments of McIntosh Road and Branch Forbes Road each had a Historic Average Crash Rate of 10.23 and 11.10, respectively, which are greater than the Statewide Average of 0.69. If no improvements are made, these sections of McIntosh Road and Branch Forbes Road are expected to operate at LOS F by 2045. Existing annual average daily traffic (AADT) ranged from 10,000 vehicles per day (VPD) to 21,000 VPD in existing year 2020; by design year 2045, AADTs are expected to range from 16,500 VPD to 34,500 VPD within McIntosh Road and 13,500 VPD to 41,000 VPD within Branch Forbes Road study limits.

Preferred Alternative

The Preferred Alternative for each project is composed of one typical section. A major collector road with a target design speed of 35 mph is proposed for McIntosh Road and Branch Forbes Road. Each typical section has two 11-foot travel lanes in each direction, with a 22 to 64-foot raised median, along with curb and gutter. There is a 10-foot shared-use path on each side of the road. The McIntosh Road and Branch Forbes Roads typical section is attached. The McIntosh Road proposed typical section right-of-way width of 144 feet and Branch Forbes Road proposed typical section width of 150 feet. Both projects include operational improvements to I-4 on-ramps and off-ramps by adding an additional turn or auxiliary lane to all ramps.

Evaluation Matrix

An evaluation matrix comparing the No-Build and Build alternatives for each project is attached. These matrices compare preliminary cost estimates, as well as natural, physical, and social environmental factors.

Project Schedules

Study Began	Late 2021
Data Collection	Completed Spring 2023
Preparation of Documents	Ongoing
Public Hearing	September 26, 2024
PD&E Study Approval	Winter 2025

Project Funding

FDOT Five Year Adopted Work Program Fiscal Year 2024/2025 to Fiscal Year 2028/2029

McIntosh Road	Fiscal Year(s)
Design	Underway
R/W Acquisition	Not Currently Funded
Construction	Not Currently Funded
Branch Forbes Road	Fiscal Year(s)
Design	Underway
Right-of-Way Acquisition	Not Currently Funded
Construction	Not Currently Funded

Instructions for Attending the Public Hearing



Scan for McIntosh Road Project Website

Interested persons can attend the public hearing either in-person or virtually. The same materials will be presented for the in-person and virtual formats.

Pre-registration is required for the virtual format. Registration is available online at the project websites:

[www.fdotd7studies.com/projects/mcintosh-rd-us92-to-i4/](http://www.fdotd7studies.com/projects/mcintosh-rd-us92-to-i4/) or [www.fdotd7studies.com/projects/branch-forbes-road-us92-to-i4/](http://www.fdotd7studies.com/projects/branch-forbes-road-us92-to-i4/) or from your mobile device, scan the QR codes to the right.

If you have any questions or issues registering, please contact Craig Fox, P.E., FDOT’s Project Manager at (813) 975-6082.



Scan for Branch Forbes Road Project Website

To Attend the Public Hearing In-Person
In-Person Public Hearing Session will be held at:  Hillsborough Community College, Trinkle Center 2206 E. Cherry Street Plant City, FL 33563  5:30 p.m. Open House 6:30 p.m. Formal Portion/Comment Period

1. Upon arrival, please sign-in. If you wish to make a formal public comment, please fill out a speaker card and give it to a project team member. You will be called during the formal portion in the order in which the cards are received.
2. During the Open House period starting at 5:30 p.m., a repeating informational presentation will be shown and project displays will be available for review. Team members will be on-site to assist with questions and/or concerns.
3. At 6:30 p.m. the formal public hearing portion will begin.
4. Those who filled out a speaker card will be called upon to make a formal comment.
5. At the conclusion of the formal portion of the hearing and the public comment, the open house will resume until 7:30 p.m.

To Attend the Virtual Public Hearing Session
The Virtual Public Hearing Session will be held through:  GoToWebinar  5:30 p.m. Open House 6:30 p.m. Formal Portion/Comment Period  Persons registered for the Virtual Public Hearing can attend online using GoToWebinar.

1. Virtual online attendees should use the sign-in link emailed to them after registering.
2. During the Open House period, starting at 5:30 p.m., a repeating information presentation will be shown, and attendees will be able to view materials online and ask questions to FDOT staff through the GoTo chat box. Team members will be available virtually to assist with questions and/or concerns.
3. At 6:30 p.m. the formal public hearing portion will begin and will be broadcast from the in-person event to those attending virtually.
4. After in-person formal comments have been made, virtual online attendees will be called upon. Attendees may use the Raise Hand function of the webinar to be called upon if they choose to make a formal public comment.

There are many ways to provide comments:

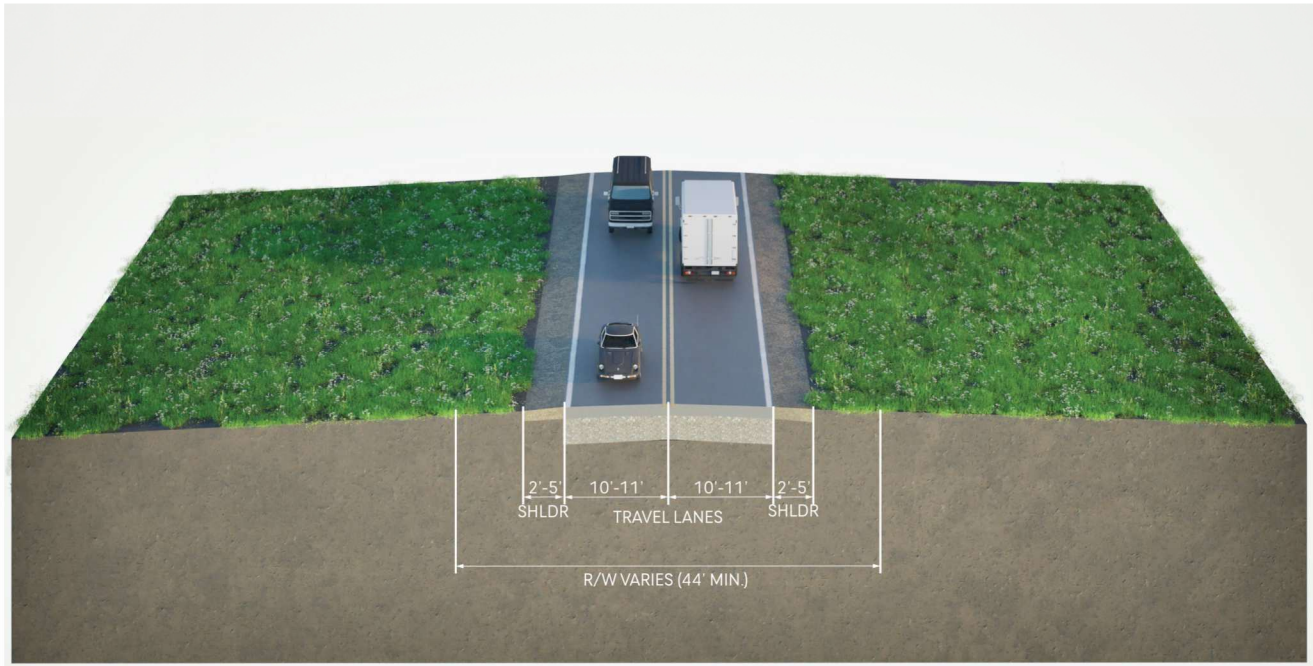
- Submit your comments through each project website on the “Send Us Your Comments” page.
- Make a verbal statement during the public comment period (see above for in-person and virtual options on how to submit a speaker request).
- Make a verbal statement directly to the court reporter in a one-on-one setting for those attending the in-person session.
- Complete a comment form and drop it in the comment box in-person, or mail the comment form to the address listed on the back. Please postmark by October 10, 2024.

Persons wanting to submit written statements or other exhibits, in place of, or in addition to oral statements, may do so at the public hearing or by mailing them to FDOT District Seven, Attn.: Kirk Bogen, P.E., Environmental Management Engineer, 11201 N. McKinley Drive MS 7-500, Tampa, FL 33612, or provide them on the “Send Us Your Comments” page on the project websites at:

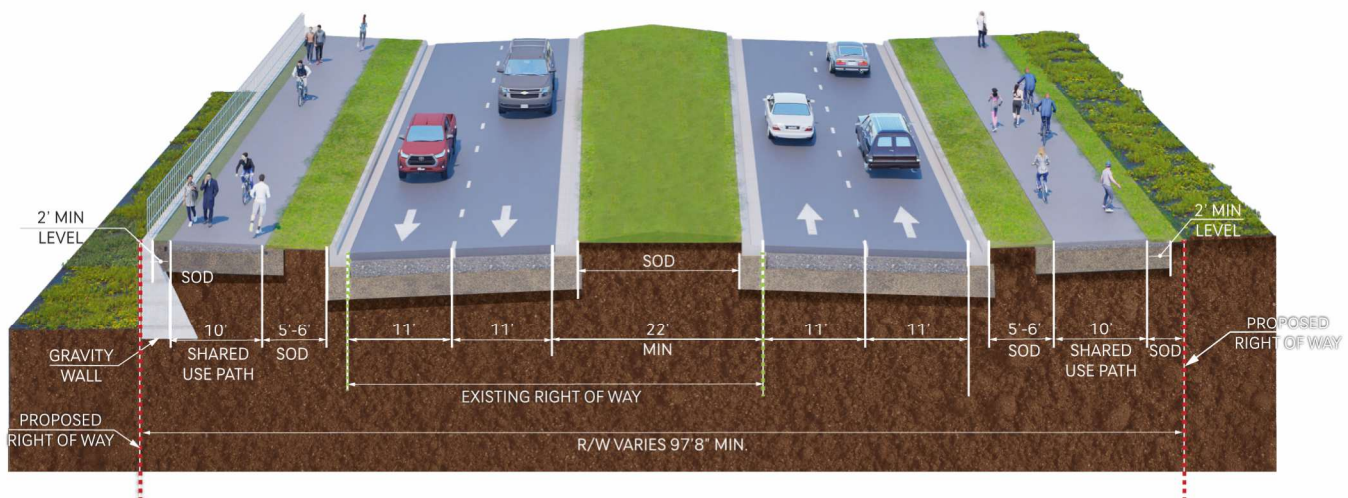
[www.fdotd7studies.com/projects/mcintosh-rd-us92-to-i4/public-involvement/public-meetings/](http://www.fdotd7studies.com/projects/mcintosh-rd-us92-to-i4/public-involvement/public-meetings/) or [www.fdotd7studies.com/projects/branch-forbes-road-us92-to-i4/public-involvement/public-meetings/](http://www.fdotd7studies.com/projects/branch-forbes-road-us92-to-i4/public-involvement/public-meetings/)

All comments postmarked on or before October 10, 2024, will become part of the official public hearing record.

## TYPICAL SECTIONS



Existing Typical Section



Preferred Typical Section  
(Target Speed and Design Speed is 35 mph)

# EVALUATION MATRIX

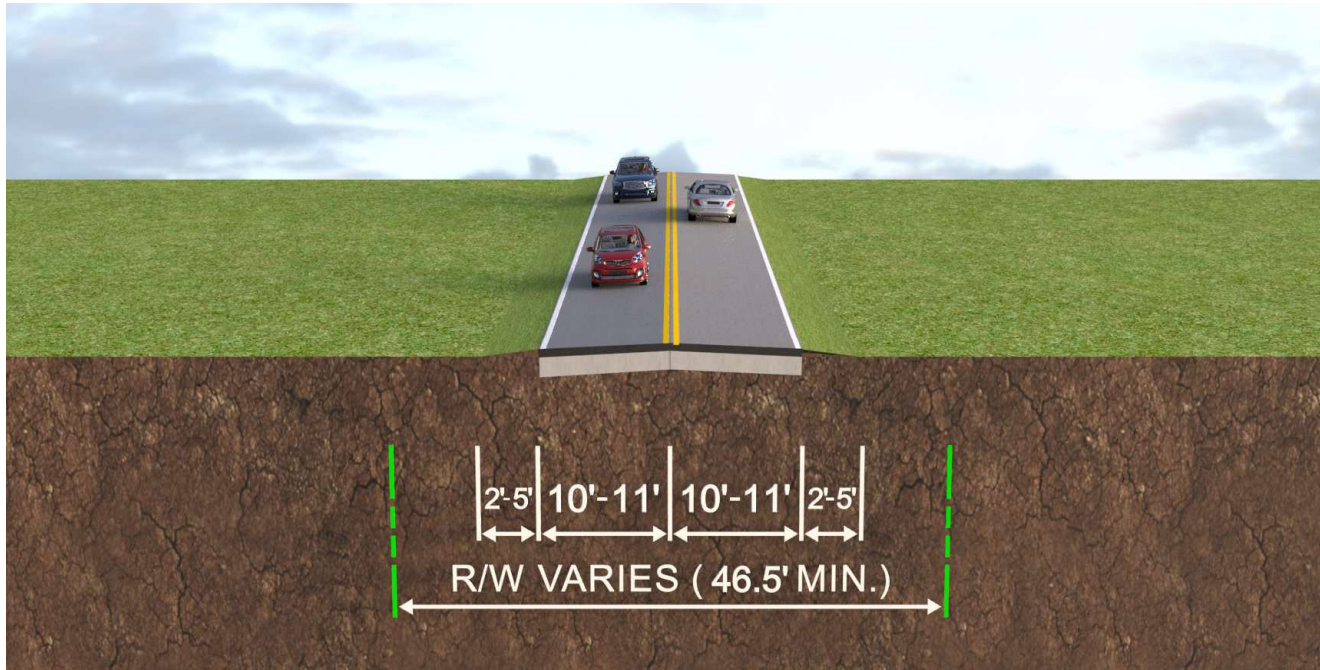
Evaluation Criteria	No-Build Alternative	Preferred Build Alternative
<b>Potential Business / Residential Impacts</b>		
Number of Business Relocations	0	2
Number of Residential Relocations	0	3
<b>Potential Right of Way Impacts<sup>1</sup></b>		
Number of Affected Parcels	0	26
Area of Right of Way Anticipated to be Acquired for Road Widening (acres)	0	5.51
Area of Right of Way Anticipated to be acquired for Stormwater Ponds and Floodplain Compensation Sites (acres)	0	38.74
<b>Potential Environmental Impacts</b>		
Archaeological Sites / Historic Resources (Potentially Eligible or Eligible)	0/0	0/0
Section 4(f) Resources Identified / Impacted	0/0	0/0
Noise Impacted Receptors	0	7
Wetlands that are not Other Surface Waters (acres)	0	1.63
Other Surface Waters (acres)	0	2.06
Potential for Federal and/or State Listed Species	0	Moderate
Contamination/Hazardous Waste Sites (Ranked Low/Medium/High)	0	8 Low/6 Medium/ 0 High
<b>Estimated Costs<sup>2</sup> (Present Day Cost in \$ Millions)</b>		
Design (10% of construction)	\$0.0	\$4.5
Right of Way for Roadway Widening	\$0.0	\$32.8
Right of Way for Stormwater Ponds & Floodplain Compensation Sites	\$0.0	\$25.5
Wetland Mitigation	\$0.0	\$0.2
Construction Engineering & Inspection (10% of construction)	\$0.0	\$4.5
Construction of Roadway, Drainage and Ponds	\$0.0	\$45.3
<b>Total Project Estimated Costs</b>	<b>\$0.0</b>	<b>\$112.8</b>

Notes:

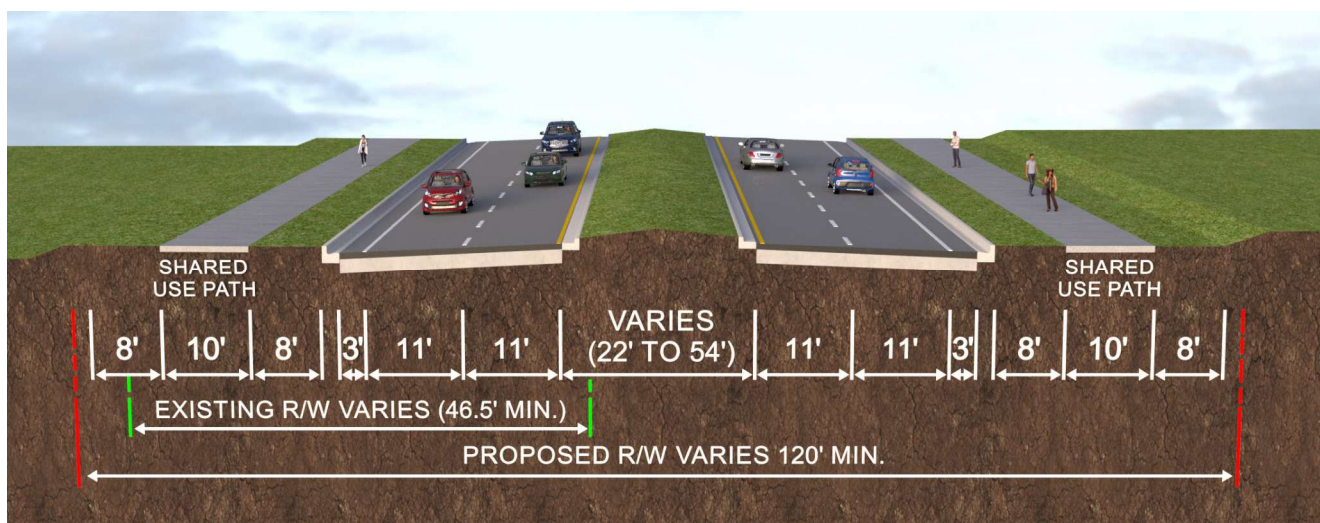
<sup>1</sup> Based on estimated total area for the McIntosh Road widening and preferred stormwater ponds and floodplain compensation sites.

<sup>2</sup> Construction cost based on LRE system prepared April 2024.

## TYPICAL SECTIONS



Existing Typical Section



Preferred Typical Section  
(Target Speed and Design Speed is 35 mph)

# EVALUATION MATRIX

Evaluation Criteria	No-Build Alternative	Preferred Build Alternative
<b>Potential Business / Residential Impacts</b>		
Number of Business Relocations	0	5
Number of Residential Relocations	0	6
<b>Potential Right of Way Impacts<sup>1</sup></b>		
Number of Affected Parcels	0	38
Area of Right of Way Anticipated to be Acquired for Road Widening (acres)	0	6.95
Area of ROW Anticipated to be Acquired for Stormwater Ponds and Floodplain Compensation Sites (acres)	0	6.23
<b>Potential Environmental Effects</b>		
Archaeological / Historical Sites (Potentially Eligible or Eligible)	0/0	0/0
Section 4(f) Resources Identified / Impacted	0/0	0/0
Noise Impacted Receptors	0	14
Wetlands that are not Other Surface Waters (acres)	0	0.78
Other Surface Waters (acres)	0	0.06
Potential for Federal and/or State Listed Species	None	Low
Contamination/Hazardous Waste Sites (Ranked Low/Medium/High)	0	8 Low/5 Medium/ 1 High
<b>Estimated Costs<sup>2</sup> (Present Day Costs in \$ Millions)</b>		
Design (10% of construction)	\$0.0	\$3.2
Right of Way for Roadway Widening	\$0.0	\$17.6
Right of Way for Stormwater Ponds & Floodplain Compensation Sites	\$0.0	\$8.5
Wetlands Mitigation	\$0.0	\$0.2
Construction Engineering & Inspection (10% of construction)	\$0.0	\$3.2
Construction of Roadway, Drainage and Ponds	\$0.0	\$32.4
<b>Total Project Estimated Costs</b>	<b>\$0.0</b>	<b>\$65.1</b>

### Notes:

1. Based on estimated total area for the Branch Forbes Road widening and preferred stormwater ponds and floodplain compensation sites.
2. Construction cost based on LRE system prepared April 2024.



# Public Hearing Comment Form

## McIntosh Road and Branch Forbes Road

Project Development and Environment (PD&E) Studies  
from south of US 92 to north of I-4  
Hillsborough County, WPI Segment Nos.: 447157-1 and 447159-1



Comments may be provided in one of three ways: complete the form and place in the “comments” box, mail comments to the address on the back of this form, or visit our websites at [www.fdotd7studies.com/projects/mcintosh-rd-us92-to-i4/](http://www.fdotd7studies.com/projects/mcintosh-rd-us92-to-i4/) or [www.fdotd7studies.com/projects/branch-forbes-road-us92-to-i4/](http://www.fdotd7studies.com/projects/branch-forbes-road-us92-to-i4/)

To become part of the official public hearing record, comments must be postmarked by **October 10, 2024**.

### Comments on McIntosh Road PD&E Study from south of US 92 to north of I-4 (WPI Segment No. 447157-1)

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### Comments on Branch Forbes Road PD&E Study from south of US 92 to north of I-4 (WPI Segment No. 447159-1)

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#### Contact Information (please print)

Name

Address

City  State  Zip Code

Phone

Email

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If you did not receive notice of this public hearing but would like to be included on the mailing list for this project please check.



#### Note:

All comments are part of the project record and are available for viewing by the public and the media.

Public participation is solicited without regard to race, color, national origin, age, sex, religion, disability, or family status. Persons who need special accommodation under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) or persons who require translation services (free of charge) please contact Roger Roscoe, District Seven Title VI Coordinator, at [Roger.Roscoe@dot.state.fl.us](mailto:Roger.Roscoe@dot.state.fl.us) or (813) 975-6411.

*Please fold on dotted lines.*

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**Florida Department of Transportation - District Seven  
ATTN: Kirk Bogen, PE, Environmental Management Engineer  
11201 N. McKinley Drive, MS 7-500  
Tampa, FL 33612**