COMMENTS AND COORDINATION REPORT

PROJECT DEVELOPMENT AND ENVIRONMENT STUDY US 19 (SR 55) FROM SOUTH OF US 98 TO CR 488 CITRUS COUNTY, FLORIDA

Work Program Item Segment No: 405822 1 Federal-Aid Project No: 1852 007 P



Prepared for:

Florida Department of Transportation District Seven 11201 North McKinley Drive Tampa, Florida 33612-6456

March 2004

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Prepared by:

PBS&J 5300 West Cypress Street Suite 300 Tampa, Florida 33607

March 2004

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

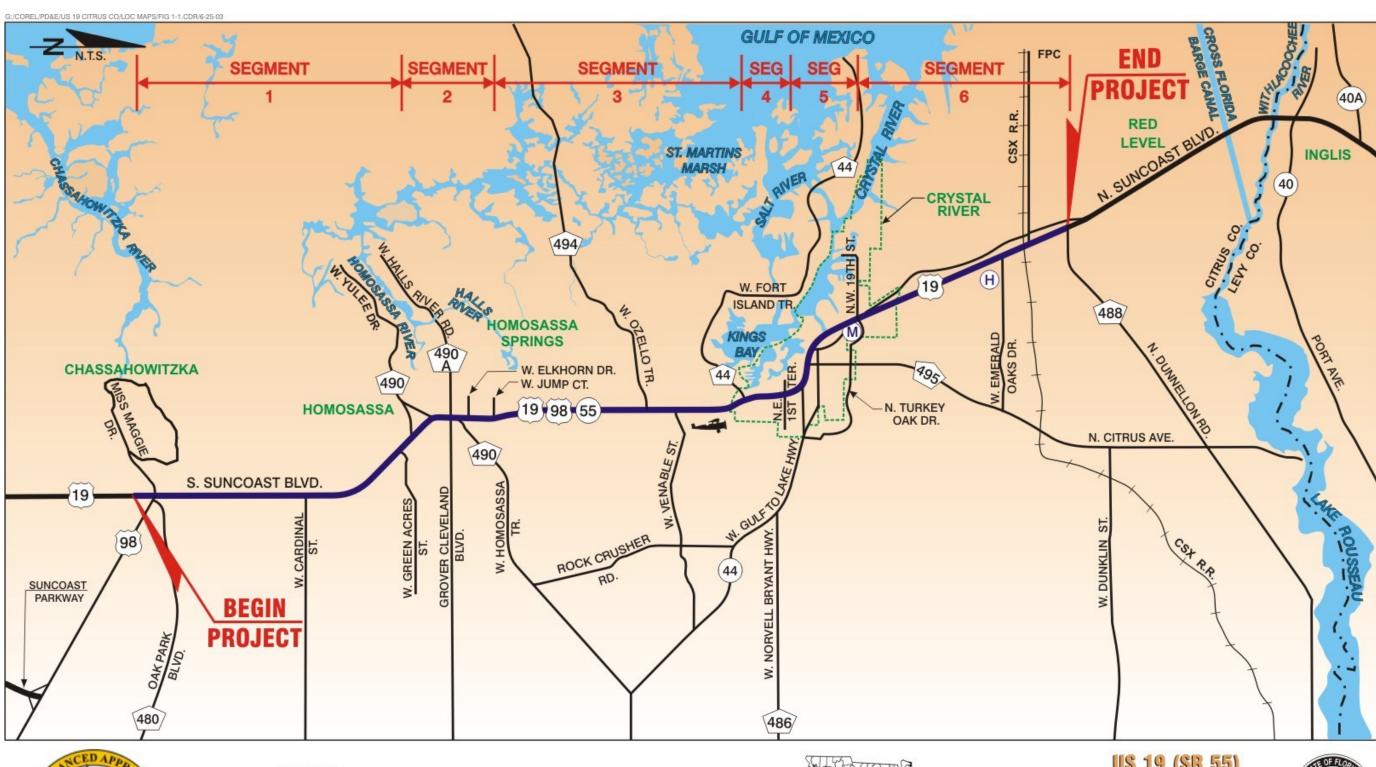
The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT), District Seven, has conducted a Project Development and Environment (PD&E) Study to evaluate the proposed improvements to US 19 (SR 55) from south of US 98 to CR 488 (Dunnellon Road) in Citrus County, Florida, a distance of approximately 18.8 miles (mi.) (Figure 1).

Within the project limits, US 19 is a part of the National Highway System and the Florida Intrastate Highway System. The facility also serves as the major hurricane evacuation route for this part of Citrus County. The need for this project has been identified in the Citrus County and City of Crystal River Comprehensive Plans.

The intent of a PD&E Study is to evaluate and document engineering and environmental issues associated with the alternatives developed and to select a Recommended Alternative based upon that analysis and public comment.

Improvements recommended as part of this PD&E Study include reconstructing US 19 from a 4-, 5-, and 7-lane roadway to a 6-lane divided roadway along the majority of the corridor to improve capacity, meet level of service standards, and improve safety. The roadway is currently and will remain a controlled access facility. However, the level of access control will be improved in Homosassa and Crystal River by incorporating a raised restricted median where none exists today. All signalized intersections, as well as CR 488, will be improved.

For the purposes of evaluating improvement alternatives, the project was divided into 6 segments based on the existing and future land use, projected traffic volumes for the design year 2025, existing typical sections, and available right-of-way (ROW). The project segments are as follows:





LEGEND

US 19 Project Limits



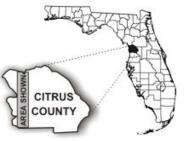
Crystal River Airport
Crystal River City Limits



Seven Rivers Community Hospital



Crystal River Mall



US 19 (SR 55) PD&E STUDY

From South of US 98 to CR 488 Citrus County, Florida





Segment 1: South of US 98 to West Green Acres Street; 4.86 mi.

Segment 2: West Green Acres Street to West Jump Court; 2.07 mi.

Segment 3: West Jump Court to West Fort Island Trail (CR 44); 4.65 mi.

Segment 4: West Fort Island Trail (CR 44) to NE 1st Terrace; 0.86 mi.

Segment 5: NE 1st Terrace to Turkey Oak Drive; 2.05 mi.

Segment 6: Turkey Oak Drive to North Dunnellon Road (CR 488); 4.31 mi.

Segment 1: The Recommended Alternative in Segment 1 widens the existing 4-lane roadway to a 6-lane divided rural roadway with a 42-foot (ft) depressed grass median. Southbound US 19 is widened to the outside to accommodate an additional 12-ft travel lane and an 8-ft shoulder of which 5 ft is paved. An 8-ft paved shoulder is also added within the median. Northbound US 19 is widened within the median to allow for an additional 12-ft travel lane and an 8-ft paved shoulder. Guardrail is provided adjacent to the shoulder on one side of the median only. The existing 4-ft paved shoulder on the outside of northbound US 19 is widened to 5 ft. A 12-ft multi-use path and 5-ft sidewalk are provided along the existing western and eastern ROW lines, respectively. Pedestrian signals and crosswalks are also included at each signalized intersection. A pedestrian overpass is included over US 19 just south of US 98. The proposed design speed for this typical section is 70 miles per hour (mph).

Segment 2: The Recommended Alternative in Segment 2 includes two proposed typical sections. The proposed typical section from West Green Acres Street to West Yulee Drive (CR 490) and from West Elkhorn Drive to West Jump Court is a 6-lane divided urban roadway with a 30-ft raised median, which utilizes a centered alignment. This typical section contains three 12-ft travel lanes and a 4-ft bicycle lane in each direction. A 12-ft multi-use path and 5-ft sidewalk are provided along the existing western and eastern ROW lines, respectively, from West Green Acres Street to West Yulee Drive (CR 490). From West Elkhorn Drive to West Jump Court, a 5-ft sidewalk is provided along both sides of the roadway adjacent to the ROW line. Pedestrian signals and crosswalks are also included at each signalized intersection. The proposed typical section can be accommodated within the existing 246 ft of ROW from West Green Acres Street to West

Yulee Drive (CR 490) and within the existing 160 ft of ROW from West Elkhorn Drive to West Jump Court. The proposed design speed for this typical section is 50 mph.

The typical section from West Yulee Drive (CR 490) to West Elkhorn Drive is a 6-lane divided urban roadway with a 20-ft raised median. This typical section contains two 11-ft travel lanes and one 12-ft outside travel lane with a 4-ft bicycle lane in each direction. Sidewalks, 5 ft in width, are provided within a 12-ft border along both sides of the roadway. Pedestrian signals and crosswalks are also included at each signalized intersection. This typical section utilizes a centered alignment from West Yulee Drive (CR 490) to north of Homosassa Springs Wildlife State Park. The alignment then shifts to the west to accommodate dual left-turn lanes at West Halls River Road (CR 490A) before shifting back to a centered alignment north of West Homosassa Trail. This typical section can be accommodated within the existing 120 ft of ROW. However, ROW acquisition is required for corner clips and where the alignment shifts to the west. The proposed design speed for this typical section is 50 mph.

Segment 3: The Recommended Alternative for Segment 3 is a 6-lane divided urban roadway with a 30-ft raised median, which utilizes a centered alignment. This typical section contains three 12-ft travel lanes and a 4-ft bicycle lane in each direction. Sidewalks, 5 ft in width, are provided within a 45-ft border along both sides of the roadway. Pedestrian signals and crosswalks are also included at each signalized intersection. This typical section can be accommodated within the existing 200 ft of ROW. The proposed design speed for this typical section is 50 mph.

Segment 4: The Recommended Alternative for Segment 4 consists of reconstructing the existing two-way, left-turn lane to a 17-ft raised median. In areas where left-turn lanes are proposed, the raised median will be reduced to a 4-ft traffic separator with a single 12-ft exclusive left-turn lane. This alternative also includes milling and resurfacing of the existing roadway to allow for three 12-ft travel lanes in each direction. A multi-use path, 12 ft in width, is proposed along each side of the roadway, adjacent to the ROW line to accommodate pedestrians and bicyclists. At SE Kings Bay Drive, bicyclists using the

multi-use path on the east side of US 19 will cross over to the west side. The multi-use path on the west side of US 19 will continue to NE 1st Terrace since it can be accommodated within the existing ROW. A design speed of 40 mph is proposed for this alternative.

Segment 5: The Recommended Alternative for Segment 5 is a 6-lane divided urban roadway with a 16-ft raised median from NE 1st Terrace to Turkey Oak Drive, which utilizes a best-fit alignment. The median width may be reduced to 15 ft to accommodate a gravity wall where needed. This typical section contains two 11-ft travel lanes and one 12-ft outside travel lane in each direction. Sidewalks, 6 ft in width, are provided along both sides of the roadway adjacent to the back of curb. This typical section is contained within the existing 100 ft of ROW for a portion of this segment. No provisions for bicyclists were developed with this alternative due to significant ROW impacts that would result. A design speed of 40 mph is proposed for this alternative.

Segment 6: The Recommended Alternative for Segment 6 consists of Transportation System Management (TSM) improvements. The improvements include extending or adding turn-lanes at the North Dunnellon Road (CR 488) intersection, including adding a signal, if warranted. Signal upgrades are also proposed at Seven Rivers Community Hospital and West Powerline Street. Pedestrian signals and crosswalks are also included at each signalized intersection.

A Public Involvement Plan (PIP), approved by the FDOT on July 31, 2001, was implemented as an integral part of this project. The balance of this report describes the following components of the PIP: Advance Notification (AN), Public Officials/Agency Kickoff Meeting, Alternatives Public Workshop, Public Hearing, and Newsletters/ Presentations/Small Group Meetings.

2.0 ADVANCE NOTIFICATION

The FDOT, through the AN process, informed a number of federal, state, regional, and local agencies of this project and its scope of anticipated activities. The AN Package was distributed to the Florida State Clearinghouse on June 25, 2001. Copies of the AN Package and comments received may be found in Appendix A.

Those agencies receiving an AN Package, in addition to the agencies on the Florida State Clearinghouse distribution list, are identified below:

Federal Agencies

- Federal Highway Administration Division Administrator
- Federal Emergency Management Mitigation Division, Chief
- Federal Aviation Administration Airports District Office
- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Regulatory Branch, District Engineer
- U.S. Department of Agriculture Southern Region, Regional Forester
- U.S. Department of Commerce National Marine Fisheries Service Habitat Conservation Division
- U.S. Department of Health & Human Services Center for Environmental Health and Injury Control
- U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Regional Environmental Officer
- U.S. Department of Interior Bureau of Indian Affairs Office of Trust Responsibilities
- U.S. Department of Interior Bureau of Land Management, Eastern States Office
- U.S. Department of Interior National Park Service, Southeast Regional Office
- U.S. Department of Interior U.S. Geological Survey, Chief
- U.S. Department of Interior Fish and Wildlife Service, Field Supervisor
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region IV, Regional Administrator

State Agencies

- Florida Department of Environmental Protection District Office*
- Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission Office of Environmental Services, Director
- Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission Regional Director
- Florida Department of Transportation Environmental Management Office,
 Manager (MS 37)
- Florida Department of Transportation Federal Aid Programs Coordinator (MS 35)
- Florida Department of Community Affairs Florida Coastal Management Program*
- Florida State Clearinghouse Intergovernmental Affairs Policy Unit*

Regional/Local Agencies

- Withlacoochee Regional Planning Council, Executive Director*
- Southwest Florida Water Management District, Executive Director

Other

- Poarch Band of Creek Indians of Alabama Chairman
- Seminole Nation of Oklahoma Principal Chief
- Muskogee (Creek) Nation of Oklahoma Principal Chief*
- Seminole Tribe of Florida Director
- Miccosukee Tribe of Indians of Florida Representative

Comments were received from seven agencies. Outlined below is a summary of these comments with responses as appropriate:

Agency: Florida Department of Community Affairs

Comment: "Based on the information contained in the referenced application and the

enclosed comments provided by our reviewing agencies, the state has

determined that, at this stage of project development, the referenced

project is consistent with the Florida Coastal Management Program. In

addition, the applicant is required to provide the Florida State

Clearinghouse with the detailed project information requested by the

Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) as soon as the

information becomes available."

Response: On June 23, 2003, the FDOT provided the FDEP with the Environmental

Determination for the recommended alternatives and its associated

impacts. The FDEP has indicated that "the potential environmental

impacts of the proposed roadway construction project will be addressed in

the application for an Environmental Resource Permit (ERP) to be

reviewed by the Southwest Florida Water Management District

(SWFWMD) pursuant to Chapter 253 and 373, Florida Statutes. Final

agency action on the permit application will constitute the State of

Florida's final consistency determination."

Agency: Florida Department of Environmental Protection

Comment: "Funding for the Federal Aid action and PD&E Study is consistent with

the Department's authorities in the Florida Coastal Management Program"

Response: None required.

Comment: "Environmental Resource Permit (ERP) by the SWFWMD, pursuant to

Part IV of Chapter 373, Florida Statutes (F.S.)..." "We recommend that a

wetland jurisdictional determination, per Rule 62-340, Florida

Administrative Code (F.A.C.), be obtained for the highway corridor prior to further planning. Early coordination of project plans with the SWFWMD may help permit future permitting problems."

Response:

As the project enters the final design phase, jurisdictional wetland boundaries will be coordinated with SWFWMD.

Comment:

"The permit applicant will be required to eliminate or reduce any proposed wetland resource impacts to the greatest extent possible."

Response:

To the maximum extent feasible, potential project impacts will avoid designated wetland area. The Wetland Evaluation Report addresses these issues as well as mitigation for any unavoidable impacts.

Comment:

"In addition to the six Outstanding Florida Waters (OFWs) listed on the Fact Sheet, an aquatic preserve, state buffer preserve, state greenway, state park, and national wildlife refuge are also located in the vicinity of the project. All water bodies within the boundaries of these public lands are designated OFWs under section 62-302.700 (9), F.A.C. Pursuant to section 373.414(1), F.S., any impacts to these water bodies and associated wetlands must be demonstrated to be "clearly in the public interest" as part of the Environmental Resource Permitting process."

Response:

During the ERP process, all aspects of the public interest test will be addressed to the SWFWMD's satisfaction.

Comment:

"Every effort should be made to maximize the treatment of stormwater runoff from the proposed highway improvements project, The permit applicant must demonstrate that the proposed stormwater system meets the design and performance criteria established for the treatment/attenuation of discharges to OFWs, pursuant to..."

Response: The Location Hydraulic Report notes the existing OFW outfalls. During

the design phase the proposed project will meet the stormwater quality

requirements pursuant to Rule 40D-4, F.A.C.

Comment: "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.

Response: Best Management Practices will be utilized.

Agency: With lacoochee Regional Planning Council

Comment: "...The staff of the Withlacoochee Regional Planning Council (WRPC)

reviewed the above-referenced project and find it to be consistent with the

goals and policies of the WRPC's adopted Strategic Regional Policy Plan

for the Withlacooheee Region and, in particular with..."

Response: None required.

Agency: Division of Forestry – Forest Resource Planning & Support Service

Bureau

Comment: No comment/consistent.

Response: None required.

Agency: Florida Department of State – Department of Historic Resources

Comment: No comment/consistent.

Response: None required.

Agency: Executive Office of the Governor - Office of Tourism, Trade, and

Economic Development

Comment: No comment.

Response: None required.

Agency: Seminole Nation of Oklahoma

Comment: "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 area of prior or existing development.

...please be advised of the following... 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 people should be avoided."

Response: These issues are addressed in the Cultural Resource Assessment Survey

(CRAS) that has been approved by the Federal Highway Administration

(FHWA) and the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO).

3.0 PUBLIC OFFICIAL/AGENCY KICKOFF MEETING

A Public Official/Agency Kickoff Meeting was held on Wednesday, August 2, 2001,

from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon at the Crystal River City Hall Meeting Room, located at

123 NW Highway 19, Crystal River, Florida. The purpose of the meeting was to inform

local, state, and federal agencies, elected officials, and appointed officials of the project

and to obtain specific data pertinent to the Study including technical, socio-economic,

ecological, and environmental information. The meeting also provided a forum to solicit

information regarding local issues and concerns as they relate to the proposed

transportation improvement. The meeting was held in an open, informal format.

Information presented at the meeting included graphics depicting the project location

map and the proposed project schedule. A brief project handout also included this

information, discussed the proposed improvements, and provided a comment sheet that

could be submitted at the meeting or by mail.

Notification letters were mailed to elected officials and agency representatives at least

21 days prior to the Kickoff Meeting. Newspaper advertisements are not published for

this meeting.

Approximately 37 people attended the Kickoff Meeting. This includes 17 representatives

from either elected/appointed officials, or agencies. The remaining attendees were from

the public at large. A total of eight written comments were received. The brief synopsis

outlined below is categorized according to those received from elected/appointed officials

and agencies, and those submitted by the public. Many comments addressed more than

one issue.

Elected/Appointed Officials and Agency Comments

Comment: Preservation of downtown Crystal River

One comment was received from the City of Crystal River Community Redevelopment

Agency regarding potential impacts to downtown Crystal River, particularly the

redevelopment district.

Comment: Bicycle/pedestrian issues

The comment from the Crystal River Community Redevelopment Agency also addressed

the need for bicycle/pedestrian safety along and across the roadway. A comment was

also received from the Crystal River State Buffer Preserve requesting that the proposed

entrance for that agency's walking trail be considered when developing alternatives for

the roadway improvements.

Public Comments

Comment: Add to the mailing list

Two comments were received requesting to be placed on the project mailing list.

Comment: Improved access

Two comments requested improved access at various locations (primarily via an

additional median opening).

Comment: Stormwater runoff/drainage concerns

One comment expressed the need for protection of the springs and other local bodies of

water.

Comment: Bicycle/pedestrian issues

One comment stated the need for an overpass for the new recreational trail in Crystal

River that links both sides of US 19.

Comment: Preservation of downtown Crystal River

One comment expressed concern that the proposed roadway improvements would have a

negative impact to downtown Crystal River, particularly the redevelopment district.

Comment: Safety issues

One comment requested that advance directional signage be used at major intersections.

Comment: Issues outside project limits

One comment requested that the Study be extended to Highway 40.

Copies of the notification letters, meeting handout, comment sheet, sign-in sheet, and

responses to comments received are included in Appendix B.

4.0 ALTERNATIVES PUBLIC WORKSHOP

The Alternatives Public Workshop was held after feasible alternatives were developed

and fully analyzed. The Workshop was held on Monday, January 16, 2003, from

4:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at the National Guard Armory, located at 8551 W. Venable Street,

Crystal River, Florida. The purpose of the Workshop was to present the alternatives that

had been developed, and their associated impacts, and to receive community input on the

information presented.

Notification letters were sent to elected officials and agency representatives at least

25-30 days prior to the meeting. Property owners, whose property lies in whole or in part

within 300 ft. from the centerline of any of the proposed alternatives, and other interested

parties, were notified of the Workshop 21 days in advance, in accordance with the PD&E

Manual. A quarter-page, legal, display advertisement was published in the Citrus County

Chronicle on January 6, 2003.

The meeting was held in an open, informal format. A continuously looped project video

was shown throughout the duration of the meeting. Aerial photographs, conceptual

plans, graphics, and other project information was available for public viewing. A project

brochure, Evaluation Matrix, and Comment Form were available to all attendees upon

arrival.

Approximately 201 people attended the Workshop. This total number includes the eight

elected officials that signed in, primarily from the municipality of Crystal River. Persons

were able to make comments as part of the Official Alternatives Public Workshop in one

of two ways: 1) completing the Comment Form and dropping it in one of the

"Comment" boxes; and 2) completing the form and mailing it to the District 7 address on

the back of the form. Comments were to be postmarked by January 27, 2003 so project

development could proceed in a timely manner. A total of 31 written comments were

received. Many comments addressed more than one issue. A brief synopsis of the

comments received is provided below.

Comment: Improved access

Nine comments were received requesting improved access to various commercial or

residential properties (primarily via an additional median opening).

Comment: Bypass request

Three comments were received requesting the construction of a bypass as opposed to the

proposed improvements for US 19. Two requested a bypass around the City of Crystal

River; the other requested a bypass around the municipality of Homosassa.

Comment: Stormwater runoff/drainage concerns

Four comments were received concerning protection of the springs and other local bodies

of water, as well as concern regarding the existing drainage problems within the City of

Crystal River.

Comment: Request for plans

Three of the written comments requested copies of the conceptual plans.

Comment: Add to the mailing list

One comment asked to be placed on the project mailing list.

Comment: North Suncoast Parkway II Issues

Two comments stated that the construction of the North Suncoast Parkway II would

alleviate the need for improvements to US 19.

Comment: Issues outside of project limits

Two comments addressed issues outside the project limits – south of US 98. The first

comment requested that resurfacing be undertaken for US 19 from the Citrus County line

to US 98; the other requested a median opening for the Walden Woods community

located south of US 98.

Comment: Safety issues

Five comments expressed concern regarding various safety issues. Three noted the need

for better signage along US 19; one requested a signal at US 98; and the other noted the

need to ensure safety in the event of a hurricane evacuation.

Comment: Specific requests

Two comments were very specific in nature – one requested a response as to why US 19

could not be double decked; the other wanted an explanation as to why jug handles were

not being used to improve safety.

Copies of all notification letters and advertisements, meeting materials, and any responses to comments are included in Appendix C.

5.0 PUBLIC HEARING

A Public Hearing was held on November 3, 2003, from 4:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at the National Guard Armory, located at 8551 Venable Street, Crystal River, Florida. The purpose of the Public Hearing was to present the Recommended Alternative and its associated impacts and to receive community input on the information presented. The "No Build" Alternative was also presented and is considered to be a viable alternative throughout the duration of the Study. Elected officials and agencies were notified of the meeting at least 25-30 days prior. Per F.S. and the FDOT's PD&E Manual, property owners whose property lies in whole or part within 300 ft. from the centerline of any of the proposed alternatives were notified by first class mail 21 days in advance. The Hearing was advertised in the Florida Administrative Weekly on October 17, 2003, and in the Citrus County Chronicle on October 13, 2003 and again October 25, 2003.

The Hearing was also held in accordance with Department Rule 14.97.005, F.A.C., Review and Modification of Access Classifications. The Access Management classification was changed for US 19 in Crystal River from West Fort Island Trail to NW 7th Avenue to Access Class 3. This reclassification was also consistent with the US 19 Access Management Study from the Hernando County Line to Mayo Drive prepared by Citrus County.

Conceptual alignments and project reports were available for public viewing prior to and after the Hearing beginning October 13, 2003 through November 13, 2003, at the Coastal Region Library, 8619 W. Crystal Street, Crystal River, Florida.

The meeting consisted of an informal session and a formal session. The informal session began at 4:30 p.m. and lasted until 6:00 p.m. During that time, the public could view a

continuously looped project video, view the conceptual plans and project documents on display, speak to the court reporter in a one-on-one setting, and ask questions from FDOT representatives. Project handouts, a copy of the Evaluation Matrix, a Comment Form, and Request to Speak Cards were available to all attendees. At 6:00 p.m. the formal portion of the Hearing commenced. At that time, the FDOT gave a formal presentation regarding the project and its associated effects. The project video was also shown during this time. An opportunity to provide formal public comment followed the project video. No one gave an oral statement during the formal portion. A court reporter transcribed the entire formal portion. Following the formal portion of the Hearing, the informal portion resumed until 7:30 p.m.

Persons were able to offer statements as part of the Official Public Hearing Record in one of four ways: (1) make an oral statement during the formal portion of the Hearing; (2) make an oral statement to the court reporter in a one-on-one setting during the informal portion of the Hearing; (3) complete the Comment Form provided and submit it to the court reporter or drop it in one of the "Comment" boxes; or (4) complete and mail written comments to the address listed on the back of the Comment Form.

Approximately 60 people attended the Public Hearing. No one spoke during the formal portion of the Hearing; two individuals gave their statements to the court reporter during the informal portion following the formal presentation. Eleven written comments were received at the Public Hearing; five more were mailed to the FDOT within the ten day comment period. One of the comments received in the mail was from an individual who gave a statement to the court reporter during the informal portion of the Hearing. Many of the comments received addressed several issues. A brief synopsis of the comments received is provided below.

Comment: Request for copies of conceptual plans

Four comments requested copies of various segments of the conceptual plans.

Comment: Support for the project

Three comments expressed total support for the project – one particularly supported the

proposed pedestrian overpass in Segment 5.

Comment: Stormwater runoff/drainage concerns

Five comments expressed concern regarding the protection of the springs and other local

bodies of water, as well as concern regarding the existing drainage problems within the

City of Crystal River.

Comment: Provision for U-turns for semis

One comment requested the FDOT provide U-turn accommodations for semis.

Comment: Opposition to Recommended Alternative for Segment 5

One comment (a possible relocatee) expressed opposition to the Recommended

Alternative for Segment 5.

Comment: Provide wildlife crossings

One comment requested the provision of wildlife crossing due to the sighting of collared

black bears in the area.

Comment: Did not support the project

One comment did not support the project due to the provision of bicycle/pedestrian

facilities. It was perceived that provision of these facilities would increase litter.

Comment: Lack of bicycle/pedestrian facilities in Segment 5

One comments expressed disappoint over the lack of bicycle/pedestrian facilities to the businesses in Segment 5.

A copy of the Public Hearing notification materials, meeting materials, and any responses to comments may be found in Appendix D. A copy of the Official Public Hearing Transcript may be found in Appendix E.

6.0 NEWSLETTERS/PRESENTATIONS/SMALL GROUP MEETINGS

The FDOT has issued two newsletters to elected officials, agencies, and property owners within 300 ft. of the centerline of any of the proposed alternatives. The first was mailed in December 2002 and while introductory in nature, it also announced the upcoming Alternative Public Workshop to be held in January 2003. Specifically, it acquainted the public with the PD&E process, project description, the proposed alternatives, and upcoming activities. The second newsletter, issued in October 2003, announced the Public Hearing and outlined the Recommended Alternative for each segment. Finally, a newsletter will be mailed upon project approval from the FHWA and will explain the final conceptual design for the proposed improvements and include an upcoming project schedule for design, ROW, and construction activities.

In an additional effort to further disseminate project information and solicit community input, the FDOT participated in Crystal River Annual Scarecrow festival in the fall of 2001. At the informational kiosk, festival attendees could talk to FDOT representatives about the project, view project graphics, obtain a project Fact Sheet, and offer comments regarding the proposed improvements.

The FDOT met with the City Manager for Crystal River, Ken Lilly, and his staff on July 23, 2002 to discuss the proposed improvements. The FDOT gave presentations to the Crystal River City Council on March 10, 2003 and May 27, 2003. The first

presentation on March 10th outlined the viable alternatives for Segments 4 and 5. For Segment 5, a new alternative was also presented that consisted of a reduced typical section and ROW width. This alternative received support from the City and the FDOT was directed to conduct additional engineering and environmental analysis for refinement of that alternative. That alternative was subsequently refined as was the alternative for Segment 4. These were formally presented to the City as the Recommended Alternatives for these segments on May 27, 2003, and subsequently presented at the Public Hearing on November 3, 2003.

The FDOT did not receive any requests for presentations to small groups such as homeowners associations and chambers of commerce.

APPENDICES

Advance Notification Materials

Appendix A: Appendix B: Public Official/Agency Kick-off Meeting Alternative Public Workshop Materials Public Hearing Materials Appendix C: Appendix D: Appendix E:

Official Public Hearing Transcript

Appendix A

Advance Notification Materials

Florida Department of Transportation

11201 N. McKinley Drive •Tampa, FL 33612-6456 • (813) 975-6077 • 1-800-226-7220 Environmental Management Office (EMO) • MS 7-500

THOMAS F. BARRY, JR. SECRETARY

JEB BUSH GOVERNOR

June 25, 2001

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

RE:

WPI Seg. No. 405822 1 / FAP No. 1852 007 P

US 19 (SR 55) PD&E Study / Citrus County / Advance Notification

Dear Ms. Raffington:

The attached Advance Notification package is for a Project Development and Environment (PD&E) Study on US 19 from south of US 98 to CR 488 in Citrus County. This information is forwarded to your office for processing through the 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 reviewing agencies review the attached information and furnish us with whatever comments they consider pertinent at this time.

This is 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.

We are looking forward to receiving your comments on the 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:

Jeraldo Comellas, Jr., P.E.
District Environmental Management Engineer
Florida Department of Transportation
11201 N. McKinley Drive/MS 7-500
Tampa, FL 33612-6456

Your expeditious handling of this notice will be appreciated.

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Sincerely,

Jeraldo Comellas, Jr., P.E.

District EMO Engineer

JC/WGL Attachment

RECYCLED PAPER

MAILING LIST:

Federal Highway Administration, Division Administrator 6

Federal Emergency Management Agency - Mitigation Division, Chief 6

Federal Aviation Administration - Airports District Office .

- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Regulatory Branch, District Engineer
- U.S. Department of Agriculture Southern Region, Regional Forester
- U.S. Department of Commerce National Marine Fisheries Service Habitat Conservation Division
- U.S. Department of Health & Human Services Center for Environmental Health and Injury Control 2
- U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Regional Environmental Officer
- U.S. Department of Interior Bureau of Indian Affairs Office of Trust Responsibilities
- U.S. Department of Interior Bureau of Land Management, Eastern States Office
- U.S. Department of Interior National Park Service Southeast Regional Office
- U.S. Department of Interior U.S. Geological Survey, Chief
- U.S. Department of Interior Fish and Wildlife Service, Field Supervisor
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region IV, Regional Administrator

Florida Department of Environmental Protection - District Office

Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission - Office of Environmental Services, Director

Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission - Regional Director

Environmental Management Office, Manager (MS 37)

Federal-Aid Program Coordinator (MS 35)

Withlacoochee Regional Planning Council, Executive Director

Southwest Florida Water Management District, Executive Director

OMB Approval No. 0348-0043 APPLICATION FOR 2. DATE SUBMITTED Applicant Identifier FEDERAL ASSISTANCE June 25, 2001 405822 1 3. DATE RECEIVED BY STATE State Application Identifier 1. TYPE OF SUBMISSION: Preapplication Application Construction Construction Federal Identifier 4. DATE RECEIVED BY FEDERAL AGENCY Non-Construction Non-Construction 5. APPLICANT INFORMATION Organizational Unit: Legal Name: Florida Department of Transportation Office of Design Name and telephone number of the person to be contacted on matters involving Address (give city, county, state, and zip code): this application (give area code) 605 Suwannee Street Jeraldo Comellas, Jr., P.E. District VII Environmental Management Engineer Tallahassee, Leon, Florida 32399-0450 813-975-6077 Ā 6. EMPLOYER IDENTIFICATION NUMBER (EIN): 7. TYPE OF APPLICANT: (enter appropriate letter in box) A. State H. Independent School Dist. 5 0 0 4 9 6 1 8 1. State Controlled Institution of Higher Learning B. County J. Private University C. Municipal 8. TYPE OF APPLICATION: K. Indian Tribe D Township Continuation Revision L. Individual E. Interstate F. Intermunicipal M. Profit Organization N. Other (Specify): If Revision, enter appropriate letter(s) in box(es): G. Special District A. increase Award B. Decrease Award C. Increase Duration 9. NAME OF FEDERAL AGENCY D. Decrease Duration Other (specify): U.S. Department of Transportation 10. CATALOG OF FEDERAL DOMESTIC ASSISTANCE NUMBER: 11. DESCRIPTIVE TITLE OF APPLICANT'S PROJECT: 2 0 5 0 US 19 (SR 55) PD&E Study Highway Planning and Construction FPN: 405822-1-22-01 12. AREAS AFFECTED BY PROJECT (cities, counties, states, etc.): Citrus County and City of Crystal River 14. CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICTS OF: 13. PROPOSED PROJECT: b. Project a. Applicant Ending Date Start Date Congressional District #5 05/2001 05/2003 16. IS APPLICATION SUBJECT TO REVIEW BY STATE EXECUTIVE ORDER 12372 PROCESS? 15. ESTIMATED FUNDING a. YES. THIS PREAPPLICATION/APPLICATION WAS MADE AVAILABLE TO THE 1,515,000 .00 a. Federal \$ STATE EXECUTIVE ORDER 12372 PROCESS FOR REVIEW ON: b. Applicant .00 \$ DATE June 25, 2001 1.00 c. State \$ PROGRAM IS NOT COVERED BY E.O. 12372 d. Local .00 S OR PROGRAM HAS NOT BEEN SELECTED BY STATE FOR REVIEW ao. \$ e. Other 17. IS THE APPLICANT DELINQUENT ON ANY FEDERAL DEBT? f. Program Income .00 S If "Yes," attach an explanation. g. TOTAL .515.000 .00 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 Telephone number a. Typed Name of Authorized Representative 813-975-6077 District VII EMO Engineer Jeraldo Comelias, Jr., P.E e. Date Signed d. Signature of Authorized Representative 6/25/01

Previous Editions Not Usable

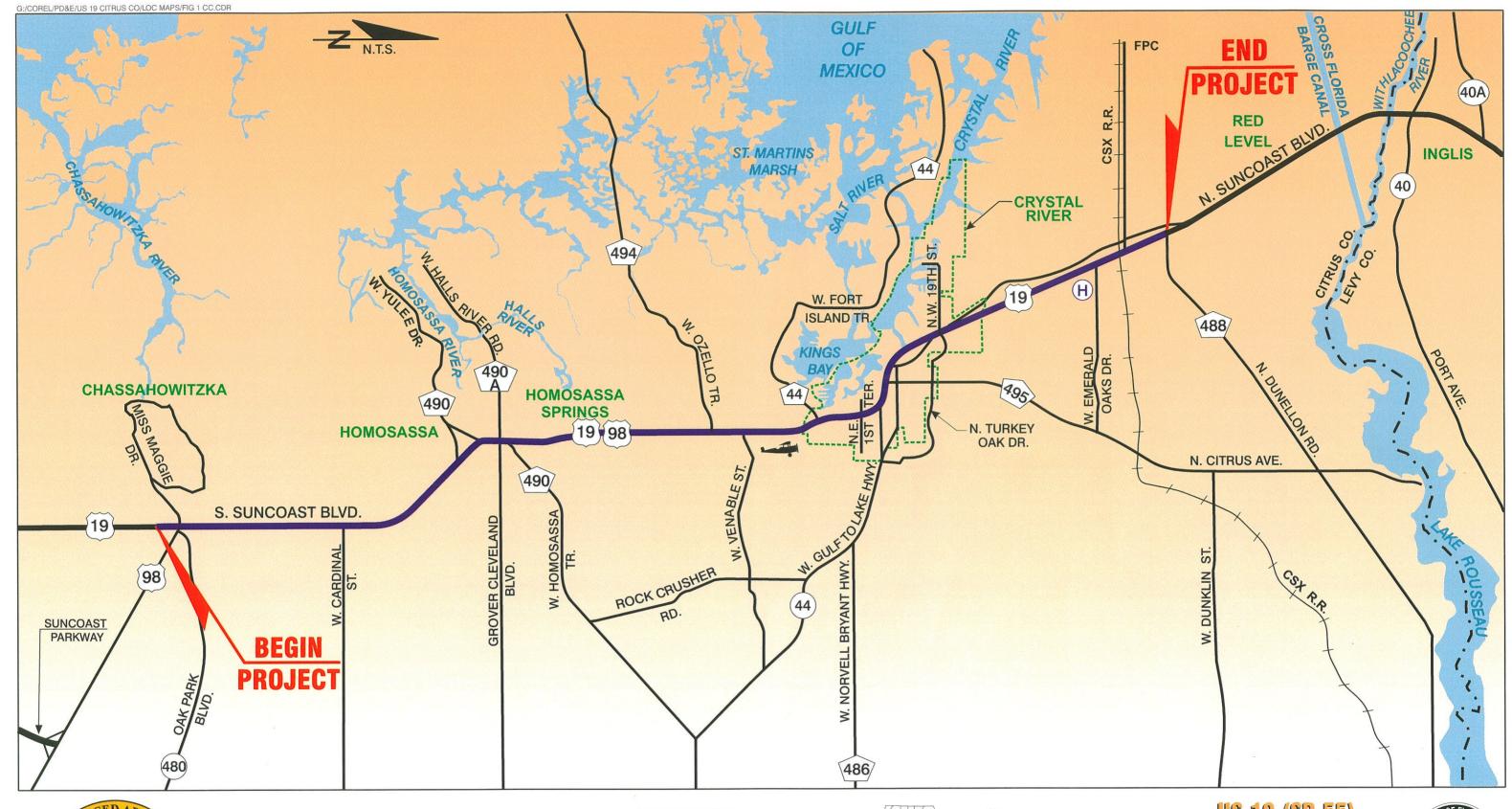
STATE OF FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION ADVANCE NOTIFICATION FACT SHEET

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 - Southwest Florida Water Management District Environmental Resource Permit
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 - U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Dredge and Fill Permit





LEGEND

US 19 Project Limits Crystal River Airport



Crystal River City Limits



Seven Rivers Community Hospital

U.S.G.S. Quadrangle Maps:

Chassahowitzka Bay, Chassahowitzka, Brooksville NW, Ozello, Homosassa, Lecanto, Red Level, Crystal River, Holder, Yankeetown Yankeetown SE, Dunnellon



US 19 (SR 55) PD&E STUDY

From South of US 98 to CR 488 Citrus County, Florida



WPI SEG NO: 405822 1



Mr. Jim St. John, Division Administrator Federal Highway Administration 227 N. Bronough Street, Room 2015 Tallahassee, FL 32301-2015

Chief, Mitigation Division Federal Emergency Management Agency 3003 Chamblee Tucker Road Atlanta, GA 30341

Airports District Office Federal Aviation Administration Citadel National Building, Suite 400 5950 Hazeltine National Drive Orlando, FL 32822

Mr. Joe R. Miller
District Engineer, Regulatory Branch
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Post Office Box 4970
Jacksonville, FL 32201-4970

Regional Forester Southern Region U.S. Department of Agriculture 1720 Peachtree Road, N.W. Atlanta, GA 30367-9101

Area Supervisor Habitat Conservation Division National Marine Fisheries Service 9721 Executive Center Drive N. St. Petersburg, FL 33702

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Centers for Disease Control and Prevention National Center for Environmental Health EEHS/CDB, (F-16) 4770 Buford Highway, NE Atlanta, GA 30341-3724 Regional Environmental Officer
U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
Richard B. Russell Federal Building
75 Spring Street, SW
Atlanta, GA 30303-3309

Chief
Environmental Services Staff
Office of Trust Responsibilities
Bureau of Indian Affairs
U.S. Department of Interior
Room 4560, Interior Building
18th and C Streets, N.W.

Washington, D.C. 20245-0001

Director, Eastern States Office Bureau of Land Management U.S. Department of Interior 411 Briarwood Drive, Suite 404 Jackson, MS 39206

Southeast Regional Office National Park Service U.S. Department of Interior 100 Alabama Street, SW 1924 Building Atlanta, GA 30333

Chief, Review Unit Environmental Affairs Program, MS 423 U.S. Geological Survey U.S. Department of Interior, Room 2D318 12201 Sunrise Valley Drive Reston, VA 20192

Mr. David Hankla, Field Supervisor Fish and Wildlife Service U.S. Department of Interior 6620 Southpoint Drive, South Suite 310 Jacksonville, FL 32216-0912 Mr. John Hankinson, Jr., Administrator Region IV U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Atlanta Federal Center 61 Forsyth Street Atlanta, GA 30303-8960

Ms. Deborah Getzoff, District Director Florida Department of Environmental Protection Southwest District 3804 Coconut Palm Drive Tampa, FL 33619

Director, Office of Environmental Services Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission 620 South Meridian Street Tallahassee, FL 32399-1600

Lt. Col. Greg Holder, Regional Director South Region, Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission 3900 Drane Field Road Lakeland, FL 33811-1299

Mr. Leroy Irwin, Manager Environmental Management Office Florida Department of Transportation, MS 37 605 Suwanee Street Tallahassee, FL 32399

Federal-Aid Program Coordinator Florida Department of Transportation, MS 35 605 Suwanee Street Tallahassee, FL 32399

Mr. Michael R. Moehlman, Executive Director Withlacoochee Regional Planning Council 1241 SW 10th Street Ocala, FL 34474-2798

Mr. Emilio Vergara, Executive Director Southwest Florida Water Management District 2379 Broad Street Brooksville, FL 34609-6899



JEB BUSH GOVERNOR THOMAS F. BARRY, JR. SECRETARY

June 25, 2000

Mr. Fred L. McGhee, Chairman Poarch Band of Creek Indians HRC 69A, Box 85B 5811 Jack Spring Road Atmore, AL 36502

RE:

WPI Seg. No. 405822 1 / FAP No. 1852 007 P

US 19 (SR 55) PD&E Study / Citrus County / Advance Notification

Dear Mr. McGhee:

The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT), in cooperation with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) will be conducting a Project Development and Environment (PD&E) Study for US 19 (SR 55) from south of US 98 to CR 488 in Citrus County. The proposed improvements for the project are outlined in the Advance Notification package, which is included as an attachment to this letter.

Please consider this letter an invitation to offer us your comments and participate in this Study. The Department is especially interested in any first hand knowledge you could share with us involving any cultural resource issues in the project area, or any comments you may have regarding the project in general.

Please submit any written comments you may have to:

Jeraldo Comellas, Jr., P.E. District Environmental Management Engineer Florida Department of Transportation 11201 N. McKinley Drive / MS 7-500 Tampa, FL 33612-6456

We look forward to your comments and participation in this project. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Ming Gao, P.E., Project Manager (ming.gao@dot.state.fl.us), or Ginger Regalado, Community Involvement Specialist (ginger.regalado@dot.state.fl.us), at (800) 226-7220.

Sincerely,

Jeraldo Comellas, Jr., P.E.

District EMO Engineer

JC/WGL

Enclosures

cc: George Ballo, CEMO

William (Bill) Day, THPO

jendo (Callas) -.



JEB BUSH GOVERNOR THOMAS F. BARRY, JR. SECRETARY

June 25, 2000

Mr. Ted Underwood Seminole Nation of Oklahoma P.O. Box 1498 Wewoka, OK 74884

RE:

WPI Seg. No. 405822 1 / FAP No. 1852 007 P

US 19 (SR 55) PD&E Study / Citrus County / Advance Notification

Dear Mr. Underwood:

The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT), in cooperation with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) will be conducting a Project Development and Environment (PD&E) Study for US 19 (SR 55) from south of US 98 to CR 488 in Citrus County. The proposed improvements for the project are outlined in the Advance Notification package, which is included as an attachment to this letter.

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Sincerely,

Jeraldo Comellas, Jr., P.E. District EMO Engineer

encele Conellas

JC/WGL Enclosures



Florida Department of Transportation 11201 N. McKinley Drive * Tampa, FL 33612-6456 * (813) 975-6077 * 1-800-226-7220

Environmental Management Office (EMO) *MS 7-500

JEB BUSH GOVERNOR THOMAS F. BARRY, JR. SECRETARY

June 25, 2000

Mr. R. Perry Beaver, Principal Chief Muskogee (Creek) Nation of Oklahoma P.O. Box 580 Okmulgee, OK 74447

RE:

WPI Seg. No. 405822 1 / FAP No. 1852 007 P

US 19 (SR 55) PD&E Study / Citrus County / Advance Notification

Dear Mr. Beaver:

The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT), in cooperation with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) will be conducting a Project Development and Environment (PD&E) Study for US 19 (SR 55) from south of US 98 to CR 488 in Citrus County. The proposed improvements for the project are outlined in the Advance Notification package, which is included as an attachment to this letter.

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Jeraldo Comellas, Jr., P.E.
District Environmental Management Engineer
Florida Department of Transportation
11201 N. McKinley Drive / MS 7-500
Tampa, FL 33612-6456

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Sincerely,

Jeraldo Comellas, Jr., P.E.

Jules Gulle

District EMO Engineer

JC/WGL

Enclosures



JEB BUSH GOVERNOR THOMAS F. BARRY, JR. SECRETARY

June 25, 2000

Ms. Patricia Wickman, PhD. Director Department of Anthropology & Genealogy Seminole Tribe of Florida 6300 Sterling Road, Room 421 Hollywood, FL 33024

RE:

WPI Seg. No. 405822 1 / FAP No. 1852 007 P

US 19 (SR 55) PD&E Study / Citrus County / Advance Notification

Dear Ms. Wickman:

The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT), in cooperation with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) will be conducting a Project Development and Environment (PD&E) Study for US 19 (SR 55) from south of US 98 to CR 488 in Citrus County. The proposed improvements for the project are outlined in the Advance Notification package, which is included as an attachment to this letter.

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Sincerely,

Jeraldo Comellas, Jr., P.E.

District EMO Engineer

JC/WGL Enclosures



JEB BUSH GOVERNOR THOMAS F. BARRY, JR. SECRETARY

June 25, 2000

Mr. Steve Terry, NAGPRA Representative Miccosukee Tribe of Indians of Florida Miccosukee Business Committee P.O. Box 440021, Tamiami Station Miami, FL 33144

RE:

WPI Seg. No. 405822 1 / FAP No. 1852 007 P

US 19 (SR 55) PD&E Study / Citrus County / Advance Notification

Dear Mr. Terry:

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gualdo Comellas

JC/WGL Enclosures

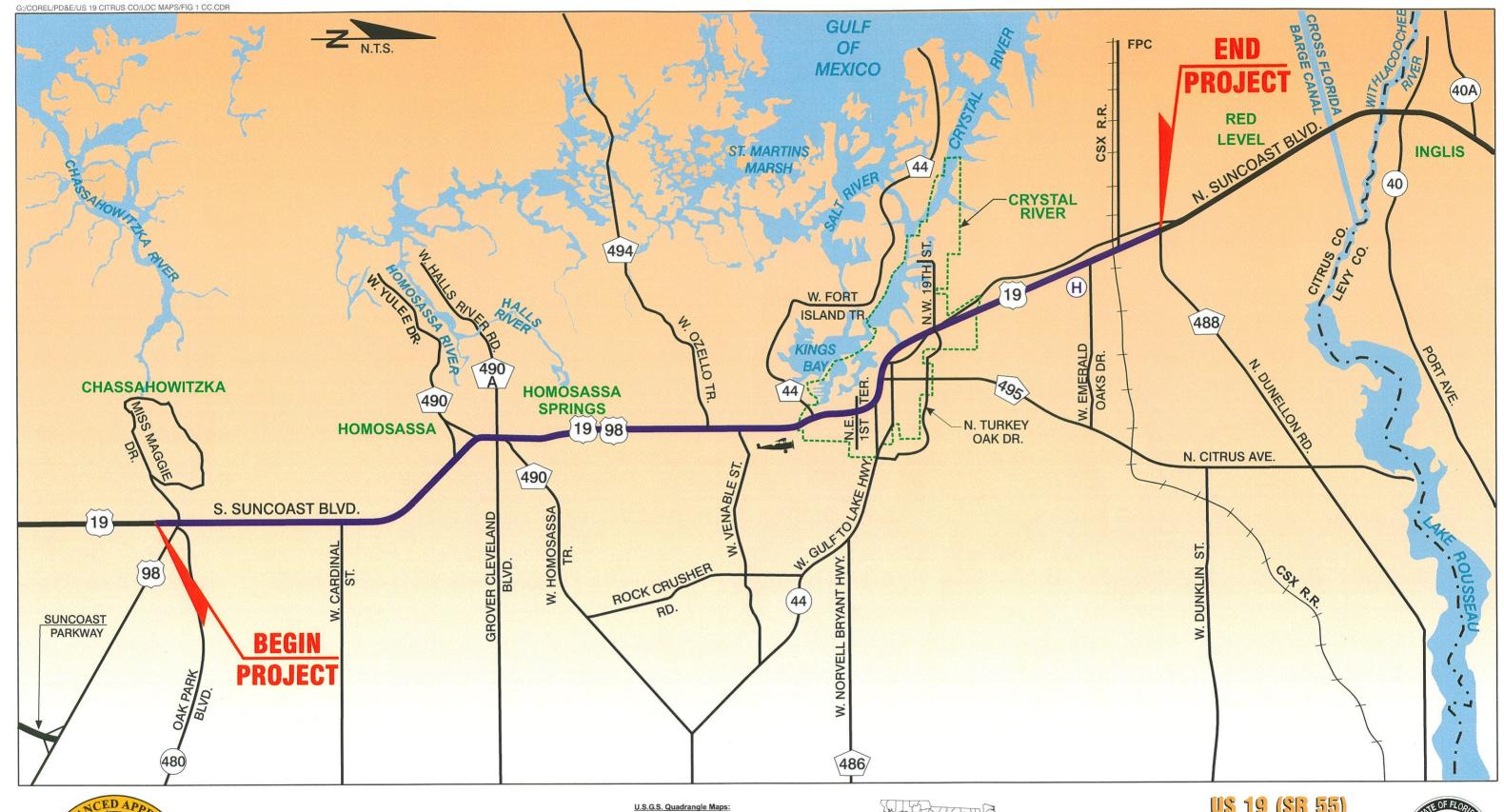
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LEGEND

US 19 Project Limits



Crystal River Airport

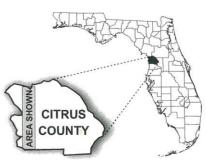


Crystal River City Limits



Seven Rivers Community Hospital

Chassahowitzka Bay, Chassahowitzka, Brooksville NW, Ozello, Homosassa, Lecanto, Red Level, Crystal River, Holder, Yankeetown Yankeetown SE, Dunnellon



US 19 (SR 55) PD&E STUDY

From South of US 98 to CR 488 Citrus County, Florida



WPI SEG NO: 405822 1





STATE OF FLORIDA

DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

"Dedicated to making Florida a better place to call home"

IEB BUSH Governor

STEVEN M. SEIBERT Secretary

September 26, 2001

Mr. Jeraldo Comellas, Jr., P.E. District EMO Engineer Florida Department of Transportation 11201 North McKinley Drive, M.S. 7-500 Tampa, Florida 33612-6456

RE:

U.S. Department of Transportation - Highway Planning and Construction -Advance Notification - US 19 (SR 55) PD&E Study - WPI Seg. No. 405822 -

FAP No. 1852 007 P - City of Crystal River, Citrus County, Florida

SAI: FL 200107020578C

Dear Mr. Comellas:

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) notes that the funding for the Federal Aid action and Project Development and Environmental Study is consistent with the DEP's authorities in the Coastal Management Program; however, detailed project information is not yet available, therefore, the DEP cannot determine the consistency of the road improvements project at this time. In addition, information is required regarding the anticipated roadway width, design, impacts, construction, and mitigation for any proposed wetland impacts. Please refer to the enclosed DEP comments.

The Withlacoochee Regional Planning Council (WRPC) notes that the proposed project is consistent with the goals and policies of the WRPC's adopted Strategic Regional Policy Plan for the Withlacoochee Region. Please refer to the enclosed WRPC comments.

Mr. Jeraldo Comellas, Jr., P.E. September 26, 2001 Page Two

Based on the information contained in the referenced application and the enclosed comments provided by our reviewing agencies, the state has determined that, at this stage of project development, the referenced project is consistent with the Florida Coastal Management Program. In addition, the applicant is required to provide the Florida State Clearinghouse with the detailed project information requested by the DEP as soon as the information becomes available.

Please attach a copy of this letter and any enclosures to your application facesheet or cover form and forward to the federal funding agency. (If applicable, enter the State Application Identifier (SAI) number, shown above, in box 3A of Standard Form 424 or where appropriate on other cover form.) This action will assure the federal agency of your compliance with Florida's review requirements and reduce the chance of unnecessary delays in processing your application.

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

cc:

Enclosures

Lauren P. Milligan, Department of Environmental Protection Vivian A. Whittier, Withlacoochee Regional Planning Council

MAILING LIST:

Federal Highway Administration, Division Administrator

Federal Emergency Management Agency - Mitigation Division, Chief

Federal Aviation Administration - Airports District Office

- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Regulatory Branch, District Engineer
- U.S. Department of Agriculture Southern Region, Regional Forester
- U.S. Department of Commerce National Marine Fisheries Service Habitat Conservation Division
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- U.S. Department of Interior Bureau of Land Management, Eastern States Office
- U.S. Department of Interior National Park Service Southeast Regional Office
- U.S. Department of Interior U.S. Geological Survey, Chief
- U.S. Department of Interior Fish and Wildlife Service, Field Supervisor
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Withlacoochee Regional Planning Council, Executive Director

Southwest Florida Water Management District, Executive Director

APPLICATION FOR Applicant Identifier 2. DATE SUBMITTED 405822 1 FEDERAL ASSISTANCE June 25, 2001 State Application Identifier 3. DATE RECEIVED BY STATE 1. TYPE OF SUBMISSION: Preapplication Application Construction Construction Federal Identifies 4. DATE RECEIVED BY FEDERAL AGENCY Non-Construction Non-Construction 5. APPLICANT INFORMATION Organizational Unit: Legal Name: Office of Design Florida Department of Transportation Name and telephone number of the person to be contacted on matters involving Address (give city, county, state, and zip code): this application (give area code) Jeraldo Comellas, Jr., P.E. 605 Suwannee Street District VII Environmental Management Engineer Tallahassee, Leon, Florida 32399-0450 813-975-6077 7. TYPE OF APPLICANT: (enter appropriate letter in box) 6. EMPLOYER IDENTIFICATION NUMBER (EIN): H. Independent School Dist. A State 4 0 0 8 5 9 6 I. State Controlled Institution of Higher Learning B. County J. Private University C. Municipal 8. TYPE OF APPLICATION: K. Indian Tribe D. Township L. Individual Revision Continuation E. Interstate New M. Profit Organization F Intermunicipal N. Other (Specify): G. Special District If Revision, enter appropriate letter(s) in box(es): C. Increase Duration A. Increase Award B. Decrease Award 9. NAME OF FEDERAL AGENCY: D. Decrease Duration Other (specify): U.S. Department of Transportation 11. DESCRIPTIVE TITLE OF APPLICANT'S PROJECT: 10. CATALOG OF FEDERAL DOMESTIC ASSISTANCE NUMBER: 2 0 2 0 5 US 19 (SR 55) PD&E Study Highway Planning and Construction FPN: 405822-1-22-01 12. AREAS AFFECTED BY PROJECT (cities, counties, states, etc.): Citrus County and City of Crystal River 14. CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICTS OF: 13. PROPOSED PROJECT: b. Project a. Applicant **Ending Date** Start Date Congressional District #5 05/2003 05/2001 16. IS APPLICATION SUBJECT TO REVIEW BY STATE EXECUTIVE ORDER 12372 PROCESS? 15. ESTIMATED FUNDING: a. YES. THIS PREAPPLICATION/APPLICATION WAS MADE AVAILABLE TO THE 1.515,000 .00 S a. Federal STATE EXECUTIVE ORDER 12372 PROCESS FOR REVIEW ON: .00 DATE June 25, 2001 b. Applicant \$ ไกก \$ c. State PROGRAM IS NOT COVERED BY E.O. 12372 b NO. .00 OR PROGRAM HAS NOT BEEN SELECTED BY STATE FOR REVIEW \$ d. Local ີດດ e. Other 17. IS THE APPLICANT DELINQUENT ON ANY FEDERAL DEBT? f. Program income \$ No. Yes If "Yes," attach an explanation. 1.515.000 .00 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 Telephone number b. Title Typed Name of Authorized Representative 813-975-6077 District VII EMO Engineer Jeraldo Comellas, Jr., P.E e. Date Signed d. Signature of Authorized Representative 6/25/01

OMB Approva! No. 0348-0043

Previous Editions Not Usable



Department of Environmental Protection

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

David B. Struhs Secretary

August 7, 2001

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

RE: USDOT - Advance Notification - U.S. 19 (S.R. 55) PD&E Study, City of Crystal River, Citrus County, SAI # FL200107020578C

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 study of U.S. 19 capacity and design improvements. 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 road 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 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.). We recommend that a wetland jurisdictional determination, per Rule 62-340, F.A.C., be obtained for the highway corridor prior to further planning. Early coordination of project plans with the SWFWMD may help prevent future permitting problems.
- ♦ 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 steep or vertically retained side slopes, and median width reductions within safety limits.

"More Protection, Less Process"

Ms. Jasmin Raffington SAI # FL200107020578C Page 2

- Wetlands should not be displaced by the installation of stormwater conveyance and treatment swales; compensatory treatment in adjacent uplands is the preferred alternative.
- After avoidance and minimization have been exhausted, mitigation must be proposed to offset the adverse impacts of the project to existing wetland functions and values. Significant attention is given to forested wetland systems, which are difficult to mitigate.
- The cumulative impacts of concurrent and future road improvement projects in the vicinity of the subject project should also be addressed.
- ♦ In addition to the six Outstanding Florida Waters (OFWs) listed on the Fact Sheet, an aquatic preserve, state buffer preserve, state greenway, state park, and national wildlife refuge are also located in the vicinity of the project St. Martins Marsh Aquatic Preserve, Crystal River State Buffer Preserve, Florida Springs Coastal Greenway (formerly Crystal River, St. Martins, and Homosassa Reserve CARL Projects), Homosassa Springs State Wildlife Park, and Chassahowitzka National Wildlife Refuge. All waterbodies within the boundaries of these public lands are designated OFWs under section 62-302.700(9), F.A.C. Pursuant to section 373.414(1), F.S., any impacts to these waterbodies and associated wetlands must be demonstrated to be "clearly in the public interest" as part of the Environmental Resource Permitting process.

Please note: The Homosassa Springs State Wildlife Park Visitor Center, parking lot, and transportation boat basin are located adjacent to the U.S. 19 right-of-way south of C.R. 490A. For additional information, please contact Mr. Mark Latch, Environmental Administrator, DEP Division of Recreation and Parks at (850) 488-8666. For information regarding the Florida Springs Coastal Greenway parcels adjoining U.S. 19, please contact Mr. Matt Clemons, Manager, DEP Crystal River State Buffer Preserve at (352) 563-1136.

◆ Every effort should be made to maximize the treatment of stormwater runoff from the proposed highway improvements project, as the neighboring OFWs 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, which must be designed to prevent the water quality degradation of receiving waters in the OFWs. The permit applicant must 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.

Please note: Protection of surface water and groundwater quality within the recharge basins of the area's first magnitude springs – Crystal River Springs, Homosassa Springs, and Chassahowitzka Spring – is of significant interest to the Department. Based upon the work and findings of the multi-agency Florida Springs Task Force, the Department has assigned a high priority to the protection and restoration of Florida's springs – among the most valuable ecological and economic resources of the state. We welcome the Department of

Ms. Jasmin Raffington SAI # FL200107020578C Page 3

Transportation's input and cooperation in developing strategies to improve existing stormwater treatment in the vicinity of the springs (e.g., rerouting and treating stormwater runoff discharging directly into sinkholes). For further information, please contact Mr. Gregg Jones, Director, SWFWMD Resource Conservation and Development Department at (352) 796-7211, ext. 4215.

♦ 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 and would like to request that copies of the Environmental Assessment be sent through the State Clearinghouse for review. 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

James P. Milligan

/lpm

cc:

Mark Latch, DEP, DRP
Craig Parenteau, DEP, DRP District 2
Tom Linley, DEP, Homosassa Springs S.W.P.
Anna Marie Hartman, DEP, OCAMA
Matt Clemons, DEP, Crystal River S.B.P.
Gregg Jones, SWFWMD, RCDD
Lori Collins, DEP, Southwest District

MICHAEL R. MOEHLMAN EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

1241 S.W. 10th Street OCALA, FLORIDA 34474-2798

> Telephone 352/732-1315 Suncom 667-1315 FAX 732-1319 email: mailbox@wrpc.cc



OFFICERS

EUGENE A. POOLE

CHRISTOPHER A. KINGSLEY VICE - CHAIRMAN

VICKI PHILLIPS SECRETARY

July 18, 2001

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

SUBJECT:

SAI #: 200107020578C

U. S. Department of Transportation Advance Notification - PD&E Study

WPI Seg. No. 405822 1 - FAP No. 1852 007 P

US 19 (SR 55)

Crystal River, Citrus County, FL WRPC ICR #: 42-C6-01-DOT

Dear Ms. Raffington:

Pursuant to the provisions of Presidential Executive Order 12372, Governor's Executive Order 95-359, and WRPC Rules Chapter 29E-6, FAC, the staff of the Withlacoochee Regional Planning Council reviewed the above-referenced project and find it to be consistent with the goals and policies of the WRPC's adopted Strategic Regional Policy Plan for the Withlacoochee Region and, in particular, with:

- Policy 2.4.13: Plan and design transportation facilities that provide maximum access to jobs and markets.
- Policy 2.12.1: Coordinate with the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) in the development of policies that maintain adequate regional transportation facilities for continued economic development.

- Policy 4.10.5: Confer with the Florida Natural Areas Inventory, the Florida Game and Freshwater Fish Commission [Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission], and the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service when revising land use plans that might affect the habitat of threatened or endangered species of plants and animals.
- Goal 5.5: Provide transportation facilities to ensure that the regionally significant roadways operate at acceptable levels of service.
- Policy 5.5.2: Perform timely maintenance, expansion, and repair of roads and bridges to minimize costly reconstruction and to enhance safety.

In addition, the applicant should be aware of the followings goals and policies which may be pertinent to this project:

- Policy 4.3.3: Require new development to locate and construct impervious surfaces, buildings, lawns, and sewage facilities so that they do not adversely affect the quality of nearby surface waters.
- Policy 4.3.10: Require protective devices to prevent construction activity from causing increased sediment in surface waters or wetlands.
- Policy 4.4.1: Utilize natural drainage and floodplain functions in new development and redevelopment; prohibit significant interference of floodplain functions.
- Policy 4.4.11: Limit dredging to maintenance of existing channels, and retention and detention ponds. Do not dispose of dredged material in wetlands unless it is for the purpose of restoring an altered system, or in sensitive vegetative communities. Require restoration or mitigation where dredge and fill regulations have been violated.
- Policy 4.6.2: Design and build new local, state, and private roads, bridges, and causeways so as not to interfere with surface water flows, and with appropriate protective measures to avoid degrading water quality.
- Goal 4.8: Avoid adverse impacts to the natural functions of the region's wetlands or surface water systems from development and redevelopment.
- Policy 4.8.18: Design new public and private roads so as not to impede the natural flow of water.

Ms. Jasmin Raffington July 18, 2001 Page 3.

Policy 4.9.2: Design roads and bridges to incorporate design features that facilitate the free passage of wildlife so as to avoid vehicle and animal collisions.

We appreciate the opportunity to comment on this proposal.

Sincerely,

Vivian A. Whittier

ICR Procedural Coordinator

/vaw

Enc.

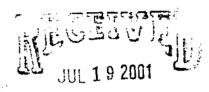
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AND RESPONSE SHEET

42-C6-01-DOT

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State of Florida Clearinghouse

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:

7/2/01

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:

7/18/01:

See WRPC comments attached.

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.

FL DEPT AGRIC & CONS

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DATE:

6/25/01

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8AI#: FL200107020578C

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- 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.

Reviewer:

Date:

Planning and Construction - Advance Notification -US 19 (SR 55) PD&E Study - WPI Seg. No. 405822 1 - FAP No. 1852 007 P - City of Crystal River, Citrus County, Florida.

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UNIT COORDINATORS for Intergovernmental Coordination and Review: MS. VANESSA HOLMES (850) 414-6563 2555 SI **ARD OAK** COASTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAM CMF (850) 488-2356 COMMUNITY PLANNING **BLVD** DCP 2555 SHUMARD OAK BLVD The attached document requires a Coastal Zone Management Act/Florida **Project Description:** Coastal Management Program consistency evalutation and is categorized U.S. Department of Transportation - Highway as one of the following: Planning and Construction - Advance Federal Assistance to State or Local Government (15 CFR 930, Subpart F). Notification - US 19 (SR 55) PD&E Study - WPI Х Agencies are required to evaluate the consistency of the activity. Seg. No. 405822 1 - FAP No. 1852 007 P - City Direct Federal Activity (15 CFR 930, Subpart C). Federal Agencies are of Crystal River, Citrus County, Florida, 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. Not Applicable Comments Attached EO. 12372/NEPA 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/mailing project packages to the next revviewing 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.

SAI Routing Sheet

COUNTY: Cittus

DATE: 07/02/2001

SAI#: FL200107020578C

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Sevnole Etulwa Vculvke Vcvyeculke Seminole Nation of Oklahoma Historic Preservation Office

September 6, 2001

Jeraldo Comellas, Jr., P.E.
District Environmental Management Engineer
Florida Department of Transportation
11201 N. McKinley Drive / MS 7-500
Tampa, FL 33612-6456

RE: WPI Seg. No. 405822 1 / FAP No. 1852 007 P US 19 (SR 55) PD&E Study / Citrus County

Dear Mr. Comellas:

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 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.

Sincerely,

Emman Spain

Historic Preservation Officer Seminole Nation of Oklahoma

> P.O. Box 1498 ♦ Wewoka, OK ♦ 74884 Phone: 405-257-2036 ♦ Fax: 405-257-8611

Appendix B

Public Official/Agency Kick-off Meeting



JEB BUSH GOVERNOR THOMAS F. BARRY, JR. SECRETARY

August 3, 2001

Mr. John Lettow, Acting Director City of Crystal River Public Works Department 123 N.W. Highway 19 Crystal River, Florida 34428

RE: WPI Seg. No. 405822 1 / FAP No. 1852 007 P

US 19 (SR 55) from US 98 to CR 488 / Citrus County

Dear Mr. Lettow:

The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) will hold a Public Official/Agency Kickoff meeting for the US 19 (SR 55) Project Development and Environment (PD&E) Study. The project limits are US 19 (SR 55) from US 98 to CR 488, a distance of approximately 18.7 miles, in Citrus County, Florida. Please see the attached project location map. The meeting will be held on Wednesday, August 22, 2001, from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon at the Crystal River City Hall Meeting Room, located at 123 N.W. Highway 19, Crystal River, Florida.

The meeting is being held to inform elected and appointed officials and local, state, and federal agencies of the project and to obtain specific data pertinent to the Study including technical, socio-economic, ecological, and environmental matters. The meeting will also provide a forum to obtain local knowledge and suggestions as they relate to the proposed transportation improvement. The PD&E Study will evaluate and document engineering and environmental issues associated with the proposed improvements to US 19, and recommend various improvement alternatives. The proposed improvements include widening and reconstructing the existing multi-lane facility, and providing improved access management features.

The meeting will be in an open, informal format with project graphics and other pertinent information on display. Department representatives will be available beginning at 10:00 a.m. to discuss the project, answer questions, and receive comments.

In addition to comments collected during this meeting, you may submit written comments to:

Kenneth A. Hartmann, P.E.
District Seven Secretary
ATTN: Jeraldo Comellas, Jr., P.E.
District Environmental Management Engineer
Florida Department of Transportation
MS 7-500
11201 N. McKinley Drive
Tampa, Florida 33612-6456

Mr. John Lettow Page 2 August 3, 2001

We request that comments be postmarked by August 31, 2001, so they may be evaluated and the Study can proceed.

This meeting is being held in accordance with 23 CFR 771 and Title 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.

Your attendance at this Kickoff Meeting is encouraged. Any questions regarding the proposed project or the meeting may be directed to Ming Gao, P.E., Project Manager, at (800) 226-7220/(813) 975-6454 or by e-mail to ming.gao@dot.state.fl.us.

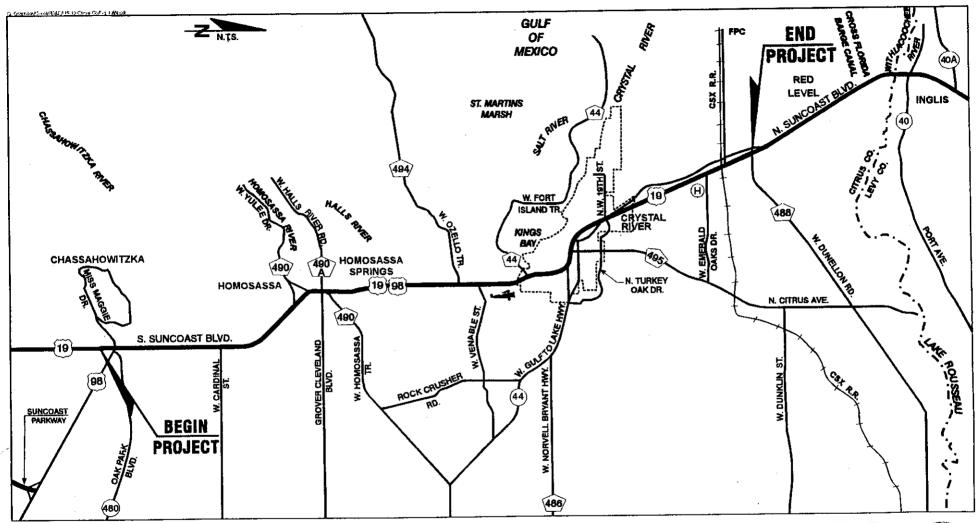
Sincerely,

Jeraldo Comellas, Jr., P.E.

enello Carella J.

District EMO Engineer

Enclosure





LEGEND

US 19 Project Limits



Crystal River Airport



Crystal River City Limits



Seven Rivers Community Hospital



US 18 (SR 55) POSE STUDY

Trans South of US 98 to CR 488 Citros County, Florida



PROJECT LOGATION MAP
WP1 55G NO. 4059221
RAP - 1862 007 P

City Manager City of Crystal River 123 N.W. Highway 19 Crystal River, Florida 34428

Dear Sir or Madam

Mr. John Lettow, Acting Director City of Crystal River Public Works Department 123 N.W. Highway 19 Crystal River, Florida 34428

Dear Mr. Lettow

Ms. Karen Barnett, Director Citrus County Parks & Recreation Department P.O. Box 1439 Crystal River, Florida 34423-1439

Dear Ms. Barnett

Mr. Chuck Dixon, Director Citrus County Planning Department 3600 W. Sovereign Path Lecanto, Florida 34461

Dear Mr. Dixon

Mr. Walter Brown, Director Crystal River Building & Zoning Department 123 N.W. Highway 19 Crystal River, Florida 34428

Dear Mr. Brown

Chief Jim Farley Crystal River Police Department 123 N.W. Highway 19 Crystal River, Florida 34428

Dear Chief Farley

Mr. Walt Eastmond, Interim Director Citrus County Engineering Department 3600 W. Sovereign Path Lecanto, Florida 34461

Dear Mr. Eastmond

Mr. Ron Schultz, Property Appraiser Citrus County Property Appraiser's Office 110 N. Apopka Avenue, Room 200 Inverness, Florida 34450

Dear Mr. Schultz

Chief Brown Duma Crystal River Fire Department 123 N.W. Highway 19 Crystal River, Florida 34428

Dear Chief Dumas

Mr. Richard Wesch, County Administrator Citrus County 111 W. Main Street, Third Floor Inverness, Florida 34450

Dear Mr. Wesch

Sheriff Jeff Dawsy Citrus County Sheriff's Office 1 S. Park Avenue Inverness, Florida 34450

Dear Sheriff Dawsy

Mr. David Hickey, Superintendent Citrus County School Board 1007 W. Main Street Inverness, Florida 34450

Dear Mr. Hickey

Mr. Jim Soukup, Director Citrus County Emergency Operations 3425 West Southern Street Lecanto, Florida 34461

Dear Mr. Soukup

U.S. Postmaster 4610 South Suncoast Boulevard Homosassa Springs, Florida 34446

Dear Sir or Madam

Mr. Tim Trent, Manager Time Warner 13071 Cortez Boulevard Brooksville, Florida 34613

Dear Mr. Trent

Mr. Lou Bedami, Director Citrus County Public Utilities Department 1300 S. Lecanto Highway Lecanto, Florida 34461

Dear Mr. Bedami

Mr. Roger Goettelmann, Manager Crystal River Community Redevelopment Agency 123 N.W. Highway 19 Crystal River, Florida 34428

Dear Mr. Goettelmann

U.S. Postmaster 10780 West Yulee Drive Homosassa, Florida 34487

Dear Sir or Madam

U.S. Postmaster 18 NE Fourth Street Crystal River, Florida 34429

Dear Sir or Madam

Mr. Jim St. John, Division Administrator Attn: Mr. Marvin Williams Federal Highway Administration 227 N. Bronough Street Room 2015 Tallahassee, Florida 32301-2015

Dear Mr. St. John

Mr. John Hankinson, Jr., Administrator, Region IV U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Atlanta Federal Center 61 Forsyth Street Atlanta, Georgia 30303-8960

Dear Mr. Hankinson

Chief, Review Unit Environmental Affairs Program, M.S. 423 U.S. Geological Survey Chief, U.S. Dept. of Interior, Rm 2D318 12201 Sunrise Valley Drive Reston, Virginia 20192

Dear Sir or Madam

Mr. Joe Miller, District Engineer Regulatory Branch U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Post Office Box 4970 Jacksonville, Florida 32201-4970

Dear Mr. Miller

Regional Environmental Officer U.S. Dept of Housing and Urban Development Richard B. Russell Federal Building 75 Spring Street, S.W. Atlanta, Georgia 30303-3309

Dear Sir or Madam

Mr. Leroy Irwin, Manager Environmental Management Office Florida Department of Transportation, M.S. 37 605 Suwannee Street Tallahassee, Florida 32399

Dear Mr. Irwin

Chief
Natural Hazards Branch
Federal Emergency Management Agency
3003 Chamblee-Tucker Road
Atlanta, Georgia 30341

Dear Sir or Madam

Dept. of Health & Human Services Centers for Disease Control & Prevention National Center for Environmental Health, EEHS/CDB, (F-16) 4770 Buford Highway, N.E. Atlanta, Georgia 30341-3724

Dear Sir or Madam

Mr. David Hankla, Field Supervisor Fish and Wildlife Service U.S. Department of Interior 6620 Southpoint Drive, S., Suite 310 Jacksonville, Florida 32216-0912

Dear Mr. Hankla

Airports District Office Federal Aviation Administration Citadel National Building, Suite 400 5950 Hazeltine National Drive Orlando, Florida 32822

Dear Sir or Madam

Dr. Janet Snyder Matthews, Director Florida Department of State Division of Historical Resources 500 S. Bronough Street Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0250

Dear Dr. Matthews

Lt. Col. Greg Holder, Regional Director South Region Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission 3900 Drane Field Road Lakeland, Florida 33811-1299

Dear Lt. Col. Holder

Mr. Bradley J. Hartman, Director Office of Environmental Services Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission 620 S. Meridian Street Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1600

Dear Mr. Hartman

Mr. Emilio Vergara, Executive Director Southwest Florida Water Management District 2379 Broad Street Brooksville, Florida 34609-6899

Dear Mr. Vergara

Ms. Deborah Getzoff, District Director Florida Dept. of Environmental Protection Southwest District 3804 Coconut Palm Drive Tampa, Florida 33619

Dear Ms. Getzoff

Mr. Michael R. Moehlman, Executive Director Withlacoochee Planning Council 1241 S.W. 10th Street Ocala, Florida 34474-2798

Dear Mr. Moehlman



US 19 (SR 55) PROJECT DEVELOPMENT AND ENVIRONMENT (PD&E) STUDY FROM SOUTH OF US 98 TO CR 488 CITRUS COUNTY, FLORIDA

Work Program Item Segment No. 405822 1 FAP No. 1852 007 P

Public Official/Agency Kickoff Meeting

Wednesday, August 22, 2001

CONTACTS:

Ming Gao, P.E., Project Manager or Marian Pscion, Public Information Officer, (800) 226-7220

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) is conducting a Project Development & Environment (PD&E) Study to evaluate and document engineering and environmental issues associated with the improvements associated with the proposed improvements to US 19. The project begins south of US 98 and extends approximately 18.7 miles along US 19 to CR 488 in Citrus County, Florida. The project is located in the communities of Homosassa, Homosassa Springs, and Crystal River in western Citrus County, Florida.

PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS:

The Study will evaluate capacity improvements along the entire project corridor. These improvements include widening and reconstructing the existing multi-lane facility, and providing improved access management features.

PD&E STUDY SCHEDULE:

Public Official/Agency Kickoff Meeting
Alternatives Public Workshop
Public Hearing
Location Design Acceptance (LDA)

August 22, 2001 Spring 2002 Spring 2003 Fall 2003

FIVE YEAR ADOPTED WORK PROGRAM FUNDING (FISCAL YEARS 2001/2002 – 2005/2006):

Design (Reserve):

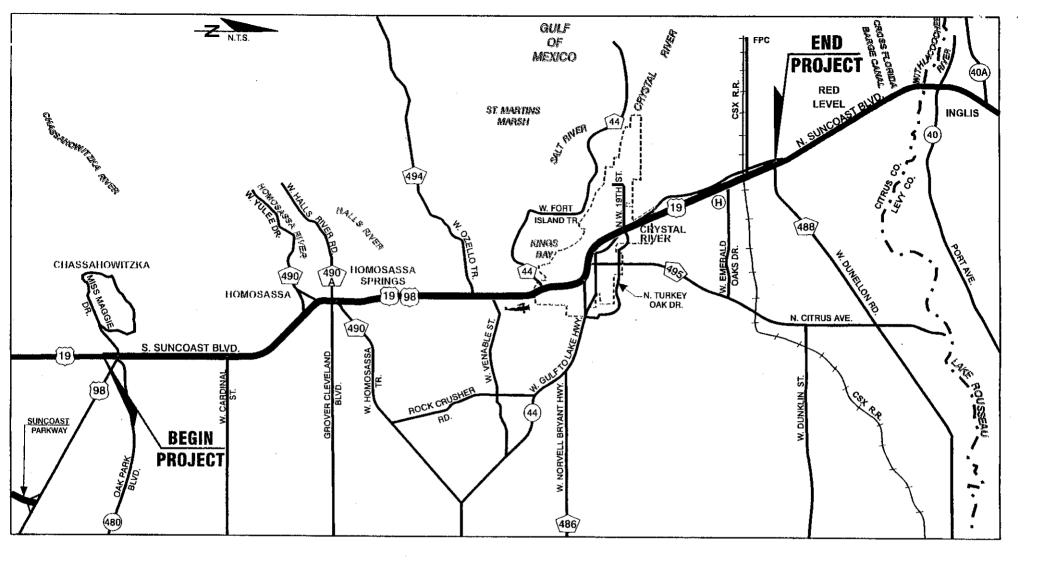
2004/2005

ROW Acquisition:

Not currently funded

Construction:

Not currently funded







US 19 Project Limits



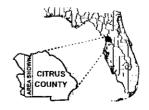
Crystal River Airport



Crystal River City Limits



Seven Rivers Community Hospital



US 19 (SR 55) PUBE STUDY



PROJECT LOCATION WAS PARTIES OF P



COMMENTS

from US 19 (SR 55)

Project Development and Environmental (PD&E) Study Public Official/Agency Kickoff Meeting Crystal River City Hall Meeting Room Wednesday, August 22, 2001

Part I - Comments

We encourage you to write down your opinions and comments to ensure that they are considered in the improvements for US 19. Please provide your comments below. If additional space is needed, please use the back of this form.
Part II – Request to be on the Mailing List
If you did not receive notification of this meeting, and desire to be included on the mailing list, please complete this part.
Name
Address
Ciry, State, Zip Code

If you would like to mail this form, please have it postmarked by August 31, 2001, and addressed to:

Kenneth A. Hartmann, P.E., District Seven Secretary
Attn: Jeraldo Comellas, Jr., P.E.
District EMO Engineer
Florida Department of Transportation, District 7
MS 7-500
11201 N. McKinley Drive
Tampa, Florida 33612-6456





* Please Print

US 19 (SR 55) Project Development & Environment (PD&E) Study Public Official/Agency Kickoff Meeting August 22, 2001

Sign-In Sheet

<u>Name</u>	Address LECANTO	<u>Kepresenting</u>
VENERA L. HOEFLER	2280 K. BKENTWOOD CIK	HYSERT
MIKE GUDIS	City /A/1-CRY, KUR.	COUNCIL MEMBER-CRY KUS
RON K=TEHEN	123 ww that 19.	COTY OF CRYSTAL RENDE
zma Peters	660 71. Suncoust plad	myself
FRED ALIL CURRIER	5 JUNGLEPLUM CT S. HOMUSASSA	MYSELF
Linda Tschuschhe	8150 W. OAK ST CR	
Charles tochesethe	h 4	4
RUDY BEPES	1364 E. BISHARY ST. HERNANDO	N
Bullere Toman	638 Patris ave.	Plantation Decktey In
Jah hetter	Coty of Caystal River.	
PATRICIA COWEN	P.O.BOX 925 LECAUTO.FL 34461	CITRUS COUNTY COUNCIL
John T BARNES	J&K Consortante Homosassa Spj F).	
Brown Dungs	P.O. B. 407 Cystell Know }	Legital River Fire Dep
	744.	<i>V</i> 9 .



* Please Print

US 19 (SR 55) Project Development & Environment (PD&E) Study Public Official/Agency Kickoff Meeting August 22, 2001

Sign-In Sheet

<u>Name</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Representing</u>
ALEX ILNYCKY;	RO. 180X 2011 C.R.	Self.
TAY DAW	8945 W Tondo Dr CR	Cilius Do/20
Lois Williams	PO BOX 440212, Bev. Hills	•
Jim Tarkey	123 NW Highway 19	City of Crystal RIVER
Lee Cooper	920 NW Swag Harbon Road CA	Se/ 8
Cynthea & Jones	·	Citrus County
R. Goettelmoun	3600 W. SOVERETON Roth Lee. CRYSTOL ZIVER C. Ra. 123 NW Huy 19 Crystel River	Agencia.
CHUCK DIXON	3600 p. Swereign Path	CITRUS COUNTY DEVELOPMENT
MORRIS HARVEY	8055 N. DACCA TER	NORTH CITRUS CIVIL ASSOC
Lizabeth Peterson		Rep. Argenziano
KICHARD Hughes	aty HAN	City of Crystal Ruer
Jin Mc INTOSH	Oty HAW 2765 W. LIVE OAK ST	NATURE CONST READER



US 19 (SR 55) roject Development & Environm

Project Development & Environment (PD&E) Study Public Official/Agency Kickoff Meeting August 22, 2001

* Please Print

Sign-In Sheet

<u>Name</u>	<u>Address</u>	Representing
She flabelin	Orgata / Rov	Chronicle
Tamnie Durden	3266 W Sallboat Are C.R.	DEP
Russell LEERGER	Coty Cayotal Ruezz	Q coff Caydel June
Roger O. BATCHELOR	POBOX 1604 Cystal River, Tr. 34423	Citrus County-
Parrell Cunningham	DRMP 1505 East Colonic Pr Orlando FL 320	803 DRMP/Citrus County
Man Proces	3600 W Sovereign Pll #114 Lecasto	Cilias TIDE
Laile Wood	\$38 Citrus ave	Plantation Recouding
Bill Padde	Homoso50 50	<i></i>
James CARGILL	7535 W TROPICAL HOMOSASSA	
LINDA Elliett-Uplmar	9769 W 029160 Tr	02410 H20
and Nool	2 NW HWY 19	CRYSTAL River, FI
Lew Charte	123 US HWY 19	CRYSTAL RIVER

4058221.07

Florida Department of Transportation

JEB BUSH GOVERNOR 11201 N. MCKINLEY DRIVE * TAMPA, FL 33612-6456 * 1-800-226-7220 TRAFFIC OPERATIONS * 7-1300 * (813) 975-6086

THOMAS F. BARRY, JR. SECRETARY

June 8, 2001

Mr. Bill Radder 24 Hemlock Court South Homosassa, FL 34446

RE: Section 02030, US 19 in Citrus County

Dear Mr. Radder:

The Department recently received a copy of your "Survey of Traffic Safety on US Route 19 Corridor." We share your concern for drivers using US 19. The safety of the motoring public is the first priority at the Department of Transportation.

We are currently implementing several of the solutions described in your survey. The intersection of US 19 and Suffolk Terrace has been programmed for improvement as a safety project. One of the two closely spaced median openings will be closed and left turn lanes will be added to the one that remains. Funds have been allocated for constructing this improvement. The design should begin before the end of the year.

The Department has used raised channelization to prohibit certain turning movements at median openings. The typical design prohibits left turns from the side street and is used at locations where there is an accident problem. This is also effective in treating median openings that have multiple stacking problems.

A project has been initiated in the District to install advance directional signs at major intersections. The signs are placed about ¼ mile in advance of the major crossroad. The signs specify the name of the crossroad and are positioned far enough in advance to allow motorists to get in the proper lane for turning. These signs are particularly helpful for our visitors to Florida who may not be familiar with the roadway network. These signs will be installed in Citrus County within the next few years.

As described in your letter, the use of frontage roads is an effective tool to lessen congestion. In Hernando County, for example, frontage roads have been used effectively to control movements on and off of US 19. The County has required frontage roads on many residential and commercial developments. Most recently, the Department and County installed a frontage road to connect the signal at Northcliffe Boulevard to residential areas to the south.

Mr. Bill Radder June 8, 2001 Page 2

We appreciate receiving your survey, and we will review all of your suggestions. If you have any further questions or comments, you can reach me at (813) 975-6254.

Sincerely,

David K. Buser, P.E.

District Traffic Operations Engineer

BY: alim J, Gilbronson, P.E.

Assistant District Traffic Operations Engineer

ALG/GS

cc:

Marian Pscion Curtis Karr

Appendix C

Alternative Public Workshop Materials



JEB BUSH GOVERNOR THOMAS F. BARRY, JR. SECRETARY

December 20, 2002

The Honorable Bill Nelson United States Senator Sam Gibbons Federal Court House 801 North Florida Avenue, 4th Floor Tampa, FL 33602

RE: WPI Seg. No. 4058221/FAP No. 1852007 P

US 19 (SR 55) from south of US 98 to CR 488/Citrus County

Dear Senator Nelson:

You are invited to attend and participate in the US 19 (SR 55) Alternatives Public Workshop on January 16, 2003 from 4:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at the National Guard Armory, located at 8551 West Venable Street, Crystal River, Florida.

This Workshop is one of the many opportunities for you to comment on the proposed roadway alternatives. The limits for the Project Development and Environment (PD&E) Study are from south of US 98 to North Dunnellon Road (CR 488). Please see the attached newsletter.

You may provide comments at the Workshop or written comments at the following address:

Kenneth A. Hartmann, P.E., District Seven Secretary
Attn: Robert M. Clifford, AICP, District Modal Planning and Development Manager
Florida Department of Transportation
11201 N. McKinley Drive, MS 7-500
Tampa, Florida 33612-6456

If you any questions concerning this project, please contact Mark Clasgens, Project Manager at (800) 226-7220 / (813) 975-6450 or by e-mail at mark.clasgens@dot.state.fl.us.

Sincerely.

Kenneth A. Hartmann, P.E.

District Seven Secretary

KAH/PS/lm Attachment

US 19 Citrus Elected Officials Mailing List

<u>Prefix</u>	First Name	Last Name	Title	Organization Name	Address	Address2	City	State	PostalCode	Salutation	E-mail Address
The Honorable	Charles S. "Charlie"	Dean	State Representative, District 43		101 Zephyr Street		Inverness	FL	34450	Representative Dean	DEAN.CHARLES@myfloridahouse.com
The Honorable	Mike	Fasano	State Senator, District 11		8217 Massachusetts Avenue		New Port Richey	FL	34653-3111	Senator Fasano	fasano.mike.web@flsenate.gov
The Honorable	Nancy	Argenziano	State Senator, District 3	i.	6216 West Corporate Oaks Drive		Crystal River	FL	34429-2694	Senator Argenziano	argenziano.nancy.web@flsenate.gov
The Honorable	Ginny	Brown-Waite	United States Representative		Hernando Government Complex	20 North Main Street, Room 200	Brooksville	FL	34601	Representative Brown-Waite	house.gov
The Honorable	Bob	Graham	United States Senator		625 Twiggs Street	Suite 500	Татра	FL	33602	Senator Graham	bob_graham@graham.senate.gov
The Honorable	Bill	Nelson	United States Senator	Sam Gibbons Federal Court House	801 North Florida Avenue	4th Floor	Tampa	FL	33602	Senator Nelson	senator@billnelson.senate.gov
The Honorable	Vicki	Phillips		Citrus County Commission	111 West Main Street	3rd Floor	Inverness	FL	34450	Commissioner Phillips	vicki.phillips@bocc.citrus.fl.us
The Honorable	Jim	Fowler	Chairman	Citrus County Commission	111 West Main Street	3rd Floor	Inverness	FL	34450	Chairman Fowler	jim.fowler@bocc.citrus.fl.us
The Honorable	Gary	Bartell		Citrus County Commission	111 West Main Street	3rd Floor	Inverness	FL	34450	Commissioner Bartell	gary.bartell@bocc.citrus.fl.us
The Honorable	Roger	Batchelor		Citrus County Commission	111 West Main Street	3rd Floor	Inverness	FL	34450	Chairman Batchelor	roger.batchelor@bocc.citrus.fl.us
The Honorable	Josh	Wooten		Citrus County Commission	111 West Main Street	3rd Floor	Inverness	FL	34450	Commissioner Wooten	josh.wooten@bocc.citrus.fl.us
The Honorable	Ronald E.	Kitchen, Jr.	Mayor	City of Crystal River	123 Northwest Highway 19		Crystal River	FL	34428	Mayor Kitchen	mayor@crystalriverfl.org
The Honorable	Kitty	Ebert		Crystal River City Council	123 Northwest Highway 19		Crystal River	FL	34428	Councilwoman Ebert	kebert@crystalriverfl.org
The Honorable	Robert	Holmes		Crystal River City Council	123 Northwest Highway 19		Crystal River	FL	34428	Councilman Holmes	rholmes@crystalriverfl.org
The Honorable	John	Kendall	8	Crystal River City Council	123 Northwest Highway 19		Crystal River	FL	34428	Councilman Kendall	jkendall@crystalriverfl.org
The Honorable	Susan	Kirk		Crystal River City Council	123 Northwest Highway 19		Crystal River	FL	34428	Chairwomen Kirk	skirk@crystalriverfl.org
The Honorable	Roger B.	Proffer, Sr.		Crystal River City Council	123 Northwest Highway 19		Crystal River	FL	34428	Councilman Proffer	rproffer@crystalriverfl.org

Dept. of Health & Human Services Centers for Disease Control & Prevention National Center for Environmental Health, EEHS/CDB, (F-16) 4770 Buford Highway Northeast Atlanta, Georgia 30341-3724

Sir or Madam

Mr. Jim Soukup, Director Citrus County Emergency Operations 3425 West Southern Street Lecanto, Florida 34461

Mr. Soukup

Mr. Rafael Del Valle, Manager Citrus County Parks & Recreation Department P.O. Box 1439 Crystal River, Florida 34423-1439

Mr. Del Valle

Mr. Ron Schultz, Property Appraiser Citrus County Property Appraiser's Office 110 North Apopka Avenue, Room 200 Inverness, Florida 34450

Mr. Schultz

Mr. David Hickey, Superintendent Citrus County School Board 1007 West Main Street Inverness, Florida 34450

Superintendent Hickey

Mr. Richard Wesch, County Administrator Citrus County 111 West Main Street, Third Floor Inverness, Florida 34450

Mr. Wesch

Mr. Ken Cheek, P.E., Director Citrus County Engineering Department 3600 West Sovereign Path Lecanto, Florida 34461

Mr. Cheek

Mr. Chuck Dixon, Director Citrus County Planning Department 3600 West Sovereign Path Lecanto, Florida 34461

Mr. Dixon

Mr. Robert Knight, Interim Director Citrus County Public Utilities Department 1300 South Lecanto Highway Lecanto, Florida 34461

Mr. Knight

Sheriff Jeff Dawsy Citrus County Sheriff's Office 1 South Park Avenue Inverness, Florida 34450

Sheriff Dawsy

Mr. Kenneth L. Frink, Director Citrus County Department of Public Works 3600 West Sovereign Path, Suite 212 Lecanto, Florida 34461

Mr. Frink

Mr. Kerry Lewis, Acting Director City of Crystal River Public Works Department 123 Northwest Highway 19 Crystal River, Florida 34428

Mr. Lewis

Mr. Roger Goettelmann, Manager Crystal River Community Redevelopment Agency 123 Northwest Highway 19 Crystal River, Florida 34428

Mr. Goettelmann

Chief James Farley Crystal River Police Department 123 Northwest Highway 19 Crystal River, Florida 34428

Chief Farley

Chief, Review Unit Environmental Affairs Program, M.S. 423 U.S. Geological Survey Chief, U.S. Dept. of Interior, Rm 2D318 12201 Sunrise Valley Drive Reston, Virginia 20192

Sir or Madam

Ms. Susan R. Boyer, City Manager City of Crystal River 123 Northwest Highway 19 Crystal River, Florida 34428

Ms. Boyer

Mr. Lew Chandler, Director Crystal River Building & Zoning Department 123 Northwest Highway 19 Crystal River, Florida 34428

Mr. Chandler

Chief Brown Dumas Crystal River Fire Department 123 Northwest Highway 19 Crystal River, Florida 34428

Chief Dumas

Mr. Jim St. John, Division Administrator Attn: Marvin Williams Federal Highway Administration 227 North Bronough Street, Room 2015 Tallahassee, Florida 32301-2015

Mr. St. John

Mr. Leroy Irwin, Manager Environmental Management Office Florida Department of Transportation, M.S. 37 605 Suwannee Street Tallahassee, Florida 32399

Mr. Irwin

Airports District Office Federal Aviation Administration Citadel National Building, Suite 400 5950 Hazeltine National Drive Orlando, Florida 32822

Sir or Madam

Dr. Janet Snyder Matthews, Director Florida Department of State Division of Historical Resources 500 South Bronough Street Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0250

Dr. Matthews

Chief Natural Hazards Branch Federal Emergency Management Agency 3003 Chamblee-Tucker Road Atlanta, Georgia 30341

Sir or Madam

Mr. Carl Gibilaro, P.E. Project Manager Florida Turnpike P.O. Box 263, Building No. 5315 Ocoee, Florida 34761

Mr. Gibilaro

Lt. Col. Greg Holder
Regional Director
South Region
Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission
3900 Drane Field Road
Lakeland, Florida 33811-1299

Lt. Col. Holder

Mr. David Hankla, Field Supervisor Fish and Wildlife Service U.S. Department of Interior 6620 Southpoint Drive South, Suite 310 Jacksonville, Florida 32216-0912

Mr. Hankla

Ms. Deborah Getzoff, District Director Florida Dept. of Environmental Protection Southwest District 3804 Coconut Palm Drive Tampa, Florida 33619

Ms. Getzoff

Mr. Bradley J. Hartman, Director Office of Environmental Services Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission 620 South Meridian Street Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1600

Mr. Hartman

Mr. Joe Miller, District Engineer Regulatory Branch U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Post Office Box 4970 Jacksonville, Florida 32201-4970

Mr. Miller

Mr. Tim Trent, Manager Time Warner 13071 Cortez Boulevard Brooksville, Florida 34613

Mr. Trent

Regional Environmental Officer
U.S. Dept of Housing and Urban Development
Richard B. Russell Federal Building
75 Spring Street Southwest
Atlanta, Georgia 30303-3309

Sir or Madam

Ms. Shelly Norton U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service 9450 Koger Boulevard St. Petersburg, Florida 33702

Mr. Norton

U.S. Postmaster 10780 West Yulee Drive Homosassa, Florida 34487

Sir or Madam

U.S. Postmaster 18 Northeast Fourth Street Crystal River, Florida 34429

Sir or Madam

Mr. James I. Palmer, Jr., Administrator Region IV U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Atlanta Federal Center 61 Forsyth Street Atlanta, Georgia 30303-8960

Mr. Palmer

Mr. Michael R. Moehlman, Executive Director Withlacoochee Planning Council 1241 Southwest 10th Street Ocala, Florida 34474-2798

Mr. Moehlman

U.S. Postmaster 4610 South Suncoast Boulevard Homosassa Springs, Florida 34446

Sir or Madam

December 19, 2002

Mr. Richard Wesch County Administrator Citrus County 111 West Main Street, Third Floor Inverness, Florida 34450

RE: WPI Seg. No. 4058221/FAP No. 1852007 P

US 19 (SR 55) from south of US 98 to CR 488/Citrus County

Dear Mr. Wesch:

The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) will conduct an Alternatives Public Workshop regarding the proposed improvements to US 19 (SR 55) from south of US 98 to CR 488 in Citrus County, Florida, a distance of approximately 18.8 miles. The Workshop will be held on Thursday, January 16, 2003, from 4:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at the National Guard Armory, located at 8551 West Venable Street, Crystal River, Florida. Please see the attached Project Location Map.

The Workshop will present information about the Project Development and Environment (PD&E) Study for US 19 within the above referenced limits. Proposed improvements include widening the existing four-lane sections to six-lanes and implementing various Transportation System Management improvements such as signal timing, improved intersection geometry, bicycle and sidewalk facilities, and improved access features.

Exhibits showing the project alternatives and related information will be available for viewing. FDOT representatives will be in attendance to answer any questions and solicit comments.

We invite and encourage you to attend and participate in this Alternatives Public Workshop. If you have any questions regarding the project, or if you require special assistance under the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, please contact Mr. Mark Clasgens, Project Manager, at (800) 226-7220 or at (813) 975-6450 or by e-mail at mark.clasgens@dot.state.fl.us.

Sincerely,

Robert M. Clifford, AICP District Planning Manager

RMC/PS/lm Attachment

Proof of Publication

from the

CITRUS COUNTY CHRONICLE

Crystal River, Citrus County, Florida
PUBLISHED DAILY

STATE OF FLORIDA COUNTY OF CITRUS

Before the undersigned authority personally appeared

Karen McDaniel

Of the Citrus County Chronicle, a newspaper published daily at Crystal River, in Citrus County, Florida, that the attached copy of advertisement being a public notice in the matter of the

472-0106 MCRN Florida Department of Transportation Alternatives Public Workshop US 19 (SR 55) from south of US 98 to CR 488 WPI Seg. No. 405822 1 / FAP No. 1852 007 P Display Advertisement A/R #071-060763

Court, was published in said newspaper in the issues of January 6th, 2003,

Affiant further says that the Citrus County Chronicle is a Newspaper published at Crystal River in said Citrus County, Florida, and that the said newspaper has heretofore been continuously published in Citrus County, Florida, each week and has been entered as second class mail matter at the post office in Inverness in said Citrus County, Florida, for a period of one year next preceding the first publication of the attached copy of advertisement; and affiant further says that he/she has neither paid nor promised any person, firm or corporation any discount, rebate, commission or refund for the purpose of securing this advertisement for publication in the said newspaper.

The forgoing instrument was acknowledged before me

This 6th day of January, 2003

By: Karen McDaniel

who is personally known to me and who did take an oath.

Notary Public

JUNE M. THOMPSON
Commission # DD0094412
Extra 5/21/2006
Bonded through
Florida Notary Assn., Inc.

ALTERNATIVES PUBLIC WORKSHOP US 19 (SR 55) from south of US 98 to CR 488 WPI Seg. No. 405822 1 / FAP No. 1852 007 P

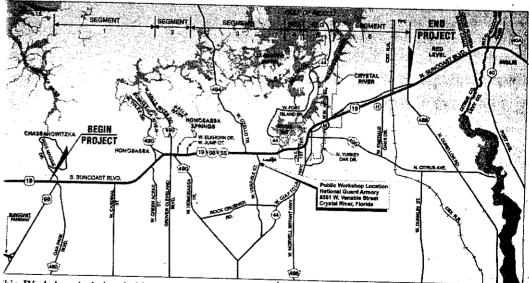
The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) will conduct an Alternatives Public Workshop regarding the proposed improvements to US 19 (SR 55) from south of US 98 to North Dunnellon Road (CR 488) in Citrus County, Florida, a distance of approximately 18.8 miles. The Workshop will be held on Thursday, January 16, 2003, from 4:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at the National Guard Armory, located at 8551 W. Venable Street, Crystal River, Florida. Please see the Project Location Map below.

The Workshop will present information about the Project Development and Environment (PD&E) Study for US 19 within the above referenced limits. Proposed improvements include widening the existing four-lane sections to six-lanes, and implementing various Transportation System Management (TSM) improvements such as signal timing, improved intersection geometry, bicycle and sidewalk facilities, and improved access features.

The Workshop will allow interested parties the opportunity to express their views concerning the conceptual design, and social, economic, and environmental effects of the proposed improvements. Exhibits showing the project alternatives and related information will be available for viewing. FDOT representatives will be in attendance to answer any questions and solicit your comments.

Persons who wish to submit written statements may do so at the Workshop, or they can mail them to the following address: Kenneth A. Hartmann, P.E., District Seven Secretary, Attn: Robert M. Clifford, AICP, District Modal Planning and Development Manager, 11201 N. McKinley Drive, MS 7-500, Tampa, Florida 33612-6456. We request that comments be postmarked by January 27, 2003 so that project development can proceed. Public participation is solicited without regard to race, color, religion, sex, age, national origin, handicap, or family status.

We invite and encourage you to attend and participate in this Public Workshop. If you have any questions regarding the project, or if you require special assistance under the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, please contact Mr. Mark Clasgens, Project Manager, at (800) 226-7220 or at (813) 975-6450. Special accommodation requests should be made at least seven (7) calendar days prior to the Workshop.



his Workshop is being held pursuant to the Federal Highway Act, 23 U.S.C., 1010 dt. seq., 128.315; ection 2(a); 2(b), and 9(e)(1) of the Department of Transportation Act; 49 CFR Section 1.4 (c); 23 CFR ection 1.32; Chapter 339.155 of the Florida Statutes; 23 CFR 771; and Titles VI and VIII of the Civil ights Act. Access for the disabled is available and in compliance with 49 CFR part 27 and 49 CFR Parts 37 and 38.



Project Development and Environment (PD&E) Study WPI Seg. No. 4058221



This newsletter is the first in a series of newsletters prepared by the Florida Department of Transportation to keep the public informed about the US 19 (SR 55) PD&E Study.

ALTERNATIVES PUBLIC WORKSHOP SCHEDULED

Dear Interested Citizen and Property Owner:

You are invited to attend and participate in the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) US 19 (SR 55) Alternatives Public Workshop on January 16, 2003 from 4:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at the National Guard Armory, located at 8551 W. Venable Street, Crystal River, Florida.

This letter also serves as notice to property owners that a whole or portion of their property is within 300 feet of the centerline of one of the project alternatives pursuant to Florida Statutes 339.155(6). However, the property may not be directly affected.

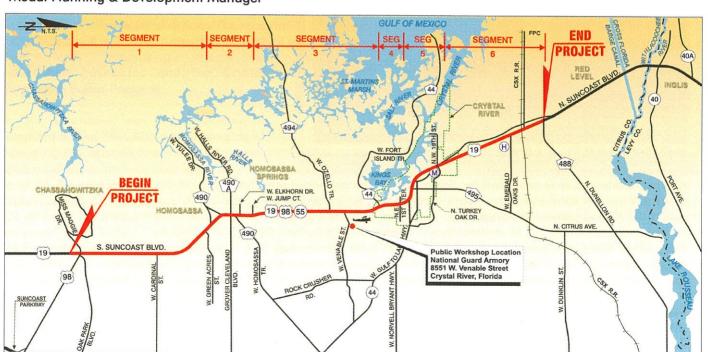
Exhibits showing the project alternatives and related information will be available for viewing. FDOT representatives will be in attendance to answer any questions and solicit your comments. You may provide written comments by completing a Comment Form at the Public Workshop that can be dropped in one of the comment boxes. You may also mail us your comments to the address on the back of this newsletter by January 27, 2003.

Any person requiring special assistance is requested to contact Mark Clasgens, FDOT Project Manager, at (800) 226-7220 or at (813) 975-6450. Special accommodation requests should be made at least seven (7) calendar days prior to the Workshop.

Sincerely,

Robert M. Clifford, AICP

Modal Planning & Development Manager





Project Development and Environment (PD&E) Study

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

A Project Development and Environment (PD&E) Study is being conducted by the FDOT for US 19 (SR 55) from south of US 98 to CR 488. Proposed improvements include widening the existing four-lane sections to six-lanes, and implementing various Transportation System Management (TSM) improvements such as signal timing, improved intersections, bicycle and sidewalk facilities, and improved access features.

The PD&E process develops and documents feasible alternatives for roadway improvement projects. These alternatives are evaluated and a recommended alternative is selected based on environmental, engineering, socioeconomic, and safety needs. You are invited to participate and provide valuable comments and input in shaping the project.

The need for this project has been identified in the Citrus County Comprehensive Plan and the Traffic Circulation Element of the Crystal River Comprehensive Plan.

For purposes of evaluating improvement alternatives, the project was divided into six segments as shown on the map:





Segment 1: South of US 98 to West Green Acres Street

Segment 2: West Green Acres Street to West Jump Court

Segment 3: West Jump Court to West Fort Island Trail (CR 44)

Segment 4: West Fort Island Trail (CR 44) to NE 1st Terrace

Segment 5: NE 1st Terrace to Crystal River Mall

Segment 6: Crystal River Mall to North Dunnellon Road (CR 488)

PROPOSED ALTERNATIVES

Only one alternative is proposed for **Segment 1**. The proposed improvements consist of widening US 19 to a rural, six-lane divided roadway separated by a 42' depressed grass median with a sidewalk on the east side and a multi-use path on the west side.

Four alternatives are proposed for **Segment 2**. Both Alternatives 1 & 4 propose an urban six-lane divided facility, separated by a 30' raised median, with sidewalks and a bicycle lane in each direction. The difference between the two alternatives is the roadway alignment for a portion of the segment from West Yulee Drive to West Elkhorn Drive. Alternative 1 shifts the alignment to the east to avoid effects to businesses and the Homosassa Springs State Wildlife Park. Conversely, Alternative 4 shifts the alignment to the west to avoid effects to established businesses on the east side of US 19.



From South of US 98 to CR 488

OF TRANSPORT

Work Program Item Segment No: 405822 1 Federal-Aid Program No: 1852 007 P

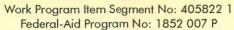
Impact Evaluation Matrix Segments 1-3

		nent 1 Miles		Segment 2 2.07 Miles			0	nent 3 Miles
EVALUATION FACTORS	Altern	ative 1	Alternative 1	Alternative 2	Alternative 3	Alternative 4	Alternative 1	Alternative 2
	Wid	ening	30' Median, Urban, Center/East	20'- 30' Median Urban, Center	30' Median & 7-Lane Urban, Center	30' Median, Urban, Center/West	30' Median, Urban, Center	40' Median, Rural, Center
BUSINESS & RESIDENTIAL RELOCATIONS (1)						-		
Number of businesses estimated to be relocated		0	27	26	16	17	0	0
Number of residences estimated to be relocated		0	3	3	0	0	0	0
COMMUNITY FACILITY EFFECTS (Community impacts within Right-of-Way)								
Number of churches, schools, child care facilities, nursing homes, hospitals, cemeteries, and other public services effected	* 1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
CULTURAL/HISTORIC RESOURCES AND PUBLIC PARKS INVOLVEMENT	•						,	
Number of historic sites/structures within or adjacent to Right-of-Way		0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Number of public parks adjacent to Right-of-Way		2	2	2	2	2	0	0
Number of public parks effected	0		0	0	0	0	0	0
NATURAL ENVIRONMENT INVOLVEMENT								
Estimated wetland involvement area in acres	1.9	991	0.226	0.227	0.219	0.253	2.722	2.722
Estimated area of floodplain encroachment in acres	27.593		42.641	41.909	41.344	42.541	76.355	76.364
PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT INVOLVEMENT					L			
Estimated number of noise sensitive sites	4	8	85	85	85	85	56	56
Number of potential petroleum pollutant and hazardous material contaminated sites ranked medium and high		5	6	6	6	6	10	10
ESTIMATED PROJECT COST (1) (Present value in million \$)	•					<u>'</u>		
Engineering design cost (2)	\$2.62	\$2.83	\$1.69	\$1.69	\$1.72	\$1.69	\$3.70	\$3.31
Right-of-Way acquisition cost	\$13.86	\$13.86	\$37.75	\$35.04	\$27.21	\$32.64	\$17.28	\$17.28
Construction cost (Roadway)		16.16	\$11.25	\$11.27	\$11.47	\$11.25	\$24.65	\$22.06
Construction cost (Pedestrian Overpass)	Option A \$1.31	Option B \$2.69	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Construction engineering & inspection cost (2)	\$2.62	\$2.83	\$1.69	\$1.69	\$1.72	\$1.69	\$3.70	\$3.31
TOTAL ALTERNATIVE COST (1)	\$36.57	\$38.37	\$52.38	\$49.69	\$42.12	\$47.27	\$49.33	\$45.96

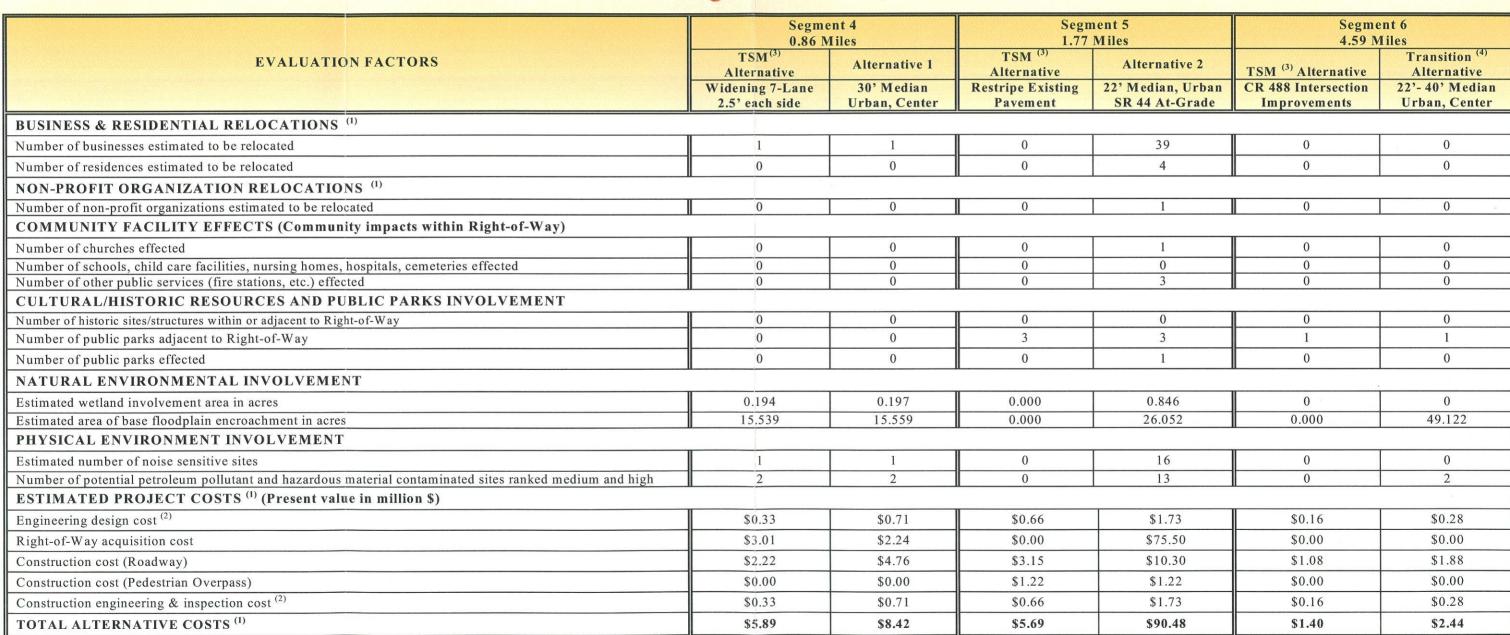
- 1) Includes estimated pond areas
- 2) 15% of construction cost



From South of US 98 to CR 488



Impact Evaluation Matrix Segments 4-6



- 1) Includes estimated pond areas
- 2) 15% of construction cost
- 3) Transportation System Management
- 4) Transition from any Build Alternative in Segment 5 (if selected) to the existing four-lane roadway in Segment 6





PROPOSED ALTERNATIVES (CONT.)

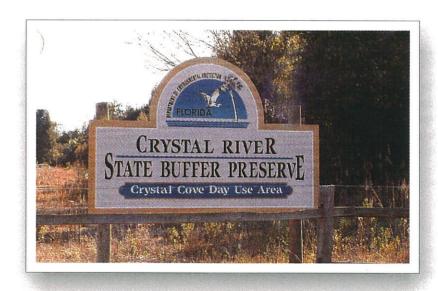
Alternatives 2 & 3 also propose an urban six-lane divided roadway with sidewalks in each direction except for the portion between West Yulee Drive and West Elkhorn Drive. For Alternative 2, in this portion of the segment, the inside travel lanes are slightly narrower, separated by a 20' raised median. Alternative 3 proposes a seven-lane undivided roadway with a two-way left turn lane separating north and southbound traffic for this portion of Segment 2.

Segment 3 has two alternatives proposed. Alternative 1 consists of an urban six-lane divided facility with a bicycle lane and sidewalk in each direction separated by a 30' raised median, while Alternative 2 proposes a rural six-lane divided roadway with sidewalks in each direction separated by a 40' depressed grass median.

Two alternatives are proposed for **Segment 4**. Alternative 1 provides an urban six-lane divided facility with a bicycle lane and sidewalk in each direction separated by a 30' raised median. The second alternative is a Transportation System Management (TSM) Alternative that consists of low cost capital improvements that maximize the efficiency of the present system. The TSM Alternative widens the existing seven-lane facility to accommodate a bicycle lane, and sidewalks are included in each direction.

proposes Segment two alternatives. Alternative 2 proposes an urban six-lane divided facility with a bicycle lane and sidewalk in each direction separated by a 22' raised median, and an at-grade intersection at SR 44. This alternative utilizes a western alignment from NE 1st Terrace to North Citrus Avenue. The alignment shifts to the east from North Citrus Avenue to the Crystal Mall, effects River minimizing established businesses and the Crystal River State Buffer Preserve.

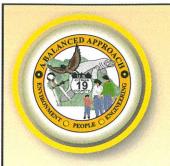
A TSM Alternative was also evaluated in Segment 5. The TSM Alternative consists of restriping the existing five-lane and seven-lane roadway to include bike lanes.



Because the 2025 projected No-Build Level of Service (LOS) for **Segment 6** is adequate from Turkey Oak Drive to CR 488, no reconstruction or widening is necessary for this portion of Segment 6. However, a TSM Alternative is proposed from Turkey Oak Drive to CR 488, including intersection improvements at CR 488 such as extending or adding turn lanes on all approaches.

The No-Build Alternative in each segment consists of not constructing the project and limiting improvements to routine maintenance. It is considered a viable alternative and will remain so throughout the duration of this Study.

This Public Workshop is being held in accordance with 23 CFR 771 and Titles VI and VIII of the Civil Rights Act. Anyone needing special accommodations under the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 should contact the Project Manager, Mark Clasgens, at (800)226-7220 by January 9, 2003.



Florida Department of Transportation Modal Planning & Development Department 11201 N. McKinley Drive, MS 7-500 Tampa, Florida 33612-6456

TITLE VI & TITLE VIII COMPLIANCE

This Workshop is being held to afford all citizens the opportunity to understand the proposed project and express concerns about the project to the FDOT. This Workshop complies with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968, as amended.

Public participation at this Workshop is encouraged and solicited without regard to race, color, creed, religion, sex, age, national origin, disability or family status.

Persons wishing to express their concerns relative to FDOT compliance with Title VI and/or Title VIII may do so by contacting the District Seven Title VI and VIII program officer, Attn: Robert M. Clifford, AICP, Florida Department of Transportation, MS 7-500, 11201 N. McKinley Drive, Tampa, Florida 33612-6456, or the Florida Department of Transportation Equal Opportunity Office, 605 Suwannee Street, MS 65, Tallahassee, Florida 32399. All inquires or complaints will be handled according to FDOT procedure and in an expeditious manner.

HOW TO REACH US

We encourage you to take an active part in the US 19 (SR 55) PD&E Study. If you wish to discuss the project with a Study team member, schedule a small group meeting or be added to the mailing list, please contact Mark Clasgens, Project Manager at:

Telephone: 1-800-226-7220

Fax:

1-813-975-6451

E-mail:

mark.clasgens@dot.state.fl.us

Address:

Florida Department of Transportation

Modal Planning & Development Department

11201 N. McKinley Drive, MS 7-500

Tampa, Florida 33612-6456

FDOT FIVE-YEAR ADOPTED WORK PROGRAM

(Fiscal Years 2002/2003 to 2006/2007)

PHASE

FISCAL YEAR

Design Reserve (Partial) Right-of-Way Reserve (Partial) 2002 / 2003 2006 / 2007

FDOT FIVE-YEAR TENTATIVE WORK PROGRAM*

(Fiscal Years 2003/2004 to 2007/2008)

PHASE

SEGMENT

FISCAL YEAR

Public Hearing

Begin Design Phase*

Anticipated Project Schedule

*If Accepted by Federal Highway Administration

PD&E Study Completed Fall 2003

Summer 2003

2003

Design

West Green Acres Street to West Jump Court West Fort Island Trail (CR 44) to NE 1st Terrace 2003/2004 2003/2004

^{*} Becomes the Adopted Work Program on July 1, 2003 contingent upon Legislative approval



From South of US 98 to CR 488

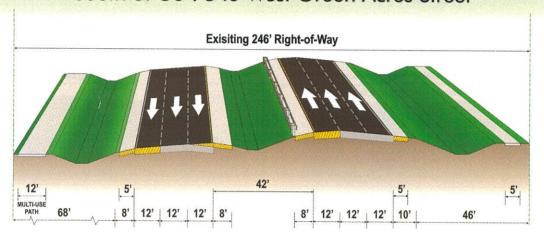


Work Program Item Segment No: 405822 1 Federal-Aid Program No: 1852 007 P

Proposed Typical Sections

Segment 1 - Alternative 1

South of US 98 to West Green Acres Street

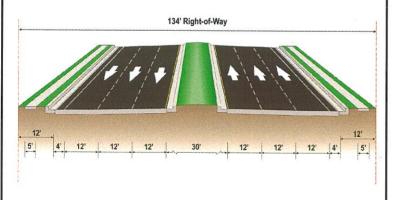


Proposed Widening
Proposed Overbuild
Existing Pavement

NORTH OF US 98 TO WEST GREEN ACRES STREET (SEGMENT 1)

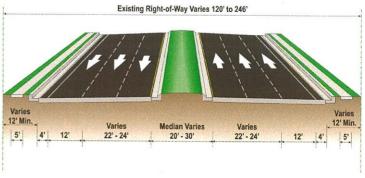
Segment 2 - Alternatives 1 & 4

West Green Acres Street to West Jump Court



Segment 2 - Alternative 2

West Green Acres Street to West Jump Court



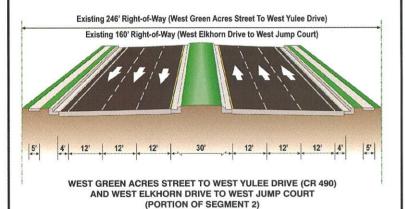


From South of US 98 to CR 488

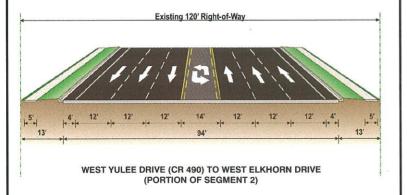
Proposed Typical Sections

Segment 2 - Alternative 3

West Green Acres Street to West Jump Court



AND



Segment 3 - Alternative 1

West Jump Court to West Fort Island Trail (CR 44)



Segment 3 - Alternative 2

West Jump Court to West Fort Island Trail (CR 44)

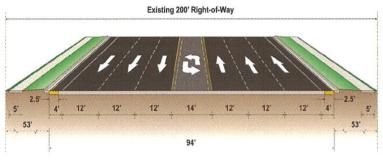




Proposed Typical Sections

Segment 4 - TSM* Alternative

West Fort Island Trail (CR 44) to NE 1st Terrace



Proposed Widening

* Transportation System Management

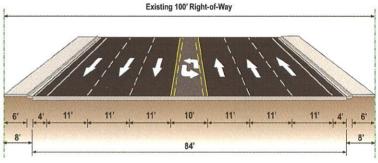
Segment 4 - Alternative 1

West Fort Island Trail (CR 44) to NE 1st Terrace



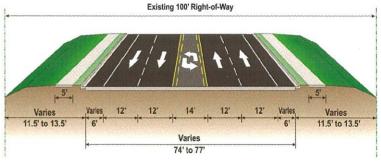
Segment 5 - TSM* Alternative

NE 1st Terrace to Crystal River Mall (Station 865+00)



NE 1ST TERRACE TO SR 44 (PORTION OF SEGMENT 5) RESTRIPE EXISTING PAVEMENT TO INCLUDE BIKE LANE

AND



SR 44 TO CRYSTAL RIVER MALL (PORTION OF SEGMENT 5) RESTRIPE EXISTING PAVEMENT TO INCLUDE BIKE LANE

* Transportation System Management



From South of US 98 to CR 488



Proposed Typical Sections

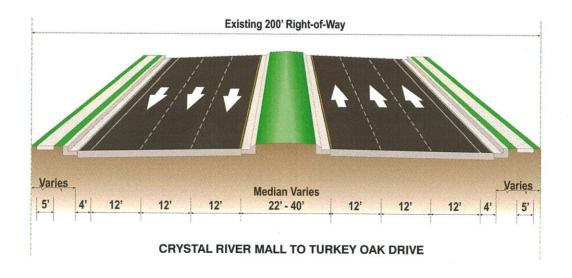
Segment 5 - Alternative 2

NE 1st Terrace to Crystal River Mall (Station 865+00)



Segment 6 - Transition Alternative

Crystal River Mall (Station 865+00) to North Dunnellon Road (CR 488)





From South of US 98 to CR 488



Work Program Item Segment No: 405822 1 Federal-Aid Program No: 1852 007 P

ALTERNATIVES PUBLIC WORKSHOP JANUARY 16, 2003

COMMENT FORM

We encourage your comments regarding this project.

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

NOTE: Please complete and place in the "Comments" box or mail to Kenneth A. Hartmann, P.E. at the address on the back of this Comment Form. We request that comments be postmarked by January 27, 2003 so project development can proceed.



Florida Department of Transportation

11201 N. McKinley Drive • Tampa, FL 33612-6456 • Phone (813) 975-6000 • 1-800-226-7220

AUG 2 2 2003

JOSÉ ABREU SECRETARY

August 21, 2003

JEB BUSH GOVERNOR

Mr. Robert Reiner 1600 Killean Court Apopka, Florida 32712

RE:

WPI Seg. No. 405822 1 / FAP No. 1852 007 P US 19 (SR 55) from South of US 98 to CR 488 / Citrus County

Dear Mr. Reiner:

I would like to thank you for participating in the Alternatives Public Workshop for the US 19 (SR 55) Project Development and Environment (PD&E) Study held on January 16, 2003. The PD&E Study will evaluate and document engineering and environmental issues associated with the proposed improvements to US 19 and recommend various improvement alternatives. The Workshop was held to present the improvement alternatives developed to date, and to solicit public input regarding these alternatives and supporting analyses. Per your request, enclosed please find a copy of the Recommended Alternative for Segment 1 from station 310 to 350. I again apologize for the late response.

Your participation at the Alternatives Public Workshop was appreciated. We look forward to hearing from you again at the Public Hearing scheduled to be held this fall. Any questions you may have regarding the proposed project may be directed to myself at (800) 226-7220/(813) 975-6450 or by e-mail to mark.clasgens@dot.state.fl.us.

Sincerely,

Mark Clasgens

Project Manager
Mark.Clasgens@dot.state.fl.us

/MC

cc: Doug Reed, file



Florida Department of Transportation

11201 N. McKinley Drive • Tampa, FL 33612-6456 • Phone (813) 975-6000 • 1-800-226-7220

JEB BUSH GOVERNOR

JOSÉ ABREU SECRETARY

August 21, 2003

Mrs. Joyce Shoulders 2779 Scenic Drive Clarksville, TN 37043-53091440

RE:

WPI Seg. No. 405822 1 / FAP No. 1852 007 P

US 19 (SR 55) from South of US 98 to CR 488 / Citrus County

Dear Mrs. Shoulders:

I would like to thank you for participating in the Alternatives Public Workshop for the US 19 (SR 55) Project Development and Environment (PD&E) Study held on January 16, 2003. The PD&E Study will evaluate and document engineering and environmental issues associated with the proposed improvements to US 19 and recommend various improvement alternatives. The Workshop was held to present the improvement alternatives developed to date, and to solicit public input regarding these alternatives and supporting analyses. You requested a copy of the conceptual plans for the above referenced project at Mayo Drive. Your request specified that you would like these when the plans are finalized. This won't happen until after the Public Hearing, currently scheduled for the fall, when the Department receives Location Design Acceptance from the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA). However, here is a preliminary copy of the Recommended Alternative for US 19 at Mayo Drive. I again apologize for the late response.

Your participation at the Alternatives Public Workshop was appreciated. Any questions you may have regarding the proposed project may be directed to myself at (800) 226-7220/(813) 975-6450 or by e-mail to mark.clasgens@dot.state.fl.us.

Sincerely,

Mark Clasgens

Project Manager
Mark Clasgens@dot.state.fl.us

/MC

cc: Doug Reed; file

Appendix D

Public Hearing Materials

US 19 Citrus Elected Officials Mailing List

<u>Prefix</u>	First Name	Last Name	Title	Organization Name	Address	Address2	City	State	<u>PostalCode</u>	Salutation	E-mail Address
The Honorable	Charles S. "Charlie"	Dean	State Representative, District 43		101 Zephyr Street		Inverness	FL	34450	Representative Dean	DEAN_CHARLES@myfloridahouse.com
The Honorable	Mike	Fasano	State Senator, District 11		8217 Massachusetts Avenue		New Port Richey	FL	34653-3111	Senator Fasano	fasano.mike,web@flsenate,gov
The Honorable	Nancy	Argenziano	State Senator, District 3	,1	6216 West Corporate Oaks Drive		Crystal River	FL	34429-2694	Senator Argenziano	argenziano nancy web@flsenate.gov
The Honorable	1	Brown-Waite	United States Representative		Hernando Government Complex	20 North Main Street, Room 200	Brooksville	FL	34601	Representative Brown-Waite	house.gov
The Honorable		Graham	United States Senator		625 Twiggs Street	Suite 500	Тапра	FL	33602	Senator Graham	bob graham@graham.senate.gov
The Honorable	Bill	Nelson	United States Senator		801 North Florida Avenue	4th Floor	Таптра	FL	33602	Senator Nelson	senator@billnelson.senate.gov
The Honorable	Vicki	Phillips	<u> </u>	Citrus County Commission	111 West Main Street	3rd Floor	Inverness	FL	34450	Commissioner Phillips	vicki.phillips@bocc.citrus.fl.us
The Honorable	Jim	Fowler	Chairman	Citrus County Commission	111 West Main Street	3rd Floor	Inverness	FL	34450	Chainnan Fowler	jim.fowler@bocc.citrus.fl.us
The Honorable		Bartell	Charten	Citrus County Commission	111 West Main Street	3rd Floor	Inverness	FL	34450	Commissioner Bartell	gary.bartelli@bocc.citrus.fl.us
The Honorable	1	Batchelor		Citrus County Commission	111 West Main Street	3rd Floor	Inverness	FL	34450	Chairman Batchelor	roger.batchelon@bocc.citrus.fl.us
		Wooten		Citrus County Commission	111 West Main Street	3rd Floor	Inverness	FL	34450	Commissioner Wooten	josh.wooten@bocc.citrus.fl.us
The Honorable	Josh		Manage	City of Crystal River	123 Northwest Highway 19	3471001	Crystal River	FL		Mayor Kitchen	mayor@crystalriverfl.org
The Honorable	Ronald E.	Kitchen, Jr.	Mayor		123 Northwest Highway 19		Crystal River	FL		Councilwoman Ebert	kebert@crystalriverfl.org
	Kitty	Ebert		Crystal River City Council			Crystal River	FL		Councilman Holmes	rholmes@crystalriverfl.org
The Honorable	Robert	Holmes		Crystal River City Council	123 Northwest Highway 19		Crystal River	FL		Councilman Kendall	jkendalk@crystalriverfl.org
The Honorable	John	Kendall		Crystal River City Council	123 Northwest Highway 19		Crystal River	FL		Chairwomen Kirk	skirk@crystalrivertl.org
The Honorable		Kirk		Crystal River City Council	123 Northwest Highway 19					Councilman Proffer	rproffer@crystalrivertl.org
The Honorable	Roger B.	Proffer, Sr.	1	Crystal River City Council	123 Northwest Highway 19	I	Crystal River	FL	34428	Comiciman Proffer	IDMUNETO CHYSIAITIVETILOIS

<u>Prefix</u>	First Name	Last Name	<u>Title</u>	Organization Name	Address	Address2 C		State	<u>PostalCode</u>	Salutation
			Dept. of Health & Human Services	Centers for Disease Control & Prevention	National Center for Environmental Health, EEHS/CDB, (F-16)	4770 Buford Highway Northeast	Atlanta	Georgia	30341-3724	Sir or Madam
Mr.	Richard	Wesch	County Administrator	Citrus County	111 West Main Street	Third Floor	Inverness	Florida	34450	Mr. Wesch
Mr.	Jim	Soukup	Director	Citrus County Emergency Operations	3425 West Southern Street		Lecanto	Florida	34461	Mr. Soukup
Mr.	Ken	Cheek	P.E., Director	Citrus County Engineering Department	3600 West Sovereign Path		Lecanto	Florida	34461	Mr. Cheek
Мг.	Rafael	Del Valle	Manager	Citrus County Parks & Recreation Department	P.O. Box 1439		Crystal River	Florida	34423-1439	Mr. Del Valle
Mr.	Chuck	Dixon	Director	Citrus County Planning Department	3600 West Sovereign Path		Lecanto	Florida	34461	Mr. Dixon
Mr.	Ron	Schultz	Property Appraiser	Citrus County Property Appraiser's Office	110 N. Apopka Avenue	Room 200	Inverness	Florida	34450	Mr. Schultz
Mr.	David	Hickey	Superintendent	Citrus County School Board	1007 West Main Street		Inverness	Florida	34450	Superintendent Hickey
Sheriff	Jeff	Dawsy		Citrus County Sheriff's Office	1 South Park Avenue		Inverness	Florida	34450	Sheriff Dawsy
Mr.	Kenneth L.	Frink	Director	Citrus County Department of Public Works	3600 West Sovereign Path	Suite 212	Lecanto	Florida	34461	Mr. Frink
Ms.	Susan R.	Boyer	City Manager	City of Crystal River	123 Northwest Highway 19		Crystal River	Florida	34428	Ms. Boyer
Mr.	Кепту	Lewis	Acting Director	City of Crystal River Public Works Department	123 Northwest Highway 19		Crystal River	Florida	34428	Mr. Lewis
Mr.	Lew	Chandler	Director	Crystal River Building & Zoning Department	123 Northwest Highway 19	·	Crystal River	Florida	34428	Mr. Chandler
Mr.	Roger	Goettelmann	Manager	Crystal River Community	Redevelopment Agency	123 Northwest Highway 19	Crystal River	Florida	34428	Mr. Goettelmann
Chief	Brown	Dumas		Crystal River Fire Department	123 Northwest Highway 19		Crystal River	Florida	34428	Chief Dumas
Chief	James	Farley		Crystal River Police Department	123 Northwest Highway 19		Crystal River	Florida	34428	Chief Farley
Mr.	Jim	St. John	Division Administrator	Attn: Marvin Williams	Federal Highway Administration	227 North Bronough Street, Room 2015	Tallahassee	Florida	32301-2015	Mr. St. John
			Chief, Review Unit	Environmental Affairs Program, M.S. 423	U.S. Geological Survey Chief, U.S. Dept. of Interior, Rm 2D318	12201 Sunrise Valley Drive	Reston	Virginia	20192	Sir or Madam
Mr.	Leroy	Irwin	Manager	Environmental Management Office	Florida Department of Transportation, M.S. 37	605 Suwannee Street	Tallahassee	Florida	32399	Mr. Irwin
			Airports District Office	Federal Aviation Administration	Citadel National Building, Suite 400	5950 Hazeltine National Drive	Orlando	Florida	32822	Sir or Madam
Mr.	David	Hankla	Field Supervisor	Fish and Wildlife Service	U.S. Department of Interior	6620 Southpoint Drive South, Suite 310	Jacksonville	Florida	32216-0912	Mr. Hankla
Dr.	Janet	Snyder Matthews	Director	Florida Department of State	Division of Historical Resources	500 S. Bronough Street	Tallahassee	Florida	32399-0250	Dr. Matthews
Ms.	Deborah	Getzoff	District Director	Florida Dept. of Environmental Protection	Southwest District	3804 Coconut Palm Drive	Tampa	Florida	33619	Ms. Getzoff
			Chief	Natural Hazards Branch	Federal Emergency Management Agency	3003 Chamblee-Tucker Road	Atlanta	Georgia	30341	Sir or Madam
Mr.	Bradley J.	Hartman	Director	Office of Environmental Services	Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission	620 South Meridian Street	Tallahassee	Florida	32399-1600	Mr. Hartman
Mr.	Carl	Gibilaro	P.E.	Project Manager	Florida Tumpike	P.O. Box 263, Building No. 5315	Ocoee	Florida	. 34761	Mr. Gibilaro
Mr.	Joe	Miller	District Engineer	Regulatory Branch	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers	Post Office Box 4970	Jacksonville	Florida	32201-4970	Mr. Miller
Lt. Col.	Greg	Holder	Regional Director	South Region	Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission	3900 Drane Field Road	Lakeland	Florida	33811-1299	Lt. Col. Holder

Dueffe	First Name	e Last Name	Title	Ouronization Name	Address	Address2	City	State	PostolCodo	Salutation
FICH	rnstname	Lastitaine	THE	Organization Name	Address	Audressz	City	State	1 USTAIC OUE	Salutation
			Regional Environmental Officer	U.S. Dept of Housing and Urban Development	Richard B. Russell Federal Building	75 Spring Street Southwest	Atlanta	Georgia	30303-3309	Sir or Madam
Mr.	James I.	Palmer, Jr.	Administrator, Region IV	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency	Atlanta Federal Center	61 Forsyth Street	Atlanta	Georgia	30303-8960	Mr. Palmer
Ms.	Shelly	Norton		U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service	9450 Koger Boulevard		St. Petersburg	Florida	33702	Mr. Norton
Mr.	Michael R.	Moehlman	Executive Director	Withlacoochee Planning Council	1241 Southwest 10th Street		Ocala	Florida	34474-2798	Mr. Moehlman
			U.S. Postmaster		10780 West Yulee Drive		Homosassa	Florida	34487	Sir or Madam
			U.S. Postmaster		4610 South Suncoast Boulevard		Homosassa Springs	Florida	34446	Sir or Madam
			U.S. Postmaster		18 Northeast Fourth Street		Crystal River	Florida	34429	Sir or Madam



Project Development and Environment (PD&E) Study From South of US 98 to CR 488

WPI Seg. No. 4058221 FAP No. 1852 007 P



This newsletter is the second in a series of newsletters prepared by the Florida Department of Transportation to keep the public informed about the US 19 (SR 55) PD&E Study.

PUBLIC HEARING SCHEDULED

Dear Interested Citizen and Property Owner:

You are invited to attend and participate in a Public Hearing for US 19 (SR 55) in Citrus County. The Hearing is being conducted by the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) and will be held on:

Date: Monday, November 3, 2003

Time: Open House 4:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Formal Hearing 6:00 p.m.

Location:

National Guard Armory 8551 W. Venable Street Crystal River, Florida

The Hearing is being held to afford persons the opportunity to express their views concerning the location, conceptual design, social, economic, and environmental effects of the proposed improvements. The proposed improvements include widening the existing four-lane sections to six-lanes, and implementing various Transportation System Management (TSM) improvements such as signal timing, improved intersections, bicycle and sidewalk facilities, and improved access features.

This letter also serves as notice to property owners that a whole or portion of their property is within 300 feet of the centerline of one of the project alternatives pursuant to Florida Statutes 339.155(6). However, the property may not be directly affected.

The proposed improvement would include the addition of a restrictive median separating northbound and southbound traffic. In accordance with Department Rule 14.97.005 Florida Administrative Code, Review and Modification of Access Classifications, it is the Department's intent to change the adopted access classification of US 19 in Crystal River from W. Fort Island Trail (CR 44) to NW 7th Street to Access Class 3.

The Study and its supporting reports will be available for public review prior to and after the Public Hearing beginning October 13, 2003 through November 13, 2003, at the Coastal Region Library, Reference Desk, 8619 W. Crystal Street, Crystal River, Florida.

Department representatives will be available at the National Guard Armory beginning at 4:30 p.m. on the day of the Hearing to answer questions and discuss the project informally. Aerial photographs will be displayed showing the proposed improvements. A project video will be continuously shown throughout the informal portion of the Hearing. At 6:00 p.m. the Department will begin the formal portion of the Hearing, which includes a presentation and an opportunity to make formal public comments.

You may provide comments, verbal or written, to the court reporter during the informal portion of the Hearing or by speaking during the formal portion. Written statements may also be dropped in one of the comment boxes at the Public Hearing or mailed to: Robert M. Clifford, AICP, 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 November 13, 2003 to become part of the official Public Hearing record.

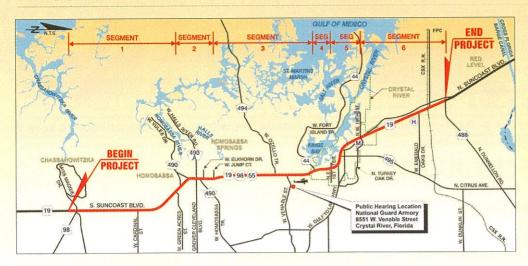
This Public Hearing is being held in accordance with 23 CFR 771 and Titles VI and VIII of the Civil Rights Act. Anyone needing special accommodations under the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 should contact the Project Manager, Mark Clasgens, at (800) 226-7220 / (813) 975-6450 or by e-mail at mark.clasgens@dot.state.fl.us, by October 27, 2003.

Sincerely,

Robert M. Clifford, AICP

Modal Planning & Development Manager

PROJECT LOCATION MAP AND SEGMENTS



Segment 1: South of US 98 to West Green Acres Street Segment 2: West Green Acres Street to West Jump Court Segment 3: West Jump Court to West Fort Island Trail (CR 44) Segment 4: West Fort Island

Segment 4: West Fort Island Trail (CR 44) to NE 1st Terrace Segment 5: NE 1st Terrace to Turkey Oak Drive

Segment 6: Turkey Oak Drive to North Dunnellon Road (CR 488)

WHAT IS A PD&E STUDY?

The PD&E Study process develops and documents feasible alternatives for roadway improvement projects. These alternatives are evaluated, and a Recommended Alternative developed and presented at the Public Hearing based on environmental, engineering, socioeconomic, and safety needs. Following the Public Hearing process, the FDOT presents a Recommended Alternative to the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) based on analyses and public input. FHWA then approves the Recommended Alternative by granting Location and Design Acceptance (LDA). Coordination with other state/federal agencies and local governments, and public involvement activities are essential to accomplishing this effort.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND HISTORY

The Department is currently conducting a PD&E Study for US 19 (SR 55) from south of US 98 to CR 488, a distance of approximately 18.8 miles. The project is located in the communities of Homossassa and Crystal River in Citrus County, Florida. The proposed improvements include widening the existing four-lane sections to six-lanes, and implementing various Transportation Systems Management (TSM) improvements such as signal timing, improved intersections, bicycle and sidewalk facilities, and improved access features.

The need for this project has been identified in the Citrus County and Crystal River Comprehensive Plans.

The US 19 PD&E Study began in the Spring of 2001. An Alternatives Public Workshop was held on January 16, 2003 at the National Guard Armory in Crystal River, Florida. At that time various alternatives were proposed for each of the Study's six segments. As a result of input received at the Workshop and additional engineering and environmental analyses, a Recommended Alternative has been developed for presentation at the Public Hearing. In addition, due to the nature of the proposed improvements in Segment 5, that segment's northern limit has been extended from Crystal River Mall to Turkey Oak Drive.

RECOMMENDED ALTERNATIVE

Segment 1 - The Recommended Alternative for Segment 1 is a six-lane divided rural facility with three 12-ft travel lanes and an 8-ft paved inside shoulder in each direction separated by a 42-ft depressed grassed median. Southbound US 19 will have an 8-ft outside shoulder, 5-ft of which is paved and a 12-ft multi-use path the western right-of-way (ROW) line. Northbound US 19 will have a 5-ft paved outside shoulder and a 5-ft sidewalk along the eastern ROW line.

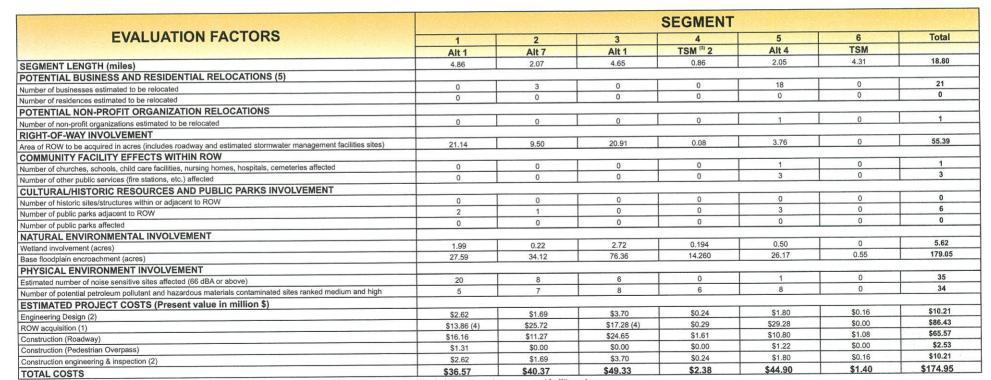




From south of US 98 to CR 488

Work Program Item Segment No: 405822 1 Federal-Aid Program No: 1852 007 P





¹⁾ Includes estimated pond areas (2) 15% of Construction Cost (3) Transportation System Management (4) Includes stormwater management facilities only

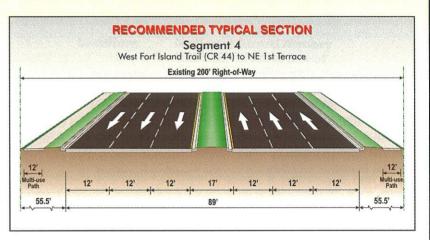
⁽⁵⁾ Does not include relocations for pond sites, to be determined in Design

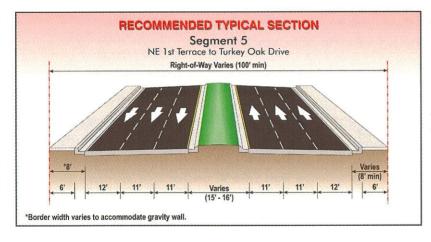
RECOMMENDED ALTERNATIVE (CONT.)



Segments 2 & 3 - The Recommended Alternative for Segments 2 & 3 consists of a sixlane divided facility with varying travel lane, border, median and ROW widths. A 4-ft bicycle lane and 5-ft sidewalk is provided in each direction for both segments.

Segment 4 - A TSM Alternative is the Recommended Alternative for Segment 4. Recommended improvements include converting the existing two-way, center-turn lane to a 17-ft raised median. In areas where left-turn lanes are proposed, the raised median will be reduced to a 4-ft traffic separator with a 12-ft exclusive left-turn lane. This alternative also includes milling and resurfacing of the existing roadway to allow for three 12-ft travel lanes. 12-ft multi-use paths are provided adjacent to the ROW line along both sides of the roadway.





Segment 5 - The Recommended Alternative for Segment 5 was developed to minimize impacts to established businesses in Crystal River. The proposed typical section is a six-lane divided urban roadway with two 11-ft inside travel lanes and one 12-ft outside travel lane, separated by a raised 16-ft median. A 6-ft sidewalk is provided adjacent to the curb along both sides of the facility. A pedestrian overpass is proposed for the Crystal River Bike Path over US 19.

Since no provisions for bicyclists were developed in Segment 5 due to the resulting ROW impacts, bicyclists will exit US 19 at SE King's Bay Drive, in Segment 4. However, an alternative bike route can

be developed by utilizing existing side streets and incorporating the proposed Crystal River Bike Path.

Segment 6 - Since no capacity improvements are needed in Segment 6, a TSM alternative is the Recommended Alternative for Segment 6. This includes extending the northbound left and right-turn lanes at North Dunnellon Road (CR 488), extending the southbound left-turn lane at North Dunnellon Road, adding an exclusive right-turn lane along westbound North Dunnellon Road, and adding a signal at the intersection of US 19 and North Dunnellon Road, if warranted.

The "No-Build" Alternative consists of not constructing the project and limiting improvements to routine maintenance. The "No Build" Alternative is considered to be a viable alternative and will remain so throughout the duration of the Study.



Florida Department of Transportation Modal Planning & Development Department 11201 N. McKinley Drive, MS 7-500 Tampa, Florida 33612-6456

ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS

The PD&E Study process evaluates environmental and socioeconomic factors associated with the Recommended Alternative. Some of these factors are ROW acquisition and relocation aspects, floodplains and wetlands involvement, noise and air quality effects, involvement with cultural and historic resources, and potential contamination involvement. These potential effects of the Recommended Alternative are summarized in the evaluation matrix that will be on display at the meeting and included in the meeting handout.

FDOT FIVE-YEAR ADOPTED WORK PROGRAM

(Fiscal Years 2003/2004 to 2007/2008)

PHASE	SEGMENT	FISCAL YEAR		
Design	West Green Acres Street to West Jump Court (Segment 2)	2003/2004		
	West Fort Island Trail (CR 44) to NE 1st Terrace (Segment 4)	2003/2004		
Right-of-Way Reserve	Partial	2007/2008		
Construction		Not Currently Funded		

TITLE VI & TITLE VIII COMPLIANCE

This Hearing complies with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968, as amended. Public participation at this Hearing is encouraged and solicited without regard to race, color, creed, religion, sex, age, national origin, disability, or family status.

Persons wishing to express their concerns relative to FDOT compliance with Title VI and/or Title VIII may do so by contacting the District Seven Title VI and VIII program officer, Attn: Robert M. Clifford, AICP, Florida Department of Transportation, MS 7-500, 11201 N. McKinley Drive, Tampa, Florida 33612-6456, or the Florida Department of Transportation Equal Opportunity Office, 605 Suwannee Street, MS 65, Tallahassee, Florida 32399. All inquires or complaints will be handled according to FDOT procedure and in an expeditious manner.

HOW TO REACH US

We encourage you to take an active part in the US 19 (SR 55) PD&E Study. If you wish to discuss the project with a Study team member, schedule a small group meeting or be added to the mailing list, please contact Mark Clasgens, Project Manager at:

Telephone: 1-800-226-7220

Fax: E-mail: 1-813-975-6451

Address:

mark.clasgens@dot.state.fl.us

Florida Department of Transportation

Modal Planning & Development Department

11201 N. McKinley Drive, MS 7-500

Tampa, Florida 33612-6456

Anticipated Project Schedule

PD&E Study Completed Winter 2003/2004 Begin Design Phase

Spring 2004



From South of US 98 to CR 488

WPI No: 405822 1 FAP No: 1852 007 P



PUBLIC HEARING NOVEMBER 3, 2003

COMMENT FORM

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NAME:								
ADDRESS:								

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

NOTE: Please complete and place in the "Comments" box or mail to Robert M. Clifford, AICP at the address on the back of this Comment Form. Comments must be postmarked by November 13, 2003 to be included in the official Public Hearing Record.

DATE AND TIME: Regional Criminal Justice Selection Center Directors' Association, Wednesday, November 5, 2003, 1:00 p.m.

DATE AND TIME: CJS&T Commission meeting business agenda, Thursday, November 6, 2003, 8:30 a.m.

DATE AND TIME: Officer Discipline Case Proceedings, Thursday, November 6, 2003, 10:30 a.m.

PLACE: Marriott Coral Springs, 11775 Heron Bay Boulevard, Coral Springs, Florida 33076

GUESTROOM RATE: \$85.00 for single or double occupancy from November 2, 2003 – November 8, 2003

TELEPHONE NUMBER FOR HOTEL RESERVATIONS: Phone: (954)753-5598; Fax: (954)753-2888

GENERAL SUBJECT MATTER TO BE CONSIDERED: The above meetings are held to discuss issues relating to standards, training, examinations, certification, de-certification, and record management for law enforcement, correctional, and correctional probation officers, Commission rules, and certification and recertification of criminal justice training schools. All parties are invited to attend.

COMMISSION MEETING AGENDAS: A copy of the November 2003 Commission Meeting agenda may be obtained by contacting Donna Hunt, at (850)410-8615, or Commission information may be accessed on October 20, 2003 at www.fdle.state.fl.us, click on Criminal Justice Resource Center, click on "Rules, Policies, and Commission Information, click on "Commission" and then click on "agenda". A copy of the Officer Discipline Agenda may be obtained by contacting Brenda Presnell, at (850)410-8648. If you wish to write the Commission for a copy of the above meeting agendas, please write to Florida Department of Law Enforcement, Criminal Justice Professionalism Program, Post Office Box 1489, Tallahassee, Florida 32302, Attention: Donna Hunt or Brenda Presnell.

If you wish to write or call for a copy of the Training Center Directors' Association agenda, please write to Training Center Director Association Chairman Ray Newman, Polk Community College, 999 Avenue H Northeast, Winter Haven, Florida 33881-4299, or call (863)297-1030.

SPECIAL ACCOMMODATIONS: Any person requiring a special accommodation at this meeting because of a disability or physical impairment, should contact Donna Hunt at (850)410-8615, at least 5 days prior to the meeting.

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

4:00 p.m.

The Secure Airports for Florida Economy Council (SAFE Council) announces a public meeting of the Council's Executive Committee to which all persons are invited.

DATE AND TIME: Wednesday, October 29, 2003, 2:00 p.m. –

PLACE: 102 St. George Street, Gaylord Palms Resort & Convention Center, 6000 W. Osceola Parkway, Kissimmee, Florida 34746

GENERAL SUBJECT MATTER TO BE CONSIDERED: Conduct necessary business on behalf of the SAFE Council.

Information may be obtained by contacting: Tom Duncan, 605 Suwannee Street, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0450 (Phone (850)414-4500).

Pursuant to provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act, any person requiring special accommodations to participate in these meetings is asked to advise the Council at least 48 hours before the meetings by contacting Tom Duncan at (850)414-4500.

The Secure Airports for Florida Economy Council announces a public Council meeting to which all persons are invited.

DATE AND TIME: Wednesday, October 29, 2003, 4:00 p.m. to conclusion.

PLACE: 102 St. George Street, Gaylord Palms Resort & Convention Center, 6000 W. Osceola Parkway, Kissimmee, Florida 34746

GENERAL SUBJECT MATTER TO BE CONSIDERED: Conduct necessary business of the SAFE Council.

Information may be obtained by contacting: Tom Duncan, 605 Suwannee Street, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0450 (Phone (850)414-4500).

Pursuant to provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act, any person requiring special accommodations to participate in these meetings is asked to advise the Council at least 48 hours before the meetings by contacting Tom Duncan at (850)414-4500.

The Florida **Department of Transportation** District 7 will conduct a public hearing regarding the proposed improvements to US 19 (SR 55) from south of US 98 to CR 488 in Citrus County, Florida, WPI No. 4058221 and FAP No. 1852 007P.

DATE AND TIME: November 3, 2003, 4:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. (formal portion beginning at 6:00 p.m.)

PLACE: Guard Armory, 8551 W. Venable Street, Crystal River, Florida

GENERAL SUBJECT MATTER TO BE CONSIDERED: The hearing provides interested citizens an opportunity to ask questions and offer comments about the proposed Recommended "Build" Alternative, presented by the FDOT in cooperation with the Federal Highway Administration. The Recommended Alternative proposes widening the existing 4-lane sections to 6-lanes, and implementing various Transportation System Management improvements such as signal timing, improved intersections, bicycle and sidewalk facilities, and improved access features in Citrus County. The proposed improvement would include the addition of a

restrictive median separating northbound and southbound traffic. In accordance with Department Rule 14-97.005, Florida Administrative Code, Review and Modification of Access Classifications, it is the Department's intent to change the adopted access classification of US 19 in Crystal River from W. Fort Island Trail (CR 44) to NW 7th Street to Access Class 3.

This public hearing is being held in accordance with 23 CFR 771, U.S.C. 128, Chapter 120 and Section 339.155, Florida Statutes. The public hearing is in compliance with Titles VI and VIII of the Civil Rights Act and Americans with Disabilities Act. Individuals who may require special accommodations at the hearing, under ADA, should contact Mark Clasgens, by calling (800)226-7220 or (813)975-6450 at least seven days prior to the public hearing.

A copy of the agenda may be obtained by writing to: Mark Clasgens, District Seven Project Manager, Florida Department of Transportation, MS 7-500, 11201 N. McKinley Drive, Tampa, FL 33612.

Tentative Program of Work For Fiscal Years July 1, 2005 Through June 30, 2009

The Florida Department of Transportation District 3 hereby announces public hearings to which all persons are invited. Specific notice is provided to the Pensacola Metropolitan Planning Organization and the County Commissioners for Escambia and Santa Rosa Counties serving as MPO for their respective counties: the Tallahassee Metropolitan Planning Organization and the County Commissioners for Leon, Gadsden, Liberty, Wakulla, Franklin, and Jefferson Counties serving as MPO for their respective counties; the Fort Walton Beach Metropolitan Planning Organization and the County Commissioners for Okaloosa and Walton Counties serving as MPO for their respective counties; and the Panama City Metropolitan Planning Organization and the County Commissioners for Bay, Gulf, Washington, Jackson, Holmes, and Calhoun Counties serving as MPO for their respective counties.

The public hearings are scheduled as follows:

1. Bay, Gulf, Washington, Jackson, Holmes, and Calhoun Counties:

DATE AND TIME: November 6, 2003, District Three Work Program from 2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. (CST)

PLACE: Commission Chamber Room, Panama City Hall, 9 Harrison Avenue, Panama City, Florida

2. Escambia and Santa Rosa Counties:

DATE AND TIME: November 4, 2003, District Three Work Program from 2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. (CST)

PLACE: Haggler Mason Room, Pensacola City Hall, 180 Governmental Center, Pensacola, Florida 32501

3. Okaloosa and Walton Counties:

DATE AND TIME: November 7, 2003, District Three Work Program from 10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. (CST)

PLACE: Niceville Community Center, 204 North Partin Drive, Niceville, Florida

4. Leon, Gadsden, Liberty, Wakulla, Franklin, and Jefferson Counties:

DATE AND TIME: November 3, 2003, District Three Work Program from 2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. (EST)

PLACE: Commission Chamber Room, Tallahassee City Hall, 300 South Adams Street, Tallahassee, Florida

Any comments or input are welcome from all local and regional interest groups, governmental entities, business enterprises, and the general public. These Hearings are held in conformance with Public Law 101-336, the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Assistance for disabled persons may be arranged by contacting the Title VI/VII Coordinator at (850)638-0250, extension 511, at least 10 working days in advance of the public hearing.

GENERAL SUBJECT MATTER TO BE CONSIDERED: These public hearings are being conducted pursuant to Section 339.135(4)(c), Florida Statutes. The hearings serve two purposes. The purpose of the public hearings is to consider the Department's Improved Tentative Work Program for District Three, for the period 2004/2005 through 2008/2009, and to consider the necessity of making any changes to the Program.

Written comments from MPOs and other interested parties will be received by the Department at the Public Hearings and within 10 days after the Public Hearings. Comments should be addressed to: Mr. H. E. Prescott, District Secretary, Department of Transportation, District Three, Post Office Box 607, Chipley, Florida 32428.

The Florida Scenic Highways Program announces a Scenic Highways Advisory Committee meeting to which all persons are invited.

DATE AND TIME: Thursday, November 13, 2003, 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon

PLACE: Rhyne Building, Room 330, 2740 Centerview Drive, Tallahassee, Florida

GENERAL SUBJECT MATTER TO BE CONSIDERED: The purpose of the meeting is to review and provide a recommendation regarding the Indian River Lagoon Scenic Highway Eligibility Application and the Tamiami Trail Gulf Windows Designation Application.

SPECIAL ACCOMMODATIONS: Special accommodation requests should be made at least seven days prior to the meting. INFORMATION: Contact Mr. Mariano Berrios, State Scenic Highways Coordinator, Environmental Management Office, Florida Department of Transportation, 605 Suwannee Street, MS-37, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0450; telephone (850)410-5894, e-mail mariano.berrios@dot.state.fl.us, or fax (850) 410-5808.

Proof of Publication

from the

CITRUS COUNTY CHRONICLE

Crystal River, Citrus County, Florida PUBLISHED DAILY

STATE OF FLORIDA COUNTY OF CITRUS

Before the undersigned authority personally appeared

Holly Childs

Of the Citrus County Chronicle, a newspaper published daily at Crystal River, in Citrus County, Florida, that the attached copy of advertisement being a public notice in the matter of the

471-11013 MCRN Florida Department of Transportation 11/3 Public Hearing Display Advertisement A/R #071-060763

Court, was published in said newspaper in the issues of October 13th, 2003, October 25th, 2003,

Affiant further says that the Citrus County Chronicle is a Newspaper published at Crystal River in said Citrus County, Florida, and that the said newspaper has heretofore been continuously published in Citrus County, Florida, each week and has been entered as second class mail matter at the post office in Inverness in said Citrus County, Florida, for a period of one year next preceding the first publication of the attached copy of advertisement; and affiant further says that he/she has neither paid nor promised any person, firm or corporation any discount, rebate, commission or refund for the purpose of securing this advertisement for publication in the said newspaper.

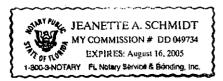
The forgoing instrument was acknowledged before me

This 25th day of October, 2003

By: Holly Childs

who is personally known to me and who did take an oath.

Notary Public



7/471-1018 MC N

PUBLIC HEARING

US 19 (SR 55) from south of US 98 to CR 488 WPI Seg. No. 405822 1 / FAP No. 1852 007 P

The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) invites you to attend and participate in a Public Hearing regarding the proposed improvements to US 19 (SR 55) from south of US 98 to CR 488 in Citrus County, Florida, a distance of approximately 18.8 miles. The Hearing will be held on Monday, November 3, 2003, from 4:30 to 7:30 p.m at the National Guard Armory, located at 8551 W. Venable Street, Crystal River, Florida. Please see the Project Location Map below.

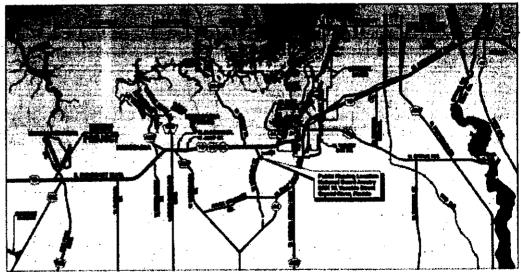
The Hearing is being held to afford persons the opportunity to express their views concerning the location, conceptual design, social, economic, and environmental effects of the proposed improvements. The Recommended Alternative proposes widening the existing four-lane sections to six-lanes, and implementing various Transportation System Management (TSM) improvements such as signal timing, improved intersections, bicycle and sidewalk facilities, and improved access features. The "No Bulid" Alternative consists of not constructing the project and limiting improvements to routine maintenance. The "No Bulid" Alternative will remain a viable alternative throughout the duration of the PD&E Study.

The proposed improvements would also include the addition of a restrictive median separating northbound and southbound traffic. In accordance with Department Rule 14.97.005 Florida Administrative Code, Review and Modification of Access Classifications, it is the Department's intent to change the adopted access classification of US 19 in Crystal River from W. Fort island Trail (CR 44) to NW 7th Street to Access Class 3.

The Study and its supporting reports will be available for public review prior to and after the Public Hearing beginning October 13, 2003 through November 13, 2003, at the Coastal Region Library, 8619 W. Crystal Street, Crystal River, Florida. These materials will also be available for review at the Hearing site between 4:30 and 7:30 p.m. FDOT representatives will be available at that time to answer questions and receive comments. There will be a project video that will be shown continuously throughout the informal portion of the Hearing. Beginning at 6:00 p.m., a formal presentation will be given by the Department on the Recommended Alternative and its associated effects. Time for formal public comment will follow the presentation.

Individuals may provide comments, verbal or written, to the court reporter during the informal portion of the Hearing 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: 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 November 13, 2003 to become part of the official Public Hearing record.

We invite and encourage you to attend and participate in this Public Hearing. If you have any questions regarding the project, or if you require special considerations under the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, please contact Mr. Mark Clasgens, Project Manger, at (800) 226-7220 / (813) 975-6450 or by e-mail at mark.clasgens@dot.state.fl.us. Special accommodation requests should be made at least seven (7) calendar days prior to the Hearing.



This Hearing is being held pursuant to Chapter 339.155 of the 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.

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From South of US 98 to CR 488

Work Program Item Segment No: 405822 1 Federal-Aid Program No: 1852 007 P





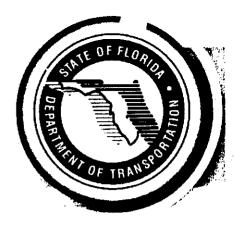
November 3, 2003 National Guard Arn y 8551 West Venable Street Crystal River, FL

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From South of US 98 to CR 488

Work Program Item Segment No: 405822 1 Federal-Aid Program No: 1852 007 P



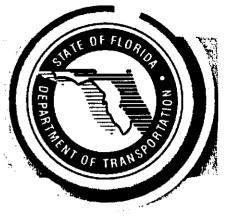
November 3, 2003 National Guard Arr y 8551 West Venable Street Crystal River, FL

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1. Chrissy Bessy	2 NW Hwy 19	Crystal River	34428
2. TAULY MAUREEN VEX'CORT	11021 B. CITRUS AUG	CRYSTAL RIVER	34428.
3. JOHN + Day Koupell	3117 S. CANAL DR 34684		
4. Michon Ent	2591 Highlands Vie Alay	Lakelmo Fc	338/3
5. Mary Tallay	117 Bysonina Cir.	Homosassas	34446
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7. John Rondolmo	PUBUX 1440	<u>CR</u>	34433
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9. Beth Blickling	1010 A SURCOUST BLICK	61	34426
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From South of US 98 to CR 488

Work Program Item Segment No: 405822 1 Federal-Aid Program No: 1852 007 P



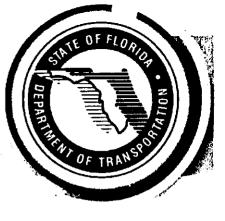
November 3, 2003 National Guard Arr y 8551 West Venable Street Crystal River, FL

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From South of US 98 to CR 488

Work Program Item Segment No: 405822 1 Federal-Aid Program No: 1852 007 P



November 3, 2003 National Guard Arm v 8551 West Venable Street Crystal River, FL

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2. PJ Sm, H	Box 489	Dynnellon	34430
3. DENHIS DAKATO	PO BOX 1312 CRISTAL RIVER, FC	CRYSTAL RIVER	34423
4. SAM Lyons	P.O. BOX 1093 C.R.		34123
5. Byron L. Costley	POBOR 66 CR	CR	34423
6. David Lihitbeck	1116 E. Bloomfreld Dr.	Inverses	34413
7. DON TUPNER	377 NW 14th PI	<u>_</u> CR	34428
8. PRESTON WATERS	6710 S. BEAGLE DR	Homosassa	34448
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From South of US 98 to CR 488

Work Program Item Segment No: 405822 1 Federal-Aid Program No: 1852 007 P





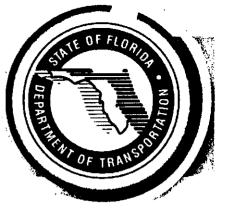
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4. Tom LINLEY	4150 SOUTH SUNCONST BLUD	Humosassa	38886
5. DENNIS PILON	2853 W. SUNRISE ST.	LEGANTO	34461
6. Jim Adms	20203 Cortez Blad	Brooksaulb	346/
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8. RJORDAN	TO BOX 649	Homos ASSA	34.4.4.)
9. Bob Bleakley	828 SE15+C+	Crystal River	39429
10. STEVE VARIAGE	509 HE Huy 19	<u>_</u>	34456



From South of US 98 to CR 488

Work Program Item Segment No: 405822 1 Federal-Aid Program No: 1852 007 P



November 3, 2003 National Guard Arr y 8551 West Venable Street Crystal River, FL

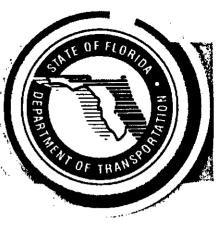
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From South of US 98 to CR 488

Work Program Item Segment No: 405822 1 Federal-Aid Program No: 1852 007 P





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From South of US 98 to CR 488

Work Program Item Segment No: 405822 1 Federal-Aid Program No: 1852 007 P





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From South of US 98 to CR 488

Work Program Item Segment No: 405822 1 Federal-Aid Program No: 1852 007 P





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JOSE ABREU SECRETARY

February 18, 2004

Chairman Janet F. Masavy Citizens Opposed to the Suncoast Tollway, Inc. 5365 N. Ranger Street Beverly Hills, FL 34465-4684

RE: WPI Segment No. 405822 1; FAP No. 1852 007 P US 19 (SR 55) PD&E Study from South of US 98 to CR 488, Citrus County

Dear Chairman Masavy,

Thank you for your comments from our November 3, 2003, Public Hearing. We apologize for the time lapse in responding to your important comments.

One of your concerns was that there are no provisions being made for Wildlife Crossings. The Department's Wildlife Crossing Policy states "Recognizing that the State of Florida has a comprehensive Greenways Program of land acquisition and management to preserve corridors of native habitat for wildlife throughout the state, it is the policy of the Department to evaluate wildlife crossings as deemed appropriate in consultation with other responsible agencies. This policy will be addressed through a program of public involvement which is responsive to those agencies, citizens and groups concerned with habitat and wildlife conservation so that in the planning, location, project development, design, construction and maintenance of transportation facilities these values are fully recognized and considered. Further, this policy will apply to providing crossings on existing facilities as well as in the development of planned projects."

An integral phase in the evaluation is assessing the land use adjacent to the facility. Issues such as bisecting public lands managed for wildlife usage along the corridor, fencing portions of the facility to channel the target species to the crossing structure, and the ability to maintain the desired habitat (i.e. prescribe burning) are among the factors that the Department consider. During the PD&E phase, it was determined that accommodating wildlife movement for the proposed improvements was not feasible due to the environmental setting, and non existent public lands on both sides managed for wildlife (i.e. existing corridors) or planned corridors. US 19 is very urban and the adjacent properties are mostly in private ownership. Also if there is a small corridor, fencing would be a problem. Without fencing the structures are not effective.

You also stated in your comment that runoff from the project would present a threat of pollution to the aquifer. Any widening or highway improvement project that is constructed along US 19 by

the Department of Transportation, will be consistent with current design standards, local government plans, while ensuring the safety to all motorists who use US 19. As a state agency, we are required to abide by all regulations enforced by environmental agencies including the Southwest Florida Water Management District (SWFWMD) and the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP). The Department exercises all measures to control and attenuate drainage stormwaters from its facilities, and preventing unwanted drainage onto private properties.

Thanks for your interest in the US 19 PD&E Study and participating in the public involvement process. If you have any additional questions or concerns, please contact me at (813) 975-6450 / (800) 226-7220.

Sincerely,

Mark E. Clasgens

PD&E Project Manager

MNE Cleagers

mark.clasgens@dot.state.fl.us

JOSE ABREU SECRETARY

February 17, 2004

Rev. David S. Bradford St. Timothy Lutheran Church 1070 North Suncoast Boulevard Crystal River, Florida 34429

RE:

WPI Seg. No. 405822 1 / FAP No. 1852 007 P

US 19 (SR 55) from South of US 98 to CR 488 / Citrus County

Dear Reverend Bradford:

I would like to thank you for participating in the Public Hearing for the US 19 (SR 55) Project Development and Environment (PD&E) Study held on November 3, 2003. We apologize for the delayed response.

Your comment expressed concern that northbound vehicles are not provided with a turn lane and direct access to your church property. The spacing and type of median openings shown at the Public Hearing for this portion of US 19 were developed to be in substantial compliance with FDOT policy for the Florida Intrastate Highway System (FIHS). They are consistent with the access management plan developed by Citrus County to improve safety and access control. As such, they have been reviewed and approved by the Department's Median Review Committee. A focus of the access management plan was on improving safety by reducing conflict points with a reduction of median openings. Introduction of another median opening in the vicinity of your property would not be in compliance with FDOT policy and would potentially reduce the safety of the facility. Vehicles traveling northbound will be able to access your property by making a U-turn at West Mayo Drive, just 300 feet north of your property. In a similar way, vehicles leaving your property wanting to travel northbound can enter the southbound left-turn lane directly across from your driveway and make a U-turn. It is also important to note that these plans are preliminary in nature, and final median openings will be determined during the design phase, which currently is not programmed in the FDOT five-year work program. In addition, there will be further opportunities for you to comment during the design phase.

If you have any further questions regarding this project, please contact me at (800) 226-7220 / (813) 975-6450 or by e-mail to mark.clasgens@dot.state.fl.us.

Sincerely,

Mark Clasgens

PD&E Project Manager

White Clerger

Cc: file

RECYCLED PAPER



JOSE ABREU SECRETARY

February 16, 2004

Jerry Kelley 11184 West Samson Lane Crystal River, FL 34428

RE: WPI Segment No. 405822 1; FAP No. 1852 007 P
US 19 (SR 55) PD&E Study from South of US 98 to CR 488, Citrus County

Dear Mr. Kelley,

Thank you for your interest in our project. I am writing to you in response to your question from our November 3, 2003, Public Hearing regarding traffic counts and their relationships to capacity on SR 44 near the intersection of US 19. The SR 44 segment adjacent to US 19 is currently classified as rural and it is part of the Florida Intrastate Highway System (FIHS). There is a traffic count location just over a mile east of US 19. The average annual daily traffic (AADT) at that location in year 2002 was 21,500 vehicles per day. This segment of roadway is in the process of being reclassified by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) based on the latest census. Upon approval, the Level of Service (LOS) standard for this segment will be "C" which has a general capacity of 32,800 vehicles per day based on the number of signals per mile and other existing traffic factors and variables.

If you have additional questions, you may contact me at (813) 975-6450. Thanks again for your interest in the US 19 PD&E Study.

Sincerely,

Mark E. Clasgens

PD&E Project Manager

mark.clasgens@dot.state.fl.us

What Clogen

JOSE ABREU SECRETARY

February 12, 2004

M.L. Gudis P.O. Box 111 Crystal River, FL 34423

RE: WPI Segment No. 405822 1; FAP No. 1852 007 P

US 19 (SR 55) PD&E Study from South of US 98 to CR 488, Citrus County

Dear Mr. Gudis,

I am responding to your comments from our November 3rd, 2003 Public Hearing. You requested a copy of the recommended alternative for Segment 2 from station number 415 to station 430. Per your request please find attached Sheet No. 12.

Thanks for your interest in the US 19 PD&E Study and participating in the public involvement process.

Sincerely,
Make Clage

Mark E. Clasgens

PD&E Project Manager

mark.clasgens@dot.state.fl.us

JOSE ABREU SECRETARY

February 12, 2004

Robert Mallock 9 Byrsonima Ct. Homosassa, FL 34446

RE:

WPI Segment No. 405822 1; FAP No. 1852 007 P

US 19 (SR 55) PD&E Study from South of US 98 to CR 488, Citrus County

Dear Mr. Mallock,

I am responding to your comments from our November 3rd, 2003 Public Hearing. You requested two copies of aerials for Segment One from South of US 98 to West Green Acres St. Per your request please find attached two copies of Sheets No. 1 through 10.

Thanks for your interest in the US 19 PD&E Study.

Sincerely,

Mark E. Clasgens

PD&E Project Manager

mark.clasgens@dot.state.fl.us

JOSE ABREU SECRETARY

February 12, 2004

James T. Sanders 137 Douglas St. Homosassa, FL 34446

RE: WPI Segment No. 405822 1; FAP No. 1852 007 P

US 19 (SR 55) PD&E Study from South of US 98 to CR 488, Citrus County

Dear Mr. Sanders,

I am responding to your comments from our November 3rd, 2003 Public Hearing. You requested aerials for Segment One showing the proposed access to your property located within International Plaza. Per your request please find attached Sheet No. 3.

Thanks for your interest in the US 19 PD&E Study.

Sincerely,

Mark E. Clasgens

PD&E Project Manager

Monk. Clarge

mark.clasgens@dot.state.fl.us



JOSE ABREU SECRETARY

February 12, 2004

Ernest Woods 2 N.W. Hwy 19 Crystal River, FL 34428

RE:

WPI Segment No. 405822 1; FAP No. 1852 007 P US 19 (SR 55) PD&E Study from South of US 98 to CR 488, Citrus County

Dear Mr. Woods,

I am responding to your comments from our November 3rd, 2003 Public Hearing. You requested a copy of Preliminary Concept plans showing station number 440 to station 445 and station 805 to 810. Per your request please find attached Sheet No. 13 and 26.

Thanks you for your interest in the US 19 PD&E Study and participating in the public involvement process.

Sincerely,

Mark E. Clasgens

PD&E Project Manager

White. Clasge

mark.clasgens@dot.state.fl.us

Appendix E

Official Public Hearing Transcript

Appendix E

Official Public Hearing Transcript

ORIGINAL

PUBLIC HEARING CITRUS COUNTY

U.S. 19 (S.R. 55)
FROM SOUTH OF U.S. 98 TO C.R. 488
WPI SEGMENT NO.: 405822 I
FEDERAL-AID PROGRAM NO.: 1852 D07 P

DATE:

Monday, November 3, 2003

TIME:

4:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

PLACE:

National Guard Armory 8551 West Venable Street

Crystal River, Florida 34428

REPORTED BY:

MS. SHARON A. HARBITZ-TARTLER

Certified Shorthand Reporter

Notary Public

State of Florida at Large

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MR. CLIFFORD: Good evening. My name is

Bob Clifford, and I am the Modal Planning and

Development Manager for District Seven of the

Florida Department of Transportation. Welcome to
the U.S. 19 Project and Development and Environment

Study Public Hearing.

This Public Hearing concerns the proposed improvements on U.S. 19 from south of U.S. 98 to C.R. 488. Today is Monday, November 3, 2003, and it is approximately 6 p.m.

This is your opportunity to receive information on the project and to publicly and officially comment on the recommended "build" alternative and other documents available here tonight.

The recommended "build" alternative is based on environmental and engineering analyses accomplished to date, as well as public comments received.

This Project Development and Environment
Study, or PD&E Study, and Public Hearing are
conducted under applicable federal and state laws.
Those citations, along with the advertisement
dates, are listed on the board next to the sign-in
table.

When you arrived this evening, you should have received a handout and matrix containing information concerning the project, a comment sheet and a speaker's card. If you did not, please raise your hand if you would like this information.

At this time, I would like to introduce representatives that may assist you in answering any questions regarding the materials or displays that we have here this evening.

First I would like to introduce Mark Clasgens,
Project Manager; Kirk Bogen, District Project
Engineer; Doug Reed, Consultant Project Manager;
Rick Adair, Department Environmental Coordinator;
Dwayne Kile, District Design Engineer; and
Marian Scorza, District Public Information Office.

I will now show a video presentation that describes the project need, evaluation process and proposed alternatives.

After the video, you will be given an opportunity to make an oral statement during this formal portion.

(The video presentation was shown and was transcribed as follows):

"The Florida Department of Transportation welcomes you to tonight's Public Hearing for the

proposed improvements to U.S. 19 (S.R. 55) in Citrus County, Florida.

"The growth Citrus County experienced in recent years has placed a strain on the regional and local transportation system. Anticipated future growth will aggravate conditions on this already congested facility.

"Transportation solutions need to be developed to meet regional and local transportation goals, but also consider local community needs and values.

"The need for this project has been identified in the Citrus County, City of Crystal River Comprehensive Plan.

"Tonight's Hearing will present information about the Project Development and Environment, PD&E, Study for U.S. 19 from south of U.S. 98 to C.R. 488, a distance of approximately 18.8 miles.

"Within the project limits, U.S. 19 is part of the National Highway System and the Florida Intrastate Highway System. The facility also serves as the major hurricane evacuation route for this part of the county.

"The intent of a PD&E Study is to evaluate and document engineering and environmental issues

associated with the alternatives developed and to select a recommended alternative based upon that analysis.

"The purpose of the Hearing is to present the recommended alternative and its associated impact and to receive community input on the information presented.

"We welcome your comments and input for the U.S. 19 PD&E Study and look forward to your continued participation.

"Also, this Hearing is being held in accordance with Department Rule 14.97.005 of the Florida Administrative Code, Review and Modification of Access Classifications.

"It is the Department's intent to change the adopted access classification code of U.S. 19 in Crystal River from West Fort Island Trail (C.R. 44) to Northwest 7th Street to Access Class 3. This reclassification is consistent with the Citrus County U.S. 19 Access Management Action Plan.

"To assist in the alternatives analyses, the project was divided into six segments based on existing and future land use, projected traffic volumes, existing typical sections and available

right-of-way. 1 "Segment 1: South of U.S. 98 to West Green 2 Acres Street in Homosassa. 3 "Segment 2: West Green Acres Street to 4 West Jump Court in Homosassa Springs. 5 "Segment 3: West Jump Court to West Fort 6 Island Trail (C.R. 44) in Homosassa Springs. 7 "Segment 4: West Fort Island Trail to 8 Northeast 1st Terrace. 9 "Segment 5: Northeast Terrace to Turkey 10 Oak Drive. 11 "Segment 6: Turkey Oak Drive to North 12 Dunnellon Road (C.R. 488). 13 "The recommended alternative for Segment 1 14 is a six-lane divided rural facility with three 15 twelve-foot travel lanes and an eight-foot paved 16 inside shoulder with alternating guardrail in 17 each direction, separated by a forty-two-foot 18 depressed grass median. 19 "Southbound U.S. 19 will also have an 20 eight-foot outside shoulder, five feet of which is 21 paved, and a twelve-foot multi-use path along the 22 western right-of-way line. 23 "The existing four-foot northbound U.S. 24 19 outside shoulder will be widened to five feet

and a five-foot sidewalk will be provided along the eastern right-of-way line. A pedestrian overpass is also proposed just south of U.S. 98.

"The recommended alternative for Segment 2 consists of two typical sections. For the southern and northern portions of the segment, the recommended alternative is a six-lane divided urban facility with three twelve-foot travel lanes and a four-foot bicycle lane in each direction, separated by a thirty-foot raised median.

"Five-foot sidewalks are provided along both sides of U.S. 19 for most of the segment. However, from West Green Acres Street to West Yulee Drive, a twelve-foot multi-use path is provided along the western right-of-way line.

"In an effort to minimize impacts, a reduced typical section was evaluated from West Yulee Drive to West Elkhorn Drive, where the existing right-of-way is less.

"This typical section is a six-lane divided urban facility with two eleven-foot inside travel lanes, one twelve-foot outside travel lane and a four-foot bicycle lane in each direction, separated by a twenty-foot raised median.

Five-foot sidewalks are provided within a

twelve-foot border along both sides of U.S. 19.

"The recommended alternative for Segment 3 is a six-lane divided urban facility with three twelve-foot travel lanes and a four-foot bicycle lane in each direction, separated by a thirty-foot raised median. Five-foot sidewalks are also provided within a forty-five-foot border along both sides of the roadway.

"A Transportation Systems Management alternative is the recommended alternative for Segment 4.

"Recommended improvements include converting the existing two-way, center turn lane to a seventeen-foot raised median. This alternative also includes milling and resurfacing of the existing roadway to allow for three twelve-foot travel lanes.

"Twelve-foot multi-use paths are provided adjacent to the right-of-way line along both sides of U.S. 19.

"The recommended alternative for Segment 5 was developed to minimize impacts to established businesses in Crystal River.

"From Northeast 1st Terrace to Turkey Oak
Drive, the proposed typical section is a six-lane

divided urban roadway with two eleven-foot interior travel lanes and one twelve-foot outside travel lane, separated by a raised sixteen-foot median.

"Six-foot sidewalks are provided adjacent to the curb along both sides of the facility. A pedestrian overpass is proposed for the Crystal River Bike Path over U.S. 19.

"Since no provisions for bicyclists were developed in Segment 5 due to the resulting right-of-way impacts, bicyclists will exit U.S.

19 at Southeast King's Bay Drive in Segment 4.

"However, an alternative bike route can be developed by utilizing existing side streets and the Crystal River Bike Path.

"For Segment 6, only operational improvements are proposed at the Dunnellon Road intersection.

The improvements include extending the northbound left and right turn lanes at North Dunnellon Road (C.R. 488), extending the southbound left turn lane at North Dunnellon Road and adding an exclusive right turn lane along westbound North Dunnellon Road.

"These improvements will facilitate a signal at the intersection of U.S. 19 and North Dunnellon Road when it is warranted.

"The "no-build" alternative consists of not constructing the recommended alternative and limiting improvements to routine maintenance.

"The "no-build" alternative is considered to be a viable alternative and will remain so throughout the duration of this study.

"The PD&E Study analyzed various factors to assess potential impacts resulting from implementing the recommended alternative. They include, for example:

"Right-of way acquisition and relocation aspects; floodplains and wetlands involvement; noise and air quality effects; involvement with cultural and historic resources, and potential contamination involvement.

"These potential effects are summarized in the Evaluation Matrix provided in the project handout and on display in the graphics area.

"FDOT representatives are here tonight to discuss any questions you may have regarding subject such as these.

"We welcome your comments and questions on any aspect of the project. During the . formal portion of the Hearing that begins at 6 p.m., all interested citizens will be provided

the opportunity to make comments and statements regarding the "build" and "no-build" alternatives.

"If you would like to make a comment that is part of the official Public Hearing record, you may comment in one of the following four ways:

"First, you can make an oral statement during the formal portion of the Hearing; second, you can make an oral statement to the court reporter here tonight in a one-on-one setting; third, you can complete the comment form provided in the brochure and submit it to the court reporter or drop it in one of the comment boxes; or fourth, you can complete and mail written comments to the address listed on the comment form provided.

"Comments submitted in any one of these four ways will be included in the official record of the Public Hearing proceedings.

"All four types of comments will be considered equally in the selection of the final recommended alternative.

"The public comment period for this Public Hearing will remain open for ten days. All submittals must be post-marked by November 13, 2003 in order to be included in the official Public Hearing record.

"Upon review and consideration of public comments from this Hearing, the environmental document will be provided to the Federal Highway Administration for approval.

"Following environmental document approval by FHWA, a final newsletter announcing the approved alternative will be mailed to all those individuals on the project mailing list.

"The FDOT's Adopted Work Program, Fiscal Year 2003/2004-2007/2008, has design money funded for fiscal year 2003/2004 for Segment 2 from West Green Acres Street to West Jump Court and Segment 4 from West Fort Island Trail (C.R. 44) to Northeast 1st Terrace.

"Right-of-way reserve, or partial funding, is funded in fiscal year 2007/2008. Construction is not currently funded.

"Thank you for attending the Public Hearing for U.S. 19 in Citrus County. We appreciate your participation and look forward to your continued interest in this important project."

(The video presentation was concluded.)

MR. CLIFFORD: As the video describes, you may provide your comments by giving an oral statement to the court reporter in a one-on-one setting.

For those of you who prefer to provide written comments, you may complete the comment form included in your handout that can be submitted to the court reporter, dropped in one of the comment boxes or mailed to us at the pre-printed address.

To be included as a part of the official Public Hearing document, all letters and correspondence need to be post-marked no later than November 13, 2003.

You may also provide your comments during this portion of the Public Hearing. Is there anybody who wishes to make any comments during this portion of the Hearing? Seeing none, I'll move on.

The Public Hearing transcript, written statements, exhibits and reference materials will be available for public inspection at the District Seven Office of the Florida Department of Transportation located at 11201 North McKinley Drive in Tampa, Florida within three weeks.

It is approximately 6:15, and I hereby officially close the formal portion of the Public Hearing of the U.S. 19 PD&E Study.

The Florida Department of Transportation wishes to thank you for attending. Good evening.

(The formal portion of the Public Hearing 1 concluded.) 2 3 4 5 STEVE VARNADOE 6 REMAX 7 504 NORTHEAST HIGHWAY 19 8 CRYSTAL RIVER, FLORIDA 9 10 Steve Varnadoe, address 504 MR. VARNADOE: 11 Northeast Highway 19, Crystal River, Florida, 12 34429. 13 I just want to go on record to say that a 14 widening of 19 would devastate the parking lot 15 and the building that we recently acquired on 19. 16 We are going through extensive remodeling on 17 that building and are relocating our business there 18 right now. 19 Obviously if the widening occurs, we will lose 20 a good part of our property and our building will 21 no longer be able to function there. 22 And we would like to see the state look at 23 other alternatives to the widening of 19 and 24 hopefully to another path. 25

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* * * * * * * * * * *

REVEREND DAVID S. BRADFORD

ST. TIMOTHY LUTHERAN CHURCH

1070 NORTH SUNCOAST BOULEVARD

CRYSTAL RIVER, FLORIDA 34429

REVEREND BRADFORD: My name is Reverend

David S. Bradford. I'm a pastor at St. Timothy

Lutheran Church at 1070 North Suncoast Boulevard,

Crystal River, 34429.

My concern is about a turn-off lane for the church which is located in Section 3 of the plan. I'm concerned that there is no turn-off for the church currently and there is no turn-off for the church planned in the specified plans shown on the wall here.

My concern is that the church is a very active public building. I would like to see them plan for a turn-off, especially from the north to south for northbound on 19 so people can turn north.

Currently people have to go half a block further and do a u-turn into oncoming traffic in order to access the church coming south to

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north.

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I believe that moving the current -- or expanding the current turn-off lane would allow for easier access to the church and much less hazard to people coming in and out of the church.

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Our church is a public polling place. We have activities for children and families through the week and are planning an expansion of services in terms of a possible daycare or after-school care.

Therefore, I think with that traffic and in terms of safety turn-off, I would request they consider putting in a turn-off lane for access to the church. Thank you. And I'll write that up and send that in also.

That's the concern of the members. We're all in favor of the project, but we don't have a turn-off now.

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JERRY KELLEY 11184 WEST SAMSON LANE CRYSTAL RIVER, FLORIDA MR. KELLEY: Jerry Kelley, 11184 West Samson Lane, Crystal River, 34428. The question is on S.R. 44. I would like to know what the capacity -vehicle capacity of a four-lane highway is and also whether there is any current counts on S.R. 44 in, say, the first mile of it from U.S. 19 where it intersects at S.R. 44 and what those traffic counts are in relationship to its capacity. (The Public Hearing concluded at 7:30 p.m.)

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STATE OF FLORIDA
COUNTY OF HILLSBOROUGH

I, SHARON A. HARBITZ-TARTLER, Certified horthand Reporter, certify that I was authorized to and id stenographically report the foregoing Public Hearing; and that the transcript is a true record of the Public tearing.

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 and of the parties' attorney or counsel connected with this action, nor am I financially interested in the action.

Dated this 10th day of November, 2003, at Campa, Hillsborough County, Florida.

HARBITZ-TARTLER
SSION # DD 232724
St July 15, 2007
Stay Public Underwriters

SHARON A. HARBITZ-TARTLER
Certified Shorthand Reporter
Notary Public - State of Florida

Transcript Ordered: 11/3/03