

# West Busch Boulevard (SR 580) Corridor Study

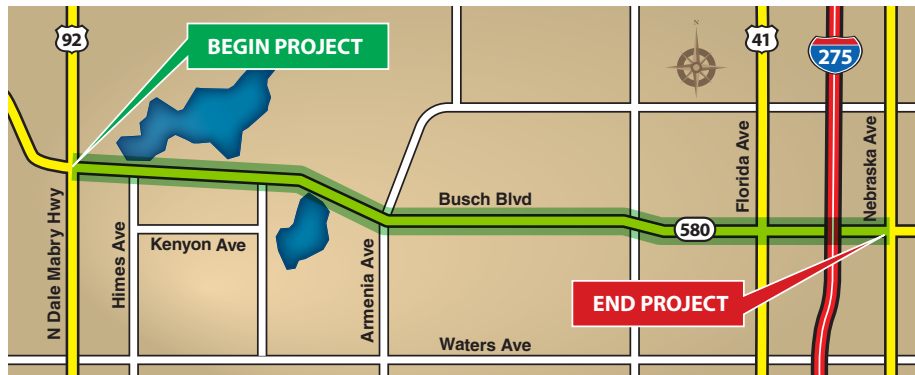
## From North Dale Mabry Highway to North Nebraska Avenue

### Hillsborough County, FL

Financial Project ID Number: 435908-1-22-01

## Corridor Study Update

The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT), District 7 is currently conducting a corridor planning study along West Busch Boulevard (SR 580) from North Dale Mabry Highway to North Nebraska Avenue in Hillsborough County – a distance of approximately 3.3 miles.



The study began in March 2017 and will conclude in late fall of 2018. The outcome of the study will be a Corridor Alternatives and Strategies Report which will document the vision for short-term and long-term improvements within the corridor to meet the mobility and connectivity needs of all users, regardless of their transportation mode of choice.

To date, the study team has:

- Evaluated existing conditions, including existing and future traffic levels, crash history, existing bicycle, pedestrian and transit activity and infrastructure, and the context of the surrounding land uses;
- Developed potential goals and objectives for the future of West Busch Boulevard related to accessibility and connectivity, economic development, mobility, and safety;
- Began developing a range of potential improvement alternatives that address the anticipated traffic needs, multi-modal considerations (bicycle, pedestrian, transit), address safety concerns, incorporate suggestions based on comments received so far (from agencies, elected officials, Wiki-Mapping interactive tool, and public meetings). These improvements will be separated into two categories: those that can be implemented within the existing right-of-way (near term) and those that may require additional right-of-way and require further study;
- Held three Project Advisory Group (PAG) meetings, where local government and agency representatives have worked with FDOT to identify corridor challenges along with potential solutions, assisted in documenting community goals, and helped develop a vision for the corridor that will guide the study development and future improvements;

### About the Corridor

The West Busch Boulevard (SR 580) corridor is an east-west urban principal arterial connecting and serving local commuters and visitors between North Dale Mabry Highway and Nebraska Avenue. The corridor study area includes portions of unincorporated Hillsborough County and the City of Tampa and is the main route to the Busch Gardens Amusement Park (located approximately 2.15 miles east of the project limits at McKinley Drive).

The corridor supports a variety of land uses and demographics, including schools, churches, large and small businesses with direct access to and from SR 580, transit services, pedestrians, bicyclists and many small communities. The corridor also serves a large commuter population as a connection between Veterans Expressway to the west and I-275 to the east.

### What is a Corridor Study?

A corridor study is the first step in planning by defining the corridor's needs. A corridor study generally defines the relationships between a roadway and its adjacent land. Corridor studies are also used to: define acceptable levels of access and mobility; determine transportation system needs to support surrounding land uses, and identify operational deficiencies, among other things. This corridor study will include establishing a shared vision that will allow the community to help set project goals and objectives. The vision will guide the project team to develop a set of improvements that leverage local resources, match local conditions and desires, and are consistent with ongoing planning and development efforts.

- Conducted a Public Visioning Workshop, where members of the community were invited to provide input on the current conditions and concerns along the corridor, prioritize goals and objectives of the study, and identify potential improvements that are most important to them; and
- Solicited input online through the project website, Wikimapping tool, and a Community Preference Survey.

▶ Learn more about the project here: [www.fdot7studies.com/westbuschblvd/](http://www.fdot7studies.com/westbuschblvd/)

## Next Steps

Based on the technical work, data analysis, and input received to date from the Project Advisory Group (PAG) and the public, the goals and objectives and desired potential improvements will be further defined in early 2018 into options for future typical sections and alignment alternatives.

These draft recommendations will then be presented to the public for additional input at the Alternatives Public Meeting, anticipated to be held in Spring 2018. One additional PAG meeting is also scheduled before the conclusion of the study.

The Final Corridor Alternatives and Strategies Report will be published in fall of 2018. In addition to documenting the corridor vision, the report will document improvements that can be advanced to the design phase; these are improvements within the existing right-of-way. The report will also document long-term improvements that must be further refined through a more detailed Project Development and Environment (PD&E) Study.

ACTIVITY	2017												2018						
	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sept
Notice to Proceed - Project Begins	★																		
Develop Public Involvement Plan																			
Mailing List																			
Elected Officials/Agency Kick-off Meeting				★															
Project Advisory Group (PAG) Meetings																			
Corridor Visioning Workshop																			
Alternatives Public Meeting																			
Final Corridor Alternatives & Strategies Report																			

## How Can You Stay Involved?

We want your input! We urge anyone interested in shaping the future of the West Busch Boulevard corridor to actively participate by visiting the website, get informed, document issues in the WikiMapping tool, attend meetings, and provide your ideas.

The project website is your best source for up-to-date information; you can get access at this link:

[www.fdot7studies.com/westbuschblvd/](http://www.fdot7studies.com/westbuschblvd/). The website not only houses general study information, but also all project documents that have been developed to date, including presentations and meeting materials presented at the PAG meetings and the Public Visioning Workshop. The website will continue to be updated throughout the study with the latest documents and information.

You also have the continued opportunity to provide input using WikiMapping! This tool allows you to “pin” comments at specific locations along the corridor. The link to the WikiMapping tool is provided on the project website, but for direct access you can click on the following link: <http://wikimapping.com/wikimap/West-Busch-Boulevard-Corridor-Study.html>. The project team will continue to utilize this information to help inform the process and guide solutions.

Future opportunities for you to get involved include the upcoming Alternatives Public Meeting, anticipated to be held in Spring 2018. Please keep a look out on the project website for additional information regarding the Alternatives Public Meeting!

### For more information or to comment, please contact:

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The environmental review, consultation, and other actions required by applicable federal environmental laws for this project are being, or have been, carried out by the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) pursuant to 23 U.S.C. §327 and a Memorandum of Understanding dated December 14, 2016 and executed by the Federal Highway Administration and FDOT.

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 service (free of charge) should contact Christopher Speese, Public Involvement Coordinator, at (813) 975-6405 or (800) 226-7220.

Comuníquese Con Nosotros

Nos importa mucho la opinión del público sobre el proyecto. Si usted tiene preguntas o comentarios, o si simplemente desea más información, por favor comuníquese con nosotros. Nuestro representante, Señora Lilliam Escalera, 813-975-6445, Departamento de Transportación de Florida, 11201 N. McKinley Dr., Tampa, FL 33612, [lilliam.escalera@dot.state.fl.us](mailto:lilliam.escalera@dot.state.fl.us).