



Hillsborough
County Florida

NEWSLETTER

Project Development & Environment (PD&E) Studies

STUDIES UNDERWAY

McIntosh Road from south of US 92 to north of I-4 and **Branch Forbes Road** from south of US 92 to north of I-4
WPI Segment Nos. 447157-1 | 447159-1

OCTOBER 2023

Join the conversation about the McIntosh Road & Branch Forbes Road PD&E Studies

Project Websites

For more information on the PD&E studies, visit the project websites

McIntosh Rd PD&E study

www.fdotd7studies.com/projects/mcintosh-rd-us92-to-i4/

Branch Forbes Rd PD&E study

www.fdotd7studies.com/projects/branch-forbes-road-us92-to-i4/

Questions

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PD&E Project Manager

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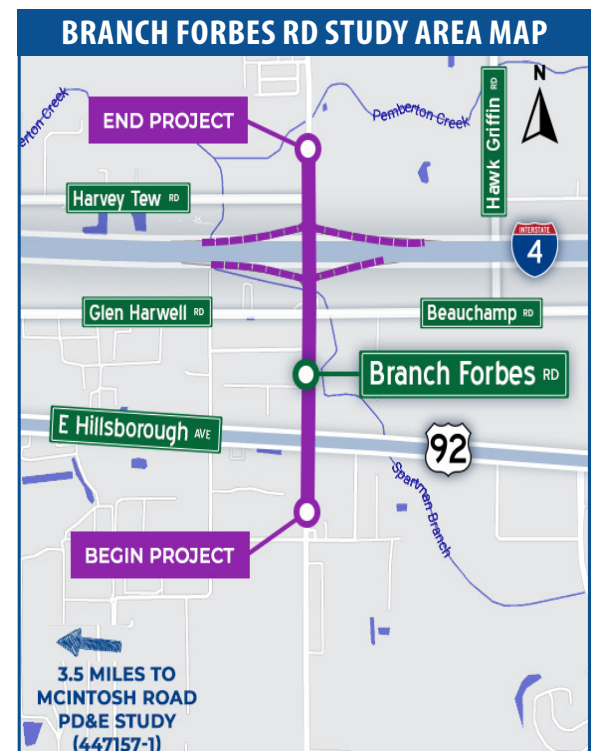
(813) 975-6060 or (800) 226-7220

kristen.carson@dot.state.fl.us

The environmental review, consultation, and other actions required by applicable federal environmental laws for this project are being, or have been, carried out by the Florida Department of Transportation (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.

The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) District Seven, in collaboration with Hillsborough County, is conducting Project Development & Environment (PD&E) studies on McIntosh Road from south of US 92 to north of I-4 (WPI Segment No. 447157-1), and on Branch Forbes Road from south of US 92 to north of I-4 (WPI Segment No. 447159-1).

These studies will focus on evaluating capacity improvement needs as well as improved safety conditions and system linkage. The studies will evaluate widening the existing two-lane roadways to accommodate future travel demands including bicycle and pedestrian facilities. The studies will also evaluate issues related to traffic operations, access management and freight movements. Operational improvements will be evaluated at ramps for each of the I-4 interchanges, but does not include improvements to the I-4 mainline. The proposed improvements include construction of stormwater management facilities (SMF) and floodplain compensation (FPC) sites. The acquisition of right of way (ROW) is anticipated for both projects.



PD&E STUDY BASICS

PD&E studies are conducted to meet the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and other federal and state requirements. The studies are to ensure that the implementation of transportation projects reflect and incorporate the unique engineering and community characteristics of the area. During the studies, we will determine the location and conceptual design of feasible "build" alternatives for transportation improvements and analyze each of their social and economic, cultural, natural and physical environmental effects. The "no-build" alternative, which leaves McIntosh Road and Branch Forbes Road in their present state and provides for only routine maintenance, will remain an option throughout the studies.

The PD&E studies will be finalized after the public hearing when the environmental document is completed and approved by the FDOT Office of Environmental Management (OEM). If a "build" alternative is selected and funding programmed, the projects may then proceed to the next phases in development, which are the design and right of way acquisition phases.

Sincerely,



Kirk Bogen, P.E.

Environmental Management Engineer



Florida Department of Transportation, District Seven
PD&E Studies: McIntosh Road from south of US 92 to north of I-4
and Branch Forbes Road from south of US 92 to north of I-4
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 the studies by means of submitting comments or attending the public hearing. Project newsletters like this one will be mailed out to all property owners adjacent to the study areas and to federal, state, and local officials at key points during the studies. There are multiple ways to get involved — call, write, or email us. You can also join us at our public hearing or invite us to speak at one of your own small group 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 or persons who require translation services (free of charge) should contact **Roger Roscoe**, Title VI Coordinator, at **(813) 975-6411** or by email to: **roger.roscoe@dot.state.fl.us**.

COMUNIQUESE CON NOSOTROS

Si usted tiene preguntas o comentarios, o si simplemente desea más información sobre este proyecto, favor de ponerse en contacto con nuestro representante, el señor **Manuel Flores**, al teléfono **(813) 975-4248** o correo electrónico: **manuel.flores@dot.state.fl.us**.

PROJECT SCHEDULE

The McIntosh Road and Branch Forbes Road PD&E studies project activities include collecting information, developing roadway improvement alternatives and evaluating the potential environmental and social effects of the “no build” and “build” alternatives. A public hearing is tentatively scheduled for the Spring of 2024, and the study is expected to be completed in the Summer of 2024.

TASKS	2021	2022				2023				2024			
	Fall	Winter	Spring	Summer	Fall	Winter	Spring	Summer	Fall	Winter	Spring	Summer	
Data Collection													
Engineering & Environmental Analysis													
Public Hearing											★		
Final Study Documents													
Location Design Concept Acceptance												★	

RIGHT OF ENTRY

The FDOT and/or authorized agents may need to make entry onto your property until the end of April 2024 for the purpose of conducting land surveys and gathering environmental and geotechnical data. Data collected will be analyzed as we develop concept plans and engineering and environmental reports. Property entry is authorized by Florida Statute 337.274 and is solely for the purpose of gathering data and will not interfere with continued use or occupancy of your property. Florida Statute 337.274 authorizes FDOT staff or its agents to enter any lands, waters, and premises to conduct surveys, soundings, drillings, environmental assessments and other examinations necessary to perform our duties.