

US 301 (SR 43) from SR 60 (Adamo Drive) to I-4 (SR 400) Project Development and Environment Study

Florida Department of Transportation
11201 N. Malcolm McKinley Drive
Tampa, Florida 33612



PROJECT CONTACTS

We encourage you to participate in the US 301 (SR 43) PD&E study and invite your questions and comments. We are also available to meet with your group or neighborhood association. If you have questions regarding the project or would like to schedule a meeting, please contact the FDOT Project Manager, Stephanie Pierce at (813) 975-6445, toll free at (800) 226-7220 or by email at stephanie.pierce@dot.state.fl.us. Written comments and questions can be faxed to (813) 975-6443 or mailed to:

US 301 (SR 43) PD&E Study
Attn: Stephanie Pierce
Florida Department of Transportation
11201 N. Malcolm McKinley Drive, MS 7-500
Tampa, Florida 33612

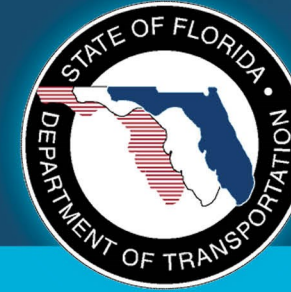
NON-DISCRIMINATION LAWS AND REGULATIONS

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 Lori Marable, Public Involvement Coordinator at (813) 975-6405, or toll free at (800) 226-7220 or email lori.marable@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.



US 301 (SR 43)

from SR 60 (Adamo Drive) to I-4 (SR 400)

Project Development and Environment Study



This newsletter is the first in a series prepared by the FDOT to help keep you (the public) informed about the

US 301 (SR 43) Project Development & Environment (PD&E) Study

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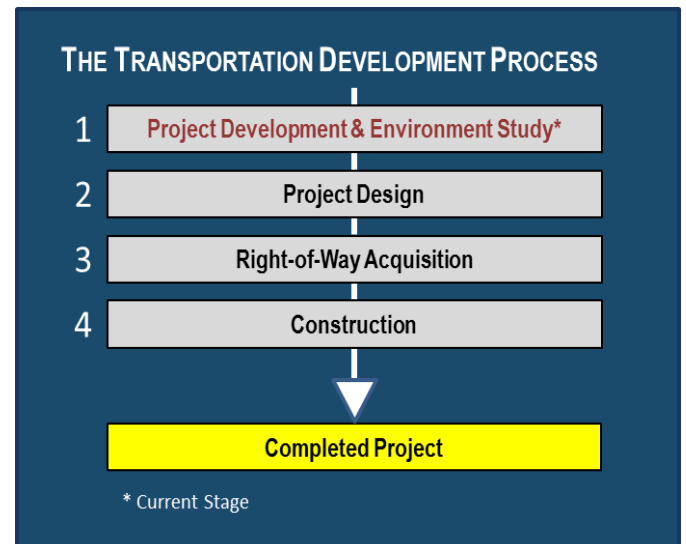
PD&E Study Begins!

The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) has begun a Project Development and Environment (PD&E) study to consider roadway improvements along US 301 (SR 43) in Hillsborough County. The project begins at SR 60 (Adamo Drive) and extends to south of I-4 (SR 400), a distance of just over three miles. The PD&E study involves developing roadway alternatives which include widening US 301 (SR 43) from four to six lanes. The project team will evaluate the engineering, social and environmental effects of widening the road and compare the effects for each alternative.

US 301 is a major north-south roadway used for travel through Hillsborough County and provides access to many of the area's major roadways including I-4, I-75, US 92, Lee Roy Selmon Expressway, and SR 60. It is an important roadway in the overall Tampa Bay area as it is listed as an emergency evacuation route.

The PD&E Study Process

This PD&E study will evaluate multiple alternatives, including a no-build alternative. Many, also called build alternatives, widen US 301 from four to six lanes. The build alternatives will provide for future traffic growth of local traffic and commuters as well as freight movement, improve driver and pedestrian safety, and reduce emergency response times. This newsletter kicks off the PD&E study and provides you with an overview of the project. Future newsletters will discuss proposed alternatives. FDOT will hold a public hearing in the Spring of 2014 to give you an overview of the alternatives and provide you the opportunity to personally share your thoughts about what is proposed for US 301. We encourage you to contact us with your questions, comments and suggestions about the study. Our contact information is provided to the left.





Project Location Map

PROJECT LOCATION

The US 301 (SR 43) PD&E study runs from SR 60 to just south of I-4, a distance of just over three miles. There are currently three signalized intersections within the study area, two railroad overpasses and one bridge over the Tampa Bypass Canal. This study area mainly consists of commercial and light industrial properties, a few residences, the Florida State Fairgrounds, and the Veterans Memorial Park.

PURPOSE & NEED

The purpose of the proposed project is to improve safety and traffic flow along US 301 from SR 60 to just south of I-4. The project would:

- Reduce traffic congestion
- Improve emergency and hurricane evacuation times
- Provide safer access to properties within the corridor

PD&E STUDY SCHEDULE

Begin PD&E Study	January 2013
Public Hearing	Spring 2015
Complete PD&E Study	Summer 2015

PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT PROGRAM

Public involvement is one of the most important elements of a PD&E study. It is very important for the public to provide comments to FDOT about the proposed US 301 improvements. There are many ways for you to stay involved, such as small group meetings and a public hearing. Project newsletters, such as this one, are mailed to all property owners within the study area as well as elected/appointed public officials at key points in the study.

FDOT will print and mail newsletters three times during this study:

1. Project kickoff (current)
2. Prior to the public hearing (Spring 2015)
3. End of the study (Summer 2015)

The mailing list includes:

- All property owners located within 300 feet
- Neighborhood and civic associations
- Local elected and appointed public officials
- Local, regional, and state agencies
- Anyone requesting to be included

Want to Stay Connected?

Anyone who would like to receive future information about this project should contact the Project Manager using the contact information located on the front of this newsletter.

A second project newsletter will discuss the build alternative(s) and announce the date and location of the public hearing. The study team may also make presentations to local officials as well as hold casual "small group" meetings with local and neighborhood groups. FDOT will provide information on the project status and illustrations of the proposed build alternatives at these meetings. Anyone who wishes to comment about the project will be allowed time to do so.

FDOT will hold a public hearing to present preliminary conclusions reached about the roadway improvement options and the effects of the project. Public statements made during the hearing process are recorded in the official public hearing record.



WHAT IS A PD&E STUDY

The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) completes a Project Development and Environment (PD&E) study to determine the location, preliminary design, social, economic, and environmental effects of proposed major roadway improvements. During the PD&E study process, FDOT will evaluate alternatives based on engineering considerations, environmental effects, safety needs, and public input. FDOT also considers the no-build alternative, which means no changes are made to the roadway within the study limits, except for routine maintenance, through the year 2040. FDOT requests and encourages community input throughout the PD&E study process.



The US 301 study team is currently gathering information about the study area including various engineering data along with cultural, social and environmental resources. These resources include locations of threatened and endangered species, wetlands, archaeological and historic structures, potential contamination sites, as well as locations of residences, public facilities, and commercial buildings near the project corridor. The study team will use this information to determine the possible effects that changes to US 301 could have on these resources. The FDOT will present the results of this analysis in draft project reports that will be made available for review during the public hearing process.