



Florida Department of Transportation

RICK SCOTT
GOVERNOR

605 Suwannee Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0450

RACHEL D. CONE
INTERIM SECRETARY

May 15, 2017

Mr. John McKechnie
Forest Engineer
United States Forest Service
325 John Knox Road, Suite S-100
Tallahassee, FL 32303

RE: Amendment to Master Agreement (MA) Implementing the Efficient Transportation Decision Making Process in Florida and Appendix L [of MA] - Agency Operating Agreement (AOA) Between United States Department of Agriculture, Forest Service National Forests in Florida (USFS), Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) and Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) effective May 24, 2004 and Funding Agreement (FA) Between USFS, FDOT and FHWA effective August 8, 2006

Contract #: BDE82 Amendment #: 9 Vendor #: F720564384089 FM#: 41506432815

Dear Mr. McKechnie:

This letter confirms that the Florida Department of Transportation successfully assumed the Federal Highway Administration's responsibilities for compliance with NEPA and all other Federal environmental laws pertaining to the review or approval of FDOT's transportation highway projects, pursuant to Title 23 U.S.C. §327 and the implementing Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) executed on December 14, 2016.

Consistent with Section 5.1.4 of the MOU, Section 20 of the MA, and Article VII, paragraph A of the FA, the MA, AOA, and FA are amended such that, FDOT will assume FHWA's responsibilities under the MA, AOA, and FA, with the exception of the financial provisions in the FA, Article 1, paragraph 7 and related audit rights under Article II, paragraph D, and those activities specifically retained by FHWA under Section 3 of the MOU, including publication of notices in the Federal Register, formal government-to-government tribal consultation and the environmental review, consultation and approval associated with the environmental documents for the I-4 Beyond the Ultimate Project and the Tampa Interstate Study Project. FHWA will continue to review amendments that effect funding and costs for reimbursement eligibility in accordance with Title 23 U.S.C., including 23 U.S.C. §139(j) and 2 CFR §§200.402 - 200.405.

With the exception of those limitations identified in the paragraph above, FDOT will be globally substituted for FHWA throughout the MA, AOA, and FA and assume FHWA's responsibilities under the MOU and this Amendment. Examples of duties previously assigned to FHWA include, but are not limited to:


- Planning Screen and coordination responsibilities
- Programming Screen and coordination responsibilities

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- o Project Development & Environment Phase responsibilities
- o Agency coordination
- o Issue resolution

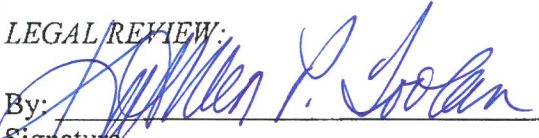
By signing below, each party consents to the substitution of FDOT for FHWA, as described and limited above, through Amendment to the MA, AOA, and FA, whereby FDOT assumes FHWA's role in the Master Agreement, Agency Operating Agreement, and Funding Agreement for Implementing the Efficient Transportation Decision Making Process in Florida.

STATE OF FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

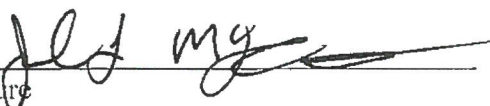
By:  Date: 6-14-17
Signature
Secretary of Transportation

Brian Blanchard
Printed Name
Secretary of Transportation

LEGAL REVIEW:


By:  Date: 6/8/17
Signature
Office of General Counsel

UNITED STATES FOREST SERVICE

By:  Date: _____
Signature
Forest Engineer, National Forests in Florida

John L McKechnie
Printed Name
Forest Engineer

FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION

By:  Date: 6/8/17
Signature
Division Administrator

KAREN M. BRUNELLE
Printed Name
Division Administrator