



***Project  
Development  
and  
Environment  
(PD&E) Study***

***Final Endangered Species  
Technical Memorandum***

***S.R. 574 (Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard)  
from C.R. 579 to McIntosh Road  
Hillsborough County, Florida***

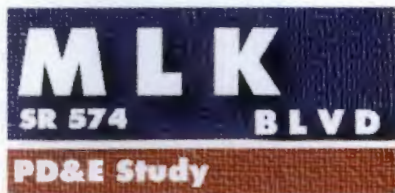
**WPI Segment No. 255893 1  
FAP No. 2081-018P**



**Florida Department of Transportation - District 7  
Tampa, Florida**

**August 2002**





Florida Department of Transportation  
Project Development and Environment (PD&E) Study

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from C.R. 579 to McIntosh Road  
Hillsborough County, Florida**

**WPI Segment No.: 255893 1  
FAP No. 2081-018P**

**Submitted to:**

**Florida Department of Transportation - District 7  
Tampa, Florida**

**Submitted by:**

**In Association with:**



**AYRES  
ASSOCIATES**

**August 2002**





## INTRODUCTION

FDOT is conducting a PD&E Study to document the preliminary engineering concept of S.R. 574 (Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard) from C.R. 579 (Mango Road) to east of McIntosh Road in central Hillsborough County for the multi-laning of the existing roadway facility. The total length of the study corridor is approximately 3.6 miles. The purpose of the PD&E Study is to provide documented environmental and engineering information as well as analyses necessary for the FDOT and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) to reach a decision regarding the type, design and location of the necessary improvements along the S.R. 574 corridor; and the impacts, if any, associated with the recommended alternative.

## PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The S.R. 574 corridor is an east/west urban minor arterial facility. The limits of the Study corridor are from C.R. 579 (Mango Road) eastward to McIntosh Road, a distance of approximately 3.6 miles. The project is located in central Hillsborough County and extends through the communities of Mango, Seffner and Dover (Sections 1, 2, 3, 10 and 11 of Township 29 South, Range 20 East; and Section 6 of Township 29 South, Range 21 East). A project location map is provided in Appendix A.

The existing land use adjacent to the S.R. 574 corridor transitions through two areas of generalized land use characteristics. In general, from the western terminus eastward the land uses transition from dense development (medium scale shopping centers, office/professional office, medical facilities, service stations, restaurants and community facilities) to low density development (mixture of agricultural, commercial, and planned and residential developments). Although vacant land exists within the Study corridor, future developments are planned for most of this area.

S.R. 574 is currently a six-lane urban section west of C.R. 579, which transitions to a three-lane rural section (with a two-way left-turn lane) east of Highview Road. The three-lane section is retained until Kingsway Road, where the roadway transitions to a two-lane section that proceeds to McIntosh Road. The existing posted speed limits along S.R. 574 are 45 mph and 50 mph.

The recommended alternative for the multi-laning of S.R. 574 from C.R. 579 to east of McIntosh Road consists of three different typical sections. The portion of the project between C.R. 579 and Parsons Avenue is recommended to be widened to a 5-lane urban typical section (40 mph design speed) that contains a two-way left turn lane. A 4-lane suburban typical section (45 mph design speed) is recommended to be utilized in the portion of the project from east of Parsons Avenue to east of Kingsway Avenue. The remaining portion of the project from east of Kingsway Road to east of McIntosh Road is recommended to contain a 4-lane suburban typical section (60 mph design speed). Both 4-lane suburban typical sections can be expanded to 6-lanes, and the right-of-way requirements are 123.5 ft. and 131.5 ft. for the 45 mph and 60 mph design speeds, respectively. The recommended alignment generally follows the existing centerline of the roadway with several shifts to reduce impacts to established commercial properties and to avoid a historical cemetery in the western portion of the project. The recommended alignment for the eastern portion of the project was controlled by a twenty-five foot offset from the proposed right-of-way line to the centerline of the existing, active CSX railroad tracks, which is the minimum dimension that has been acceptable to CSX in previous District Seven projects.





There is a box culvert at Lake Weeks Creek and a bridge (FDOT Bridge No. 100033) over Baker Canal within the eastern portion of the project, which would require modifications to accommodate the multi-laning of S.R. 574 by constructing a longer culvert at Lake Weeks Creek and a new bridge or bridge culvert at Baker Canal.

It is anticipated that minor modifications will be required along the sidestreets to accommodate the additional lanes on S.R. 574. Right-of-way acquisition is anticipated for various locations within the project corridor, and stormwater management will be accomplished with the construction of five off-site combined attenuation and treatment ponds.

## LISTED SPECIES SURVEY RESULTS

The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FFWCC) was contacted regarding the occurrence of bald eagle nests within the project study area. In a letter dated July 11, 2000, FFWCC indicated there is one nest within 1-mile of the project corridor (HL 012). This letter is provided in Appendix B. The territory is located south of the project corridor, outside the typical 1,500-foot secondary management zone. It is anticipated that this eagle nest will not be affected by the proposed project because the project is located beyond the primary 750-foot and secondary 1,500-foot management zones. Based upon available information from the Florida Geographic Data Library (FGDL), a comprehensive GIS database, no other listed species are known to occur within the project limits. Additionally, the project study area was evaluated for the potential of affecting designated "critical habitat" as defined by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS). No critical habitat designated for listed species occurs within the project corridor.

The project corridor was surveyed for listed species on July 12, 2000, December 29, 2000, January 21, 2001, and December 17, 2001. The purpose of the surveys was to observe any listed species that might be present and to determine if suitable habitat existed for any listed species. Listed species encountered during surveys are provided in Table 1. All protected species observed during the field reviews were wading birds. These wading birds were observed foraging within the project study area or flying overhead during the field inspections; however, no rookeries exist in the project vicinity. The proposed roadway improvements will not affect any protected wading bird species or their rookeries.

**Table 1. Protected Fauna/Flora Observed in the Project Area**

SCIENTIFIC NAME	COMMON NAME	OBSERVED	USFWS	FFWCC
<i>Egretta caerulea</i>	Little blue heron	Wetland 6	-	SSC
<i>Ardea herodias</i>	Great blue heron	Wetland 6	**	**
<i>Egretta thula</i>	Snowy egret	Wetland 1 (overhead)	-	SSC
<i>Phalacrocorax brasilianus</i>	Neotropic Cormorant	Wetland 6	**	**
<i>Eudocimus albus</i>	White ibis	Wetland 1 (overhead)	-	SSC
<i>Mycteria americana</i>	Wood stork	Wetland 6	E	E
<i>Pelecanus occidentalis</i>	Brown pelican	Wetland 6	-	SSC
<i>Pelecanus erythrorhynchos</i>	White pelican	Wetland 6	**	**

\*\* Indicates protected under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act of 1918;  
USFWS=United States Fish and Wildlife Service;  
FFWCC= Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission

E= Endangered;  
SSC=Species of Special Concern





Informal consultation with the USFWS was conducted. In a letter dated July 12, 2002, the FDOT on behalf of the FHWA asked for concurrence that the proposed actions will have "no effect" with any federally protected threatened or endangered species. The USFWS concurred on August 14, 2002 that "The proposed action is not likely to adversely affect resources protected by the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended." The USFWS does not anticipate taking any action regarding this application.

As a result of the urban nature of the study corridor and according to a literature search, review of Florida Natural Areas and Inventory (FNAI), FFWCC and USFWS databases for Hillsborough County, and field surveys, it was determined that no threatened and/or endangered species are expected to be adversely affected by the project. As a result, this project is expected to have "no effect" with listed species or their critical habitats.

...the USFWS who conducted ... a letter dated July 15, 1978 ...  
...USFWS asked for ... the proposed action ...  
...USFWS ...  
...the proposed action is not likely to adversely affect ...  
...USFWS ...  
...USFWS ...

...the study project and according to the ...  
...USFWS and USFWS ...  
...USFWS ...  
...USFWS ...  
...USFWS ...

Appendix A Project Location Map











Appendix B Agency Coordination Letter





# FLORIDA FISH AND WILDLIFE CONSERVATION COMMISSION



JAMES L. "JAMIE" ADAMS, JR.  
Bushnell

BARBARA C. BARSH  
Jacksonville

QUINTON L. HEDGEPEETH, DDS  
Miami

H.A. "HERKY" HUFFMAN  
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DAVID K. MEEHAN  
St. Petersburg

JULIE K. MORRIS  
Sarasota

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Pensacola

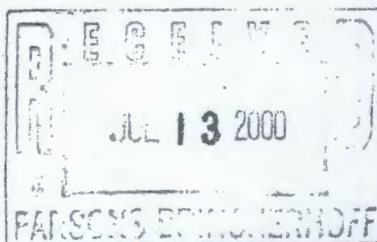
JOHN D. ROOD  
Jacksonville

LAN L. EGBERT, Ph.D., Executive Director  
TOR J. HELLER, Assistant Executive Director

WILDLIFE RESEARCH LABORATORY  
4005 SOUTH MAIN STREET  
GAINESVILLE FLORIDA 32601-9099  
(352)955-2230 TDD (850) 488-9542

July 11, 2000

Mr. David Young  
Parsons Brinckerhoff, Inc.  
5405 West Cypress Street, Suite 300  
Tampa, FL 33607



15504A  
3.06

**Re: Bald Eagle Nest Inquiry for SR 574: Sections 1, 2, and 3, Township 29 South, Range 20 East and Section 6, Township 29 South, Range 21 East; Hillsborough County, Florida**

Dear Mr. Young:

This is in reference to your request for bald eagle nest location information. There is one nest within one mile of your project site. It is Nest Number HL 012. This nest is located at latitude / longitude coordinates of 28° 00.30' / 82° 14.50' and has been active from 1985 - 1997. I have enclosed a map detailing the location of this nest in relation to your project site.

This information represents only the general locations of bald eagle nests and nesting territories for which you have requested information. There may be additional nests in this area of which we are unaware. Such nests would be afforded the same protection. This information was obtained during routine aerial surveys, in most cases; consequently, the location information is only accurate to within  $\pm 0.10$  mile. The specific site of the nest must be determined from the ground, if a more precise location is required. Information provided by FFWCC does not confer access to the site, and active nests should not be approached during the nesting season (October 1 - May 15). Permission to trespass on private property should be obtained from the land owner.

If I can be of further assistance, please feel free to contact me at the above address and/or phone number. Thank you for your inquiry.

Sincerely,

Julia B. Dodge

Enclosure (1)

cc: Tom Logan, FFWCC  
ESC 6-1 Nest Number HL012



# WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION COMMISSION

1. Name of the Commission: \_\_\_\_\_  
2. Date of the Commission: \_\_\_\_\_  
3. Place of the Commission: \_\_\_\_\_  
4. Name of the President: \_\_\_\_\_  
5. Name of the Secretary: \_\_\_\_\_  
6. Name of the Treasurer: \_\_\_\_\_  
7. Name of the Chairman: \_\_\_\_\_  
8. Name of the Vice-Chairman: \_\_\_\_\_  
9. Name of the Members: \_\_\_\_\_  
10. Name of the Observers: \_\_\_\_\_

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