FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION ALTERNATIVES PUBLIC WORKSHOP HANDOUT

State Road (S.R.) 714/Monterey Road at Florida East Coast (FEC) Railroad Crossing
Project Development and Environment (PD&E) Study
Martin County, Florida
Financial Project ID: 441636-2-22-02
Efficient Transportation Decision Making (ETDM) Number: 14527

WELCOME

Thank you for attending the Alternatives Public Workshop for the **S.R. 714/Monterey Road at FEC Railroad Crossing PD&E Study**. The purpose of today's workshop is to present different project alternatives and obtain feedback. Attendees can ask questions and/or make comments in-person for the project representatives to answer. Project information can be viewed on the project website: www.fdot.gov/projects/montereyrd-fec-study.

ABOUT THE STUDY

The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) has initiated a Project Development and Environment (PD&E) Study along **S.R.714/Monterey Road at FEC Railroad Crossing** in **Martin County, Florida**.

Monterey Road is currently operating at an overall Level of Service (LOS) of D and is expected to operate at a LOS of E by 2040, according to the Martin County MPO FEC Railroad Grade Separation Feasibility Study (2017). Although the current LOS is considered satisfactory, an LOS E is considered unsatisfactory.

A contributing factor to the traffic congestion is the number of trains crossing through the Monterey Road/FEC railroad crossing. Therefore, improvements to this crossing would greatly reduce congestion within the project area and would support the current and future transportation demand within the project study area.

The purpose of this project is to improve traffic operations, establish more efficient road system connectivity, provide enhanced emergency evacuation, and improve sidewalk and bike lane network. This project, which originated based on community wants and a recognized safety need, strengthens the local community by making it easier and safer for people to drive, walk, and bike within the project area, while supporting operations for the FEC Railroad and Witham Field Airport. By improving road and rail infrastructure, resiliency, and improving emergency evacuation routes, the project will help the community stay connected and protected.

The analysis encompasses various build alternatives alongside a "No Build" scenario, emphasizing the importance of considering all options to optimize operations and safety, particularly focusing on Level of Service (LOS) improvements at signalized intersections within the study's area of influence.

WORKSHOP AGENDA

- Introductions
  - Project Overview
- What is a PD&E Study?
  - Project Overview/Location
  - Purpose and Need
- Key Project Issues
  - Engineering Issues
  - Environmental Issues
- Public Involvement
  - Project Schedule
- Q&A

PROJECT MAP

The environmental review, consultation, and other actions required by applicable federal environmental laws for this project are being, or have been, carried-out by FDOT pursuant to 23 § U.S.C. 327 and a Memorandum of Understanding dated May 26, 2022, and executed by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and FDOT.

FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION MISSION STATEMENT

The Florida Department of Transportation's mission is to provide a safe statewide transportation system that promotes the efficient movement of people and goods, supports the state's economic competitiveness, prioritizes Florida's environment and natural resources, and preserves the quality of life and connectedness of the state's communities.

FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

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 objectives of a PD&E Study is to support decisions concerning if, where, and what should be built to address the identified transportation needs.

1. PLANNING
2. PROJECT DEVELOPMENT AND ENVIRONMENT (PD&E) STUDY
3. DESIGN
4. RIGHT OF WAY ACQUISITION (IF NEEDED)
5. CONSTRUCTION
6. MAINTENANCE

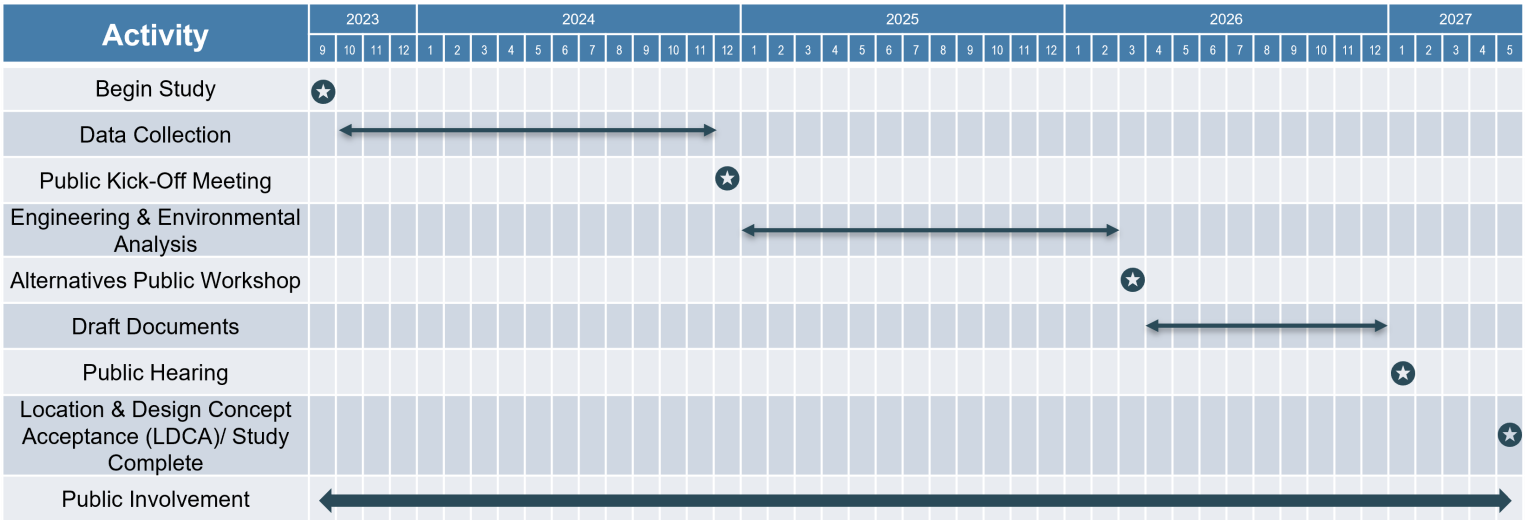
Why it's done:

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

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

PD&E STUDY SCHEDULE



PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

FDOT is required to comply with various non-discrimination laws and regulations, including Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. Public participation is solicited without regard to race, color, national origin, age, sex, religion, disability or family status.

FDOT encourages the public to get involved throughout the study by providing comments, concerns, questions, and suggestions to the study team. **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 contact:**

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