



Florida Department of Transportation, District Seven
 11201 N. McKinley Drive
 M.S. 7-500
 Tampa, FL 33612-6456

State Road 60

From Valrico Road
 To The Polk County Line
 Hillsborough County, Florida

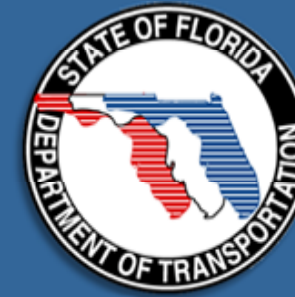
Project Development & Environment Study



WPI Seg. No.: 430055-1
 FAP No.: N/A

Project Newsletter Number 1

October 2012



This newsletter is the first in a series prepared by the Florida Department of Transportation to help keep the public informed about the

State Road 60 Project Development and Environment Study

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Tentative Project Schedule

PD&E Study Initiated	June 2012
Alternatives Public Workshop	Spring/Summer 2013
Public Hearing	Fall/Winter 2013/2014
Complete Project Development & Environment Study	Summer 2014

Non-Discrimination Laws And Regulations

Public participation is solicited without regard to race, color, national origin, age, sex, religion, disability or family status.

Persons who require special accommodations under the Americans with Disabilities Act or persons who require translation services (free of charge) should contact Manuel Santos, Project Manager at 813-975-6173 or toll free at 1-800-226-7220 or email manuel.santos@dot.state.fl.us.

Para Preguntas en español

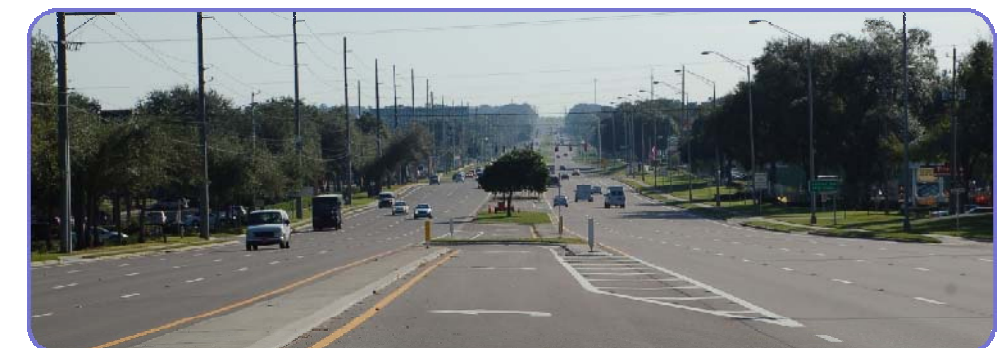
Si usted tiene preguntas o comentarios o si simplemente desea mas informacion sobre este proyecto, favor de ponerse en contacto con el señor Manuel Santos, al teléfono (813) 975-6173 o correo electrónico manuel.santos@dot.state.fl.us.

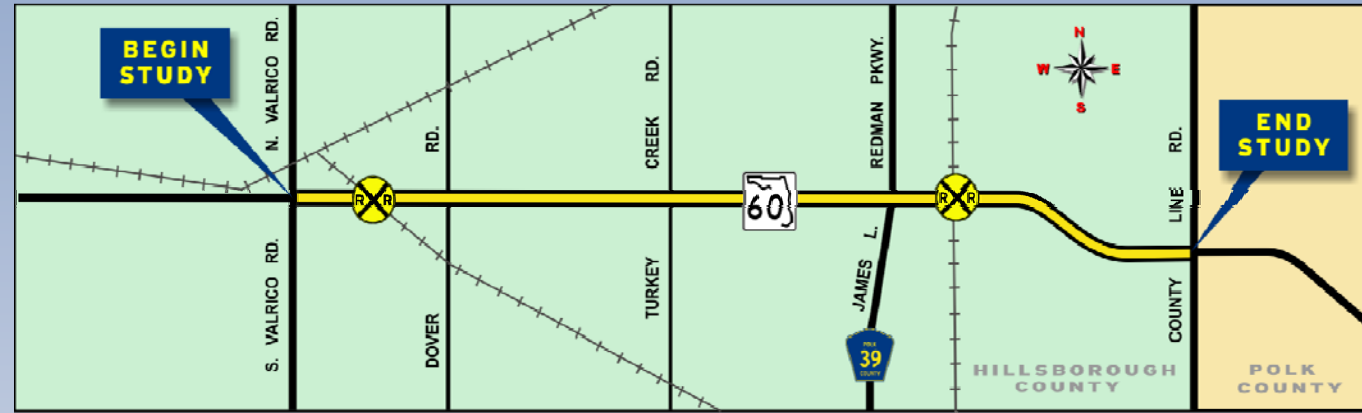
The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) is conducting a Project Development & Environment (PD&E) study to consider widening a portion of State Road 60 (SR 60). Located in Hillsborough County, the limits of this study are from Valrico Road at the west end extending eastward to the Polk County Line, a distance of approximately 12.3 miles. The project area map is shown inside this newsletter.

Within the project limits, the existing system is a major roadway, and the proposed improvement will expand the current 4-lane facility to 6-lanes. SR 60 is a major east-west roadway and is part of the Florida Intrastate Highway System (FIHS). SR 60 provides connectivity with many of Florida's major highways and is a vital link in the regional transportation network connecting the Tampa Bay region to the remainder of the state. SR 60 is a part of the Strategic Intermodal System (SIS), which provides efficient multi-modal transportation facilities and provides connections to airports, seaports, bus and rail terminals. SR 60 is also designated as an emergency evacuation route.

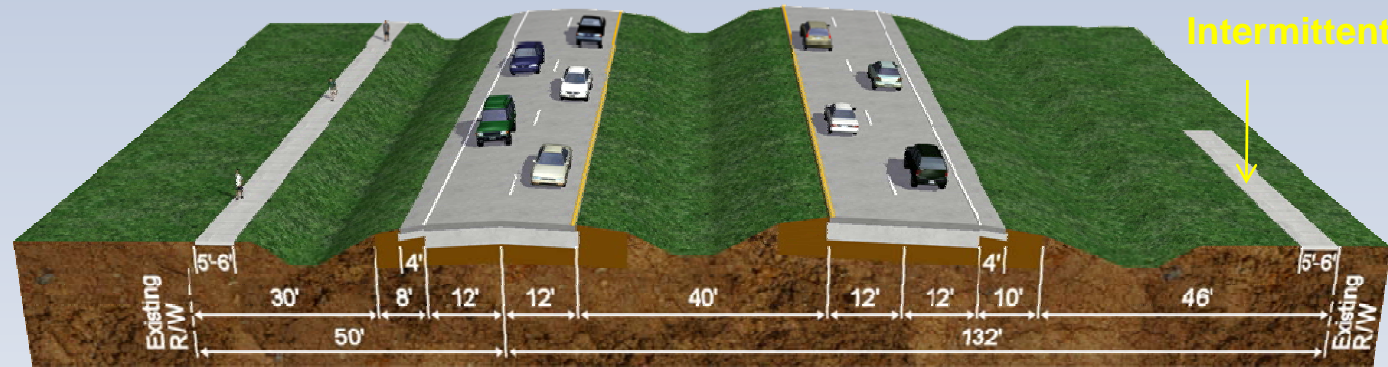
The Hillsborough County Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) has identified and documented the need to widen and improve SR 60 in their 2035 Long Range Transportation Plan. These improvements will accommodate the projected future traffic volumes, enhance motorist safety, and reduce emergency response times.

This PD&E study is being conducted to identify and evaluate alternative design concepts for the needed capacity improvements and to determine the effects on the environment. Once complete, the best possible design for the improvements will be identified for further refinement. This newsletter serves to kickoff the PD&E study by informing members of the community about the details of the study. Future newsletters will describe project alternatives under consideration and present the recommended improvements. An alternatives public workshop, and later a public hearing, will be held to provide an opportunity for official public statements about the proposed improvements. We encourage you to contact us with your questions, comments, and suggestions about the study. Our contact information is provided to the left.





Project Area Map



Existing 4-Lane Typical Section

PD&E Study: One Step In The Process

Most FDOT projects, including this SR 60 project, are developed according to a five step process. The first step is producing a Long Range Transportation Plan or LRTP, which is developed by the Hillsborough County MPO in coordination with FDOT. Individual projects are identified and prioritized during this long range planning process.

Individual projects then move forward to the next step, which is the Project Development and Environment study, or PD&E phase. A PD&E study is conducted to meet the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). During this phase, various alternatives are developed for the project. The socioeconomic, environmental and safety effects of each alternative are identified.

A “No-Build” alternative, which considers leaving the roadway in its present state with continuing routine maintenance, will remain a viable alternative throughout the study. A PD&E study is finalized when the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) reviews the documentation and recommendations then provides a Location and Design Conceptual Acceptance (LDCA).

If a Build Alternative is selected and the project moves forward, it then proceeds to the Project Design phase, in which detailed construction plans are prepared. During the subsequent Right of Way Acquisition phase, these construction plans are used as the basis for any land acquisition required for the project. Once all necessary right of way is acquired, the construction phase of the project can begin, marking the final stage in the transportation development process.

Public Involvement Program

The PD&E study process includes a Public Involvement Program to inform and involve all interested parties in the development of the planned project. This program is now underway, with the study team gathering input from citizens and agencies within the project area. Public involvement activities will continue throughout the duration of the project.

Four editions of the project newsletter are planned. The mailing list includes:

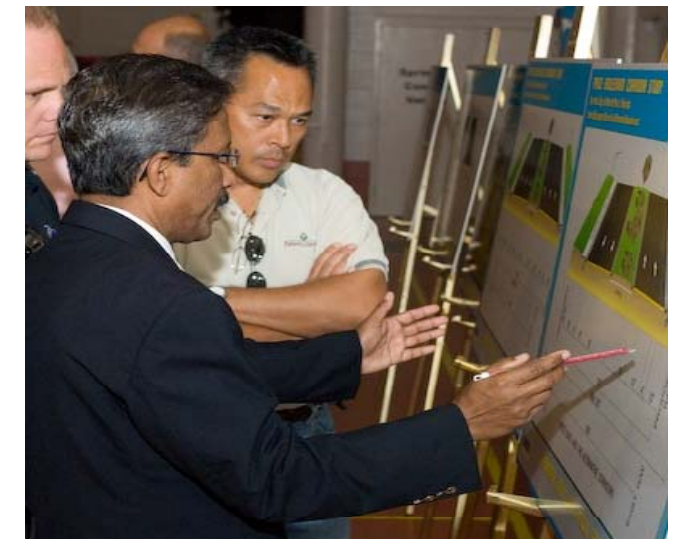
- All individuals owning property within at least 300 feet of the right of way of the proposed project;
- Neighborhood and civic associations in the study area;
- Local elected and appointed officials;
- Local, regional, and state agencies and interest groups, and
- Individuals who request to be placed on the mailing list

Anyone who would like to be placed on the mailing list should contact the Project Manager. The contact information is shown on the front page of this newsletter.

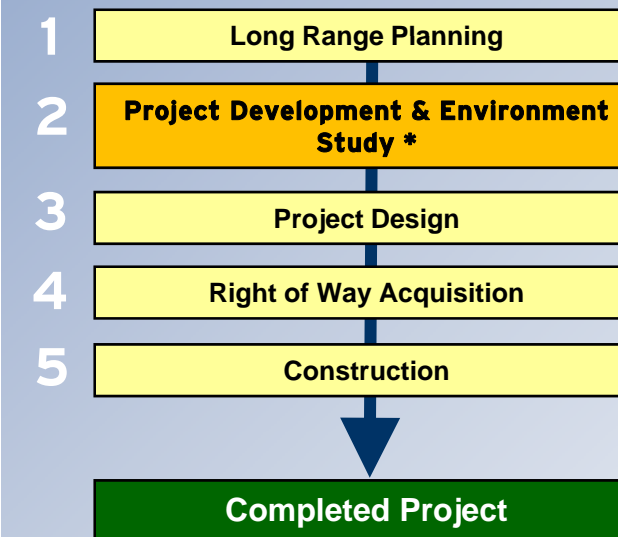
A second project newsletter will inform the public of the status of alternatives development and the planned public workshop. Public information meetings during the study will include presentations given before the MPO and informal “small group” meetings with local civic organizations, public officials, and public agencies. Meetings will provide information on the project status, design concepts, and opportunity for those who have an interest in the proposed project to comment on the study’s findings.

The third project newsletter will announce the date, time, and location of the public hearing. A public hearing will be held to present conclusions reached about improvement options and project effects. Public statements made at the hearing are recorded in the official public hearing transcript, which must be reviewed by FHWA before approval of the study findings is granted.

The fourth newsletter will be used to announce FHWA’s decision on the location and conceptual design of the project.



The Transportation Development Process



* Current Stage

The SR 60 project is currently in the PD&E study phase of this five-step process. The study team is currently gathering information on various social and environmental resources in the project study area. These resources include locations of threatened and endangered species, wetlands, potential contamination sites, as well as locations of residences, public facilities, and commercial buildings near the project corridor. Once alternative design concepts are developed, this information will be used to determine the potential effects of different alternatives on these social and environmental resources. While FDOT does not expect the proposed SR 60 improvements to have significant effects on these resources, it is nonetheless important to investigate the project’s potential effects thoroughly. The results of this effect analysis will be summarized in project reports which will be available at the official public hearing.



State Road 60

Project Development & Environment Study

from Valrico Road to the Polk County Line
Hillsborough County, Florida | February 2014

We Want Your Input!

A successful PD&E study depends on the public's participation in the study process. We encourage your input throughout the study.

To provide comments, ask questions, and make suggestions about the study, please contact:

Stephanie Pierce
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FDOT District Seven
11201 N. McKinley Drive
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(800) 226-7220
stephanie.pierce@dot.state.fl.us

Media Contact

Kristen Carson
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(800) 226-7220
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Alternatives Public Workshop Scheduled

You are invited to attend and participate in the State Road 60 Alternatives Public Workshop on March 18, 2014 from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. at the Strawberry Ridge Community Clubhouse located at 3419 SR 60 East, in Valrico, FL.

This letter also serves as notice to property owners that a whole or a 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 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 the enclosed comment form that can be dropped in one of the comment boxes at the Alternatives Public Workshop. You may also mail us your comments to the address pre-printed on the back of the form.

Public participation is solicited without regard to race, color, national origin, age, sex, religion, disability or family status. Persons who require special accommodations under the Americans with Disabilities Act or persons who require translation services (free of charge) should contact Lori Marable, Public Involvement Coordinator, at (813) 975-6405, (800) 226-7220, or at lori.marable@dot.state.fl.us at least 7 days before the meeting.

We look forward to seeing you at the public workshop!

Sincerely,

Ming Gao, P.E.
District Intermodal Systems Development Manager

Florida Department of Transportation, District Seven
11201 N. McKinley Drive
M.S. 7-500
Tampa, FL 33612-6456

FDOT Adopted 5-Year Work Program Fiscal Year 2013/2014 to 2018/2019

Phase	Fiscal Year
Design	Not Currently Funded
Right Of Way Acquisition	Not Currently Funded
Construction	Not Currently Funded

Project Website

For more information on this study, go to www.fdotd7studies.com, click on "SR 60 from Valrico Road to the Polk County Line", then click on the website link displayed in the map.

Upcoming Key Public Involvement Events State Road 60 PD&E Study

Public Hearing.....**Summer 2014**
The study's hearing is a formal meeting at which comments are taken for the public record on the findings of the study.

Location/Design Concept Acceptance.....**Fall 2014**
All comments made in conjunction with the public hearing are analyzed and, if appropriate, incorporated into the study. The final study is completed and forwarded to the Federal Highway Administration for its official acceptance.

En Español

Si usted tiene preguntas o comentarios o si simplemente desea mas informacion sobre este proyecto, favor de ponerse en contacto con la señora **Elba Lopez**, al teléfono **(813) 975-6403** o correo electrónico elba.lopez@dot.state.fl.us.

Non-Discrimination Laws and Regulations

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Right of Way Acquisition Procedure

We understand that when a transportation project proposes the acquisition of private property, you may have questions and concerns. To better educate and inform you about the right of way acquisition process and your rights, the department has created real estate acquisition and relocation brochures. These brochures and other education materials will be available at the public hearing. Copies of the brochures may also be found on our website: <http://www.dot.state.fl.us/rightofway/Documents.shtm>. We are interested in hearing your concerns and answering your questions. We also encourage you to speak with the departments' project manager or a right of way representative at your convenience.



Project Purpose and Description

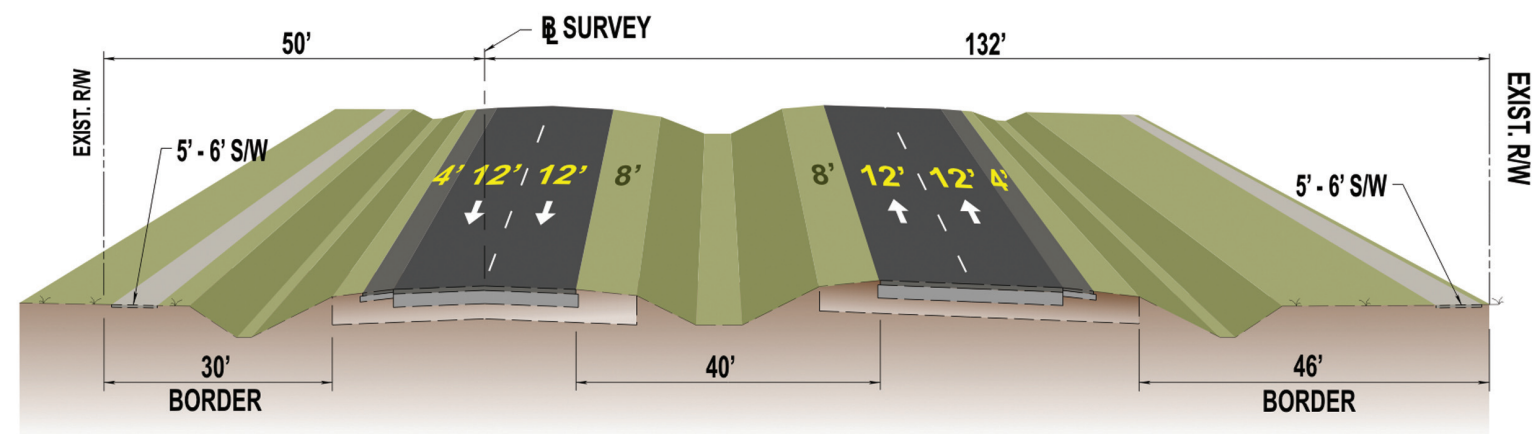
The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) is conducting a Project Development and Environment (PD&E) study to evaluate alternative improvements along State Road (SR) 60, from Valrico Road to the Polk County Line in southeast Hillsborough County. The total length of the proposed project is approximately 12.3 miles.

A PD&E study determines feasible alternatives for transportation improvements based on the environmental, engineering, and socioeconomic effects of the proposed improvement. This satisfies the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) and other federal and state requirements.

The purpose of the proposed project is to provide a higher capacity and safer roadway for future transportation demand in this area of Hillsborough County. SR 60 is one of the main east-west roadways within the County and is designated as an emergency evacuation route.

Existing Roadway

This section of SR 60 is currently a four-lane divided roadway with two 12-ft travel lanes and 4-ft outside paved shoulders separated by a 30-40 ft. median. Sidewalks in the area vary in width from 5-6 feet and are intermittent. Turn lanes have been provided at certain locations. The posted speed limit along this section of SR 60 varies from 50 to 65 miles per hour (mph) and the existing right of way is generally 182 feet wide.



SR 60: From Valrico Rd. to the Polk County Line
Existing 4-Lane Typical Section

Study Alternatives

Future Needs – By the year 2040, traffic along SR 60 is anticipated to increase more than 54%; carrying more than 71,000 vehicles per day. If improvements aren't made, congestion will continue to increase and the existing 4-lane road will not operate at an acceptable level of service.

To better evaluate this portion of SR 60, the study area has been divided into three segments:

- Segment 1: **Valrico Road to Dover Road**
- Segment 2: **Dover Road to Turkey Creek Road**
- Segment 3: **Turkey Creek Road to the Polk County Line**

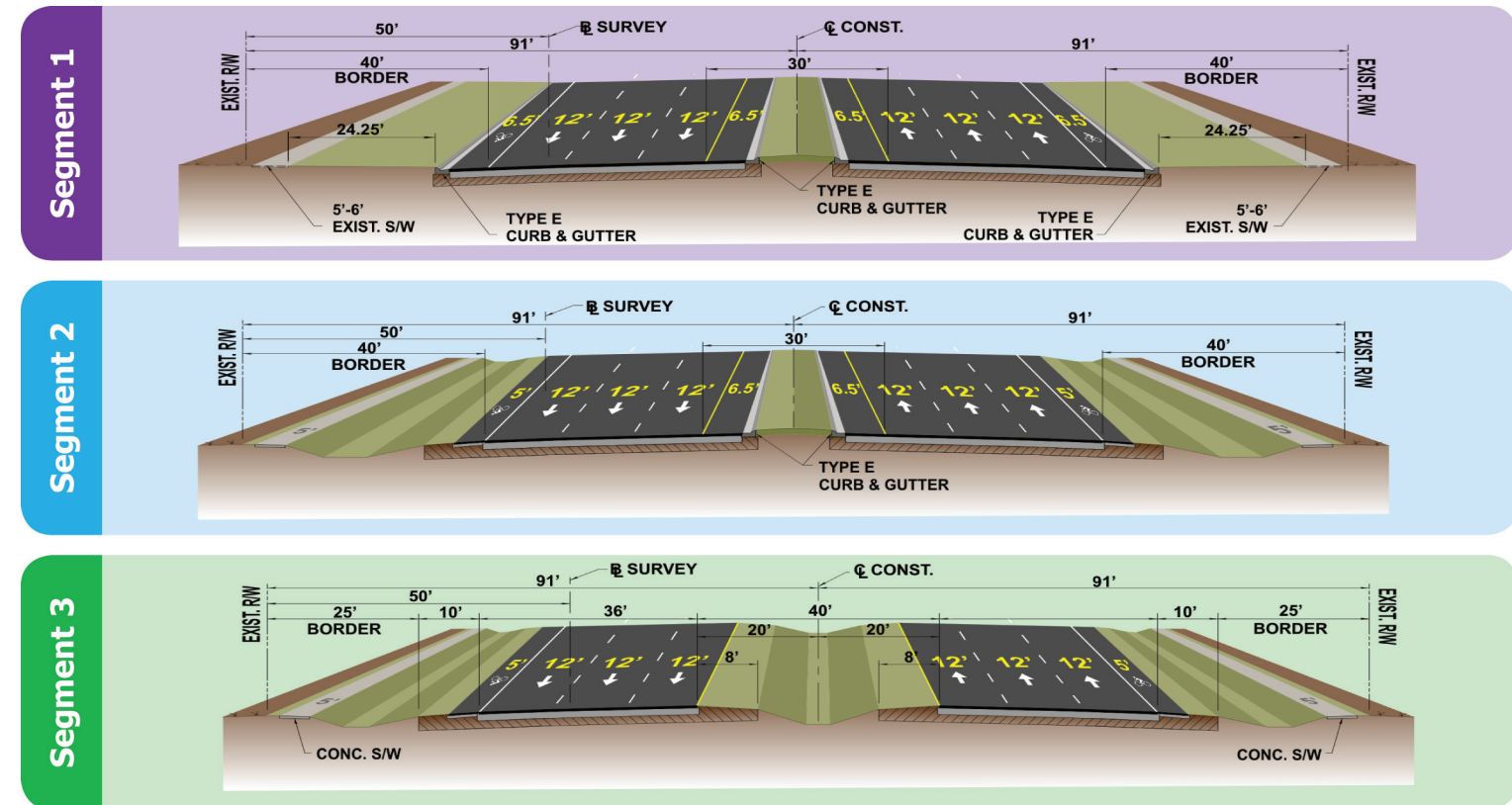
Build Alternatives - The Build Alternatives include two options for widening the existing four-lane roadway. The new roadway would consist of six 12-foot travel lanes (three in each direction), paved inside and outside shoulders, and five-foot sidewalks along both sides of the roadway.

Alternative 1 involves complete reconstruction of the roadway so that it can be centered within the existing right of way. By centering the roadway, no new right of way will be needed to accommodate the widening.

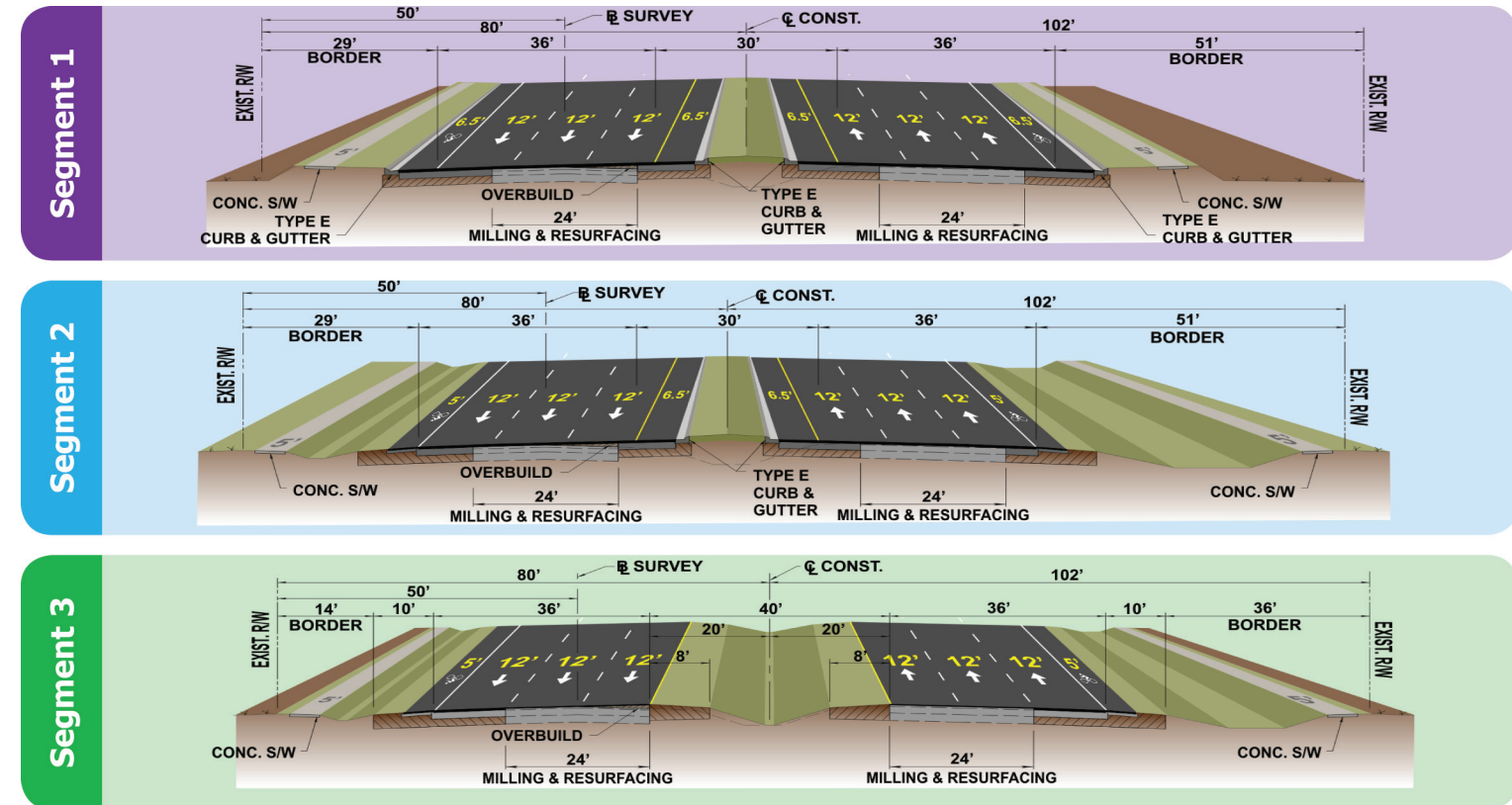
Alternative 2 will use the existing pavement and would be centered along the existing roadway. Widening would occur to the inside and outside of the existing roadway. Additional right of way would be needed in certain areas to accommodate and improve existing turn lanes.

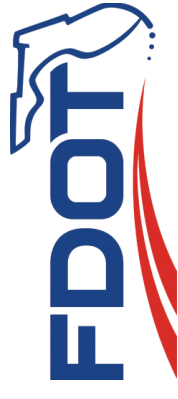
Alternative Typical Sections

Alternative 1 – Roadway Reconstruction



Alternative 2 – Pavement Saving



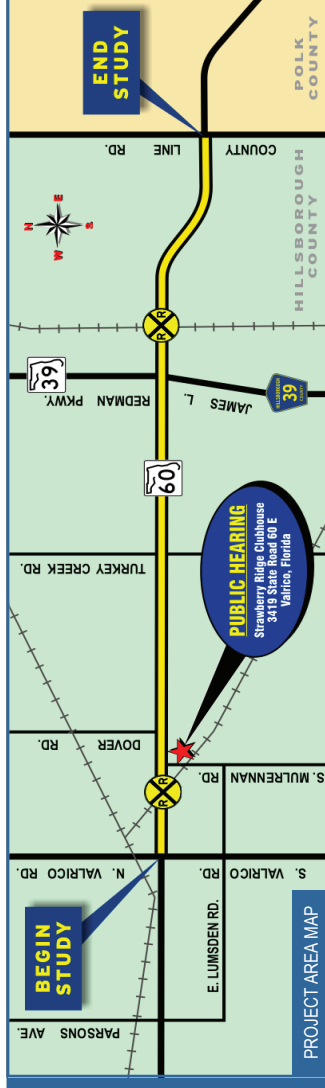


Project Newsletter | September 2014

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Hillsborough County, Florida | WPI Seg. No: 430055-1



We Want Your Input!

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To provide comments, ask questions, and make suggestions about the study, please contact:

Stephanie Pierce
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FDOT District Seven
11201 N. McKinley Drive
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Media Contact

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Florida Department of Transportation, District Seven

FDOT Adopted 5-Year Work Program Fiscal Year 2014/2015 to 2018/2019			
Phase	ROADWAY SEGMENT		
	Valrico Road to Dover Road	Dover Road to SR 39	SR 39 to Hillsborough/Polk County Line
Design	2015	2015	Not currently funded
ROW Acquisition	Not currently funded	Not currently funded	Not currently funded
Construction	Not currently funded	Not currently funded	Not currently funded

En Español

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What Happens Next?

Location/Design Concept Acceptance..... Winter 2014
All comments made in conjunction with the public hearing are analyzed and, if appropriate, incorporated into the study. The final study is completed and forwarded to the Federal Highway Administration for its official acceptance.

Project Website

For more information on this study, go to www.fdot7studies.com, click on "SR 60 from Valrico Road to the Polk County Line", then click on the website link displayed in the map. For hearing information select the "Upcoming Meetings" tab.

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We understand that when a transportation project proposes the acquisition of private property, you may have questions and concerns. To better educate and inform you about the right of way acquisition process and your rights, the department has created real estate acquisition and relocation brochures. These brochures and other education materials will be available at the public hearing. Copies of the brochures may also be found on our website: <http://www.dot.state.fl.us/rightofway/Documents.shtm>. We are interested in hearing your concerns and answering your questions and encourage you to speak with the Departments' Project Manager or a right of way representative at your convenience.

Public Hearing Scheduled

Dear Property Owner or Interested Citizen:

You are invited to attend and participate in a public hearing held by the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) regarding the proposed improvements to SR 60 from Valrico Road to the Polk County Line. The hearing is being held to give the public an opportunity to provide comments concerning the conceptual design of the proposed improvements to SR 60 within the project limits. The hearing will be held:

DATE: Thursday, November 6th, 2014
TIME: 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. - Open House
6:00 p.m. - Formal Presentation
PLACE: Strawberry Ridge Clubhouse
3419 SR 60 East, in Valrico, FL

FDOT representatives will be available beginning at 5:00 p.m. to answer questions and discuss the project informally and a court reporter will be available to record your comments in a one-on-one setting. Exhibits and other project related materials will be displayed showing the proposed improvements.

At 6:00 p.m., Department representatives will begin the formal portion of the hearing at which time formal public comments may be given. Following the formal portion of the hearing, the informal open house will resume and continue until 7:00 p.m.

You may provide written comments by completing the enclosed comment form and dropping it in one of the comment boxes at the hearing or you may mail your comments to the address pre-printed on the back of the form. All comments must be postmarked by Monday, November 17th, 2014 to become part of the official public hearing record.

Maps, drawings, and other pertinent information depicting the project's alignment and proposed improvements will be available for public review from Thursday, October 16th - Thursday, November 17th, 2014 during normal business hours at the Brandon Regional Library (located at 619 Vonderburg Dr., Brandon, FL 33511), the Bruton Memorial Library (located at 302 W. McLendon Street, Plant City, FL 33563), and the FDOT District 7 Office (located at 11201 N. McKinley Drive Tampa, FL 33612).

This newsletter serves as notice to property owners (pursuant to Florida Statutes 339.155) that all or a portion of their property is within 300 feet of the centerline of the proposed project. However, this does not mean that all properties would be directly affected.

We look forward to seeing you at the public hearing!

Sincerely,

Ming Gao, P.E.

District Intermodal Systems Development Manager

Study Purpose

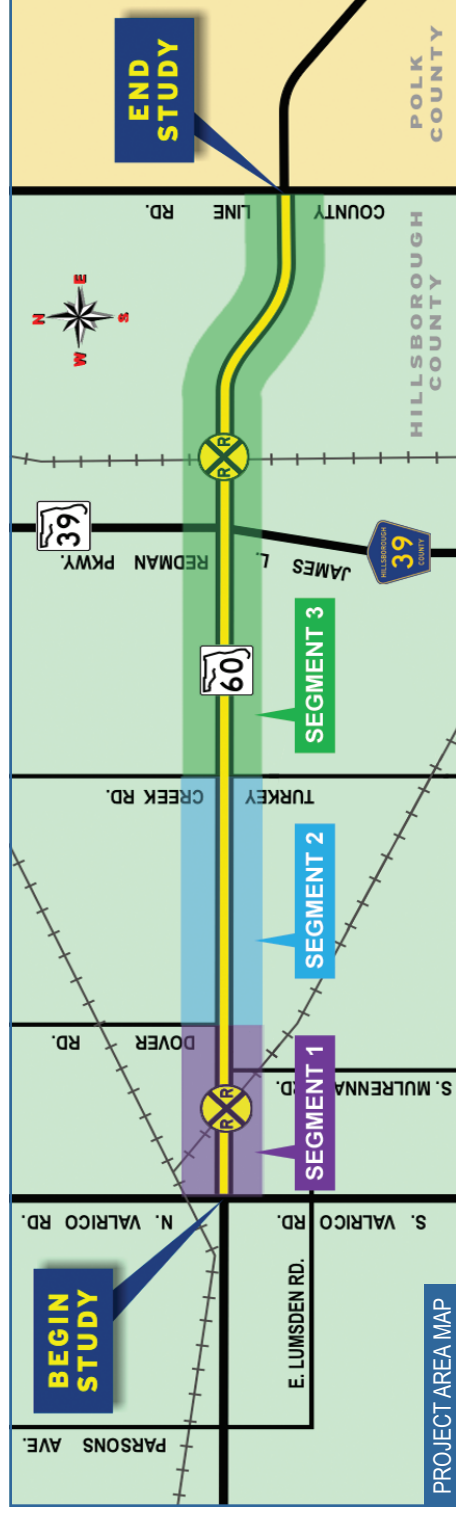
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Recommended Alternative Typical Sections

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- Segment 2: **Dover Road to Turkey Creek Road**
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Recommended Alternative

