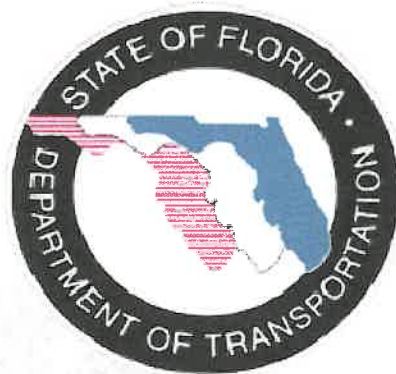


# **FINAL**

## **COMMENTS AND COORDINATION REPORT**

**Park Road and Sam Allen Road PD&E Study  
Hillsborough County, Florida**



**WPI Segment Number: 257862-1  
Federal Aid Project No. 0295-005**

**Prepared by:  
FDOT District Seven  
Modal Planning & Development Department**

**April 2005**

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*Park Road/Sam Allen Road PD&E Study*

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# PARK ROAD/SAM ALLEN ROAD PD&E STUDY COMMENTS AND COORDINATION REPORT

## 1.0 PROJECT DESCRIPTION

### 1.1 REPORT OVERVIEW

This report provides the documentation associated with the Public Involvement Program that was developed and implemented for the Park Road/Sam Allen Road Project Development and Environment (PD&E) Study. The purpose of the program is to establish open communication with the general public, property owners as well as federal, state, and local agencies and elected officials concerned with the project. Early and continued communication was an integral part of this project to identify potential effects, issues and solutions.

Information and a request for input and comment was disseminated in the form of an Advance Notification Package, which was mailed to federal, state and local agencies. A study kick-off flyer was developed and sent to federal, state and local agencies as well as elected and appointed officials, the media, interested property owners as well as the general public. Department representatives met with and corresponded with property owners and the general public throughout the study process. A Public Hearing was advertised in the *Florida Administrative Weekly* along with the local newspaper. Notification of the Public Hearing was sent to property owners, state, federal, and local agencies, elected and appointed officials, and the general public.

### 1.2 PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The Park Road/Sam Allen Road Project Development and Environment (PD&E) Study project area consists of two local roads, which act as connectors between the east side of Plant City and SR 39 (Figure 1.1). This route is used by traffic traveling between Plant City and Zephyrhills. The project limits begin on Park Road – from I-4 to Sam Allen Road – and Sam Allen Road – from Park Road to the proposed Alexander Street extension in Hillsborough County, a length of approximately 2.5 miles.

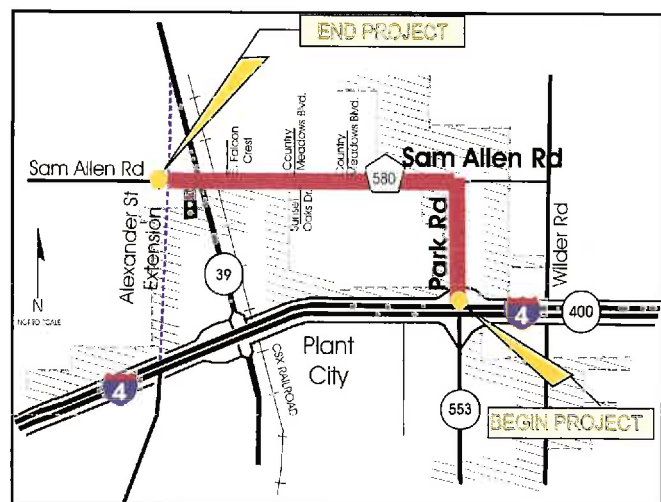


Figure 1.1 – Project Location Map

Currently, both Park Road and Sam Allen Road are two-lane, undivided rural roadways with four-foot paved shoulders. Drainage is accommodated with roadside ditches. Park Road and Sam Allen Road are part of Hillsborough County's roadway system.

The purpose of this project is to ensure that sufficient roadway capacity is maintained through the design year 2028. This involves widening the section of Park Road located between I-4 and Sam Allen Road to a four-lane divided suburban roadway. In addition, the section of Sam Allen Road located between Park Road and SR 39 will be widened to a four-lane divided suburban roadway.

## **2.0 PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT PLAN**

A comprehensive Public Involvement Plan (PIP) was developed and implemented as part of this study. The purpose of this plan was to inform and solicit responses from all interested parties including local residents, public officials, agencies, and business owners. The program included a kickoff letter, an Advance Notification package, and a Public Hearing.

## **3.0 ADVANCE NOTIFICATION PACKAGE**

### **3.1 ADVANCE NOTIFICATION**

Through the Advance Notification process, the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) informed federal, state, regional, and local agencies of this project and its scope of anticipated activities. The project Advance Notification package was distributed to the Florida State Clearinghouse on February 11, 2002 and forwarded to those agencies listed below. Copies of the Advance Notification package and comments may be found in **Appendix A**.

### **3.2 ADVANCE NOTIFICATION MAILING LIST**

An asterisk (\*) indicates those agencies that responded to the package.

#### **Federal**

- Federal Highway Administration, Division Administrator
- Federal Emergency Management Agency, Mitigation Division Chief
- Federal Railroad Administration – Office of Economic Analysis, Director
- U.S. Dept. of Housing and Urban Development, Regional Environmental Officer
- U.S. Department of Interior, U.S. Geological Survey Chief
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region IV, Regional Administrator
- U.S. Department of Interior, Fish and Wildlife Service, Field Supervisor
- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Regulatory Branch, District Engineer

### **Tribal**

- Poarch Band of Creek Indians of Alabama
- Muscogee Creek Nation of Oklahoma
- Seminole Tribe of Florida
- Miccosukee Tribe of Indians of Florida\*
- Seminole Nation of Oklahoma\*

### **State**

- Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, Office of Environmental Services\*
- Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council, Executive Director
- Federal Aid Program Coordinator
- Department of Community Affairs\*
- Environmental Management Office
- Division of Historical Resources Bureau of Historic Preservation

### **Regional**

- Southwest Florida Water Management District, Executive Director\*

### **Local**

- Hillsborough County Board of County Commissioners, Chairman
- Hillsborough County School Board, Chairman
- Hillsborough County Metropolitan Planning Organization
- Hillsborough County EPC, Water Management Division Director\*
- City of Plant City, City Commissioner

## **3.3 SUMMARY OF AGENCY COMMENTS AND RESPONSES**

Comments were received from six (6) agencies. Outlined below is a summary of these comments with responses made at the time that the Advance Notification was distributed:

**Agency 1: Southwest Florida Water Management District**

**Comment:** "Concept is consistent with District Activities."

**Response:** No response required.

**Agency 2: Department of Community Affairs**

**Comment:** "Based upon the information contained in the Advance Notification Package and the enclosed comments provided by our reviewing agencies, the State has determined that, at this stage, the referenced project is consistent with the Florida Coastal Management Program (FCMP)". "All subsequent environmental documents will be reviewed to determine the project's continued consistency with the FCMP."

**Response:** None required.

**Agency 3: Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission**

**Comment:** Standard comments to avoid, minimize, or mitigate impacts to listed species and their habitats. “Recommend coordination with the Hillsborough River Greenways Task Force for locating the proposed roadway improvements as well as potential mitigation options within the Hillsborough River Basin.” “FWC concerns include fragmentation of wildlife habitat; hydrological severance and impacts to wetland and riparian systems; direct, secondary, and cumulative impacts to listed species; the need for supplemental wildlife surveys; and adequate mitigation for wetland and listed species habitat impacts.”

**Response:** The presence of listed species will be determined and any potential effects evaluated during the PD&E study.

**Agency 4: Environmental Protection Commission – Hillsborough County**

**Comment:** EPC staff has the following comments:

1. The study area contains EPC jurisdictional wetlands. FDOT is encouraged to “site the road construction corridor to avoid wetland impacts and, if avoidance is not possible, to minimize wetland impacts...”
2. Cites Chapter 1-11.01 from the *Rules of the EPC*, requiring that mitigation be “an avenue of last resort when reasonable use of the property is otherwise unavailable.” States that “a wetland impact justification and mitigation proposal must be submitted to the EPC along with the appropriate review fee of \$775.00.”
3. States that the wetland impact justification and mitigation proposal must contain the minimum of a narrative, marked site map, detailed construction plans, and the normal-low-high series of water levels for all lakes, detention, and retention ponds.
4. Efforts must be made to prevent any erosion or turbid water from being discharged into wetland areas.
5. Any construction activity that could impact the integrity of wetland(s) such as clearing, excavating, or draining, must have written approval from the Executive Director of the EPC prior to initiation.

**Response:** No response required.

**Agency 5: Seminole Nation of Oklahoma – Historic Preservation Office**

**Comment:** The Seminole Nation of Oklahoma is “not currently aware of any Seminole affiliated cultural properties or resources within the proposed project area.” Requests to be kept informed as the project continues.

**Response:** No response required.

**Agency 6: Miccosukee Tribe of Indians of Florida**

**Comment:** “The Tribe has no direct knowledge of any cultural resources located within the proposed project area.” The Tribe recommends that a cultural resources survey be conducted to ascertain if there are any cultural resource sites within the proposed corridor.

**Response:** None required.

#### **4.0 PROJECT KICKOFF**

A project kick-off flyer was developed and mailed to Federal, State, and local agencies, elected and appointed officials and interested parties on May 13, 2002. The purpose of the kick-off flyer was to introduce the project and study objectives. The flyer announced the start of the project study, provided information on how to submit comments, and included the name and contact information of the District’s Project Manager.

#### **5.0 COORDINATION EFFORTS**

##### **5.1 PROJECT UPDATE NEWSLETTER**

A project update newsletter was mailed to property owners, appointed and elected officials, Federal, State, and local agencies, and interested parties in October 2004. The newsletter provided recipients with detailed information on the proposed improvements to Park Road and Sam Allen Road and included graphical representations and aerial photographs. A comment form was provided to solicit statements regarding the proposed alternatives. No comments were received by the Department as a result of this newsletter.

##### **5.2 LOCAL GOVERNMENT MEETINGS**

A meeting was held at the Hillsborough County Government Center, with representatives from the Hillsborough County Public Works and Planning Departments, to discuss alternatives for this study. Input was also received from the City of Plant City’s Engineering Department.

##### **5.3 COMMUNITY MEETINGS**

On December 17, 2004, a presentation was made to the residents of the Country Meadows Mobile Home Park, during which the “Build” Alternatives were displayed and the alternatives development process was explained. The residents expressed their concerns and views regarding the improvements proposed for Park Road and Sam Allen Road, including:

- Local opposition to the designation of Sam Allen Road and Park Road as a truck route, connecting SR 39 to I-4. Since both Park Road and Sam Allen Road are County facilities, this issue has been deferred to Hillsborough County officials and public works staff for consideration.
- Concerns regarding changes in community access along Sam Allen Road. Residents' expressed that there might be some difficulty with entering and exiting their communities due to the lack of left and right turn lanes at the mobile home park entrances. The recommended improvements include the construction of left and right turn lanes, however, the widening of Sam Allen Road is not in the Department's Five Year Work Program. The residents' have requested an interim solution to their safety issues. Their concerns and requests were provided to the Hillsborough County Planning Department for consideration.


## 6.0 PUBLIC HEARING

### 6.1 PUBLIC HEARING ADVERTISEMENTS

A Public Hearing was held on Tuesday, January 18, 2005 from 4-7 p.m. at The Meadows Community Center; 723 Country Meadows Boulevard; Plant City, Florida. The Hearing was an opportunity for the public to comment and provide input regarding specific location, design, socio-economic effects and environmental effects associated with the recommended alternative.

The Public Hearing was advertised in the *Florida Administrative Weekly* on December 17, 2004. The Hearing was also advertised as a quarter-page legal display (**Figure 6.1**) in the *Tampa Tribune* on Thursday, December 30, 2004 and on Tuesday, January 11, 2005 as well as in the *Plant City Courier* on Thursday January 13, 2005.

A Public Hearing newsletter that announced the date, time, and location of the Hearing served as notice to property owners (pursuant to Florida Statutes 339.155) that all or a portion of their property is within 300 feet of the centerline of the proposed project.



**PUBLIC HEARING**  
Park Road and Sam Allen Road PD&E Study  
WPI No. 257862-1 FAP No. 0295-005

The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) will conduct a Public Hearing regarding the proposed improvements to Park Road from I-4 to Sam Allen Road and Sam Allen Road from Park Road to the proposed Alexander Street extension in Hillsborough County, Florida, a distance of approximately 2.5 miles. The Public Hearing for the Park Road and Sam Allen Road Project Development and Environment (PD&E) Study will be held on Tuesday, January 18, 2005 from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at the Meadows Community Center, located at 723 Country Meadows Boulevard, Plant City, Florida.

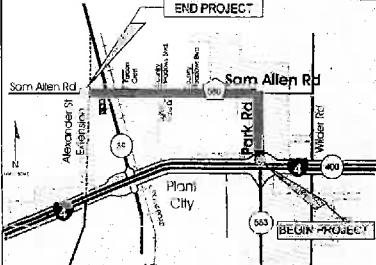
The Hearing is being held to afford persons the opportunity to express their comments concerning the location, conceptual design, social, economic, and environmental effects of the proposed improvements. The Recommended Alternative proposes widening Park Road between I-4 and Sam Allen Road from a two-lane rural roadway to a four-lane divided roadway and widening Sam Allen Road between Park Road and the proposed Alexander Street extension from a two-lane rural roadway to a four-lane divided, suburban roadway. The "No-Build" Alternative consists of not constructing the project and limiting improvements to routine maintenance. The "No-Build" Alternative will remain a viable alternative throughout the duration of the study.

The study and its supporting reports will be available for public review prior to and after the Public Hearing beginning December 27, 2004 through January 28, 2005 at the Bruton Memorial Library, 302 McLendon Street in Plant City. These materials will be available for review at the Hearing site and FDOT representatives will be available at that time to answer questions. A project video will be shown continuously throughout the informal portion of the Hearing. Beginning at 6:00 p.m., formal public comments will be taken.

Citizens may provide their comments to the court reporter in a one-on-one setting or by speaking during the formal portion. Written statements may also be placed in one of the comment boxes at the Public Hearing or mailed to: Kenneth A. Hartmann, P.E., District Seven Secretary, ATTN: Robert M. Clifford, AICP, District Modal Planning & Development Manager, Florida Department of Transportation, MS 7-500, 11201 N. McKinley Drive, Tampa, Florida, 33612-6456. All comments must be postmarked by January 28, 2005 to become part of the official Public Hearing record.

We invite you to attend and participate in this Public Hearing. If you have any questions regarding the project, or if you require special consideration under the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, please contact Mr. Scott Farash, Project Manager, at (813) 975-6456 or by e-mail at [scott.farash@dot.state.fl.us](mailto:scott.farash@dot.state.fl.us). To better accommodate individual needs, we ask that such requests be made at least seven (7) calendar days prior to the Hearing.

This Hearing is being held pursuant to Chapter 339 Florida Statutes; U.S.C. 128; Chapter 120 Florida Statutes; Chapter 339.155 Florida Statutes; 23 CFR 771; Executive Orders 11990 and 11988 and Titles VI and VIII of the Civil Rights Act. Access for the disabled is available and in compliance with 49 CFR Part 27 and 49 CFR Parts 37 and 38.



**Figure 6.1 – Park Road/Sam Allen Road PD&E Study Public Hearing Legal Display Ad**



Maps, drawings, and other pertinent information depicting the project's alignment and proposed improvements were available for public review from December 27, 2004 through January 28, 2005 at the Bruton Memorial Library, 302 McLendon Street in Plant City.

FDOT representatives were available beginning at 4 p.m. to answer questions and discuss the project informally. Aerial photographs, display boards, and project documents were displayed showing the proposed improvements. A PowerPoint presentation was shown until 6 p.m. at which time FDOT representatives began the formal portion of the Hearing. Immediately following the formal portion of the Hearing, the informal open house resumed and continued until 7 p.m.

During the hearing open house, a court reporter was available to receive comments in a one-on-one setting. In addition, verbal statements, written statements and exhibits submitted at the Hearing became part of the official Public Hearing record. Comments submitted via mail were to be postmarked January 28, 2005 to become part of the official Public Hearing record.

Ninety-eight (98) people signed in at the Hearing. Three (3) people commented on the project during the informal open house, eight (8) people commented during the formal portion of the Public Hearing, and a total of seventeen (17) written comments were received between January 18, 2005 and January 28, 2005. A copy of the official Public Hearing transcript is provided in **Appendix B**.

The Public Hearing was held in accordance with 23 CFR 771 and Titles VI and VIII of the Civil Rights Acts of 1964 and 1968 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990.

## **6.2 PUBLIC HEARING COMMENTS**

A total of twenty-eight (28) comments were received at the Public Hearing for this project, eleven (11) verbal and seventeen (17) written. The majority of comments concern access management, safety issues, and the designation of Sam Allen Road as a truck route.

### **6.2.1 Verbal Comments – Open House**

#### **Comment:**

Three persons expressed their concerns with the number of wildlife fatalities occurring along the corridor and would like to see the speed limit along Sam Allen reduced to 40 miles per hour. Both parties would like to see a wildlife crossing installed, including flashing lights and signs and both are against the widening of the roadway.

#### **Response:**

The Department considers wildlife crossings when public land, which is managed for wildlife movement, adjacent to the facility being bisected. The target species

for consideration of these accommodations are usually mammals or reptiles. Avian species that are opportunistic foragers are not considered for this type of feature.

Posted speed limits are determined by the 80<sup>th</sup> percentile speed, as determined by a speed study. A speed study done in 2003 determined the 80<sup>th</sup> percentile speed to be greater than 50 mph. Lowering the speed limit below this would increase disregard for posted speed limits.

### **6.2.2 Verbal Comments – Formal Portion**

**Comment:** Six persons commented on traffic safety concerns along Sam Allen Road and about the removing the truck route designation from this roadway.

**Response:** A traffic signal is recommended at this location for both the T-intersection and the curve realignment build alternatives. This is expected to improve both the traffic flow and safety at this intersection. A signal warrant analysis will be performed during design to confirm this. Concerning the designation of Sam Allen Road as a truck route: Park Road and Sam Allen Road are local roads, designated as a truck route by Hillsborough County. A petition noting this concern was forwarded to the Hillsborough County Planning Department (see Section 6.3).

**Comment:** Two persons commented on median openings and EMS response times.

**Response:** Concerning the possible reduction in the response time of emergency vehicles to calls from within the community: The median recommended for Sam Allen Road is to be constructed with type “E” curb. This type of curb is sloped, 2 ½” high, to allow emergency vehicles to drive over the median.

### **6.2.3 Written Comments**

**Comment:** One comment was received in favor of the project.

**Response:** No response required at this time.

**Comment:** Hillsborough County Bicycle and Pedestrian Coordinator discourages the connection of sidewalks to the Meadows Community golf cart paths.

**Response:** The Department will coordinate with Hillsborough County staff concerning the best way to handle golf cart traffic across Sam Allen Road.

**Comment :** Three comments were received regarding the preservation of local wetlands and wildlife.

**Response:** Wetland impacts for the project have been minimized, it is estimated that a maximum of 1.87 acres will be affected. All practical measures will be taken into consideration during the final design to avoid and minimize wetland impacts. Furthermore, Best Management Practices (BMP) will be adhered to during the construction phase to minimize disturbances to the natural environment.

**Comment:** Six comments were received from residents of The Meadows mobile home community regarding median openings.

**Response:** Concerning the location of median openings proposed with the widening to four lanes: The section of Sam Allen Road east of SR 39 has two entrances to Mobile Home Parks, which are only 350 feet apart; Sunset Oaks Drive on the south side and West Country Meadows Boulevard on the north side. Our Median Review Committee recommended a median opening for Sunset Oaks Drive since it is the only access to Sam Allen Road for this community. A median opening was not recommended for West Country Meadows Blvd., since there is another entrance to the Meadows community to the east, and the proximity to Sunset Oaks did not allow sufficient left turn deceleration and storage length. Some of the residents desired a five-lane section with a two-way left-turn lane for this short segment, to allow left turns in and out of both entrances. Sam Allen Road is a County owned and maintained road, Hillsborough County's Engineering Department should have input on this issue. Hillsborough County has not expressed a preference for the type of median at this location to date. When the design phase of this project begins, Hillsborough County should be consulted for direction on this issue.

**Comment:** Five comments were received regarding safety concerns including travel speeds and truck route designation along Sam Allen.

**Response:** While there will be temporary inconveniences during construction, the additional left and right turn lanes will make access to the mobile home parks easier and safer. Posted speed limits are determined by the 80<sup>th</sup> percentile speed, as determined by a speed study. A speed study conducted in 2003 determined the 80<sup>th</sup> percentile speed to be greater than 50 mph. Lowering the speed limit below this would increase disregard for posted speed limits. Concerning the designation of Sam Allen Road as a truck route: Park Road and Sam Allen Road are local roads, designated as a truck route by Hillsborough County. A petition noting this concern was forwarded to the Hillsborough County Planning Department.

**Comment:** One comment was received requesting “a copy of the board showing the intersection of SR 39 and Sam Allen Road.”

**Response:** A copy of the graphic was provided.

### 6.3 CITIZEN PETITION

A petition, created and distributed by the local community, was forwarded to the Hillsborough County Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for their consideration. A copy of the petition was submitted to the Department at the conclusion of the Public Hearing.

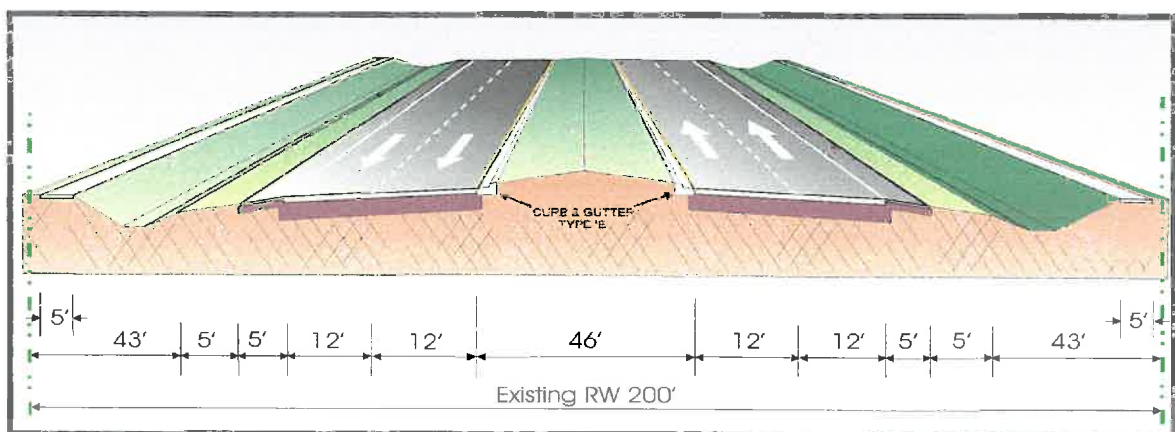
## 7.0 - RECOMMENDED ALTERNATIVE

### 7.1 RECOMMENDED ALTERNATIVE SELECTION

Recommended alternatives for Park Road and Sam Allen Road were selected by working in cooperation with state and federal agencies and local government, as well as through the review of the public comments that were received throughout the study process.

#### 7.1.1 Park Road Alternative

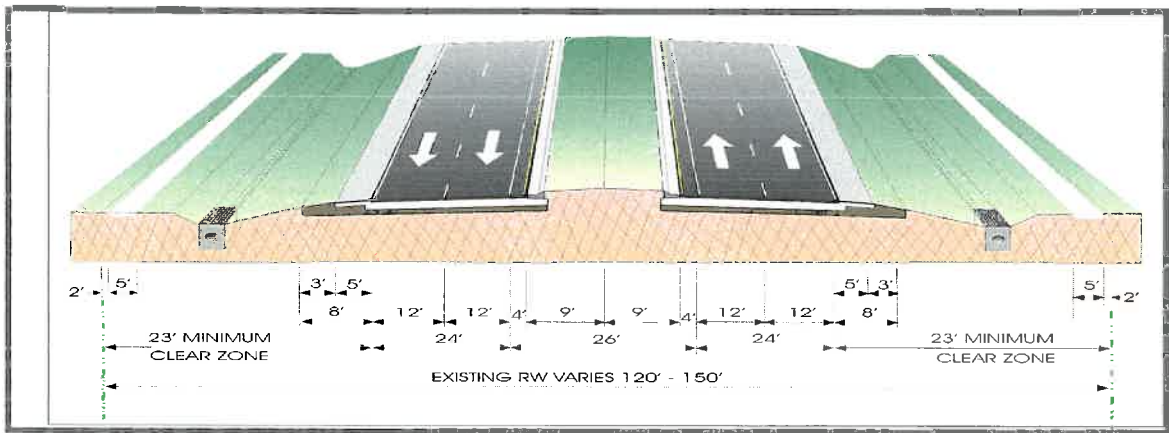
The recommend alternative for Park Road (**Figure 7.1**) is a four-lane divided suburban roadway with a 46-foot raised grass median, four 12-foot travel lanes (two in each direction), and 10-foot outside shoulders; 5 feet of which will be paved and will accommodate bicyclists. Roadside drainage ditches will be used to convey stormwater runoff to retention ponds. Five-foot sidewalks will be constructed along both sides of the roadway adjacent to the right-of-way. The proposed improvements will fit within the existing 200 feet of right-of-way.



**Figure 7.1 PARK ROAD – from I-4 to Sam Allen Road  
Four-Lane Divided Suburban Roadway**

**7.1.2 Sam Allen Road Alternative**

The recommend alternative for Sam Allen Road (**Figure 7.2**) is a four-lane divided suburban roadway with a 26-foot raised grass median, four 12-foot travel lanes (two in each direction), 4-foot inside paved shoulders, and 8-foot outside shoulders; 5 feet of which will be paved and will accommodate bicyclists. A series of underground drainage pipes will be used to collect and convey stormwater runoff to retention ponds. Five-foot sidewalks will be constructed along both sides of the roadway adjacent to the right-of-way. The proposed improvements will fit within the existing 120 - 150 feet of right-of-way except where the alignment has been shifted to the south at SR 39.



**Figure 7.2 SAM ALLEN ROAD – from Park Road to SR 39  
Four-Lane Divided Suburban Roadway**

# **APPENDIX A**

## **Advance Notification Package**

**Park Road/Sam Allen Road PD&E Study**  
**WPI No.: 257862-1**  
**FAP No.: 0295-005**



An Equal Opportunity Employer

# Southwest Florida Water Management District

2578621.18

2379 Broad Street, Brooksville, Florida 34604-6899  
(352) 796-7211 or 1-800-423-1476 (FL only)  
SUNCOM 628-4150 TDD only 1-800-231-6103 (FL only)  
On the Internet at: WaterMatters.org

**Tampa Service Office**  
7601 Highway 301 North  
Tampa, Florida 33637-6759  
(813) 985-7481 or  
1-800-836-0797 (FL only)  
SUNCOM 578-2070

**Bartow Service Office**  
170 Century Boulevard  
Bartow, Florida 33830-7700  
(863) 534-1448 or  
1-800-492-7862 (FL only)  
SUNCOM 572-6200

**Sarasota Service Office**  
6750 Fruitville Road  
Sarasota, Florida 34240-9711  
(941) 377-3722 or  
1-800-320-3503 (FL only)  
SUNCOM 531-6900

**Lecanto Service Office**  
3600 West Sovereign Path  
Suite 226  
Lecanto, Florida 34461-8070  
(352) 527-8131  
SUNCOM 667-3271

March 19, 2002

Ms. Jasmin Raffington  
Florida State Clearinghouse  
Department of Community Affairs  
2555 Shumard Oak Boulevard  
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-2100

Scott

RECEIVED  
MARCH 20 11:20 AM '02

**Subject: U.S. Department of Transportation-Highway Planning and Construction-Advance Notification-Park Road/Sam Allen Road PD&E Study-Hillsborough County, Florida**  
**SAI#: FL200202211553C**

Dear Ms. Raffington:

The Southwest Florida Water Management District (District) has completed its evaluation for the referenced project. This project application is a request for federal funding to study courses of action for increasing the capacity of Park Road and Sam Allen Road, between I-4 and the proposed Alexander Street extension.

Conceptually, we believe the proposal to be consistent with District activities. The application proposes to examine options for an existing facility. In addition, the District expects to participate in future reviews and provide more in-depth comments as the project unfolds.

Thanks for the opportunity to comment on this application. If you should have any questions or if I can be of further assistance, please contact me in the District's Planning Department.

Sincerely,

Trisha Neasman, AICP  
Government Planning Coordinator

TN

cc: Robert Clifford, FDOT

Rand Baldwin, SWFWMD

- Ronnie E. Duncan**  
Chair, Pinellas
- Thomas G. Dabney, II**  
Vice Chair, Sarasota
- Janet D. Kovach**  
Secretary, Hillsborough
- Watson L. Haynes, II**  
Treasurer, Pinellas
- Edward W. Chance**  
Manatee
- Monroe "Al" Coogler**  
Citrus
- Maggie N. Dominguez**  
Hillsborough
- Pamela L. Fentress**  
Highlands
- Ronald C. Johnson**  
Polk
- Heidi B. McCree**  
Hillsborough
- John K. Renke, III**  
Pasco
- E. D. "Sonny" Vergara**  
Executive Director
- Gene A. Heath**  
Assistant Executive Director
- William S. Bilenky**  
General Counsel

18

*Semvnoŀi Etulwv Vculvke Vcvyeculke*  
*Seminole Nation of Oklahoma*  
*Historic Preservation Office*

March 18, 2002

Scott

2002 MAR 25 PM 4:50

PROJECT DEVELOPMENT/  
MANAGEMENT OFFICE

RECEIVED  
2002 MAR 25 PM 4:50  
Robert M. Clifford, AICP  
District Planning Manager  
Florida Department of Transportation, District Seven  
14201 North McKinley Drive / MS 7-340  
Tampa, Fl. 33612-6456

RE: WPI Segment No. 257862 1 / FAP No. 0295-005. Park Rd./Sam Allen Rd. PD&E Study / Hillsborough County / Advance Notification.

Dear Sir,

On behalf of the Seminole Nation of Oklahoma we thank you for the opportunity to comment on your PD&E Study on the proposed project in Hillsborough County.

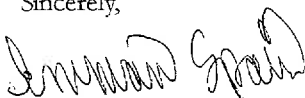
While we are not currently aware of any Seminole affiliated cultural properties or resources within the proposed project areas, inadvertent discoveries may occur even in areas of prior or existing development. Archaeological testing, construction activities, and looting can destroy, damage or otherwise diminish the integrity of Seminole cultural resources, please be advised of the following:

It is the policy of the Seminole Nation of Oklahoma in the event of inadvertent discoveries of ancestral remains or burial artifacts that all site surveys and/or other site activities cease pending immediate notification of this office and until such remains and artifacts have been properly secured. Further, we oppose any laboratory testing, data retrieval, non-biodegradable shrouding, photographic documentation, public display, or unauthorized removal of ancestral remains or burial artifacts. Sites which are known to possess or that are discovered to possess our ancestral remains or burial artifacts, or which are of historical, cultural or religious significance to the Seminole Indian people should be avoided.

Please be advised that Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act does not mandate notification of nor consultation with either state recognized or self identified entities purporting to be Native American regarding proposed undertakings. Any request for project reviews addressed to such entities within the context of government-to-government relationship between the United States and Federally recognized tribal nations is inappropriate, and constitutes a breach of the authority and intent of Federal law, as well as the inherent sovereign propriety of valid tribal governments.

Furthermore, we request to be kept informed as your project continues. Should you require further commentary, review, or additional information concerning this matter, please contact us at (405) 257-2036. Thank you.

Sincerely,



Emman Spain  
Historic Preservation Officer  
Seminole Nation of Oklahoma

P. O. BOX 1498 • WEWOKA, OKLA. • 74884  
PHONE: 405-257-2036 • FAX: 405-257-7054  
E-MAIL: SNHPO @ OKPLUS.COM



2578621, 18

# Miccosukee Tribe of Indians of Florida

*Scott*



**Business Council Members**  
Billy Cypress, Chairman

Jasper Nelson, Ass't. Chairman  
Max Billie, Treasurer

Andrew Bert Sr., Secretary  
Jerry Cypress, Lawmaker

March 13, 2002

Mr. Robert Clifford, AICP  
District Planning Manager  
FDOT, District 7  
11202 North McKinley Drive / MS 7-340  
Tampa, FL 33612-6456

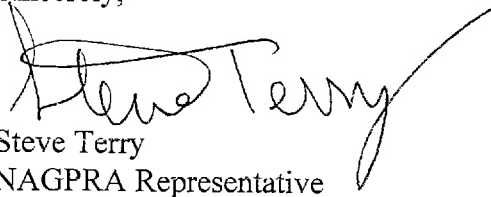
Dear Mr. Clifford:

The Miccosukee Tribe received your letters concerning the Sam Allen Road PD&E Study. The Tribal Chairman referred your letter to me as I am the Tribal Representative for Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation. Mr. Fred Dayhoff is a Tribal Consultant on these matters. Please direct all future correspondence to me.

The Tribe has no direct knowledge of any cultural resources located within the proposed Project Area. However, we recommend that as you proceed with this project that a cultural resources survey be conducted to ascertain if there are any cultural resources sites. We further request that you please keep us informed as this project develops.

Thank you for consulting with the Miccosukee Tribe. Please contact me at (305) 223-8380, Ext. 2244, if you require additional information.

Sincerely,

  
Steve Terry  
NAGPRA Representative

RECEIVED  
MARCH 13 AM 11:30  
TAMPA FL 33612

COMMISSION

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CHRIS HART  
JIM NORMAN  
JAN PLATT  
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RONDA STORMS  
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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

RICHARD D. GARRITY, Ph.D.



2578621.18  
ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES,  
LEGAL & WATER MANAGEMENT DIVISION  
THE ROGER P. STEWART ENVIRONMENTAL CENTER  
1900 - 9TH AVENUE • TAMPA, FLORIDA 33605  
PHONE (813) 272-5960 • FAX (813) 272-5157

AIR MANAGEMENT DIVISION  
FAX (813) 272-5605

WASTE MANAGEMENT DIVISION  
FAX (813) 276-2256

WETLANDS MANAGEMENT DIVISION  
FAX (813) 272-7144

1410 N. 21ST STREET • TAMPA, FLORIDA 33605

April 4, 2002

Mr. Robert M. Clifford, AICP  
District Planning Manager  
FDOT, District Seven  
11201 North McKinley Drive/MS 7-340  
Tampa, FL 33612-6456

Scott

RECEIVED  
APR 11 PM 3:55

**SUBJECT: PARK ROAD-SAM ALLEN ROAD PD&E STUDY / ADVANCED NOTIFICATION PACKAGE RECEIVED ON FEBRUARY 21, 2002 EPC WETLANDS MANAGEMENT DIVISION COMMENTS**

Dear Mr. Clifford:

Environmental Protection Commission (EPC) Wetlands Management Division staff has completed its review of the information distributed and offers the following comments. The comments are made for informational purposes only. Future EPC review is not limited to the following, and EPC may identify other legitimate concerns at any time prior to construction plan approval.

1. The Park Road-Sam Allen Road PD&E study area contains EPC jurisdictional wetlands. EPC staff encourages you to make all efforts to site the road construction corridor to avoid wetland impacts and, if avoidance is not possible, to minimize wetland impacts to the greatest extent possible. Prior to review of wetland impact or construction plans, all wetlands existing within the project boundary must be field delineated or depicted on Specific Purpose Wetland Surveys considered valid by this agency.
2. Chapter 1-11.01, Rules of the EPC, states that development requiring mitigation be an avenue of last resort when reasonable use of the property is otherwise unavailable. The applicant shall seek to first avoid all impacts to wetlands. If avoidance is impossible, then minimization of the impact to the least amount of encroachment necessary will be considered. A wetland impact justification and mitigation proposal must be submitted to the EPC along with the appropriate review fee of \$775.00.

[www.epchc.org](http://www.epchc.org)

E-Mail: [epcinfo@epchc.org](mailto:epcinfo@epchc.org)

Mr. Robert M. Clifford, AICP

April 4, 2002

Page 2

3. The EPC will review any proposal and consider it based on its own merit. A submittal provides no reliance that the wetlands may be developed as proposed. The impact justification and mitigation proposal must include, at a minimum, the following:
  - a) A narrative describing the need for the project and the justifications for the wetland impacts necessary for its development and the mitigation proposed to compensate for the impacts. Any measures taken to demonstrate wetland impact avoidance must also be shown. A description of the wetlands should be included in the package and the wetlands targeted for impact must be clearly identified on the plans.
  - b) The wetland limits must be labeled as EPC Wetland Line or EPC/SWFWMD Wetland Line. Wetlands must be labeled "Wetland Conservation Area."
  - c) Detailed construction plans, to include plan views, cross-sections, soil borings and drainage calculations.
  - d) Normal water level, design low water, design high water and top of bank should be shown for all lakes, and detention or retention ponds.
4. All efforts must be undertaken to prevent any erosion or turbid water from being discharged into wetlands and/or waters of the County. Turbid discharges that exceed 50 JTU's (Jackson Turbidity Units) or 29 NTU's (Nephelometric Turbidity Units) above background levels are a violation pursuant to Chapter 1-5, the EPC Water Quality Rule. The erosion or discharge of sediments into wetlands is a violation of Chapter 1-11, the EPC Wetland Rule. Hay bales, silt screens or other EPC approved methods or erosion/turbidity control may be required
5. Any activity interfering with the integrity of wetland(s), such as clearing, excavating, draining or filling, without written authorization from the Executive Director of the EPC or his authorized agent, pursuant to Section 1-11.07, Rules of the Commission, would be a violation of Section 17 of the Environmental Protection Act of Hillsborough County, Chapter 84-446, and of Chapter 1-11, Rules of the EPC.

If you have any questions or need further assistance, please feel free to call me.

Sincerely,



Jeffrey K. Bryan  
Environmental Scientist  
Wetlands Management Division  
Environmental Protection Commission  
of Hillsborough County

jkb/mah/mjc



Give to Rob at MPB  
Doug  
2578621.18

STATE OF FLORIDA  
**DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS**

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JEB BUSH  
Governor

STEVEN M. SEIBERT  
Secretary

April 29, 2002

Scott

Mr. Robert M. Clifford  
District Planning Manager  
Florida Department of Transportation  
11201 North McKinley Drive, MS 7-500  
Tampa, Florida 33612-6456

RE: U.S. Department of Transportation Highway Planning and Construction -  
Advanced Notification - Park Road/Sam Allen Road Project Development and  
Environmental (PD&E) Study - WPI Segment No. 257862 - FAP No. 0295-  
005- Hillsborough County, Florida  
SAI: FL 200202211553C

Dear Mr. Clifford:

The Florida State Clearinghouse, pursuant to Executive Order 12372, Gubernatorial Executive Order 95-359, the Coastal Zone Management Act, 16 U.S.C. §§ 1451-1464, as amended, and the National Environmental Policy Act, 14 U.S.C. §§ 4321, 4331-4335, 4341-4347, as amended, has coordinated the review of the above-referenced project.

The Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) indicates that the funding for the Federal Aid action and PD&E study (Park Road/Sam Allen Road Project Development and Environmental (PD&E) Study) is consistent with the DEP's authorities in the Coastal Management Program. The project will require an Environmental Resource Permit issued by the Southwest Florida Water Management District; however, detailed information regarding the project is not yet available and should be provided as soon as it becomes available. In addition, the DEP has provided detailed comments and recommendations for consideration during the development of the project and the PD&E Study. Please refer to the enclosed DEP comments.

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MAY 02 2002

2555 SHUMARD OAK BOULEVARD • TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA 32399-2100  
Phone: 850.488.8466/Suncom 278.8466 FAX: 850.921.0781/Suncom 291.0781  
Internet address: <http://www.dca.state.fl.us>

CRITICAL STATE CONCERN FIELD OFFICE  
2796 Overseas Highway, Suite 212  
Marathon, Florida 33050-2227  
(305) 289-2402

COMMUNITY PLANNING  
2555 Shumard Oak Boulevard  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-2100  
(850) 488-2356

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT  
2575 Shumard Oak Boulevard  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-2100  
(850) 413-0960

HOUSING & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT  
2555 Shumard Oak Boulevard  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-2100  
(850) 488-7055

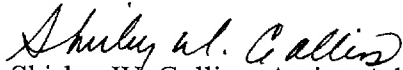
Mr. Robert M. Clifford  
April 29, 2002  
Page Two

The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) has expressed concerns regarding the potential for habitat fragmentation; impacts to wetlands and riparian systems; direct, secondary, and cumulative impacts to the habitat of listed species; the need for supplemental wildlife surveys; and the mitigation of wetland and listed species impacts. Therefore, the applicant is encouraged to conduct seasonal wildlife surveys and coordinate with the FWC to minimize impacts to listed species and habitat areas and mitigate any unavoidable impacts. Please refer to the enclosed FWC comments.

Based on the information contained in the referenced Advance Notification and the enclosed comments provided by our reviewing agencies, the state has determined that, at this stage, the referenced project is consistent with the Florida Coastal Management Program (FCMP). However, the applicant is required to address the concerns identified by the DEP and FWC. All subsequent environmental documents must be reviewed to ensure continued consistency with the FCMP. Therefore, the PD&E study should be forwarded to the State Clearinghouse for interagency review as soon as it becomes available.

Thank you for the opportunity to review this project. Should questions arise regarding this letter, please call Ms. Jasmin Raffington at (850) 922-5438.

Sincerely,

  
Shirley W. Collins, Acting Administrator  
Florida Coastal Management Program

SWC:jj

Enclosures

cc: Lauren P. Milligan, Department of Environmental Protection

Bradley J. Hartman, Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission



FL 200202211553C

## Florida Department of Transportation

11201 N. MCKINLEY DRIVE • TAMPA, FL 33612-6456 • (813)975-6000 • 1-800-226-7220

JEB BUSH  
GOVERNOR

THOMAS F. BARRY, JR.  
SECRETARY

February 11, 2002

Mr. Mike Murray, Coordinator  
Florida State Clearinghouse  
Department of Community Affairs  
2555 Shumard Oak Blvd.  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-2100

RE: WPI Segment No. 257862 1 / FAP No. 0295-005  
Park Rd/Sam Allen Rd PD&E Study / Hillsborough County / Advance Notification

Dear Mr. Murray:

The attached Advance Notification Package is forwarded to your office for processing through appropriate State agencies in accordance with Executive Order 95-359. Distribution to local and Federal agencies is being made as noted.

Although more specific comments will be solicited during the permit coordination process, we request that permitting and permit review agencies review the attached information and furnish us with whatever general comments they consider pertinent at this time.

This will be a Federal-aid action and the Florida Department of Transportation, in consultation with the Federal Highway Administration, will determine what degree of environmental documentation will be necessary. The determination will be based upon in-house environmental evaluations and comments received through coordination with other agencies. Please provide a consistency review for this project in accordance with the State's Coastal Zone Management Program.

In addition, please review this improvement's consistency, to the maximum extent feasible, with the approved Comprehensive Plan of the local government jurisdiction[s] pursuant to Chapter 163, Florida Statutes.

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State of Florida Clearinghouse

Mr. Mike Murray, Coordinator  
February 11, 2002  
Page 2

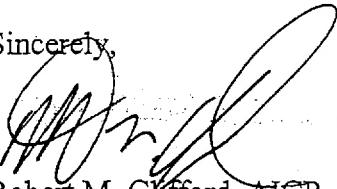
We are looking forward to receiving your comments on this project within 45 days. Should additional review time be required, a written request for an extension of time must be submitted to our office within the initial 45 day comment period.

Your comments should be addressed to:

Robert M. Clifford, AICP  
District Planning Manager  
Florida Department of Transportation, District Seven  
11201 North McKinley Drive / MS 7-340  
Tampa, FL 33612-6456

Your expeditious handling of this notice will be appreciated.

Sincerely,



Robert M. Clifford, AICP  
District Planning Manager

RC/SF  
Enclosure



Jeb Bush  
Governor

# Department of Environmental Protection

Marjory Stoneman Douglas Building  
3900 Commonwealth Boulevard  
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-3000

David B. Struhs  
Secretary

March 21, 2002

RECEIVED  
MAR 26 2002

Ms. Jasmin Raffington  
Florida State Clearinghouse  
Department of Community Affairs  
2555 Shumard Oak Boulevard  
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-2100

State of Florida Clearinghouse

RE: USDOT – Advance Notification – Park Road/Sam Allen Road, PD&E Study,  
Hillsborough County, SAI # FL200202211553C

Dear Ms. Raffington:

The Department has reviewed the above referenced Advance Notification from the Florida Department of Transportation and Federal Highway Administration (USDOT) to conduct a PD&E study of proposed improvements to Park Road (SR 553) and Sam Allen Road (CR 580). Funding for the Federal aid action and PD&E study is consistent with the Department's authorities in the Florida Coastal Management Program. However, as detailed project information is not yet available, the Department cannot determine the consistency of the roadway improvements project at this time. Additional information is required concerning the anticipated roadway width, design, impacts, construction, and mitigation for any proposed wetland impacts. Further evaluation(s) of the project will be conducted during the environmental documentation and/or permitting stages. Future consistency will be based in part on adequate consideration of comments offered in this and subsequent reviews. Department staff offer the following comments and recommendations:

- ◆ As noted on the Advance Notification Fact Sheet, roadway construction activities will require issuance of an Environmental Resource Permit (ERP) by the Southwest Florida Water Management District (SWFWMD), pursuant to Part IV of Chapter 373, *Florida Statutes* (F.S.), and Rules 62-113, 40D-4, and 40D-40, *Florida Administrative Code* (F.A.C.).
- ◆ The permit applicant will be required to eliminate or reduce any proposed wetland resource impacts to the greatest extent practicable. Minimization should emphasize avoidance-oriented corridor alignments; wetland fill reductions via pile bridging and steep (or vertically retained) side slopes; and median width reductions within safety limits.
- ◆ Every effort should be made to maximize the treatment of stormwater runoff from the proposed roadway improvements project, as stormwater running to the East Canal ultimately discharges to Blackwater Creek, part of the Hillsborough River Outstanding Florida Waters

"More Protection, Less Process"



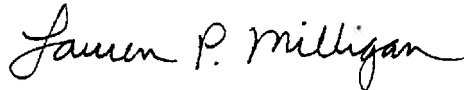
Ms. Jasmin Raffington  
SAI # FL200202211553C  
Page 2

(OFWs), which are afforded a high level of protection under sections 62-4.242(2) and 62-302.700, *F.A.C.* We recommend that the study include an evaluation of existing stormwater treatment adequacy and details on the future stormwater treatment facilities. The permit applicant may be required to demonstrate that the proposed stormwater system meets the design and performance criteria established for the treatment/attenuation of discharges to OFWs, pursuant to Rule 40D-4, *F.A.C.*, and the SWFWMD *Basis of Review for ERP Applications*.

- ◆ The Department recommends that future environmental documentation provide information regarding the Best Management Practices to be utilized during construction activities to prevent erosion, sedimentation, and turbid discharges to waters of the state.

We appreciate the opportunity to comment on the Advance Notification. Please feel free to call me at (850) 487-2231 if you have any questions or need additional information.

Sincerely,



Lauren P. Milligan  
Environmental Specialist  
Office of Intergovernmental Programs

/lpm

# FLORIDA FISH AND WILDLIFE CONSERVATION COMMISSION



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St. Petersburg

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Deltona

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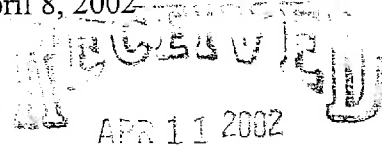
RODNEY BARRETO  
Miami

SANDRA T. KAUPÉ  
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ALLAN L. EGBERT, Ph.D., Executive Director  
VICTOR J. HELLER, Assistant Executive Director

BRADLEY J. HARTMAN, DIRECTOR  
OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES  
(850)488-6661 TDD (850)488-9542  
FAX (850)922-5679

April 8, 2002



Ms. Cindy Cranick  
Florida State Clearinghouse  
Department of Community Affairs  
2555 Shumard Oak Boulevard  
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-2100

State of Florida Clearinghouse

RE: SAI #FL200202211553C, U.S.  
Department of Transportation,  
Highway Planning and Construction,  
Advance Notification, Park  
Road/Sam Allen Road PD&E Study,  
WPI Segment No. 257862, FAP No.  
0295-005, Hillsborough County

Dear Ms. Cranick:

The Office of Environmental Services of the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) has reviewed the Advance Notification Package for the Project Development & Environment Study for the referenced project, and offers the following comments and recommendations.

The study's purpose is to evaluate transportation conditions and planned improvements along an existing highway segment in the northeast Hillsborough County area, while determining environmental concerns associated with improvement alternatives. The study route begins along Park Road (SR 553) just north of I-4, and proceeds north to Sam Allen Road (CR 580), then continues west to the proposed Alexander Extension, approximately one-quarter mile west of SR 39. These two roadways function as a major connector between the northeast Hillsborough County area and the Plant City urban area.

Some native upland habitats occur along the study corridor, as well as extensive natural wetlands including forested, scrub-shrub, emergent, and open-water varieties. Although no bridges occur along the project route, several culverts are present. Several species of listed animals occur in these habitats including wood stork, Florida black bear, Sherman's fox squirrel, bald eagle, Florida sandhill crane, southeastern American kestrel, various wading birds, eastern indigo snake, gopher tortoise, and American alligator.

Ms. Cindy Cranick


April 8, 2002

Page 2

FWC concerns include fragmentation of wildlife habitat; hydrological severance and impacts to wetland and riparian systems; direct, secondary, and cumulative impacts to listed species; the need for supplemental wildlife surveys; and adequate mitigation for wetland and listed species habitat impacts. Design of the project route should avoid potential impacts to listed species, and include appropriate wildlife undercrossings. Supplemental seasonal surveys should be conducted to confirm potential impacts to listed species such as the Florida sandhill crane. Additionally, pre-construction surveys should be conducted to confirm the presence or absence of listed species. Any impacts to active nests of listed species should only occur upon FWC authorization or permit, and adequate mitigation. To compensate for impacts to wetland and listed species habitat, we support mitigation that establishes or maintains habitat connectivity within the study area and adjacent areas of habitat. We recommend coordination with the Hillsborough River Greenways Task Force for locating the proposed roadway improvements as well as potential mitigation options within the Hillsborough River basin.

If you have any questions concerning our comments or recommendations, please contact either Mr. Jim Beaver or Mr. Bill Smith at (941)575-5765.

Sincerely,

  
Bradley J. Hartman, Director  
Office of Environmental Services

BJH/JWB/WRS

ENV 1-3-2

a:\parkrd.doc

cc: Mr. Robert M. Clifford  
Florida Department of Transportation  
11201 North McKinley Drive, MS 7-340  
Tampa, Florida 33612-6456

Mr. Peter M. Benjamin  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
6620 Southpoint Drive South, Suite 310  
Jacksonville, Florida 32216-0912

Mr. Clarke Hull  
Southwest Florida Water Management District  
2379 Broad Street (US Highway 41 South)  
Brooksville, Florida 34609-6899

Mr. John Healey  
Hillsborough County Planning & Growth Management Department  
P.O. Box 1110  
Tampa, Florida 33601-1110



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# Southwest Florida Water Management District



**Tampa Service Office**  
7601 Highway 301 North  
Tampa, Florida 33637-6759  
(813) 985-7481 or  
1-800-836-0797 (FL only)  
SUNCOM 578-2070

**Bartow Service Office**  
170 Century Boulevard  
Bartow, Florida 33830-7700  
(863) 534-1448 or  
1-800-492-7862 (FL only)  
SUNCOM 572-6200

2379 Broad Street, Brooksville, Florida 34604-6899  
(352) 796-7211 or 1-800-423-1476 (FL only)  
SUNCOM 628-4150 TDD only 1-800-231-6103 (FL only)  
On the Internet at: WaterMatters.org

**Sarasota Service Office**  
6750 Fruitville Road  
Sarasota, Florida 34240-9711  
(941) 377-3722 or  
1-800-320-3503 (FL only)  
SUNCOM 531-6900

**Lecanto Service Office**  
3600 West Sovereign Path  
Suite 226  
Lecanto, Florida 34461-8070  
(352) 527-8131  
SUNCOM 667-3271

March 19, 2002

Ms. Jasmin Raffington  
Florida State Clearinghouse  
Department of Community Affairs  
2555 Shumard Oak Boulevard  
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-2100

Subject: **U.S. Department of Transportation-Highway Planning and Construction-Advance Notification-Park Road/Sam Allen Road PD&E Study-Hillsborough County, Florida**  
SAI#: **FL200202211553C**

Dear Ms. Raffington:

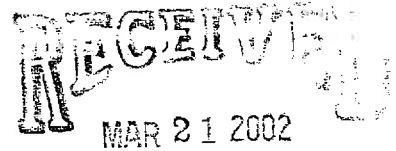
The Southwest Florida Water Management District (District) has completed its evaluation for the referenced project. This project application is a request for federal funding to study courses of action for increasing the capacity of Park Road and Sam Allen Road, between I-4 and the proposed Alexander Street extension.

Conceptually, we believe the proposal to be consistent with District activities. The application proposes to examine options for an existing facility. In addition, the District expects to participate in future reviews and provide more in-depth comments as the project unfolds.

Thanks for the opportunity to comment on this application. If you should have any questions or if I can be of further assistance, please contact me in the District's Planning Department.

Sincerely,

Trisha Neasman, AICP  
Government Planning Coordinator



State of Florida Clearinghouse

TN  
cc: Robert Clifford, FDOT

Rand Baldwin, SWFWMD

COUNTY: HILLSBOROUGH

DATE: 2/21/02

COMMENTS DUE DATE: 3/23/02

CLEARANCE DUE DATE: 4/22/02

Message:

SAI#: FL200202211553C

STATE AGENCIES

WATER MNGMNT. DISTRICTS

OPB POLICY UNITS

AGRICULTURE  
OTTED  
COMMUNITY AFFAIRS  
FISH and WILDLIFE COMMISSION  
X STATE  
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

SOUTHWEST FLORIDA WMD

CRAS will be completed

ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY UNIT

Hillsborough  
SAI-FDOT  
2002-1945

02 FEB 26 PM 3:41

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MAR 26 2002  
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The attached document requires a Coastal Zone Management Act/Florida Coastal Management Program consistency evaluation and is categorized as one of the following:

- Federal Assistance to State or Local Government (15 CFR 930, Subpart F). Agencies are required to evaluate the consistency of the activity.
- Direct Federal Activity (15 CFR 930, Subpart C). Federal Agencies are required to furnish a consistency determination for the State's concurrence or objection.
- Outer Continental Shelf Exploration, Development or Production Activities (15 CFR 930, Subpart E). Operators are required to provide a consistency certification for state concurrence/objection.
- Federal Licensing or Permitting Activity (15 CFR 930, Subpart D). Such projects will only be evaluated for consistency when there is not an analogous state license or permit.

Project Description:

U.S. Department of Transportation - Highway Planning and Construction - Advance Notification - Park Road/Sam Allen Road PD&E Study - WPI Segment No. 257862 - FAP No. 0295-005 - Hillsborough County, Florida.

To: Florida State Clearinghouse

EO. 12372/NEPA

Federal Consistency

AGENCY CONTACT AND COORDINATOR (SCH)

2555 SHUMARD OAK BLVD  
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA 32399-2100  
(850) 414-6580 (SC 994-6580)  
(850) 414-0479

- No Comment
- Comment Attached
- Not Applicable

- No Comment/Consistent
- Consistent/Comments Attached
- Inconsistent/Comments Attached
- Not Applicable

From:

Division of Historical Resources  
Bureau of Historic Preservation

Division/Bureau:

Reviewer: SARAH JALVING

Date: 3/19/02



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#### Project Information

**Project:** FL200202211553C  
**Description:** U.S. Department of Transportation - Highway Planning and Construction - Advance Notification - Park Road/Sam Allen Road PD&E Study - WPI Segment No. 257862 - FAP No. 0295-005 - Hillsborough County, Florida.  
**Keywords:** DOT - Park Rd/Sam Allen Rd - Hillsborough Co.  
**Program:** 20.205

#### Review Comments

◀ 6/12 ▶

**Agency:** STATE  
**Date:**  (mm/dd/yyyy)  
**Description:**

**Comment Type:**  Draft  Final

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#### Project Information

Project: FL200202211553C

Description: U.S. Department of Transportation - Highway Planning and Construction - Advance Notification - Park Road/Sam Allen Road PD&E Study - WPI Segment No. 257862 - FAP No. 0295-005 - Hillsborough County, Florida.

Keywords: DOT - Park Rd/Sam Allen Rd - Hillsborough Co.

Program: 20.205

#### Review Comments

1/12

Agency: AGRICULTURE

Date:  (mm/dd/yyyy)

Description:

Comment Type:  Draft  Final



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### STATE CLEARINGHOUSE

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#### Project Information

**Project:** FL200202211553C

**Description:** U.S. Department of Transportation - Highway Planning and Construction - Advance Notification - Park Road/Sam Allen Road PD&E Study - WPI Segment No. 257862 - FAP No. 0295-005 - Hillsborough County, Florida.

**Keywords:** DOT - Park Rd/Sam Allen Rd - Hillsborough Co.

**Program:** 20.205

#### Review Comments

◀ 5/12 ▶

**Agency:** OTTED

**Date:**  (mm/dd/yyyy)

**Description:**

**Comment Type:**  Draft  Final



# FLORIDA STATE CLEARINGHOUSE RPC INTERGOVERNMENTAL COORDINATION AND RESPONSE SHEET

FSC019-02

RNR

SAI#: FL200202211553C

DATE: 2/21/02

COMMENTS DUE TO CLEARINGHOUSE: 2/21/02 3/28/02

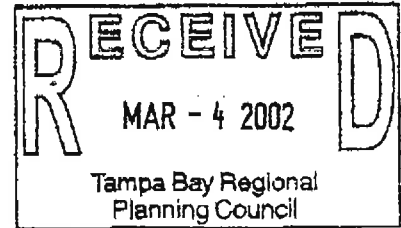
AREA OF PROPOSED ACTIVITY: COUNTY: HILLSBOROUGH CITY:

FEDERAL ASSISTANCE  DIRECT FEDERAL ACTIVITY  FEDERAL LICENSE OR PERMIT  OCS

### PROJECT DESCRIPTION

U.S. Department of Transportation - Highway Planning and Construction - Advance Notification - Park Road/Sam Allen Road PD&E Study - WPI Segment No. 257862 - FAP No. 0295-005 - Hillsborough County, Florida.

ROUTING: RPC  
X TAMPA BAY RPC



PLEASE CHECK ALL THE LOCAL GOVERNMENTS BELOW FROM WHICH COMMENTS HAVE BEEN RECEIVED; ALL COMMENTS RECEIVED SHOULD BE INCLUDED IN THE RPC'S CLEARINGHOUSE RESPONSE PACKAGE. IF NO COMMENTS WERE RECEIVED, PLEASE CHECK "NO COMMENT" BOX AND RETURN TO CLEARINGHOUSE.

COMMENTS DUE TO RPC: 2/21/02 3/16/02

           HILLSBOROUGH

NO COMMENTS: \_\_\_\_\_

(IF THE RPC DOES NOT RECEIVE COMMENTS BY THE DEADLINE DATE, THE RPC SHOULD CONTACT THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT TO DETERMINE THE STATUS OF THE PROJECT REVIEW PRIOR TO FORWARDING THE RESPONSE PACKAGE TO THE CLEARINGHOUSE.)

NOTES:

*faked*

ALL CONCERNS OR COMMENTS REGARDING THE ATTACHED PROJECT (INCLUDING ANY RPC COMMENTS) SHOULD BE SENT IN WRITING BY THE DUE DATE TO THE CLEARINGHOUSE. PLEASE ATTACH THIS RESPONSE FORM AND REFER TO THE SAI # IN ALL CORRESPONDENCE.

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS REGARDING THE ATTACHED PROJECT, PLEASE CONTACT THE STATE CLEARINGHOUSE AT (850) 414-6580 OR SUNCOM 994-6580.

# SAI Routing Sheet

COUNTY: HILLSBOROUGH

DATE: 02/22/2002

Message:

SAI#: FL200202211553C

PROJECT TO BE REVIEWED BY: (Div/Program)	ASSIGNED REVIEWERS (Print Last Name)	IS PROJECT LOCATED IN APPROVED DRI? (Circle Yes/No)				Is Project CONSISTENT w/ COMPLAN?  YES NO	Is Project CONSISTENT w/ FCMP?  YES NO	Do you have any COMMENTS on project?  YES NO	DATE REVIEW COMPLETED	RVWR/ SUPV INIT
		YES		NO						
		Is Project Consistent with DO?		Is Project DRI Scale?						
<b>DCP</b>	<b>RWD</b>	YES	NO	YES	NO					
<b>2/25/02</b> Date Rec'd			Monitoring Letter?	Monitoring Letter?						
		YES	NO	YES	NO					
Complete and forward to Div/Prog Below no later than: 3/23/02										
<b>CMP</b>	<b>Jones</b>	Wetlands?		Stormwater?						
<b>3/5/02</b> Date Rec'd		YES	NO	YES	NO					
Complete and forward to ACC Coordinator no later than: 3/23/02										

UNIT COORDINATORS for Intergovernmental Coordination and Review:  
CMP COASTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAM Ms. VANESSA HOLMES  
DCP COMMUNITY PLANNING

2555 SHUMARD OAK (850) 414-6563  
BLVD (850) 488-2356  
2555 SHUMARD OAK  
BLVD

The attached document requires a Coastal Zone Management Act/Florida Coastal Management Program consistency evaluation and is categorized as one of the following:

**Project Description:**

U.S. Department of Transportation - Highway Planning and Construction - Advance Notification - Park Road/Sam Allen Road PD&E Study - WPI Segment No. 257862 - FAP No. 0295-005 - Hillsborough County, Florida.

- Federal Assistance to State or Local Government (15 CFR 930, Subpart F). Agencies are required to evaluate the consistency of the activity.
- Direct Federal Activity (15 CFR 930, Subpart C). Federal Agencies are required to furnish a consistency determination for the State's concurrence or objection.
- Outer Continental Shelf Exploration, Development or Production Activities (15 CFR 930, Subpart E). Operators are required to provide a consistency certification for state concurrence/objection.
- Federal Licensing or Permitting Activity (15 CFR 930, Subpart D). Such projects will only be evaluated for consistency when there is not an analogous state license or permit.

EO. 12372/NEPA  No Comment  Comments Attached  Not Applicable  
Federal Consistency  No Comment/Consistent  Consistent/Comments Attached  Inconsistent/Comments Attached  N/A

**INSTRUCTIONS:**

1. UNIT COORDINATORS are responsible for logging in, logging out, and hand-carrying/mailling project packages to the next reviewing unit on this form, or to the ACC if all review requirements have been met. Failure to meet internal suspense dates may result in loss of opportunity to comment on critical issues.
2. Requests for EXTENSIONS should be made prior to due date, especially if COMMENTS will be submitted. Contact your UNIT COORDINATOR, who will request the EXTENSION from the ACC.
3. Agency COMMENTS on SAIs will be sent to the State Clearinghouse (SCH) and should be prepared in LETTER format for the Secretary's signature. Forward the project package to the next review unit while your COMMENTS are being drafted. Coordinate your comments with other reviewers prior to finalizing.

2/28/02

COUNTY: HILLSBOROUGH

DATE: 2/21/02

COMMENTS DUE DATE: 3/23/02

CLEARANCE DUE DATE: 4/22/02

Message:

SAI#: FL200202211553C

STATE AGENCIES

WATER MNGMNT. DISTRICTS

OPB POLICY UNITS

AGRICULTURE  
 X OTTED  
 COMMUNITY AFFAIRS  
 FISH and WILDLIFE COMMISSION  
 STATE  
 ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

SOUTHWEST FLORIDA WMD

State of Florida Clearinghouse

ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY UNIT

The attached document requires a Coastal Zone Management Act/Florida Coastal Management Program consistency evaluation and is categorized as one of the following:

- Federal Assistance to State or Local Government (15 CFR 930, Subpart F). Agencies are required to evaluate the consistency of the activity.
- Direct Federal Activity (15 CFR 930, Subpart C). Federal Agencies are required to furnish a consistency determination for the State's concurrence or objection.
- Outer Continental Shelf Exploration, Development or Production Activities (15 CFR 930, Subpart E). Operators are required to provide a consistency certification for state concurrence/objection.
- Federal Licensing or Permitting Activity (15 CFR 930, Subpart D). Such projects will only be evaluated for consistency when there is not an analogous state license or permit.

Project Description:

U.S. Department of Transportation - Highway Planning and Construction - Advance Notification - Park Road/Sam Allen Road PD&E Study - WPI Segment No. 257862 - FAP No. 0295-005 - Hillsborough County, Florida.

To: Florida State Clearinghouse

EO. 12372/NEPA

Federal Consistency

AGENCY CONTACT AND COORDINATOR (SCH)

2555 SHUMARD OAK BLVD  
 TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA 32399-2100  
 (850) 414-6580 (SC 994-6580)  
 (850) 414-0479

- No Comment
- Comment Attached
- Not Applicable

- No Comment/Consistent
- Consistent/Comments Attached
- Inconsistent/Comments Attached
- Not Applicable

From:

Division/Bureau: OTTED  
 Reviewer: M Blakely  
 Date: 2/27/02

2578621.18

# FLORIDA FISH AND WILDLIFE CONSERVATION COMMISSION



DAVID K. MEEHAN  
St. Petersburg

H.A. "HERKY" HUFFMAN  
Deltona

JOHN D. ROOD  
Jacksonville

QUINTON L. HEDGEPEETH, DDS  
Miami

EDWIN P. ROBERTS, DC  
Pensacola

RODNEY BARRETO  
Miami

SANDRA T. KAUPE  
Palm Beach

ALLAN L. EGBERT, Ph.D., Executive Director  
VICTOR J. HELLER, Assistant Executive Director

BRADLEY J. HARTMAN, DIRECTOR  
OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES  
(850)488-6661 TDD (850)488-9542  
FAX (850)922-5679

April 8, 2002

Ms. Cindy Cranick  
Florida State Clearinghouse  
Department of Community Affairs  
2555 Shumard Oak Boulevard  
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-2100

RE: SAI #FL200202211553C, U.S.  
Department of Transportation,  
Highway Planning and Construction,  
Advance Notification, Park  
Road/Sam Allen Road PD&E Study,  
WPI Segment No. 257862, FAP No.  
0295-005, Hillsborough County

RECEIVED  
APR 15 AM 9:50  
2002

Dear Ms. Cranick:

The Office of Environmental Services of the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) has reviewed the Advance Notification Package for the Project Development & Environment Study for the referenced project, and offers the following comments and recommendations.

The study's purpose is to evaluate transportation conditions and planned improvements along an existing highway segment in the northeast Hillsborough County area, while determining environmental concerns associated with improvement alternatives. The study route begins along Park Road (SR 553) just north of I-4, and proceeds north to Sam Allen Road (CR 580), then continues west to the proposed Alexander Extension, approximately one-quarter mile west of SR 39. These two roadways function as a major connector between the northeast Hillsborough County area and the Plant City urban area.


Some native upland habitats occur along the study corridor, as well as extensive natural wetlands including forested, scrub-shrub, emergent, and open-water varieties. Although no bridges occur along the project route, several culverts are present. Several species of listed animals occur in these habitats including wood stork, Florida black bear, Sherman's fox squirrel, bald eagle, Florida sandhill crane, southeastern American kestrel, various wading birds, eastern indigo snake, gopher tortoise, and American alligator.

Ms. Cindy Cranick  
April 8, 2002  
Page 2

FWC concerns include fragmentation of wildlife habitat; hydrological severance and impacts to wetland and riparian systems; direct, secondary, and cumulative impacts to listed species; the need for supplemental wildlife surveys; and adequate mitigation for wetland and listed species habitat impacts. Design of the project route should avoid potential impacts to listed species, and include appropriate wildlife undercrossings. Supplemental seasonal surveys should be conducted to confirm potential impacts to listed species such as the Florida sandhill crane. Additionally, pre-construction surveys should be conducted to confirm the presence or absence of listed species. Any impacts to active nests of listed species should only occur upon FWC authorization or permit, and adequate mitigation. To compensate for impacts to wetland and listed species habitat, we support mitigation that establishes or maintains habitat connectivity within the study area and adjacent areas of habitat. We recommend coordination with the Hillsborough River Greenways Task Force for locating the proposed roadway improvements as well as potential mitigation options within the Hillsborough River basin.

If you have any questions concerning our comments or recommendations, please contact either Mr. Jim Beaver or Mr. Bill Smith at (941)575-5765.

Sincerely,

  
Bradley J. Hartman, Director  
Office of Environmental Services

BJH/JWB/WRS

ENV 1-3-2  
a:\parkrd.doc

cc: Mr. Robert M. Clifford  
Florida Department of Transportation  
11201 North McKinley Drive, MS 7-340  
Tampa, Florida 33612-6456

Mr. Peter M. Benjamin  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
6620 Southpoint Drive South, Suite 310  
Jacksonville, Florida 32216-0912

Mr. Clarke Hull  
Southwest Florida Water Management District  
2379 Broad Street (US Highway 41 South)  
Brooksville, Florida 34609-6899

Mr. John Healey  
Hillsborough County Planning & Growth Management Department  
P.O. Box 1110  
Tampa, Florida 33601-1110

2578621.18



## Florida Department of Transportation

11201 N. MCKINLEY DRIVE • TAMPA, FL 33612-6456 • (813)975-6000 • 1-800-226-7220

JEB BUSH  
GOVERNOR

THOMAS F. BARRY, JR.  
SECRETARY

February 11, 2002

Mr. Mike Murray, Coordinator  
Florida State Clearinghouse  
Department of Community Affairs  
2555 Shumard Oak Blvd.  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-2100

RE: WPI Segment No. 257862 1 / FAP No. 0295-005  
Park Rd/Sam Allen Rd PD&E Study / Hillsborough County / Advance Notification

Dear Mr. Murray:

The attached Advance Notification Package is forwarded to your office for processing through appropriate State agencies in accordance with Executive Order 95-359. Distribution to local and Federal agencies is being made as noted.

Although more specific comments will be solicited during the permit coordination process, we request that permitting and permit review agencies review the attached information and furnish us with whatever general comments they consider pertinent at this time.

This will be a Federal-aid action and the Florida Department of Transportation, in consultation with the Federal Highway Administration, will determine what degree of environmental documentation will be necessary. The determination will be based upon in-house environmental evaluations and comments received through coordination with other agencies. Please provide a consistency review for this project in accordance with the State's Coastal Zone Management Program.

In addition, please review this improvement's consistency, to the maximum extent feasible, with the approved Comprehensive Plan of the local government jurisdiction[s] pursuant to Chapter 163, Florida Statutes.

Mr. Mike Murray, Coordinator  
February 11, 2002  
Page 2

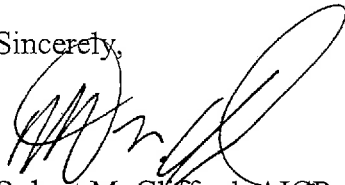
We are looking forward to receiving your comments on this project within 45 days. Should additional review time be required, a written request for an extension of time must be submitted to our office within the initial 45 day comment period.

Your comments should be addressed to:

Robert M. Clifford, AICP  
District Planning Manager  
Florida Department of Transportation, District Seven  
11201 North McKinley Drive / MS 7-340  
Tampa, FL 33612-6456

Your expeditious handling of this notice will be appreciated.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. Clifford', written over a circular stamp or mark.

Robert M. Clifford, AICP  
District Planning Manager

RC/SF  
Enclosure



## MAILING LIST

**cc:**

Federal Highway Administration, Division Administrator

Federal Emergency Management Agency – Mitigation Division, Chief

Federal Railroad Administration – Office of Economic Analysis, Director

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Regional Environmental Officer

U.S. Department of Interior – U.S. Geological Survey Chief

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency – Region IV, Regional Administrator

U.S. Department of Interior – Fish and Wildlife Service, Field Supervisor

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers – Regulatory Branch, District Engineer

Poarch Band of Creek Indians of Alabama

Muscogee [Creek] Nation of Oklahoma

Seminole Tribe of Florida

Miccosukee Tribe of Indians of Florida

Seminole Nation of Oklahoma

Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission – Office of Environmental Services

Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council, Executive Director

Southwest Florida Water Management District, Executive Director

Hillsborough County Board of County Commissioners, Chairman

Hillsborough County School Board, Chairman

Hillsborough County Metropolitan Planning Organization

Hillsborough County EPC, Water Management Division Director

City of Plant City, City Commission

Federal-Aid Programs Coordinator [MS 35]

Environmental Management Office, Manager [MS 37]

**STATE OF FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
ADVANCE NOTIFICATION FACT SHEET**

Park Rd / Sam Allen Rd: WPI: 257862 1  
Hillsborough County, Florida

**1. Need for Project:**

The Florida Department of Transportation, District 7 is conducting a Project Development and Environment Study along Park Rd. (SR 553) and Sam Allen Rd. (CR 580) beginning north of I-4 (SR 400) and continuing to the proposed Alexander Extension located approximately one-quarter mile west of SR 39. These two roadways function as a major connector between the northeast Hillsborough County area and Plant City urban area. This project is included in the Long Range Transportation Plan and in the Adopted Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP) of the Hillsborough County MPO.

**2. Description of the Project:**

The project is located in Plant City and Hillsborough County, Florida. The existing highway consists of two lanes within right-of-way that varies from 60' to 220'. The PD&E Study will evaluate various "Build" Alternatives as well as the "No Build" alternative. Several existing culverts are located throughout the project; however, no bridges exist on the project.

**3. Environmental Information:**

**a. Land Uses**

Land uses within the study limits are transitioning from vacant to agriculture and residential uses, with one heavy commercial location.

Land uses in the project study area include a farmer's market, a repair shop, a large mobile home park and golf course, along with single-family residential farms.

**b. Wetlands:**

Initial field reconnaissance revealed forested, scrub-shrub, and emergent wetlands and open water habitats along SR 39. A Wetland Evaluation Report will be prepared for this project.

**c. Floodplains:**

Sam Allen Road crosses through the 100-year floodplain from SR 39 eastward for approximately two miles.

**STATE OF FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
ADVANCE NOTIFICATION FACT SHEET**

Park Rd / Sam Allen Rd: WPI: 257862 1  
Hillsborough County, Florida

**d. Water Quality/Storm water:**

Storm water retention ponds will be constructed for the project, provided the "Build" Alternative is recommended.

**e. Wildlife and Habitat:**

Native habitats occur along the study corridor. Appropriate survey methodologies will be employed to determine the presence of species occurrences. A field survey and literature search will be conducted for the project area.

**f. Outstanding Florida Waters:**

There are no Outstanding Florida Waters located within the project area.

**g. Coastal Zone Consistency Determination is Required:**

Yes       No

**h. Cultural Resources:**

A Cultural Resource Assessment Survey will be undertaken for the Study.

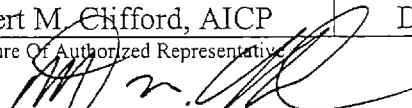
**i. Contamination:**

A Contamination Assessment will be conducted for this project. There are no expected hazardous material generators that would affect the project.

4. Navigable Waterway Crossing? \_\_\_\_\_ Yes      X   No

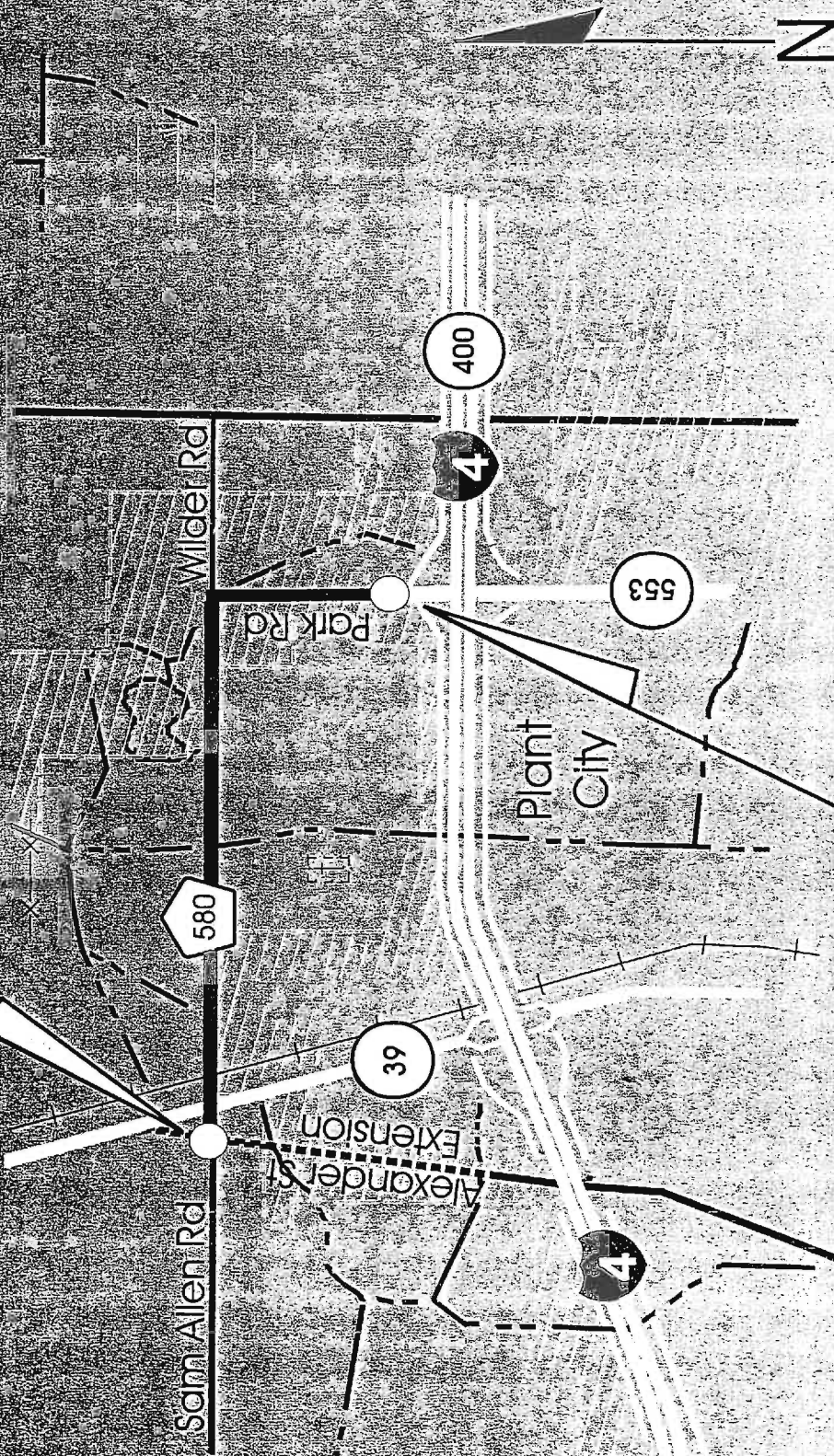
**5. List Potential Permits Required:**

Southwest Florida Water Management District, Environmental Resource Permit  
Army Corps of Engineers, Dredge and Fill Permit  
EPA, NPDES Permit                      CSX Railroad Permit  
Hillsborough County Environmental Protection Commission Authorization

APPLICATION FOR FEDERAL ASSISTANCE		2. Date Submitted	Applicant Identifier
1. Type Of Submission: Application <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Construction <input type="checkbox"/> Non-Construction		02/11/02	257862 1
Preapplication <input type="checkbox"/> Construction <input type="checkbox"/> Non-Construction		3. Date Received By State	State Application Identifier
		4. Date Received By Federal Agency	Federal Identifier 0295-005
5. Applicant Information			
Legal Name: Florida Department of Transportation		Organizational Unit: Office of Design	
Address (Give City, County, State, And Zip Code): 605 Suwanee Street Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0450		Name And Telephone Number Of The Person To Be Contacted On Matters Involving This Application (Give Area Code) Robert M. Clifford, District Planning Manager 813-975-6436	
6. Employer Identification Number (EIN): 59-6001874		7. Type Of Applicant: (Enter Appropriate Letter In Box) <b>A</b>	
8. Type Of Application: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> New <input type="checkbox"/> Continuation <input type="checkbox"/> Revision  If Revision, Enter Appropriate Letter (S) In Box(ES): <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> A. Increase Award B. Decrease Award C. Increase Duration D. Decrease Duration Other (Specify) _____		A. State B. County C. Municipal D. Township E. Interstate F. Intermunicipal G. Special District	H. Independent School District I. State Controlled Institution Of Higher Learning J. Private University K. Indian Tribe L. Individual M. Profit Organization N. Other (Specify): _____
10. Catalog Of Federal Domestic Assistance Number: 20-205 Title: Highway Planning and Construction		9. Name Of Federal Agency: U.S. Department of Transportation	
12. Areas Affected By Project (Cities, Counties, States, Etc.): Hillsborough County, City of Plant City, Florida		11. Descriptive Title Of Applicant's Project:  WPI: 257862 1 FPN: 257862 -1-21-01	
13. Proposed Project:		14. Congressional Districts Of: 11	
Start Date 1/16/02	Ending Date 1/16/04	a. Applicant	b. Project
15. Estimated Funding:		16. Is Application Subject To Review By State Executive Order 12372 Process?	
A. Federal	\$ 900,000 (PD&E and Design estimate only)	A. Yes Preapplication/Application Was Made Available To The State Executive Order 12372 Process For Review On:  Date: <u>2/11/02</u>	
B. Applicant	\$	B. No <input type="checkbox"/> Program Is Not Covered By E.O. 12372 <input type="checkbox"/> Or Program Has Not Been Selected By State For Review	
C. State	\$		
D. Local	\$		
E. Other	\$		
F. Program Income	\$	17. Is The Applicant Delinquent On Any Federal Debt? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes If "Yes", Attach An Explanation. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	
G. Total	\$		
18. To The Best Of My Knowledge And Belief, All Data In This Application/Preapplication Are True And Correct. The Document Has Been Duly Authorized By The Governing Body Of The Applicant And The Applicant Will Comply With The Attached Assurances If The Assistance Is Awarded.			
a. Typed Name Of Authorized Representative Robert M. Clifford, AICP	b. Title District Planning Manager	c. Telephone Number 813-975-6436	
d. Signature Of Authorized Representative 		e. Date Signed 14 Feb 02	

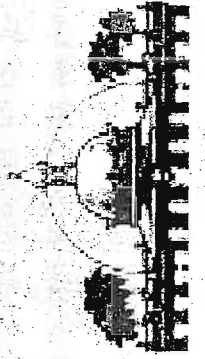
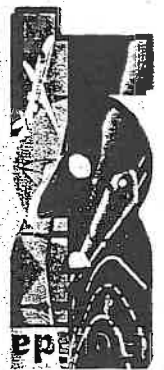
END PROJECT

BEGIN PROJECT



**PARK RD & SAM ALLEN RD**  
**[From I-4 To Alexander St Extension]**  
**HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY**

PROJECT LOCATION MAP  
 WPI Seg. No. 257862 1  
 FAP No. 0295-005



# **APPENDIX B**

## **Public Hearing Transcript**

Park Road/Sam Allen Road PD&E Study  
WPI No.: 257862-1  
FAP No.: 0295-005

FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (FDOT)  
WORK PROGRAM PUBLIC HEARING (WPPH)

---

HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY

JANUARY 2005

---

PARK ROAD/SAM ALLEN ROAD IMPROVEMENTS  
WORK PROGRAM PUBLIC HEARING

DATE: Tuesday, January 18, 2005

TIME: 4:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

PLACE: MEADOWS COMMUNITY CENTER  
723 Country Meadows Boulevard  
Plant City, Florida 33565

REPORTED BY: Leslie Childress, RPR  
Montana Reporting Service, Inc.  
300 Gulf to Bay Boulevard  
Clearwater, Florida 33759

P R O C E E D I N G S

1  
2 (The following comments were made during the Open  
3 House portion by DONALD ERICKSON and NICO WIERSMA  
4 prior to the commencement of the Formal Hearing:)

5 MR. ERICKSON: Nico, what do you think of  
6 the people that's here today? Is the crowd a  
7 lot, or is it a small crowd?

8 MR. WIERSMA: It's a very small turnout  
9 for a major project, I think.

10 MR. ERICKSON: Nico, did I tell you that  
11 they made me take our environmental board down  
12 because it was not part of their displays?

13 MR. WIERSMA: Yes. They took it down,  
14 and I don't know where they put it.

15 MR. ERICKSON: I think they moved it out  
16 front somewhere, out of the room, at least.

17 MR. WIERSMA: Our major concern with Sam  
18 Allen Road is that A: We don't really need it,  
19 because there are already two I-4 exits, one on  
20 39 and one on Park, that are already being used  
21 to divert traffic on Sam Allen Road, with three  
22 communities and tons of wildlife that's being  
23 killed every day.

24 We had two sand cranes killed last  
25 weekend, and we had some more animals killed



1 right here by the reduced speed sign.

2 Our purpose here is to reduce the speed  
3 limit to 40 miles and have no four lanes.

4 MR. ERICKSON: And have turning lanes.  
5 We need turning lanes.

6 MR. WIERSMA: Yes. Turning lanes, but no  
7 four lanes. No truck route, because the truck  
8 route has already been established by 39 and  
9 Park Road.

10 MR. ERICKSON: We need some signs warning  
11 people about the wildlife crossing the road.

12 MR. WIERSMA: A wildlife crossing.

13 MR. ERICKSON: With yellow flashing  
14 lights so they'll be slowing down. And we need  
15 that 40-mile-an-hour speed limit enforced.

16 MR. WIERSMA: Because it's 50 now, and  
17 it's not working.

18 MR. ERICKSON: Did you say anything about  
19 turning lanes?

20 MR. WIERSMA: No.

21 MR. ERICKSON: I think we need turning  
22 lanes on this road also.

23 MR. WIERSMA: Not four lanes, but turning  
24 lanes.

25 MR. ERICKSON: Yeah. That's all we have

1 to put down, and that's it.

2 THE COURT REPORTER: Thank you.

3 (The following statement was made by JOHN  
4 LAVACCA prior to the commencement of the Formal  
5 Hearing:)

6 MR. LAVACCA: All right. I just wanted  
7 to make a quick statement here and just state  
8 my opinion on this proposed widening of Sam  
9 Allen Road, which I'm totally against.

10 I don't think we need to have this turn  
11 into a truck route, because that's basically  
12 what it's going to be. It's a residential  
13 area. You've got three big communities here.

14 And as far as the trucking goes, I mean,  
15 if I was a trucker, I wouldn't want to come up  
16 this way and still have to contend with the  
17 railroad tracks.

18 If the County or the State want to  
19 improve anything, what I would suggest is 39  
20 and I-4 northwards is improve that, and make  
21 easier access for the trucking down there by  
22 putting a traffic light on the north side of  
23 Interstate 4.

24 And, of course, as was stated earlier, we  
25 had a number of wildlife killed out here

1 because of the traffic. And I think that's  
2 just going to get worse if four lanes go  
3 through here.

4 The speed limit is going to go up.  
5 You've got a number of people who live around  
6 here who travel back and forth between the  
7 communities with golf carts. It's just not  
8 going to work. And that's about it.

9 **COMMENCEMENT OF FORMAL HEARING:**

10 MS. MICHELLE GREEN: Excuse me. If I can  
11 have your attention. We are about to start the  
12 formal portion of the Public Hearing this  
13 evening. I will ask you all to take your  
14 seats.

15 Okay. This is going to be your portion  
16 of time to voice your opinion and comments  
17 regarding the Park Road/Sam Allen Road  
18 improvements.

19 At this time I would like to introduce  
20 our commentator for the evening, Mr. Bob  
21 Clifford.

22 MR. CLIFFORD: Good evening. My name is  
23 Bob Clifford, and I am the Modal Planning and  
24 Development Manager for District Seven of the  
25 Florida Department of Transportation. Welcome

1 to the Park Road/Sam Allen Road Project  
2 Development and Environment Study Public  
3 Hearing.

4 This Public Hearing concerns the proposed  
5 Road improvements on Park Road from I-4 to Sam  
6 Allen Road, and on Sam Allen Road from Park  
7 Road to the proposed Alexander Street  
8 Extension.

9 Today is Tuesday, January 18, and it is  
10 approximate 6:00 p.m. We are assembled at The  
11 Meadows community clubhouse in Plant City.  
12 This is your opportunity to receive information  
13 on the Project, and to officially comment on  
14 the Recommended Build Alternative and other  
15 documents available here tonight.

16 The Recommended Build Alternative is  
17 based on comprehensive environmental and  
18 engineering analyses completed to date, as well  
19 as our public comments that we have received.

20 This project development and environment  
21 or PD&E study and public hearing are being  
22 conducted under applicable Federal and State  
23 laws. Those citations are listed on the board  
24 next to the sign-in table.

25 When you arrived this evening, you should

1 have received an information packet containing  
2 an informational newsletter and project  
3 evaluation matrix, and a comment or speaker's  
4 card.

5 If you weren't able to sign in or did not  
6 receive an information packet, please stop by  
7 our sign-in table before leaving this evening.

8 You should have also had the opportunity  
9 to view the audio-visual presentation that has  
10 been continuously running throughout this  
11 public hearing.

12 Those of you who wish to provide comments  
13 during this portion of the public hearing  
14 should complete a speaker's card and submit it  
15 to a Department representative.

16 If you did not receive a card, please  
17 raise your hand, and a Department  
18 representative will be happy to provide you  
19 one.

20 Michelle?

21 MS. GREEN: Yes, sir.

22 MR. CLIFFORD: Please go ahead and  
23 provide those.

24 In addition to making oral statements,  
25 you may also submit your comments to the

1 District in writing. Comment forms may be  
2 placed in one of the comment boxes, or you may  
3 complete a form at a later date and mail it to  
4 us at the preprinted address located on the  
5 back of the sheet.

6 Please keep in mind that written comments  
7 should be postmarked by January 28, 2005, to be  
8 included in the official public hearing record.

9 Before I continue, I would like to  
10 recognize elected officials who are here  
11 tonight. I know there is definitely one  
12 representative, Cory Elser, is here tonight. I  
13 would like to recognize him.

14 (Applause.)

15 Thank you. At this time, I will begin  
16 taking public comments. This portion of the  
17 hearing is to receive your comments on the  
18 project.

19 Any specific questions you have can be  
20 addressed by Department representatives who are  
21 here tonight. We were here before the meeting,  
22 and we'll be here after the public portion to  
23 answer your specific comments.

24 At this time, we will be taking public  
25 comments. I will call each speaker in the

1 order in which the requests have been received.

2 In an effort to accommodate all requests,  
3 we ask that each speaker keep their comments  
4 limited to five minutes.

5 Those who wish to provide additional  
6 comments may return to the microphone following  
7 the last speaker, or you may present additional  
8 comments directly to the court reporter at the  
9 end of tonight's hearing.

10 As I call your name, please step up to  
11 the microphone and state your name and address  
12 before making your comments.

13 If you have any questions, see any  
14 Department representative following this  
15 portion of the hearing.

16 The first speaker is Ed Wheeler.

17 Mr. Wheeler.

18 UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE AUDIENCE MEMBER:

19 Sir, could you put that microphone up a little  
20 bit so we can hear a little better?

21 MR. CLIFFORD: Absolutely.

22 Mr. Wheeler, welcome.

23 MR. WHEELER: Thank you, sir. I  
24 appreciate your being here tonight, you and  
25 your associates. I appreciate what the

1 Department of Transportation does for the State  
2 of Florida. I know it's a big, big  
3 undertaking. And we here in Country Meadows  
4 and Golden Lakes and The Oaks really are  
5 concerned, as I mentioned a few minutes ago. I  
6 thank you for taking this time.

7 We are concerned because of the dangerous  
8 element that we have with traffic, especially  
9 with the big tractor-trailers. I'm going to  
10 give you two incidences that's happened  
11 recently. One I was personally involved in.  
12 The other time, approximately three weeks ago,  
13 a friend of mine was.

14 As I was traveling east on Sam Allen  
15 Road, as I approached Park, I was doing  
16 approximately 40, 43 miles an hour at the time.  
17 This tractor-trailer came up to Sam Allen Road.  
18 There was another vehicle behind it, and I was  
19 the one behind it. It did not come to a  
20 complete stop, and it pulled out in front of  
21 me.

22 Maybe the driver of the tractor-trailer  
23 thought I was going to turn south on Park  
24 Street. I don't know what he was thinking.  
25 Fortunately, I had good brakes on my vehicle,



1 and I was able to stop in time.

2 The other incident happened three weeks  
3 ago. The lady was driving a pickup truck, and  
4 the same thing occurred. A tractor-trailer  
5 pulled up in front of her. She was closer than  
6 I, and she had to swerve to the right going off  
7 the pavement. These things concern us.

8 Now, being affiliated for a number of  
9 years as a volunteer with the Hillsborough  
10 County Sheriff's Office, I am conscious of  
11 speed limits and so forth on the highways.

12 But if you will observe some sometime,  
13 you will find that many of these tractor  
14 trailers go well above the speed limit, and we  
15 all know that.

16 And what you are undertaking there,  
17 obviously, is an improvement over what we  
18 already have, because we are going to have a  
19 four-lane highway. But you're telling me it's  
20 going to be 2005.

21 And the intersection of Park, earlier I  
22 think you told me, before you had the curbs put  
23 in there so the traffic could move either way  
24 on a turn lane, could possibly be 2010, or it  
25 may never happen; is that a true statement?

1 MR. CLIFFORD: The Park Road portion of  
2 the project is a funded project. The Sam Allen  
3 Road portion of the project is not currently  
4 funded.

5 And when we say "funded project," we mean  
6 within the next five years in an '05 year work  
7 program.

8 MR. WHEELER: And I think you've cited  
9 that the traffic on Sam Allen Road now is how  
10 many cars per day?

11 MR. CLIFFORD: Sir, I don't recall the  
12 exact numbers. Scott Farash, our project  
13 manager could provide that to you at the end of  
14 the meeting.

15 MR. WHEELER: I think most of our  
16 concerns -- I can't speak for everyone, but  
17 only speaking for myself, my concern is if  
18 we're having to wait five years for this -- and  
19 I realize you have a budget -- what are we to  
20 do in the meantime? Just go and take our  
21 chances, or what?

22 MR. CLIFFORD: Well, I would certainly  
23 encourage you to make those comments to us here  
24 tonight.

25 I would also encourage you to, in the

1 interim, contact Hillsborough County -- who is  
2 actually the owner of Sam Allen Road. That's  
3 actually their road -- related to what may be  
4 in their tablet of improvement program, and the  
5 ability for them also to make improvements in  
6 the interim time period.

7 MR. WHEELER: Well, I know Sam Allen  
8 Road. Is the Department of State doing the  
9 work or the County?

10 MR. CLIFFORD: This is a DOT project.  
11 What I'm saying to you, though, is our project  
12 is a capacity improvement, the four-laning of  
13 both Park and Sam Allen Roads.

14 Inner improvements, traffic-operational  
15 type improvements, safety improvements, would  
16 be under the purview of Hillsborough County on  
17 Sam Allen Road because it is their road; it is  
18 their facility.

19 MR. WHEELER: I think my five minutes are  
20 up. I thank you,

21 MR. CLIFFORD: Thank you, sir. I  
22 appreciate your comments.

23 The next speaker is Edward Beffa.

24 MR. BEFFA: My name is Edward Beffa. I  
25 do not have a local address here. I live in

1 Lakeland, Florida.

2 I have a couple of concerns regarding  
3 what I would call the 90-degree design of Park  
4 Road to Sam Allen versus the curb. It appears  
5 that one of the entrances to the community, at  
6 both the Oaks side and the Meadows side, has  
7 been primarily eliminated in one direction.

8 My concern is, one: What about emergency  
9 vehicles? Suppose the closest route to a  
10 residence that required it is through the  
11 entrance, that you folks basically have  
12 eliminated, traveling west to east? Suppose  
13 that's gone? Suppose that happens? What are  
14 we going to do to fix that?

15 Secondly, with this proposal, either the  
16 90-degree change or the curb change, does it  
17 affect the zoning?

18 What is going to happen here as far as  
19 the community is concerned?

20 Is there a zoning effect?

21 And last, but not least, in looking at  
22 this project, why is Sam Allen Road needed as a  
23 truck route to begin with, when the same thing  
24 can be accomplished using I-4, and the millions  
25 and millions of dollars that the State has

1 spent on widening I-4, and future plans to  
2 widening it even further for that expansion?

3 Why are we looking at Sam Allen Road in  
4 particular?

5 Those are my questions.

6 MR. CLIFFORD: Thank you for your  
7 comments, sir.

8 Bud Holt.

9 Yes, sir?

10 MR. BEFFA: I thought we were going to  
11 get answers to some of those as well.

12 MR. CLIFFORD: This portion is not a  
13 question-and-answer session. It's a comment  
14 session.

15 MR. BEFFA: Okay.

16 MR. CLIFFORD: The ability for questions  
17 and answers is both before this portion of the  
18 hearing, and after this portion of the hearing.

19 MR. BEFFA: Thank you.

20 MR. CLIFFORD: Thank you.

21 Mr. Holt.

22 MR. HOLT: Thank you, sir. I'm Bud Holt.  
23 I live at 715 North Edgewater. I live here  
24 part of the year, and I live up in Michigan.

25 I've worked on a road crew on road

1 construction for 25 seasons. Now, I don't  
2 argue the point, but five minutes is kind of  
3 arbitrary and capricious.

4 And when I was in court hearings and law  
5 school, we hit a lot of hard times. But not  
6 withstanding that, I have quite a few items to  
7 bring up.

8 The first one -- and he brought this up  
9 -- does Sam Allen have to be done at all?

10 And, in looking at the maps, it would  
11 seem to me the shortest distance that would do  
12 some good with the expansion of the  
13 intersection at Sam Allen and right down here  
14 to the west would be better between that point  
15 and getting in a four-lane from there over to  
16 your Alexander extension. That was one point  
17 that occurred to me.

18 Now, the other thing is, I don't know how  
19 much kind of unilaterally or capriciously the  
20 road crew or how this place works on who  
21 decided to pick Sam Allen to go through here,  
22 when there is other ways, I think, that are a  
23 little better.

24 But, if you have Sam Allen done with four  
25 lanes, one of the things I would consider, just

1 looking at the people who are here -- and I  
2 believe they were here first before I was, and  
3 before the truck problem was, too -- if you put  
4 a four-laner out there, and you have people  
5 crossing a 45 mile-an-hour road with these  
6 trucks driving down them, and I drive a truck.

7 UNIDENTIFIED MALE AUDIENCE MEMBER: It's  
8 50 miles an hour.

9 MR. HOLT: Okay. 50. Well, that makes  
10 it a little worse. And I teach driver's ed,  
11 too. I preach a lot of this stuff.

12 Anyway, the possibility for an accident,  
13 crossing three lanes trying to get into the  
14 right-hand lane coming out of here, making a  
15 left and heading eastbound, in my opinion, is  
16 an accident looking for a place to happen.  
17 Going to the right wouldn't be quite so bad.  
18 That's one of points.

19 The second point I see, and this was  
20 brought up once, is eliminating the ingress and  
21 egress of emergency vehicles into this place  
22 here, and the Oaks, and the Lakes.

23 And you take out one of those exits, and  
24 you have somebody here with a heart attack and  
25 stroke needing more service quicker, not later,

1 is just not going to do it.

2 The next point is, in looking at some of  
3 these, you have a left-turn lane, particularly  
4 the one at the Lakes, that's got a real short  
5 spot to get in the left turn lane. If there's  
6 a lot of people, it's going to back into the  
7 through lane and the speed lane going  
8 eastbound. That's another place looking for an  
9 accident to happen.

10 Let me see. I tried running a few more  
11 so I would get it stated germane on the point.  
12 I think you need a more comprehensive complete  
13 plan.

14 And before you get through, there's  
15 nothing here for allowing lights, which would  
16 be part of a solution to slow down some of the  
17 trucks, because that is a real problem.

18 There was an example where a lady got run  
19 over by Rinker truck. And if you have a couple  
20 of cases like that on this road, and you do  
21 that, from my law school experience, you're  
22 going to have some real exciting wrongful death  
23 cases. I don't know how many, but that's a  
24 thing I would consider.

25 Now, as I said, it may be you have a



1       forgone conclusion on paving this thing no  
2       matter what. But it seems to me that going  
3       down Alexander, and the exits on the freeway  
4       down there, and the bridge that's already built  
5       for the Alexander Street extension, would be a  
6       whole lot more simplistic, quicker, and  
7       shorter.

8               And the truck route would be along the  
9       expressway, and being on their way going either  
10      east or west on I-4, or up this extension, up  
11      towards Zephyrhills, is a lot quicker than  
12      running up here and going around a planned curb  
13      where the trucks can flip over due to too much  
14      speed with inertia and centrifugal force  
15      flipping them over, or the T-intersection here  
16      where we got a stop.

17             And I think the gentleman or two in front  
18      of me just said there are several who don't. I  
19      see them all the time. The only thing is, I'm  
20      not entitled to give some of these guys a  
21      ticket for failure to yield and failure to  
22      stop. But that is a real problem.

23             That's a real quick synopsis. I'm glad I  
24      had the time. I thank you kindly for allowing  
25      me to speak.

1 MR. CLIFFORD: Thank you for your  
2 comments, sir.

3 Paul Flamick.

4 MR. FLAMICK: Good afternoon. I was a  
5 spokesman for our traffic committee for  
6 Countrywood. That covers all of the three  
7 communities. And, of course, now there's a lot  
8 of other people that are involved, too. But we  
9 have always been under the opinion that we did  
10 not need a truck route on Sam Allen Road.

11 And the reason is that if you're coming  
12 from the east going westbound on I-4, you don't  
13 have to come off on Park Road. We don't even  
14 know why they consider they had to widen Park  
15 Road, because it doesn't go anyplace. It Dead  
16 ends right into Sam Allen Road.

17 But if you continue on, there is a bypass  
18 which is at Paul Buchman Highway, and that's  
19 Route 39. And you can take the trucks and the  
20 cars, they can go right down real easy into 39.  
21 They don't have to worry about going across the  
22 railroad, which is on Sam Allen Road at 39, and  
23 that fouls it up tremendously sometimes.

24 If the train is out there for 15 or 20  
25 minutes, you can't get across the road. You'll

1 never get across until they clear it. And in  
2 the meantime, we got trucks and traffic that's  
3 lined up tremendously.

4 So, we are saying we don't need this kind  
5 of condition. And the traffic that is coming  
6 down on 39 at the present time we know is going  
7 to be lessened.

8 Because once they get the Alexander  
9 extension in coming all the way down from the  
10 Zephyrhills area, well, by the road up there,  
11 whatever it is, and coming down, that is going  
12 to take a lot of the trucks right down.

13 But we also don't want to see them saying  
14 that that's going to be a truck route coming on  
15 Sam Allen. We don't need that.

16 Because any truck that comes to turn  
17 there, they are not familiar with the fact that  
18 they can continue straight on and go down to  
19 the farmer's market, or any other place.

20 So, there is no reason for a sign that  
21 says this is a truck route, and that's what our  
22 big argument has been.

23 A number of times we have gone to Dale  
24 McCall and the commission and said let's do  
25 something about it. We have never seen them

1 put that on any kind of an agenda for them to  
2 discuss it.

3 Why do we really need trucks on Sam  
4 Allen? That's the big part.

5 MR. CLIFFORD: Thank you for your  
6 comments, sir.

7 Harry Jeffcoat.

8 MR. JEFFCOAT: My name is Harry Jeffcoat.  
9 The main reason I came over here was just to  
10 provide you with some photos of just how much  
11 floodwaters actually can accumulate during a  
12 bad rainstorm here.

13 I don't know if enough surveyors or  
14 engineers can actually predict how much water  
15 actually flows off from downtown Plant City  
16 into this eastside canal over here.

17 Once this canal reaches a capacity, which  
18 occurs after about three inches of rain, the  
19 water backs up into this pasture back here  
20 (indicating.) Stallings owns that pasture.

21 And I see over here (indicating), on your  
22 map, you've got an area that looks pretty big  
23 for retention, and that looks good if it can  
24 hold this amount of water.

25 So, should I just give you these?

1 MR. CLIFFORD: Yes, please.

2 MR. JEFFCOAT: This (indicating) is  
3 actually the street where the mobile home park  
4 across the street is.

5 MR. CLIFFORD: Okay.

6 MR. JEFFCOAT: This (indicating) is the  
7 pasture I was talking about in the background.

8 MR. CLIFFORD: Okay. Can you do me a  
9 favor and mark on the back of them where they  
10 are and what they are?

11 MR. JEFFCOAT: Sure. (complying.)

12 MR. CLIFFORD: I would appreciate it.  
13 Thank you.

14 MR. JEFFCOAT: Thank you.

15 MR. CLIFFORD: Bill Fayette.

16 MR. FAYETTE: Yes, sir. Basically, my  
17 comments stem around two things, one is cost  
18 and the other is safety.

19 Looking at the outlay of this, it appears  
20 that you are going in a direction of more costs  
21 than one of the other options that is available  
22 to you.

23 And that is where the Alexander exchange  
24 is, running a truck route off of there onto 39,  
25 rather than bringing it up and down Park Road

1 and down Sam Allen.

2 And putting an exchange there, you know,  
3 you're not limited by any of the cemeteries.  
4 And initially we were looking at the  
5 possibilities of doing it off of 39, but that  
6 is not possible where it intersects 4.

7 So the Alexander exchange would be an  
8 ideal way of doing it. And what I got to  
9 thinking in looking at that, is that I think  
10 it's a political thing maybe with the Plant  
11 City people that they don't want to do that,  
12 and have now run this thing down Park and down  
13 Sam Allen, rather than doing it at Alexander  
14 Street.

15 Because I think if they are to look at  
16 it, I don't think there's been a lot of cost  
17 studies done on which is the lowest cost, and I  
18 think you would find out that that might well  
19 be the lowest cost.

20 The second item is safety. Of course,  
21 you people have no conception of what it is to  
22 see people pull out on this traffic out here as  
23 low as there is now, and being it is only two  
24 lanes, it is quite an experience.

25 People are putting their lives in danger

1 pulling out on a two-lane road. I can't  
2 imagine for the life of me what it would be  
3 like on a four-lane ride. It's just going to  
4 be an utter disaster. It's just not going to  
5 happen. You're going to have a lot of people  
6 die out here, I'm afraid.

7 And I think that you said looking at some  
8 of the stats as to the accidents that have  
9 already occurred out here, I think that you  
10 would find that the statistics are pretty high  
11 at the number of accidents that occur on this  
12 highway due to these communities here and the  
13 elderly people pulling out on there. And I  
14 think that you have to take a long hard look at  
15 that.

16 Obviously, you know, we would like to  
17 think that you are going to put some stop  
18 lights there. But, obviously, if you're  
19 putting a four-lane road in, you're not going  
20 to put any stop lights in for us.

21 The other thing is is running a four lane  
22 across the railroad tracks doesn't really make  
23 a whole lot of sense. I can't remember seeing  
24 one where, you know, you're trying to be  
25 expedient with traffic and them putting them

1 across the railroad tracks.

2 That's still going to be a terrible,  
3 terrible bottleneck for you there, and I don't  
4 think that anybody has looked at that very  
5 carefully.

6 So, I think that this Alexander extension  
7 thing, if you looked at it cost-wise and  
8 safety-wise, is a big plus. Thank you.

9 MR. CLIFFORD: Thank you.

10 Gerry Maier.

11 MR. MAIER: Thank you. As a resident to  
12 Country Meadows, I'm appalled, first of all.  
13 When I get down here to hear about this, it  
14 really shook me to the roots. Okay. I really  
15 believed I was in a residential neighborhood.

16 Yes, I knew there was some traffic there.  
17 I'd been coming down for years, and I saw some  
18 trucks going through there.

19 But when I heard they were going to widen  
20 the road, I took a look back, and I said what's  
21 wrong with the current situation? "Current  
22 situation" meaning that they altered a truck  
23 route off Park to Sam Allen when they could use  
24 Frontage as a commercial road along a  
25 commercial highway, but there's big S-turn



1 there to get over the traffic. Oh, remember?

2 The trucks can't make that.

3 Well, I've been on that road now 30 or 40  
4 times in the past five months since the  
5 hurricane when they moved in on us. I watched  
6 them make it all the time.

7 Yes, they have to stop at a light. Yes,  
8 they have to cross the tracks. And it's a  
9 little more difficult to cross the tracks  
10 possibly, but really much more than at Sam  
11 Allen and 39.

12 So, what's the difference? Why is it  
13 that all of it is a truck route when you have a  
14 State and a Federal road that offers them the  
15 same access to 39 that Sam Allen does?

16 And Sam Allen is a residential road, not  
17 a commercial highway. Although it scared the  
18 crap out of me every morning. If the commuters  
19 come through there at 50 miles an hour, like  
20 the gentleman said, it's very dangerous to pull  
21 out, especially when you are eighty years old  
22 and your reflexes are not that of a  
23 sixty-year-old, a real young guy. Okay?

24 So, it's a little different. And I take  
25 every one of theirs for the full truth. I

1 watched my father-in-law, eighty-six, pull out.  
2 He lets 15 cars go before he gets by.

3 And I see semis. Two weeks ago I saw a  
4 semi pass a semi on Sam Allen. I can't even  
5 imagine what four lanes of traffic will do to  
6 that problem as they ride now on I-4 in all  
7 kinds of wild ways. Okay.

8 The speed on that road, first of all, to  
9 me, shouldn't be 50 miles an hour. Okay. I  
10 came from New York. 50 miles an hour is the  
11 expressway in New York. All right. Not your  
12 small back road, two lanes.

13 The current changes I don't feel are  
14 economically necessary due to the fact that you  
15 have already started the exchange on Alexander.

16 Are you going to make a four-lane on  
17 Alexander, with a possible truck interchange  
18 there up to and beyond Sam Allen? Which would  
19 be another access going north, from Park all  
20 the truck distribution points that are down  
21 south on Park.

22 So, I'm looking at this trying to figure  
23 out why they need another access. You already  
24 have the eastbound, which is fine. The  
25 eastbound can come off 4, and come down along

1 south Frontage to Park, and go wherever they  
2 have to go, and get back on.

3 It's only really, I think, the westbound  
4 to be concerned about so they can go get off  
5 and get on 39. They can get off at Park. They  
6 can ride Frontage and do that little quick  
7 S-turn and get onto 39 going north.

8 It still doesn't fathom me why you're  
9 going to spend millions and millions of  
10 dollars, although we could spend some bucks for  
11 that road.

12 Okay. We could use some better turn-in  
13 lanes for us, but that would be nothing, and  
14 wouldn't be nearly as costly.

15 I guess the point is, to make it better  
16 isn't necessarily better for the environment  
17 and the people. This is a residential  
18 neighborhood.

19 We've already had a recent fatality on  
20 that road. And that wreck, I believe it was  
21 from a truck and not a car. I would have  
22 expected it be more from a car, the way they  
23 travel on that road.

24 My comments are only negative to the  
25 expansion of Sam Allen. Thank you.

1 MR. CLIFFORD: Thank you.

2 Is there anybody else who would like to  
3 make a statement here today? Anyone else?

4 MS. IACOVINO: I don't understand why --

5 MR. CLIFFORD: Ma'am, could you state  
6 your name?

7 MS. IACOVINO: Gayle Iacovino from the  
8 place next door.

9 I don't understand why on Interstate 4,  
10 coming west, they have a sign telling the  
11 trucks to exit at Park Road. That's why we  
12 have all the traffic. There's a sign that  
13 tells them to. That was done when the other  
14 intersection was under construction and there  
15 was no way to get off.

16 Take the sign down. Tell them to exit at  
17 Exit 21 and they'll go north. They won't even  
18 be out here. It's absolutely ludicrous that  
19 the State has that sign up there, or the  
20 Federal Government, whoever it is.

21 You are telling them to come this way.  
22 That's why they are coming this way. Take the  
23 sign down and see what happens before they  
24 spend all this money.

25 MR. CLIFFORD: Thank you, ma'am.

1           Yes, sir. You wanted to make some  
2           comments?

3           UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: One of the things  
4           that I don't know if you looked into or not is  
5           density, population density.

6           Here (indicating), I think probably right  
7           here, in this small area where you are going to  
8           put this four-lane road, is probably more  
9           densely populated than anyplace else in Plant  
10          City.

11          You've got some 700 units here. Another  
12          600 or so over at the Lakes, and another 300  
13          over to the Oaks, and some of you are out  
14          front.

15          So, you're talking in the area of 1,500  
16          homes right here, and you are going to ask  
17          these 1,500 people to actually creep out -- if  
18          there is two in the home -- to pull out on a  
19          two-way highway and take their life in their  
20          hands.

21          So, I think there is a population density  
22          thing that you have to look at from a safety  
23          standpoint. You know, it's not just one or two  
24          people. It's a lot of people pulling out on  
25          that road every day.

1           And maybe you are going to be lucky and  
2           it's only going to be one percent. Well, one  
3           percent of 1,500 is a big number.

4           MR. CLIFFORD: Thank you.

5           Is there anyone else?

6           (No response.)

7           Okay. The public hearing transcript,  
8           written statements, exhibits, and reference  
9           materials will be available for public  
10          inspection at the District Seven office, 11201  
11          North McKinley Drive, Tampa, Florida, within  
12          three weeks.

13          It is approximately 6:30, and I hereby  
14          officially close the formal portion of the  
15          Public Hearing for the Park Road/Sam Allen PD&E  
16          Study.

17          We will be here for at least another half  
18          hour to answer any further questions people may  
19          have. I would encourage you to provide us with  
20          those questions and let us get you those  
21          answers.

22          On the part of the Department of  
23          Transportation, thanks for attending. Good  
24          night.

25          (Formal Hearing Concluded.)

1           (The following statements were made by  
2       **LEROY CURTIS AND PAUL FLAMICK** following the  
3       formal portion of the Public Hearing:)

4           MR. CURTIS: I have a concern. We do not  
5       have a rear exit on any one of these parks, as  
6       far as I know. We all have to come out.

7           If you've got construction and pouring  
8       concrete, how are you going to get 750 homes  
9       out in emergencies, or fire, or evacuation in  
10      the case of a tanker truck with gas or  
11      something? Which we have had.

12          If we had a mandated evacuation to get  
13      out? How are we going to do it?

14          With a half mile of road that you ruin or  
15      cut off and put in concrete, more and more  
16      concrete when we really don't need it if  
17      there's going to be a lot of neighborhoods.

18          MR. FLAMICK: Yes. We feel that we have  
19      a very serious safety problem here, because we  
20      get the trucks coming down the road, as I said  
21      in the discussion before. We want to really  
22      get rid of the trucks on Sam Allen. We don't  
23      need them there.

24          And what we're concerned about now is if  
25      they do go with that type of design that they

1 have the big swoop to go on Park Road going  
2 south, that the trucks are coming around there  
3 at 50 miles an hour because that's the speed  
4 limit, they will never stop at that traffic  
5 light. They'll just keep going. And anybody  
6 that's coming from the east, west on Park Road,  
7 is going to get it right away.

8 And we would have to stop at that traffic  
9 light to go left, to go toward Lakeland, if we  
10 want to go the back route. So it's a very  
11 serious problem.

12 So, if anything, if they decide that they  
13 will go with it whether we like it or not, we  
14 would have to go with the T-shaped intersection  
15 at Park Road and Sam Allen. But, hopefully,  
16 they are going to get rid of the trucks.

17 Thank you.

18 THE COURT REPORTER: Thank you.

19 (Proceedings concluded 7:00 p.m.)  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25



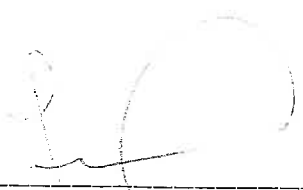
## REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE

STATE OF FLORIDA    )  
COUNTY OF HILLSBOROUGH    )

I, LESLIE CHILDRESS, Registered Professional Court Reporter, certify that I was authorized to and did stenographically report the foregoing proceedings and that the transcript is a true record thereof.

I further certify that I am not a relative, employee, attorney, or counsel of any of the parties, nor am I a relative or employee of any of the parties' attorneys or counsel connected with the action, nor am I financially interested in the action.

DATED this 9th day of February, 2005.



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LESLIE CHILDRESS, RPR  
Court Reporter  
Notary Public  
State of Florida at Large