



Florida Department of Transportation

COVE ROAD

From State Road (SR) 76/Kanner Highway
to SR 5/US-1
Martin County, Florida

PROJECT DEVELOPMENT AND ENVIRONMENT (PD&E) STUDY

Financial Project Identification Number: 441700-1-22-02

Efficient Transportation Decision Making (ETDM) Number: 14479

PUBLIC HEARING

Virtual: April 22, 2025

Open House: 5:30 P.M. | Formal Presentation: 6:00 P.M.

In-Person: April 23, 2025

Open House: 5:00 P.M. | Formal Presentation: 6:00 P.M.



Public Notice



Florida
Administrative
Register



Property Owner/
Tenant Letters



Email Project
Contact List



Project Webpage



Newspaper



Social Media

Non-Discrimination Policy



Title VI Compliance

Public participation is solicited without regard to race, color, national origin, age, sex, religion, disability, or family status. Persons wishing to express concerns relative to FDOT compliance with Title VI may do so by contacting:

Sharon Singh-Hagyan
District Four Title VI Coordinator
3400 West Commercial Boulevard
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33309
(954) 777-4190
(866) 336-8435, Ext. 4190 (Toll Free)
sharon.singhhagyan@dot.state.fl.us

Stefan Kulakowski, FCCM, CPM
Statewide Title VI Coordinator
605 Suwannee Street, MS 65
Tallahassee, FL 32399
(850) 414-4742
(866) 374-3368, Ext. 4742 (Toll Free)
stefan.kulakowski@dot.state.fl.us

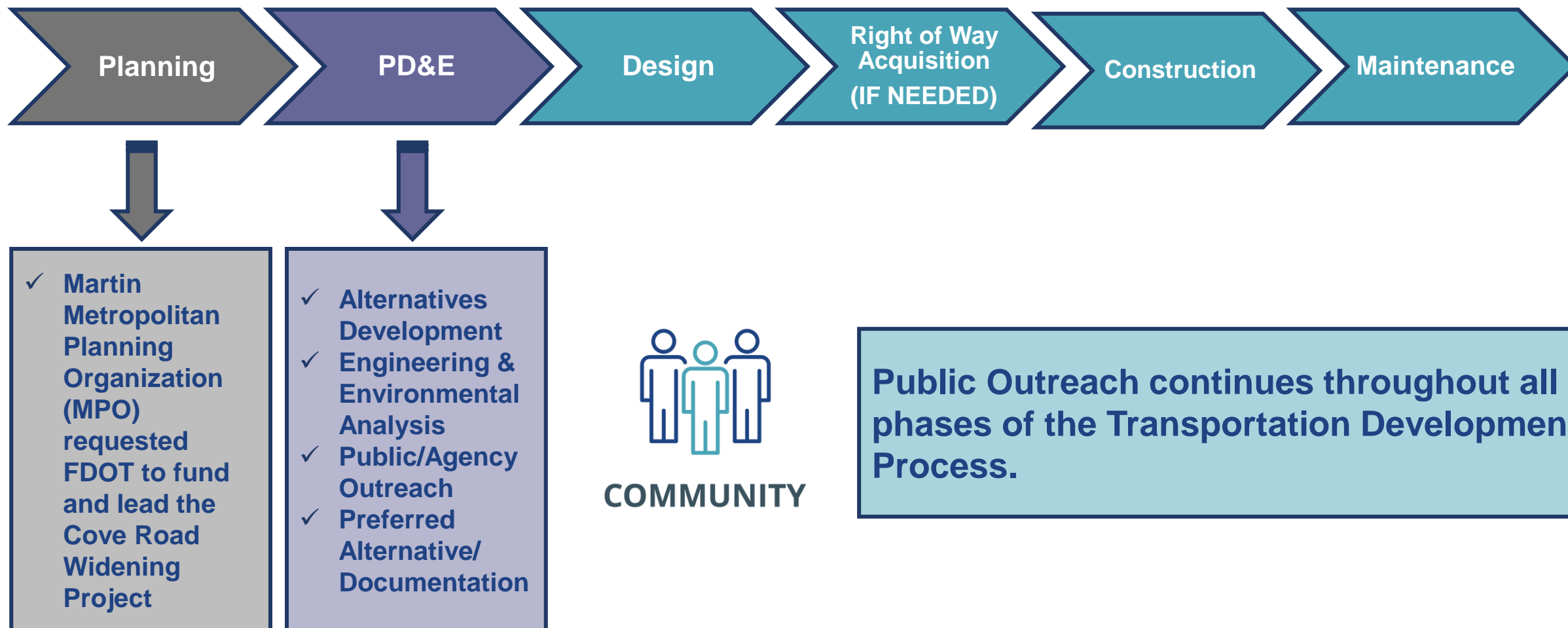
Federal-State Partnership

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 United States Code (U.S.C.) 327 and Memorandum of Understanding dated May 26, 2022, and executed by the Federal Highway Administration and FDOT.

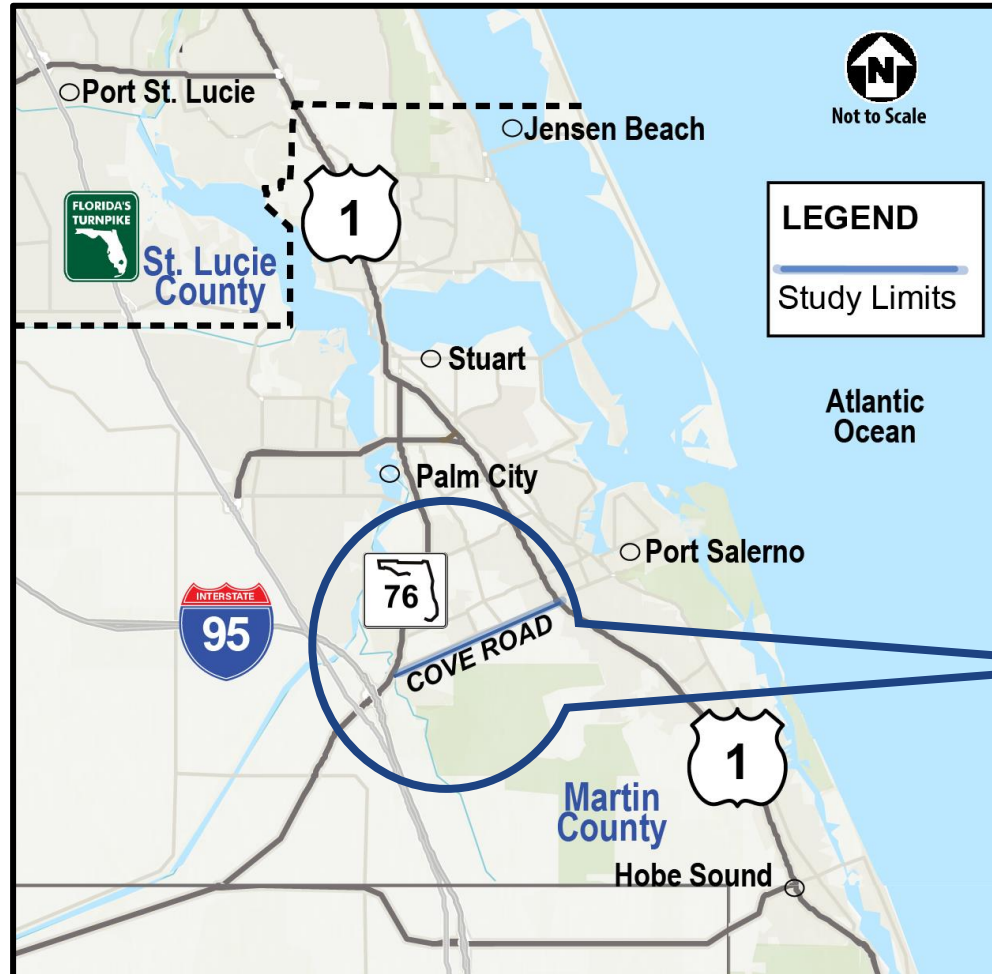
Public Hearing Compliance

- This public hearing is being held in accordance with:
 - **Section 120.525, F.S.** – Meetings, Hearings, and Workshops
 - **Section 286.011, F.S.** – Government in the Sunshine Law
 - **Section 335.199, F.S.** – Transportation Projects Modifying Access to Adjacent Property
 - **Section 339.155, F.S.** – Transportation Planning
 - **Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA)**
 - **Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964** and Other Nondiscrimination Laws
 - **49 CFR Part 24**, Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition for Federal and Federally-Assisted Programs
 - **40 CFR Part 1506**, Other Requirements of NEPA, if applicable

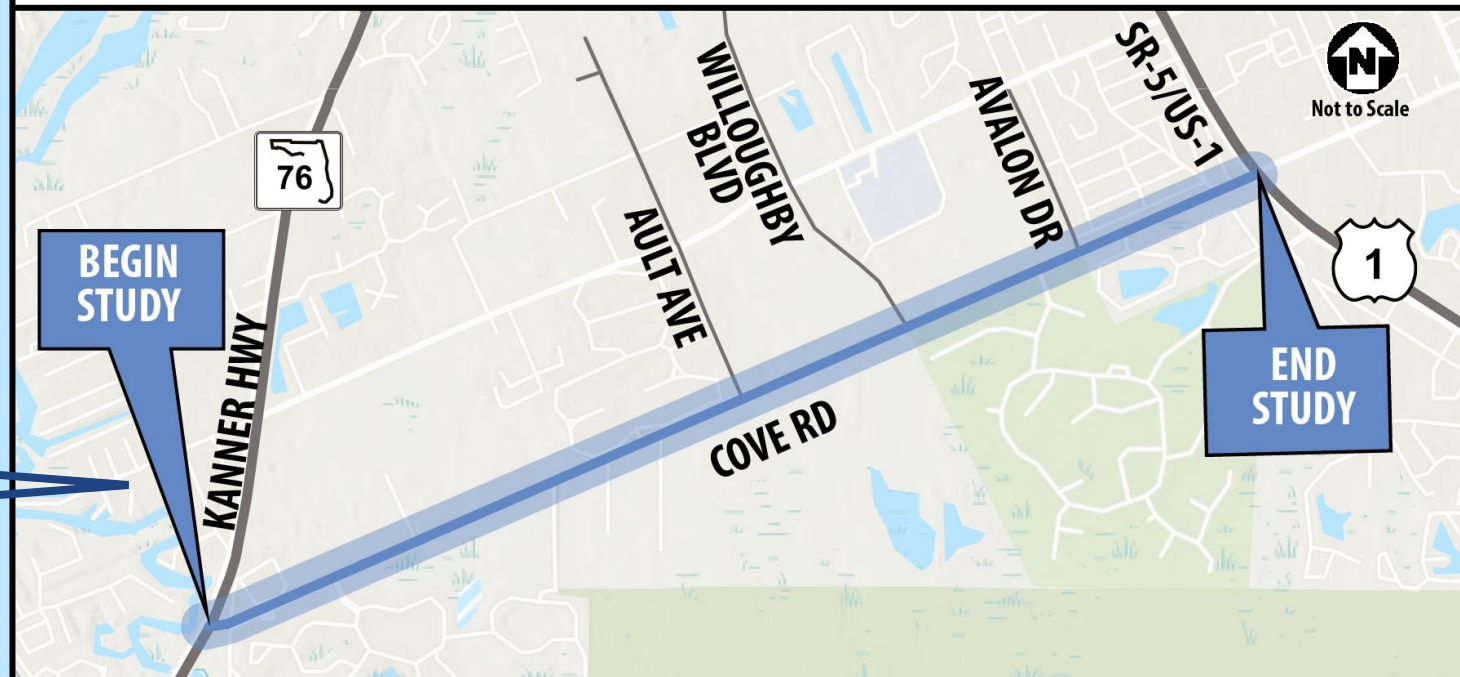
Transportation Project Development Process



Project Location



- From Kanner Highway to US-1
- Project extends approximately 3.2 miles



Project Background



Existing Roadway Characteristics

- 2-lane undivided roadway
 - Minor arterial
- Unincorporated Martin County
 - Intermittent sidewalks
- Posted speed varies from 35-45 miles per hour



Public Kick-Off Meeting held:

**Virtual - March 29, 2023
In-Person - March 30, 2023**



Alternatives Public Workshop held:

**Virtual - May 21, 2024
In-Person - May 22, 2024**

Planning Consistency

The proposed project is consistent with the Martin MPO Long Range Transportation Plan:

- ❖ 2045 Long Range Transportation Plan
- ❖ FY 2024-2029 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Funds

Martin MPO Transportation Improvement Program - FY 2024/25 - 2028/29

4417001

COVE ROAD FROM SR-76/KANNER HIGHWAY TO SR-5/US-1

Non-SIS



Project Description: 2023 MPO PRIORITY #1 WIDEN FROM 2 TO 4 LANES NO R/W NEEDED

Work Summary: PD&E/EMO STUDY
From: SR-76/KANNER HWY
To: SR-5/US-1

Lead Agency: FDOT
Length: 3.23

Phase	Fund Source	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	Total
PE	ACCM	1,035,129	0	0	0	0	1,035,129
PE	SU	498,193	1,465,991	0	0	0	1,964,184
PE	TRIP	1,811,977	0	0	0	0	1,811,977
PE	ACPR	0	125,760	0	0	0	125,760
Total		3,345,299	1,591,751	0	0	0	4,937,050

Prior Year Cost: 3,074,696
Future Year Cost: 0
Total Project Cost: 8,011,746

Project Purpose

The primary purpose of widening Cove Road from two lanes to four lanes is to add capacity for all modes of travel and improve the local transportation network.

Project Needs

Support
Economic &
Social Demands



Improve
System
Linkage



Increase
Capacity



Improve
Modal
Interrelationships



Improve
Emergency
Evacuation



Traffic

- 42% increase in traffic by 2045
- Level of Service (LOS) determined to measure operating conditions along the road which can range from LOS A (free flow) to LOS F (congested)
- 2 lanes projected to fail by 2035
 - LOS E or LOS F during AM or PM peak hours
- Reduce congestion by increasing capacity at the intersections
- Address traffic safety
 - Traffic calming
 - Access management



Summary of Public Outreach and Agency Coordination

▪ Local and agency coordination meetings

- Martin MPO Staff
- Martin MPO Board
- Martin MPO Joint Technical Advisory Committee (TAC), Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) and Bicycle & Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC)
- Martin MPO Freight Transportation Advisory Committee (FTAC)
- Martin County Staff

▪ Residential community meetings

- South Fork Estates
- Montego Cove
- Tres Belle



▪ Summary of Public Kick-Off Meeting

- Held March 29, 2023 (virtual), and March 30, 2023 (in-person)
- Introduced the project, the Purpose and Need and Public Involvement Plan
- 184 people attended (84 virtual attendees; 100 in-person attendees)
- 47 comments received

▪ Summary of Alternatives Public Workshop

- Held May 21, 2024 (virtual), and May 22, 2024 (in-person)
- Five build alternatives were presented
- 158 people attended (50 virtual attendees; 108 in-person attendees)
- 128 comments received
- Segment 1, Alternative 1B and Segment 2, Alternative 2C were preferred by most attendees

Martin County approved the typical sections for the Cove Road PD&E Study

Alternatives Considered and Evaluated

5

Five alternatives were initially evaluated for this project

The five alternatives that were developed and presented to the public at the Alternatives Public Workshop were two alternatives in Segment 1 and 3 alternatives in Segment 2. The costs and impacts of each alternative were determined and documented in an evaluation matrix.

2

Two alternatives are Preferred

The PD&E Study was broken into two segments. Segment 1 is from SR 76/Kanner Highway to Avalon Drive and Segment 2 is from Avalon Drive to SR 5/US 1. The preferred alternatives are Segment 1 (1B) and a modification to one of the three options in Segment 2 (2C modified).



The No-Build Alternative

The No-Build Alternative is also another consideration. With the No-Build Alternative, there will be no improvements to the roadway other than routine maintenance.

Alternatives Evaluation Process

A multidisciplinary screening analysis was conducted to determine the best alternatives to advance into the detailed analysis phase.

PURPOSE & NEED

Ability to meet the project's purpose and need

MOBILITY

Provides accommodation for other modes of transportation



Alternatives Evaluation Process



ACCESS & IMPACTS

Property access and impacts



COST

Construction cost and complexity



ENVIRONMENTAL

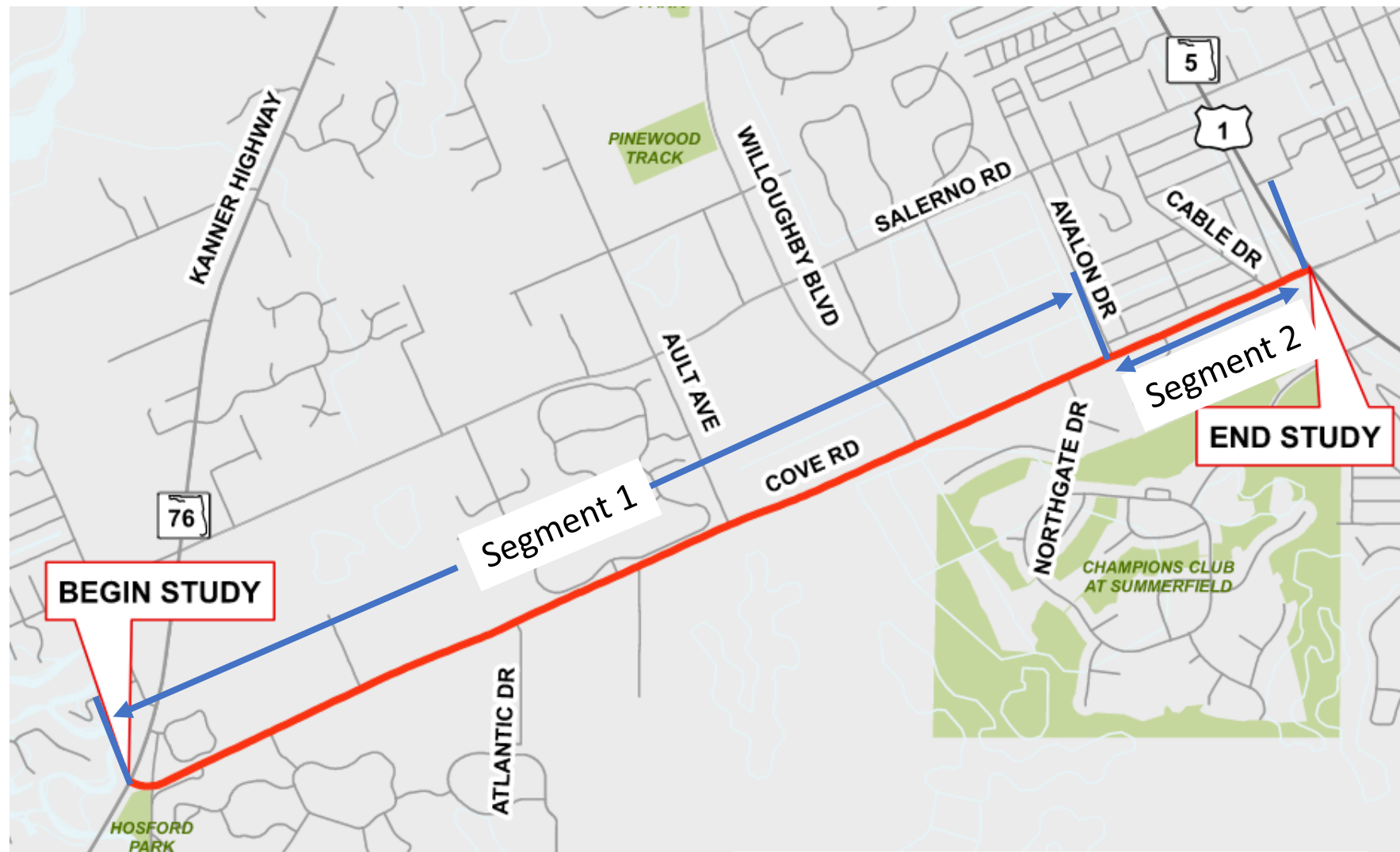
Environmental impacts

Evaluation Matrix

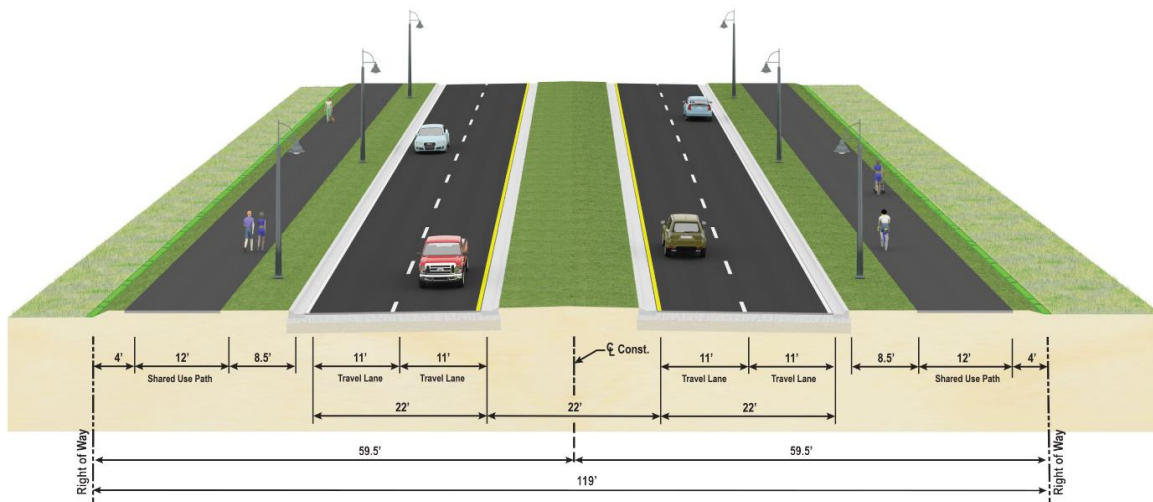
Evaluation Criteria	No-Build Alternative	Segment 1: SR 76 (Kanner Highway) to Avalon Drive	Segment 2: Avalon Drive to SR 5 (US 1)
		Typical Section 1B	Typical Section 2C
Right-of-Way Impacts			
Number of Parcels Impacted	0	40	4
Right-of-Way Impact Area (Acres)	0	19.49	0.72
Number of Residential Relocations	0	1	0
Number of Business Relocations	0	0	0
Natural, Environmental & Physical Impacts			
Threatened and Endangered Species Impacts	None	Medium	Low
Archaeological/Historic Site Impacts	None	Medium	Low
Potential Contamination Sites (High & Medium Risk Ranking)	None	0	0
Wetland Impacts (Acres)	None	0.52	0.00
Floodplain Impacts (Acres)	None	0.01	0.00
Potential Section 4(f) Impacts	None	0	0
Social & Neighborhood Impacts	None	Low	Medium
Estimated Costs (Present Day Costs)			
Design (15% of Construction)	No Cost	\$7.5 M	\$1.8 M
Road Right-of-Way	No Cost	\$6.4 M	\$4.3 M
Pond Right-of-Way	No Cost	\$8.9 M	\$0
Wetland Mitigation	No Cost	\$54,000	\$0
Roadway Construction	No Cost	\$49.4 M	\$12 M
Utility Relocation	No Cost	\$0	\$1 M
CEI (15% of Construction)	No Cost	\$7.4 M	\$1.8 M
Subtotal Cost	No Cost	\$72 M	\$19 M
Total Cost	No Cost	Preferred Alternative Segment 1 + Preferred Alternative Segment 2 = \$91 M	

Evaluation Segments

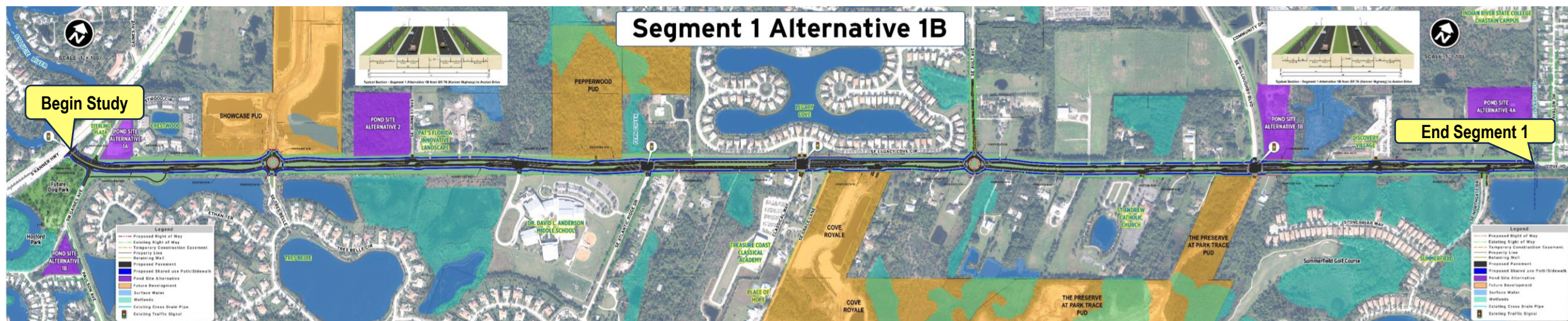
- Segment 1:
 - Kanner Hwy. to Avalon Dr.
- Segment 2:
 - Avalon Dr. to US 1



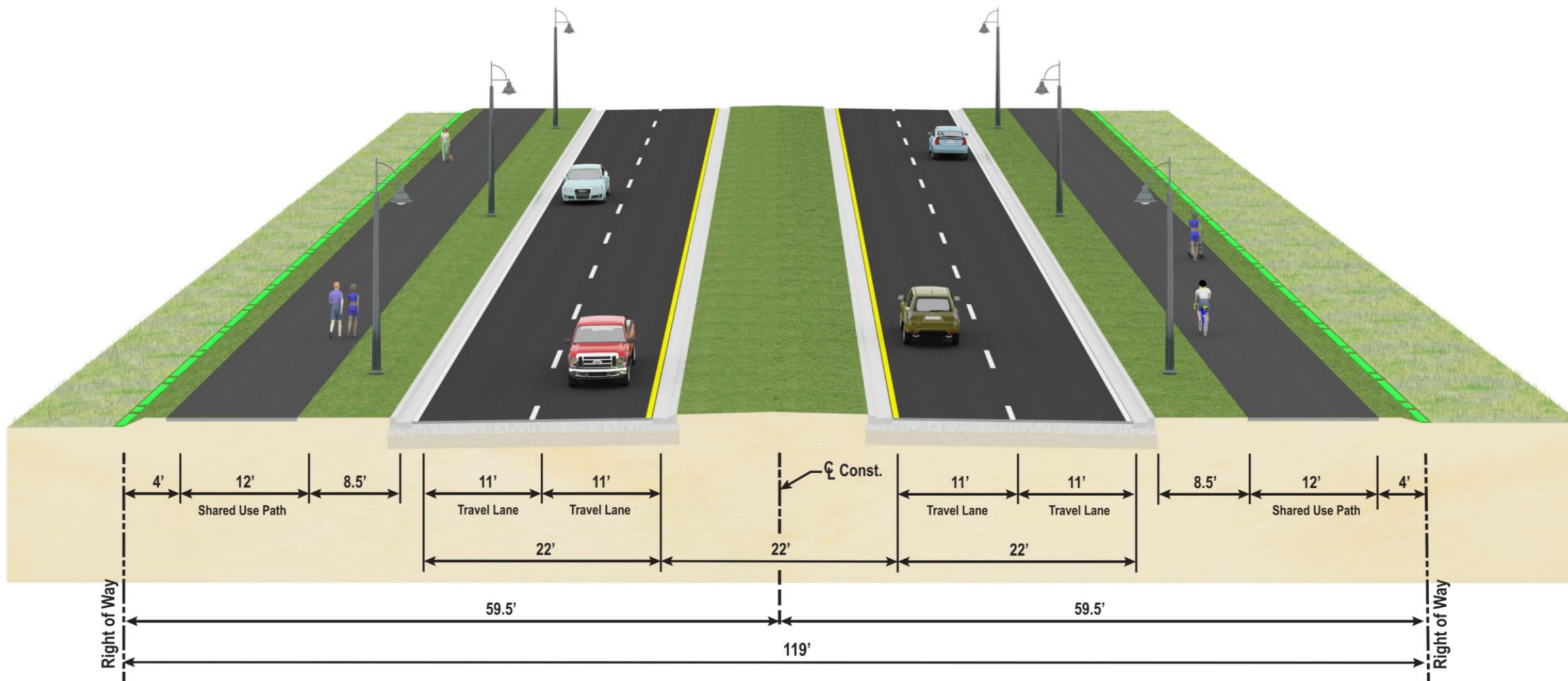
Preferred Alternative Segment 1, Alternative 1B



From SR 76 (Kanner Highway) to Avalon Drive



Typical Section - Segment 1 Alternative 1B from SR 76 (Kanner Highway) to Avalon Drive



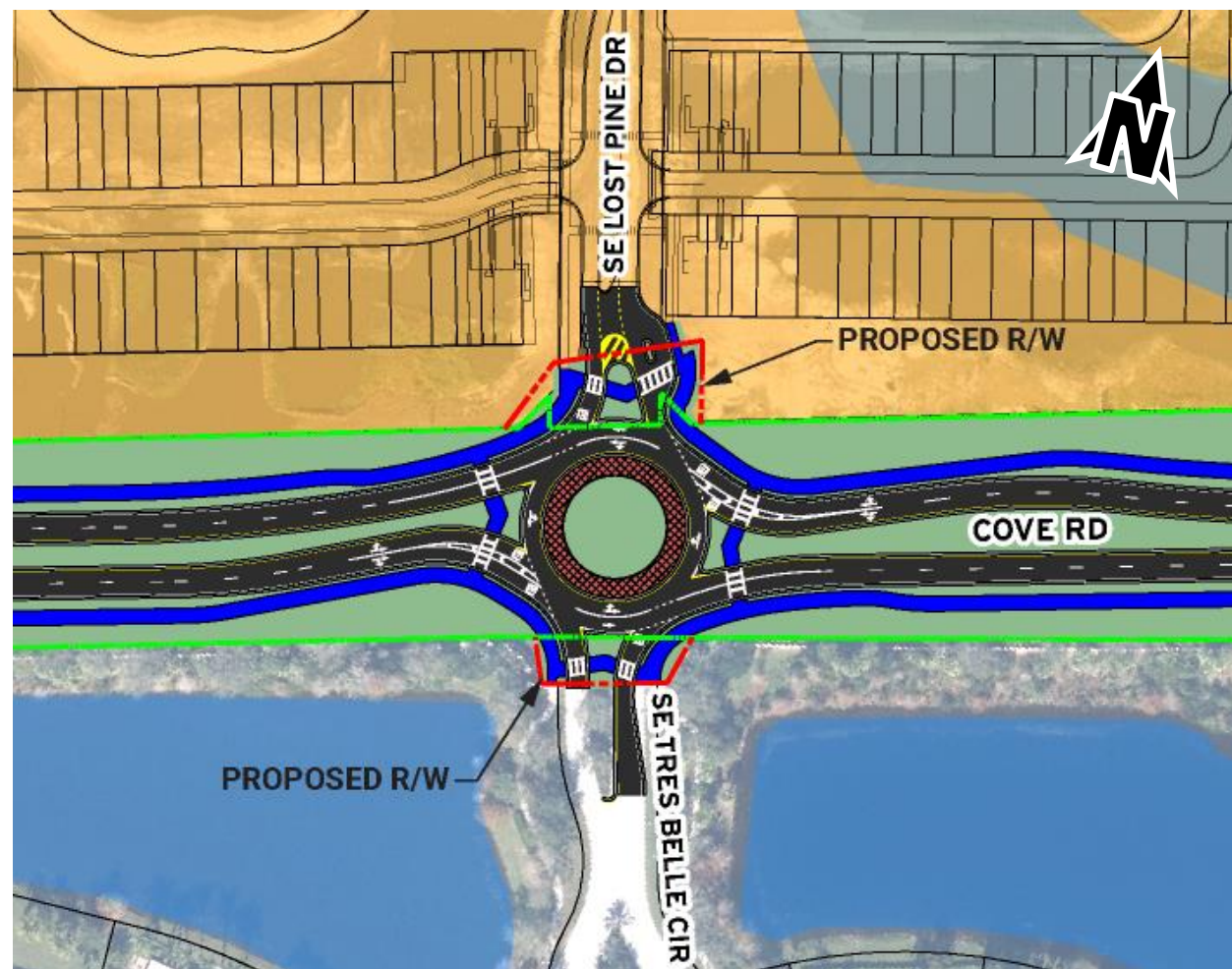
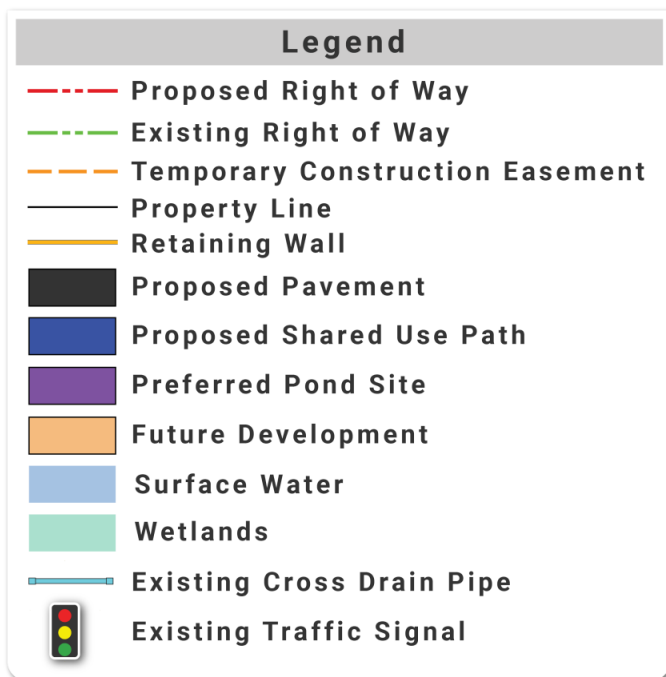
Kanner Highway and SW Gaines Avenue Intersections

- Kanner Highway
 - Signalized intersection
- SW Gaines Avenue
 - Convert the connection of SW Gaines Avenue to two-way access at Cove Road
 - Add eastbound left turn lane onto SW Gaines Avenue Extension from Cove Road
 - Convert Gaines Avenue Extension to one way to accommodate westbound access to SW Gaines Avenue



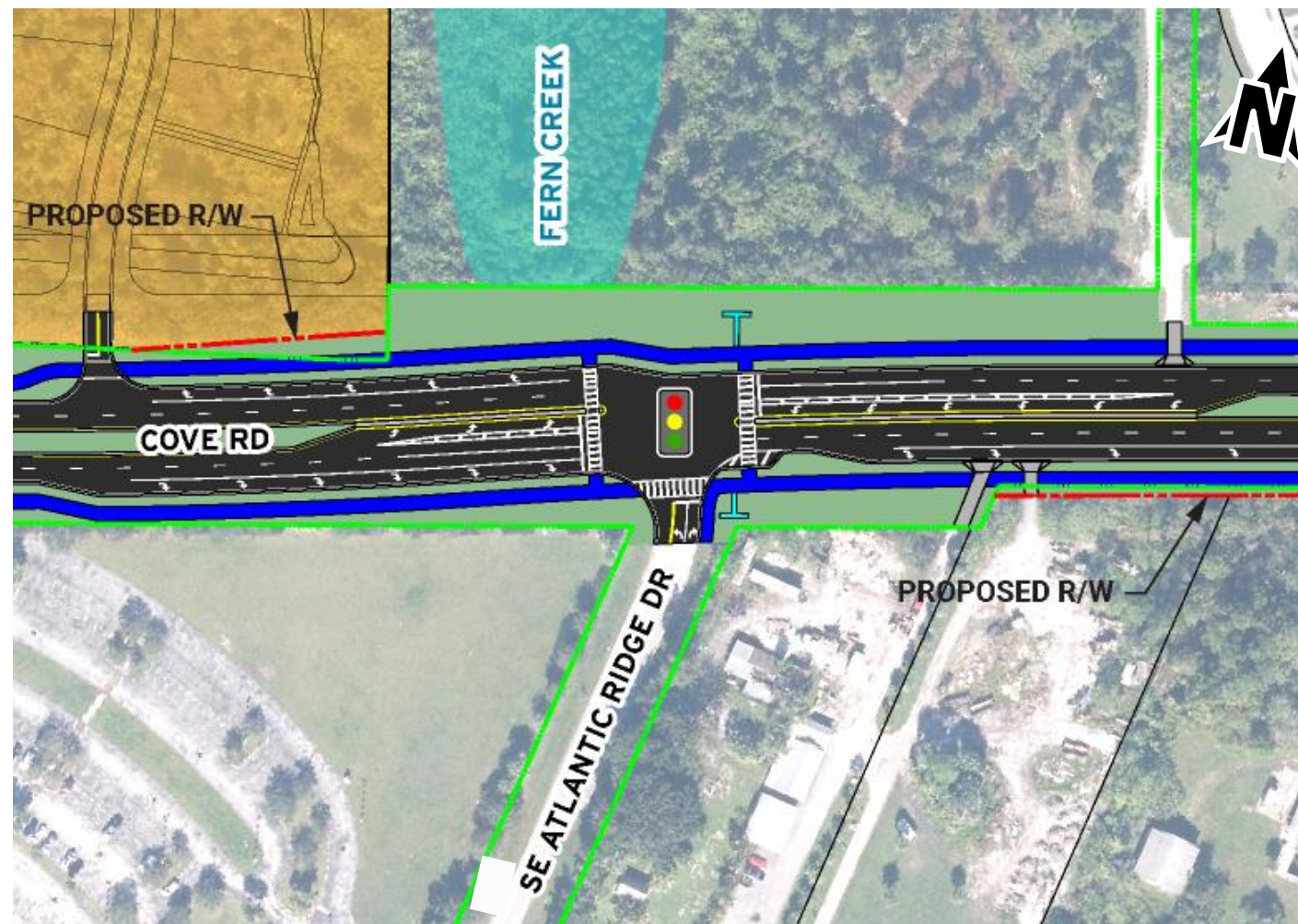
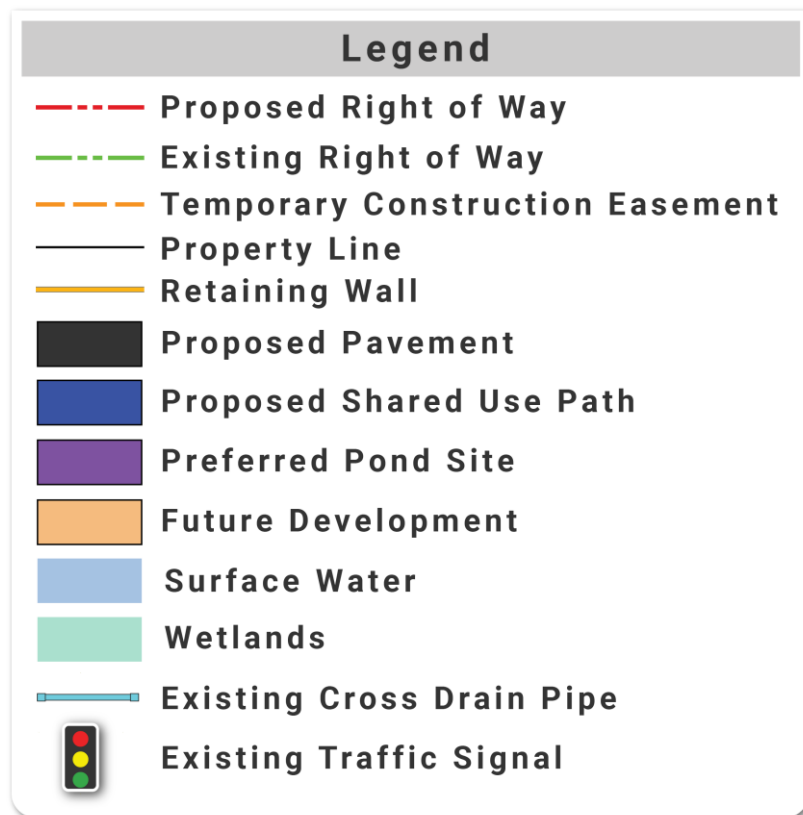
SE Tres Belle Circle Intersection

- Two-lane, four-legged roundabout



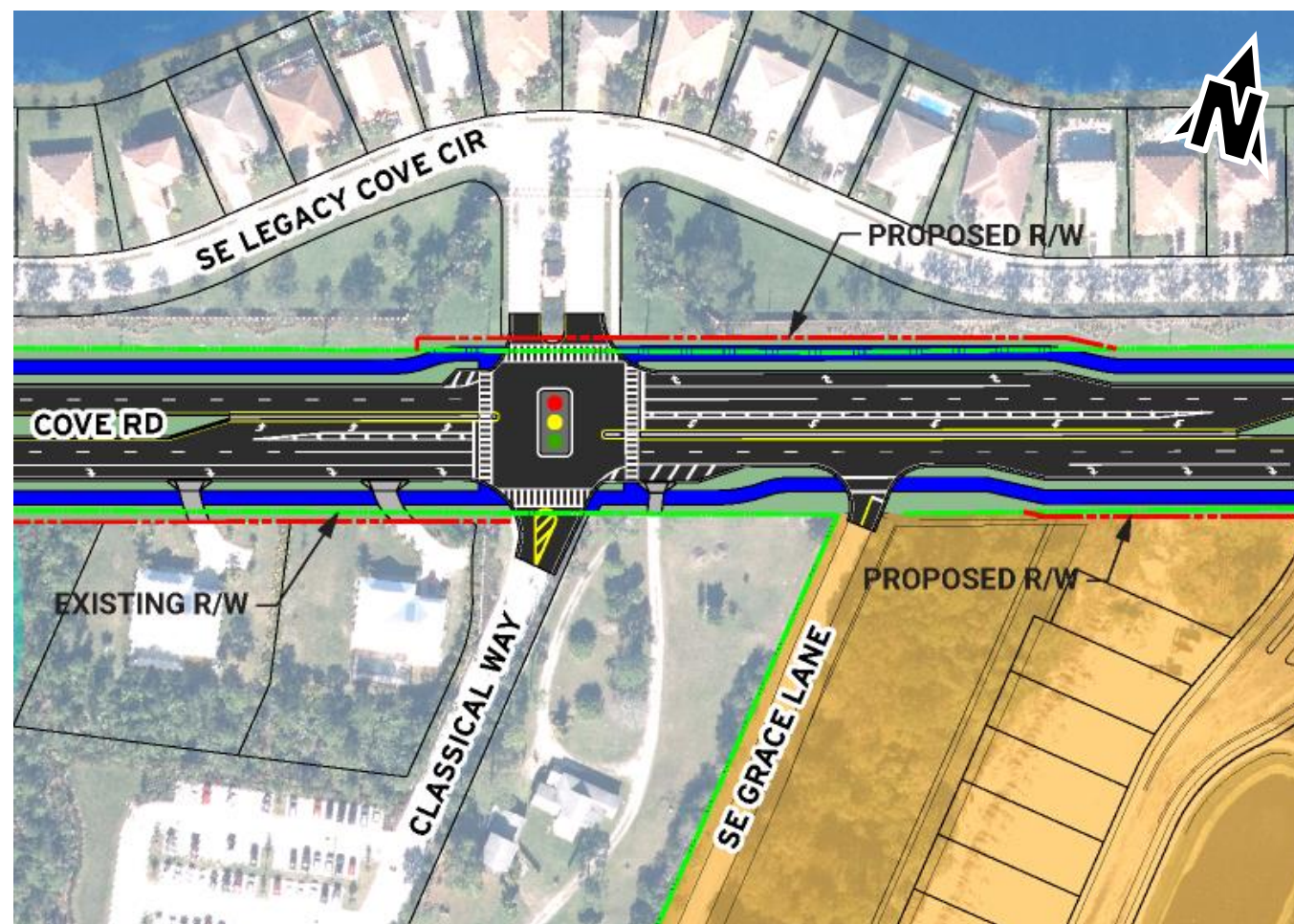
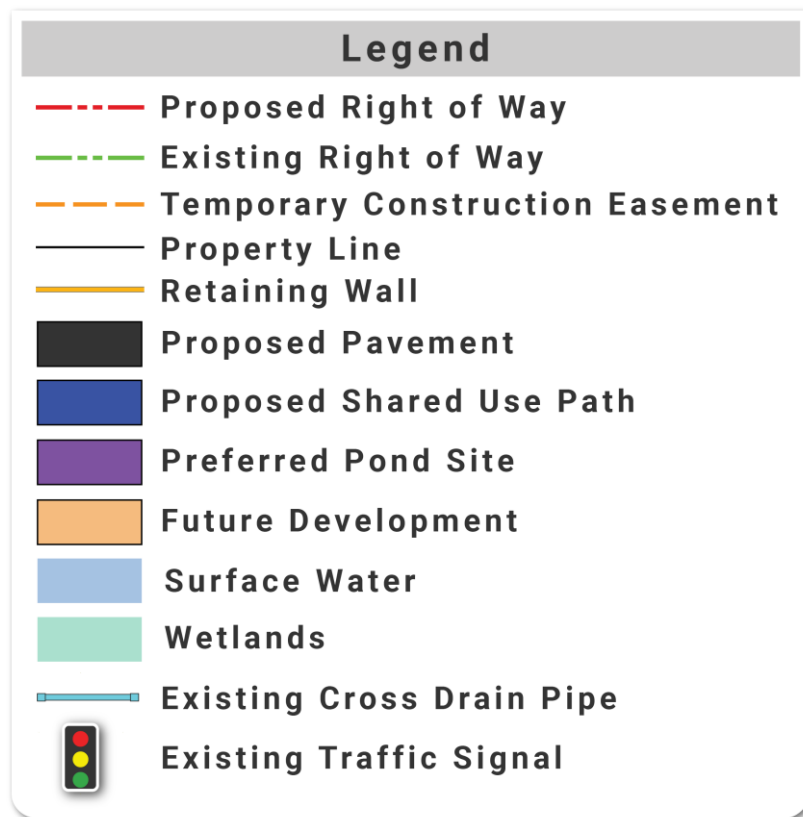
SE Atlantic Ridge Drive Intersection

- Signalized intersection



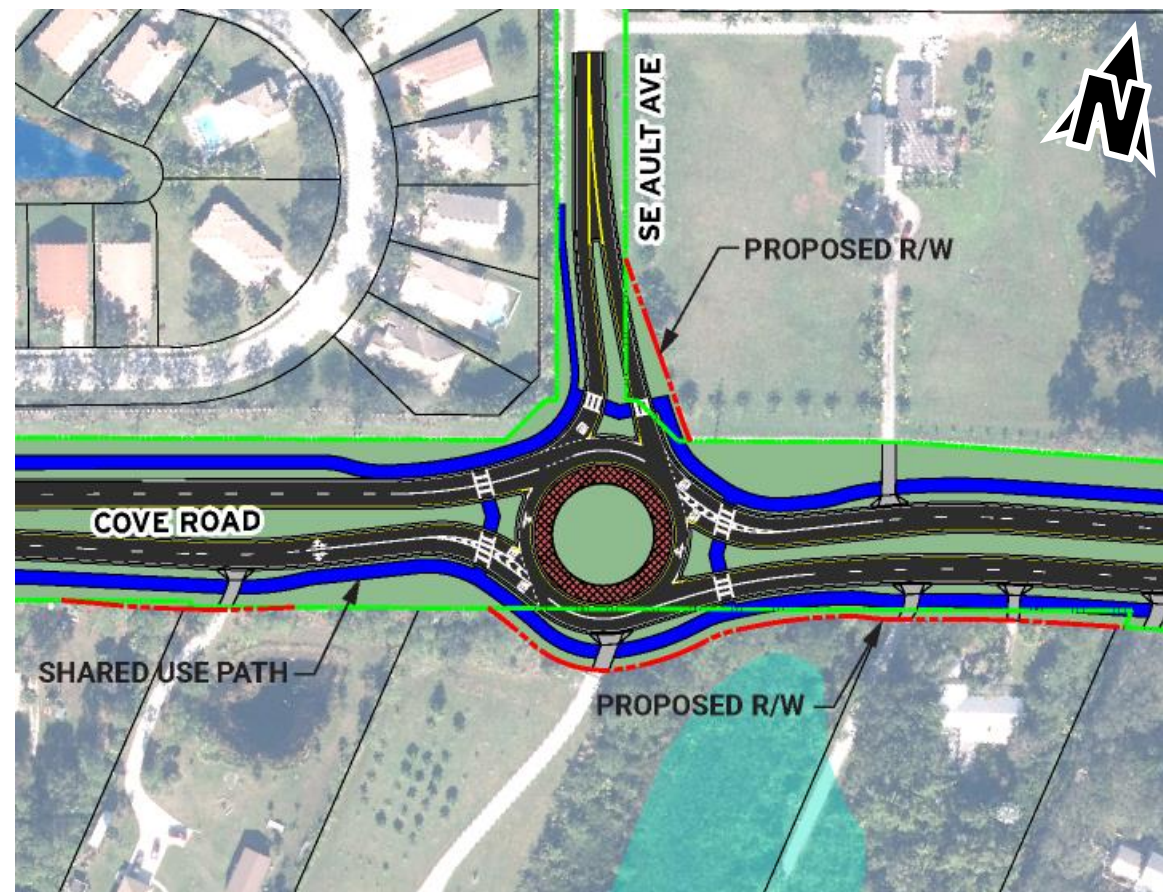
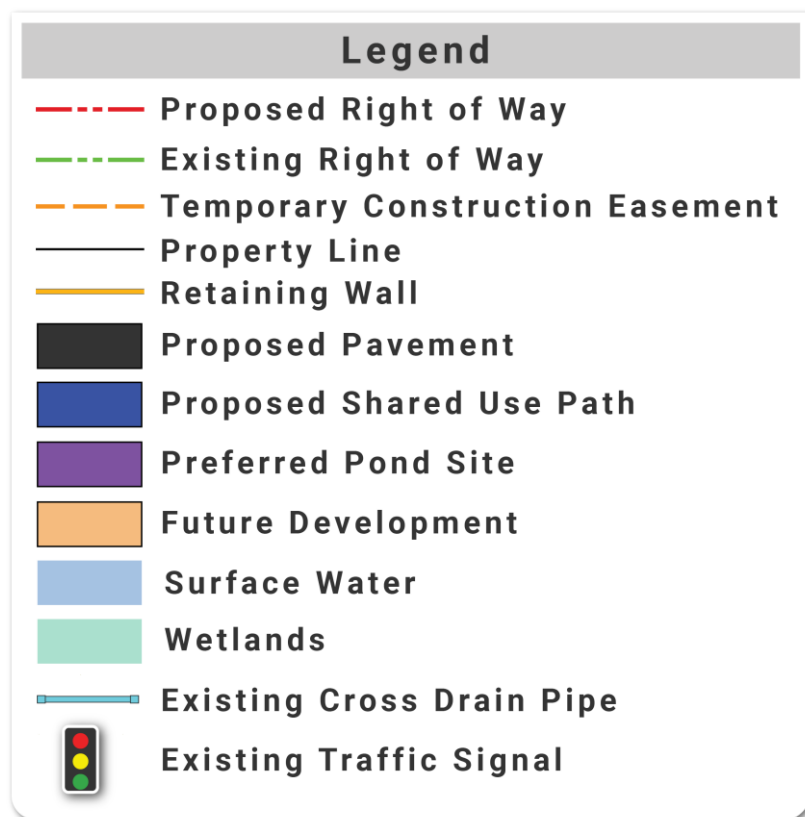
SE Legacy Cove Circle Intersection

- Signalized intersection



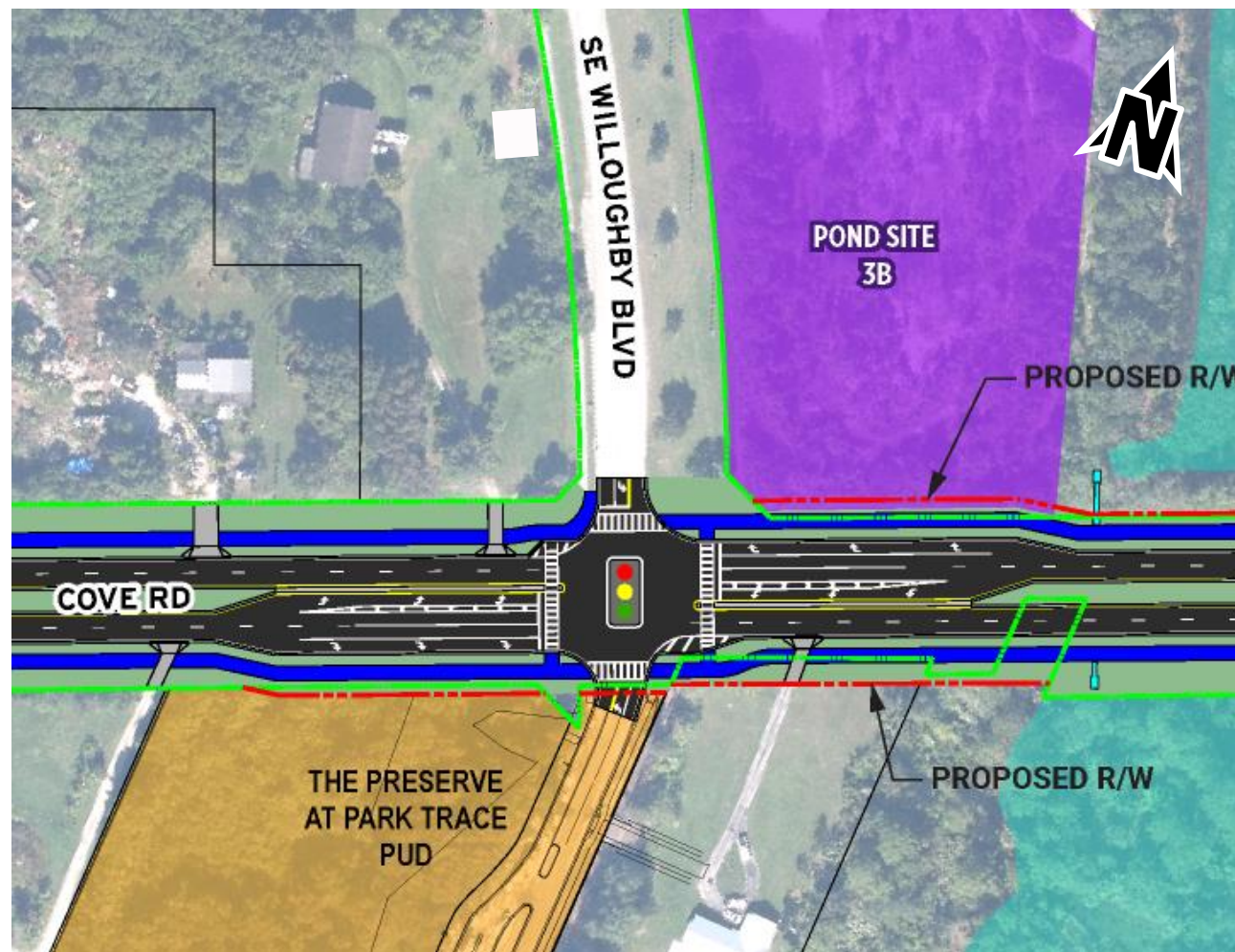
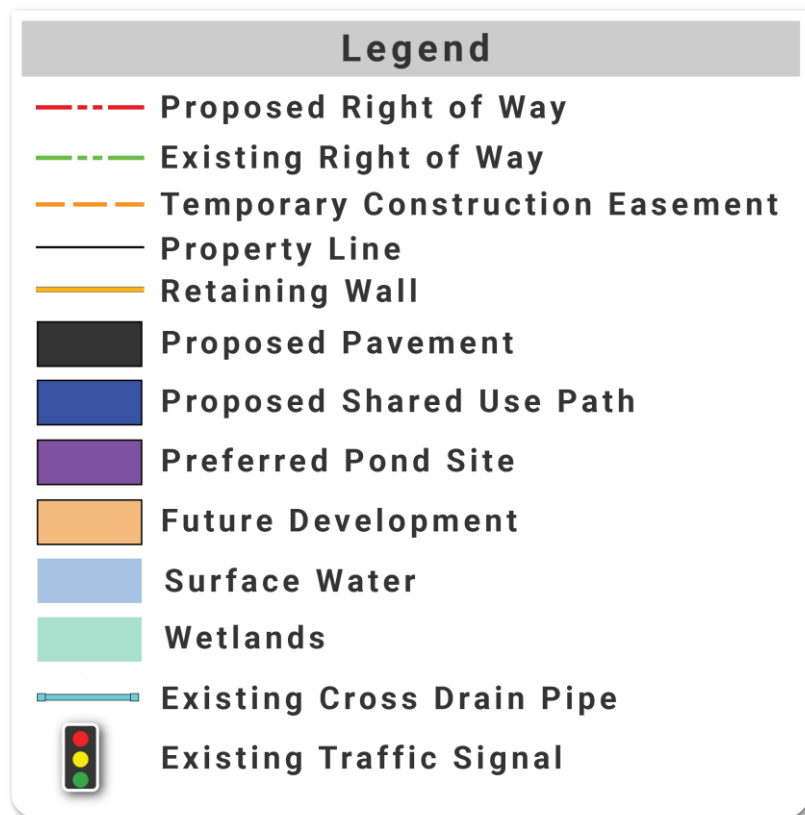
SE Ault Avenue Intersection

- Two-lane, three-legged roundabout



SE Willoughby Boulevard Intersection

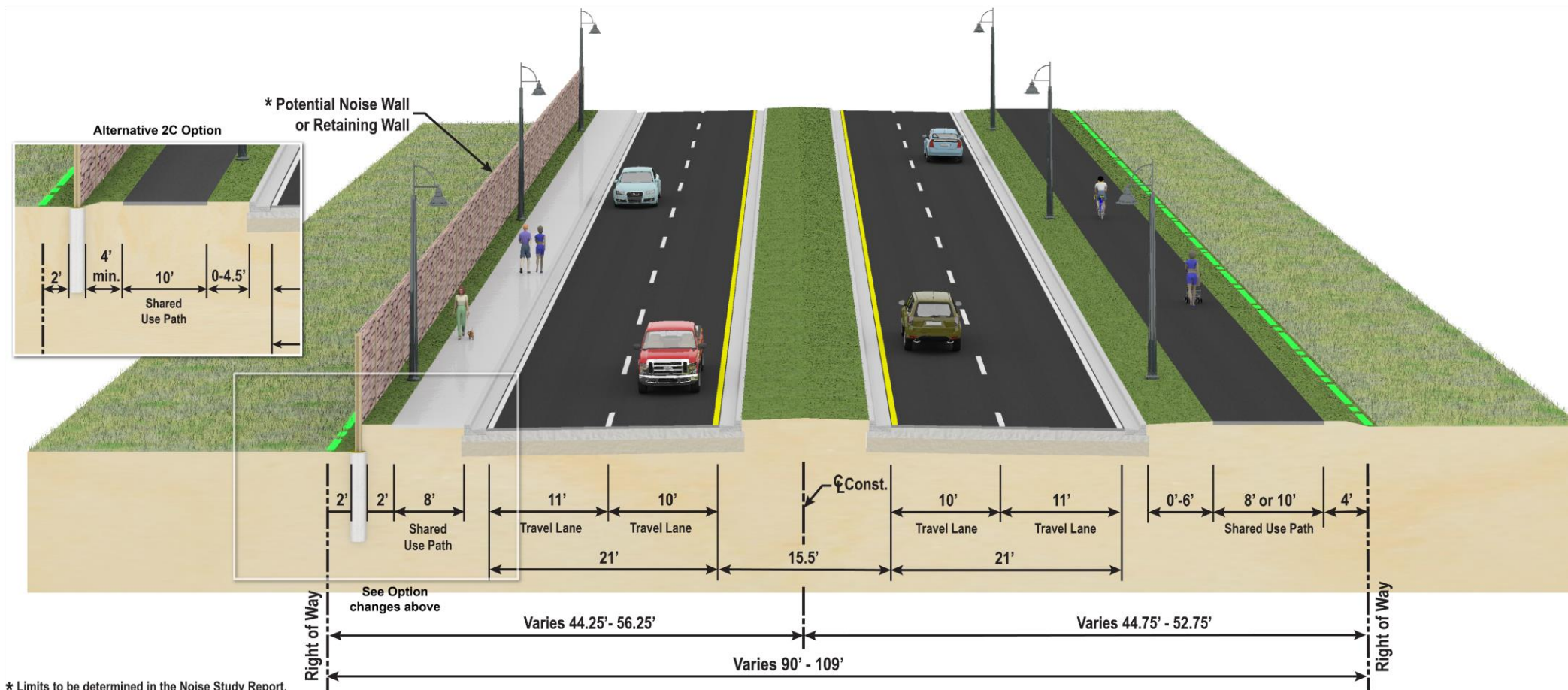
- Signalized intersection



Preferred Alternative Segment 2, Alternative 2C



Typical Section – Segment 2 Alternative 2C From Avalon Drive to SR 5/US 1 (Federal Highway)



Environmental Summary

■ Federally Listed Species

■ No Effect

- American Crocodile
- Audubon's Crested Caracara
- Everglades Snail Kite
- Florida Grasshopper Sparrow
- Florida Leafwing Butterfly
- Florida Panther
- Florida Scrub Jay
- Piping Plover
- Red Cockaded Woodpecker
- West Indian Manatee

■ Federally Listed Species

■ May Affect, But Not Likely to Adversely Affect

- Eastern Black Rail
- Eastern Indigo Snake
- Florida Bonneted Bat
- Wood Stork

■ Federally Listed Plants

■ No Effect

- Four-petal pawpaw
- Florida perforate cladonia
- Beach jacquemontia
- Tiny polygala



Environmental Summary

■ State Listed Species

■ No Adverse Effect Anticipated

- Florida Burrowing Owl
- Florida Pine Snake
- Florida Sandhill Crane
- Gopher Tortoise
- Southeastern American Kestrel

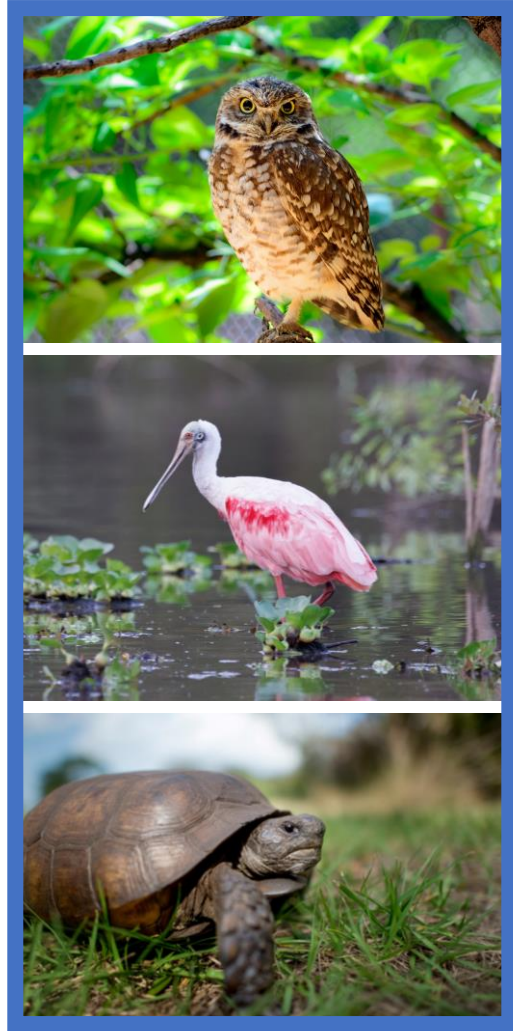
■ Imperiled Wading Birds

- Little Blue Heron
- Roseate Spoonbill
- Tricolored Heron

■ State Listed Plants

■ No Effect Anticipated

- Piedmont Jointgrass
- Large-Flowered Rosemary
- Nodding Pinweed
- Tropical Ironwood
- Coastal Vervain
- Small's Flax
- Celestial Lily



Environmental Summary

■ Wetlands

- 6.96 acres of direct impacts
- 1.29 acres of secondary impacts

■ Other Surface Waters

- 8.67 acres of impacts

■ Contamination Sites

- No anticipated impacts to potentially contaminated sites

■ Cultural Resources

- No involvement with any historic or cultural resources

■ Floodplains

- No impacts to floodplains

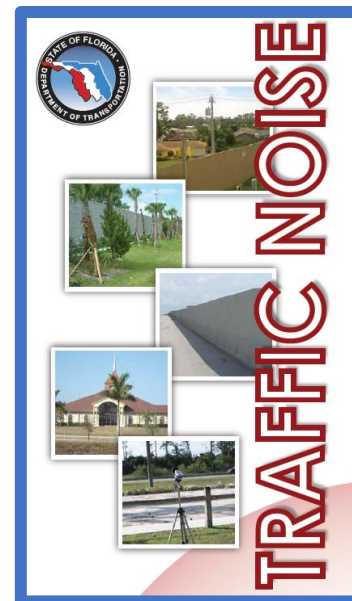
Environmental Summary

■ Noise

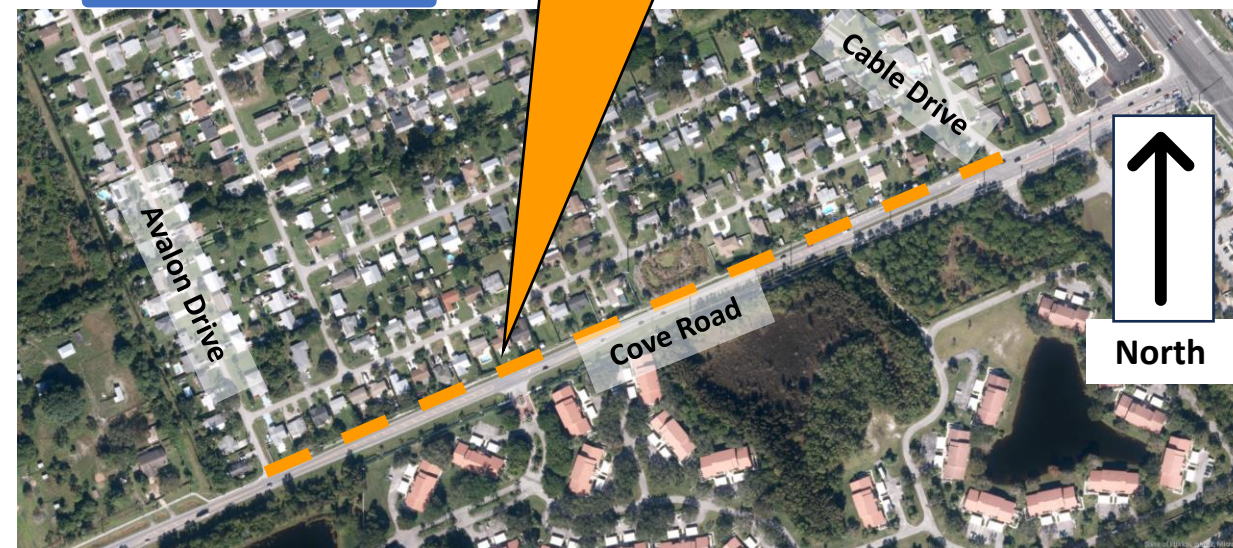
- Noise study was completed
- One noise barrier was found to be a feasible and reasonable method to abate traffic noise impacts

■ Hibiscus Park Noise Barrier

- 25 residences benefit with a noise barrier
- Noise barrier 8 ft tall between Avalon Drive and Cable Drive



****Example of noise wall****

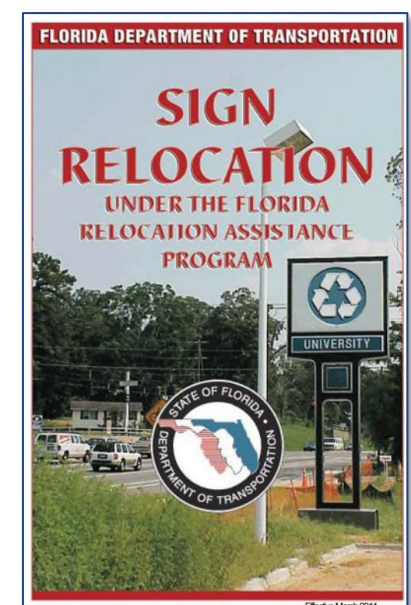
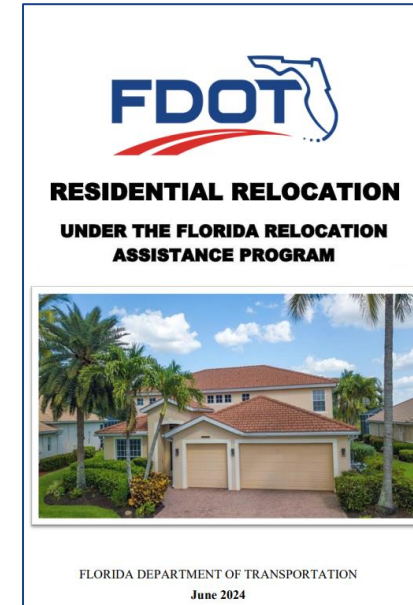
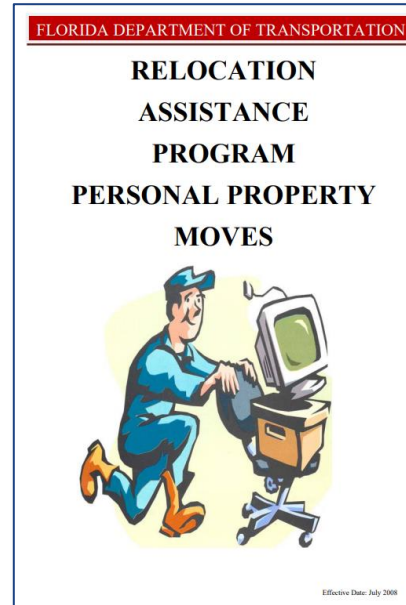
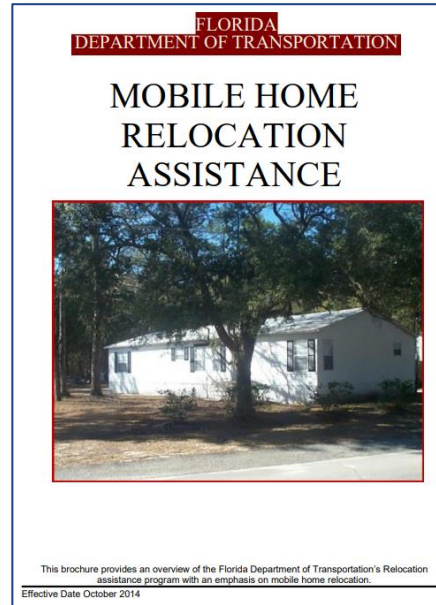
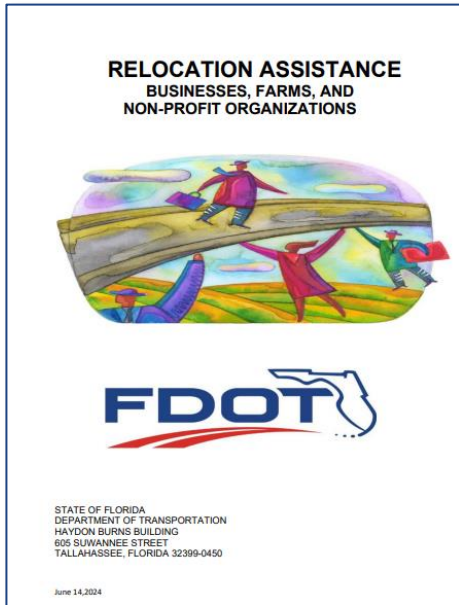


Right-Of-Way Needs

- Right-of-Way
 - ❖ 1 potential residential relocation related to Pond 1B
- Public had several opportunities to review project documents and right-of-way impacts
- Right-of-Way and relocation assistance program will be carried out in accordance with Florida Statute 421.55 and the Uniform Relocation Assistance Act



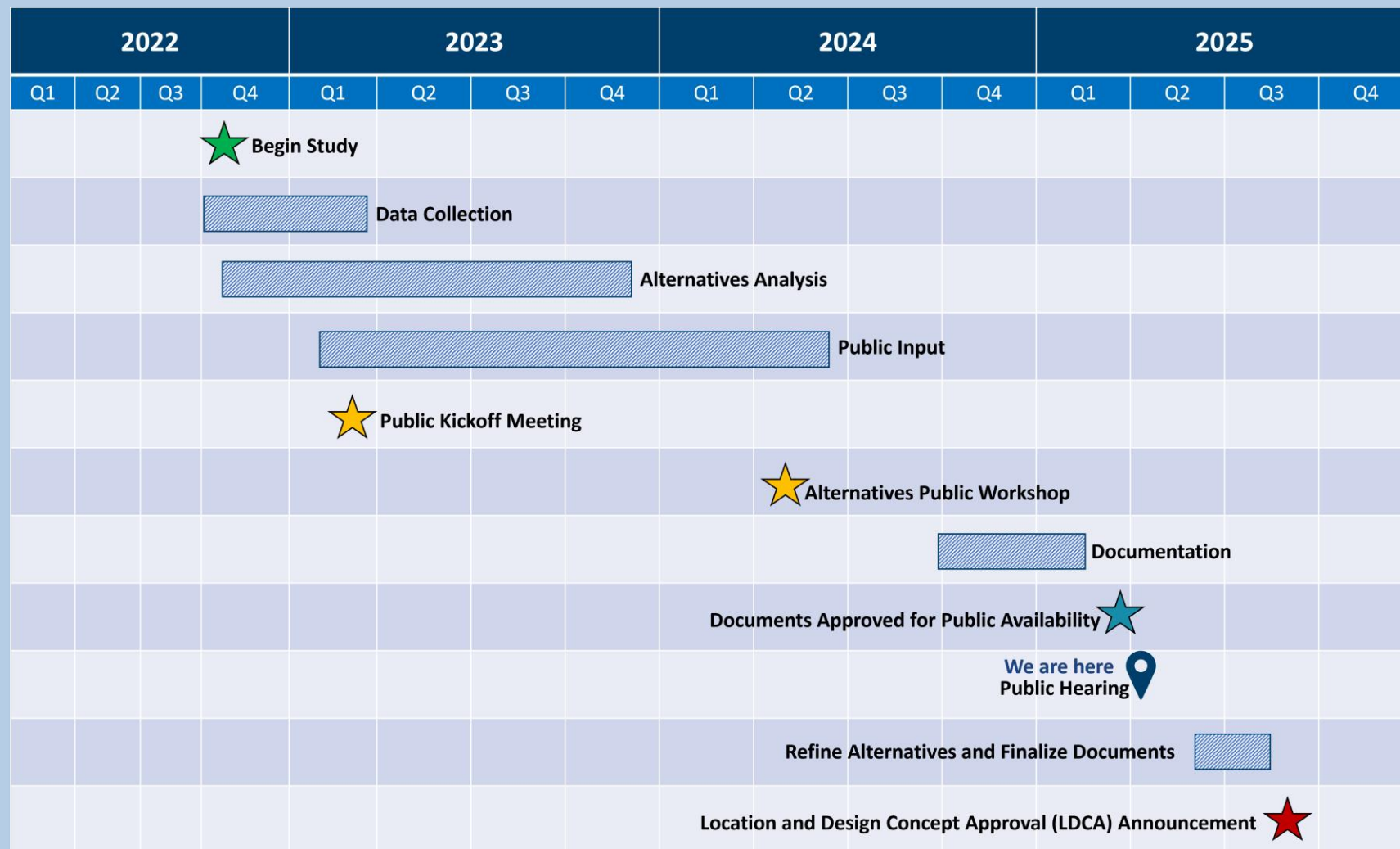
Relocation Assistance



FDOT Deputy of Right of Way Manager – Production
Christina Brown
Christina.brown@dot.state.fl.us

Project Schedule

- Design and right-of-way phases are currently funded.
- Construction phase is not currently funded.



Tentative, subject to change

Public Display of Project Documents



**Documents will be on display
until May 7, 2025.**



Robert Morgade Library (Martin County Library System)

5851 SE Community Drive, Stuart, FL 34997

(772) 463-3245

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday: 10:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Wednesday: 12:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Closed Sunday

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PUBLIC AND PRIVATE PARTNERS**

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THANK YOU

for watching the project video for the
**Cove Road Project Development and
Environment (PD&E) Study**

