



# US 41 (SR 45)

From Kracker Avenue to South of SR 676 (Causeway Boulevard)  
Project Development and Environment (PD&E) Study

WPI Segment No: 430056-1 | Hillsborough County, Florida | December 2015

### The Public Hearing is being held in the following location:

**Date:** January 26, 2016  
**Place:** Gardenville Recreation Center  
6219 Symmes Road  
Gibsonton, FL 33534  
**Time:** 5:30 pm-7:30 pm | Open House  
6:30 pm | Formal Presentation

### WE WANT YOUR INPUT!

A successful project depends on the public's participation in the project's development.

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

**Kirk Bogen, P.E.**  
Environmental Management Engineer  
813-975-6448  
800-226-7220

— Or —

**Kris Carson**  
Public Information  
813-975-6202  
800-226-7220

Send written comments to:  
**Kirk Bogen, P.E.**

Environmental Management Engineer

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

Email comments to:  
[kirk.bogen@dot.state.fl.us](mailto:kirk.bogen@dot.state.fl.us)

You may submit written comments or other exhibits, in place of or in addition to oral comments, at the hearing or by mailing your comments to the address preprinted on the back of the attached comment form or enter them on the project website at <http://active.fdotd7studies.com/us41/kracker-to-sr676/>. All comments or other exhibits must be postmarked no later than **Friday, February 5, 2016** to become part of the official public hearing record.

### Dear Property Owner or Interested Citizen:

You are invited to attend and participate in the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT), District Seven public hearing for a Project Development and Environment (PD&E) study for proposed improvements to US 41 in Hillsborough County, Florida. This public hearing is being held to allow interested persons an opportunity to provide comments concerning the location, conceptual design, and social, economic, and environmental effects of widening US 41 from Kracker Avenue to south of SR 676 (Causeway Boulevard), a distance of approximately 7 miles. The widening of US 41 is proposed as a six lane divided roadway with pedestrian and bicycle facilities.

This letter serves as notice to property owners (pursuant to F.S.339.155) that all or a portion of their property is within 300 feet of the edge of right of way of the proposed project. However, this does not mean that all properties will be directly affected.

Department representatives will be available at the public hearing beginning at 5:30 pm to answer questions and discuss the project informally. Draft project documents and other project related materials will be displayed, and a PowerPoint presentation will run continuously during the open house. At 6:30 pm, FDOT representatives will begin the formal portion of the hearing, which will provide an opportunity for attendees to make formal oral public comments. Following the formal portion of the hearing, the informal open house will resume and continue until 7:30 pm. A court reporter will be available to receive comments in a one-on-one setting. Persons wishing to submit written statements or other exhibits, in place of or in addition to oral statements, may do so at the hearing or by mailing them to Kirk Bogen, Environmental Management Engineer, FDOT, District Seven, 11201 N. McKinley Drive MS 7-500, Tampa, FL 33612-6456, or electronically to the project website at <http://active.fdotd7studies.com/us41/kracker-to-sr676/>. All exhibits or statements must be postmarked or emailed no later than Friday, February 5, 2016 to become part of the official public hearing record.

If you have questions about the project or the scheduled hearing, please contact:

Kirk Bogen, P.E., Environmental Management Engineer  
(813) 975-6448  
[kirk.bogen@dot.state.fl.us](mailto:kirk.bogen@dot.state.fl.us)

Sincerely,  
**Kirk Bogen, P.E.**  
Environmental Management Engineer



Draft project documents will be available for public review at the following locations from **January 5, 2016 to February 5, 2016.**

**Riverview Branch Library**  
10509 Riverview Drive  
Riverview, FL 33578-4367  
Mon-Tue 10 a.m.-8 p.m.  
Wed-Sat 10 a.m.-6 p.m

**FDOT District Seven**  
11201 N. McKinley Drive  
Tampa, FL 33612  
Mon-Fri 8 a.m.-5 p.m.

## What is a Project Development and Environment (PD&E) Study?

A PD&E study is a comprehensive evaluation of social, cultural, economic and environmental effects associated with a proposed transportation improvement. This analysis enables the FDOT to reach a decision on the type, location and conceptual design of proposed improvements for US 41 to accommodate future traffic demand in a safe and efficient manner. It represents a combined effort by transportation and environmental professionals who analyze information and document the best alternative for a community's transportation needs.

The PD&E study efforts are accomplished by working in cooperation with other state/federal agencies and local governments. This coordination allows the FDOT to better determine the effects a transportation project will have on the natural and human environment. A State Environmental Impact Report (SEIR) is being prepared, which summarizes the analyses of potential effects to the social, cultural, natural and physical environment.

## Project Description

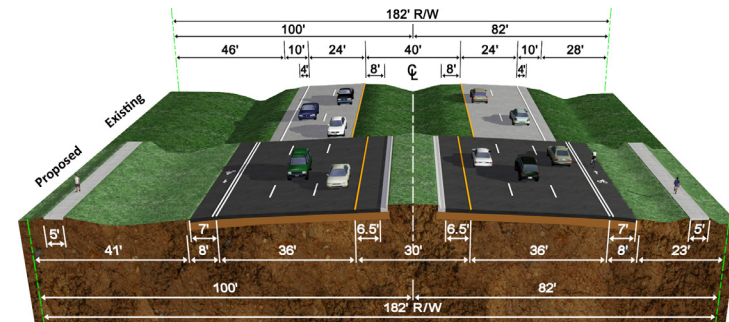
The FDOT is conducting a PD&E study to evaluate alternative capacity and operational improvements to US 41 from Kracker Avenue to south of Causeway Boulevard in Hillsborough County, a distance of approximately 7 miles. The highway is to be improved from an existing, four-lane divided rural and urban facility to a six-lane divided facility. Bridges over Bullfrog Creek and the Alafia River are recommended to be replaced. The proposed improvements will include construction of stormwater management and floodplain compensation ponds and intersection improvements, in addition to multimodal facilities (trail, pedestrian, bicycle and transit accommodations).

## Project Purpose and Need

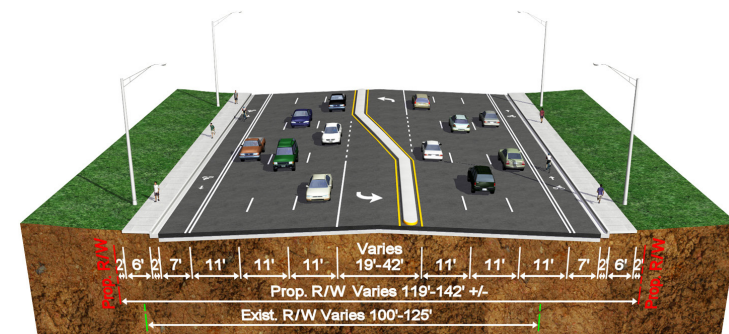
US 41 is a major north-south arterial of regional significance that parallels Interstate 75 (I-75) and US 301 in Hillsborough County. Within the study area, US 41 plays a significant role in connecting southern Hillsborough County to the Tampa Bay region. The purpose of the proposed project is to accommodate future traffic demands on US 41 due to growth within the project limits and surrounding areas. This corridor is projected to operate at level of service (LOS) F in the design year (2040) if no increase in capacity is provided. Other factors which support the need for the project include: regional connectivity, safety, consistency with transportation plans, emergency evacuation, and modal interrelationships.

## Recommended Build Alternative

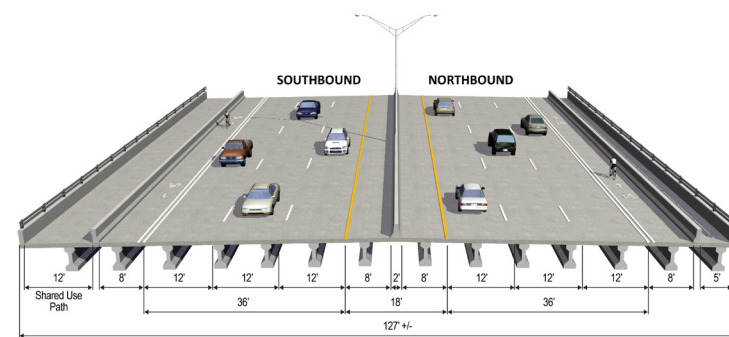
Recommended improvements include widening the existing highway to six lanes as well as intersection improvements, construction of stormwater management and floodplain compensation ponds and multimodal facilities. Proposed roadway typical sections include both suburban and urban typical sections. Additional right of way will be required in the north Gibsonton area for the Recommended Build Alternative. Alternatives to replace the bridges at Bullfrog Creek and the Alafia River have also been evaluated. Recommended typical sections are shown here. No future phases for this proposed project are included in FDOT's current adopted 5-year work program.



**Proposed Typical Section Between Kracker Ave. and Palm Ave.**  
(Proposed typical section between Alafia River Bridge and Denver Street is very similar to this one)



**Proposed Typical Section from Palm Avenue to Gibsonton Drive**  
(Proposed typical section from Gibsonton Drive to Lula Street is very similar to this one)



**Proposed Bridge Typical Section at Alafia River**

## No-Build Alternative

In addition to the Recommended Build Alternative, the no-build, or do-nothing, alternative is considered a viable alternative and will remain so for the duration of this study. Under the no-build alternative, no improvements would be made to US 41 and only routine maintenance and preservation efforts would be made. Even though there are no design, right of way or construction costs associated with the no-build alternative, operating conditions are expected to worsen over time, while further increasing travel

delays and traffic congestion. This will create an unacceptable level of service and a delay in safety related improvements. Therefore, the no-build alternative would not meet the purpose and need for the proposed project. Although, the no-build alternative is not consistent with local transportation plans, this alternative forms the basis for comparison to the Recommended Build Alternative analyzed for this study. An Alternatives Comparison Matrix is included below.

US 41 PD&E Study Alternatives Comparison Matrix	No-Build Alternative	Build Alternative
<b>Potential Number of Relocations</b>		
Business Relocations	0	5
Residential Relocations	0	2
<b>Potential Environmental Effects</b>		
Right of Way Required for Roadway Improvements (Acres)	0	4.28
Stormwater/Floodplain Compensation Ponds (Acres)	0	40.5
Archaeological/Historic Sites (Potential) <sup>1</sup>	None	Low
Noise Impacts (Number of Sites) <sup>2</sup>	45	57
Wetlands and Surface Waters Affected (Acres)	0	3.41
Essential Fish Habitat (Acres)	0	2.39
Floodplain Encroachment (Acres)	0	12.72
Threatened and Endangered Species (Involvement)	None	Low
Contamination Sites (Involvement)	None	Moderate
<b>Estimated Costs (\$millions)</b>		
Construction of Roadway, Bridges and Ponds	0	\$109.86
Right of Way Acquisition for Roadway	0	\$14.00
Right of Way Acquisition for Stormwater Ponds & Floodplain Comp.	0	\$16.96
Wetlands Mitigation <sup>3</sup>	0	\$0.87
Engineering Design & Construction Inspection (20%)	0	\$21.97
Preliminary Estimate of Total Costs (\$millions)	0	\$163.66

<sup>1</sup> Sites on or eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places

<sup>2</sup> Sites with noise levels equal to or higher than the Federal Highway Administration's Noise Abatement Criteria

<sup>3</sup> Based on an average mitigation cost of \$150,000/acre



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

#### REMAINING PD&E STUDY SCHEDULE

Public Hearing	January 2016
Complete PD&E Study	Summer 2016

#### FUNDING SCHEDULE

PHASE	FUNDING YEAR
Design	Not Currently Funded
Right of Way Acquisition	Not Currently Funded
Construction	Not Currently Funded

## NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

**Date:**

Tuesday, January 26, 2016

**Place:**

Gardenville Recreation Center  
6219 Symmes Road  
Gibsonton, FL 33534

**Time:**

5:30 pm - 7:30 pm Open House  
6:30 pm Formal Presentation

## Para Preguntas En Español

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

## Right of Way Acquisition (ROW) 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.

## Non-Discrimination Laws

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 Christopher Speese, Public Involvement Coordinator, at (813) 975-6405, or by email to: [christopher.speesee@dot.state.fl.us](mailto:christopher.speesee@dot.state.fl.us) at least seven (7) days before the public hearing.