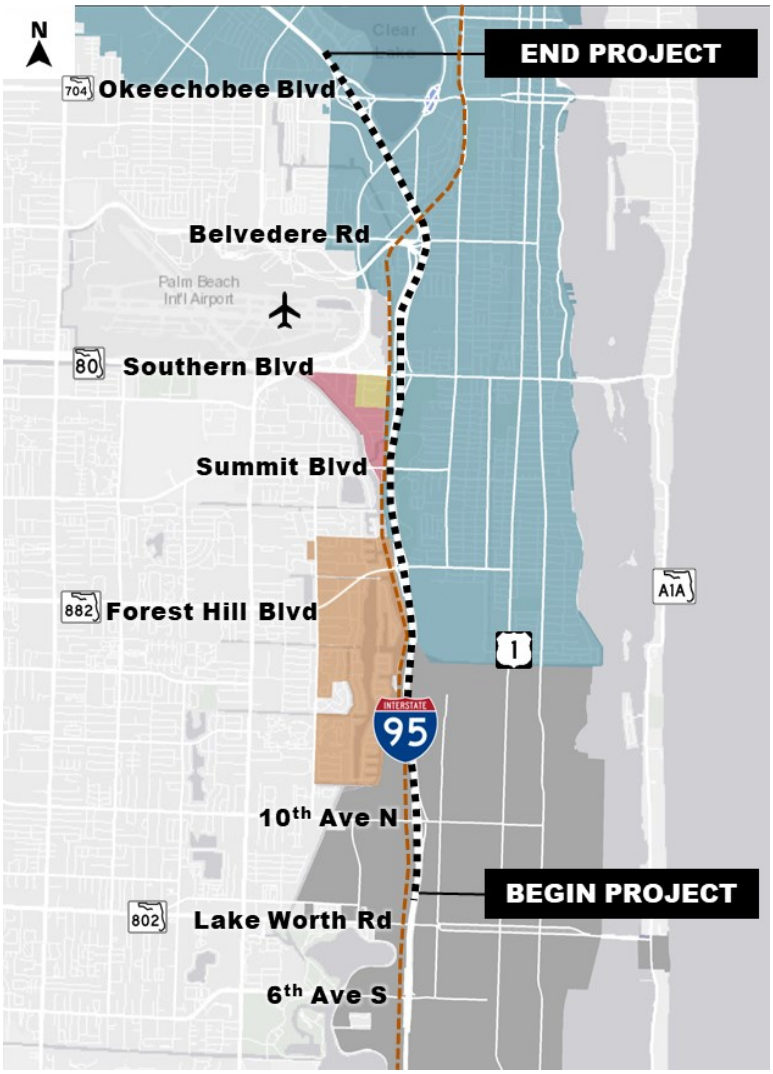
SR 9/I-95 PD&E Study
Palm Beach County

Florida Department of Transportation
NEWSLETTER #1

I-95 Managed Lanes Project Development and Environment (PD&E) Study
SR 9/I-95 from North of 6th Avenue South to North of SR 704/Okeechobee Boulevard
Palm Beach County, Florida
Financial Project ID: 444202-2-22-02 | Efficient Transportation Decision Making (ETDM): 14509
May 2024

Stay Informed and Stay Involved: www.i95ML-6Ave-Okeechobee.com



MUNICIPALITIES

Lake Worth Beach | Glen Ridge | West Palm Beach
Lake Clark Shores | Cloud Lake

A presentation for this project was given to the Palm Beach Transportation Planning Agency (TPA) on Tuesday, December 14, 2023 at 9:00 am. A recording of the meeting is available for your viewing at https://palmbeachtpa.org/meetings-events/tpa-governing-board-meeting-12-14-2023/.

PROJECT OVERVIEW

The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) is currently conducting a PD&E Study along SR 9/I-95 from north of 6th Avenue South to north of SR 704/Okeechobee Boulevard. A PD&E Study is FDOT's process to evaluate the social, economic, and environmental impacts associated with a planned transportation improvement project. The purpose of this project is to increase capacity by adding managed lanes in each direction and alleviate congestion at the SR 9/I-95 and SR 80/Southern Boulevard interchange. Additionally, it aims to find improvements to the issues that impact roadway traffic. These issues may include capacity, modal interrelationships, and safety.

WHY IS THIS STUDY NEEDED?

The following goals and objectives have been defined for this study:

Increase Capacity to Meet Travel Demand

Operational and Safety Needs

Modal Interrelationships

WHY MANAGED LANES?

Managed lanes are special highway lanes that are actively controlled and adjusted based on how busy the traffic is. The goal of Managed lanes is to improve operational conditions on a highway, improving traffic speed and safety. Also, Managed Lanes:

- Provide travel choices
- Offer predictable travel times
- Manage time congestion
- Reduce fuel consumption
- Decrease air pollution
- Support transit usage

FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION MISSION STATEMENT
The Department will provide a safe transportation system that ensures the mobility of people and goods, enhances economic prosperity and preserves the quality of our environment and communities.

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WHAT IS A PD&E STUDY?

A PD&E Study is FDOT's procedure for complying with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, and associated federal and state laws and regulations. During this phase, FDOT performs preliminary engineering, evaluates the projects impacts to the social, cultural, natural, and physical environments, completes interagency coordination, and engages the public. Public involvement is a key aspect throughout the life of a project. The objective of a PD&E Study is to support decisions concerning if, where, and what should be built to address the identified transportation needs. Stay tuned for updates on the upcoming alternatives workshop, where members of the community will have the opportunity to learn about and voice their opinions on potential alternatives.

1. Planning
2. **Project Development and Environment (PD&E) Study**
3. Design
4. Right of Way Acquisition (if needed)
5. Construction
6. Maintenance

Why it's done:

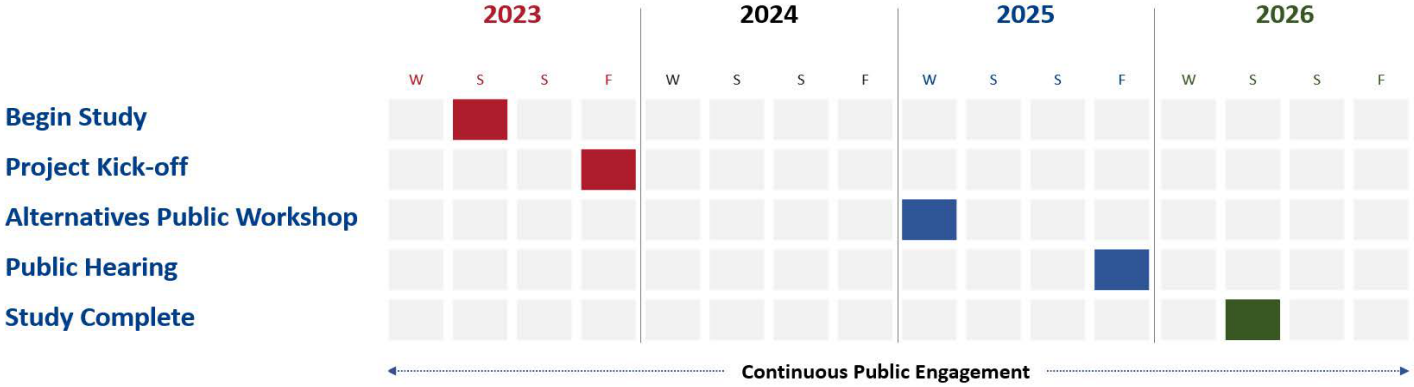
- Evaluate project feasibility and potential environmental impacts (natural, physical, social, cultural)
- Comply with federal and state environmental laws
- Required to secure federal funding

What it involves:

- Conducting preliminary engineering
- Evaluating options to avoid, minimize or mitigate potential environmental impacts
- Coordinating with federal, state, and local agencies
- Engaging the public in project development during the transportation decision-making process
- Selecting a preferred alternative for Final Design

PD&E STUDY SCHEDULE

Schedule is Subject to Change/ Public workshop in the Winter of 2025



Project Funding: PD&E: Funded I Design: Unfunded I Construction: Unfunded

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Community feedback is at the core of all we do, FDOT works with the public to balance their community vision with the community's transportation needs. This is routine on all our projects to ensure Florida's infrastructure is safe, resilient, and efficient for many years into the future.

Public engagement is a critical component of the PD&E Study process, and we encourage you to become and stay involved throughout the entire project. Please visit the project website often to get the most up-to-date information. The proposed project is being developed in accordance with the Civil Rights Act of 1964. Under Title VI of the Civil Rights Act, public participation is solicited without regard to race, color, national origin, age, sex, religion, disability or family status.

STAY INFORMED AND GET INVOLVED: If you would like to obtain additional project information, be added to the mailing list, request information, arrange a meeting, or submit a written comment, please visit the project website at www.i95ML-6ave-Okeechobee.com or scan the QR code provided.

*If you would like to receive more information about the project in creole or translation, please contact the project manager utilizing the information below.

*Si w ta renmen resevwa enfòmasyon sou pwojè an kreyòl oswa tradiksyon, tanpri kontakte Manadjè Pwojè a lè w itilize enfòmasyon ki anba a.

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