



Financial Project ID Number  
431298-1-22-01



# State Road (SR) 31 Extension

## Alternative Corridor Evaluation (ACE) Feasibility Study

From SR 70 to US 17 in DeSoto County, Florida

NEWSLETTER #1 - October 2017

### PROJECT OVERVIEW

The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) is conducting an Alternative Corridor Evaluation (ACE) Feasibility Study to identify the need for and to evaluate a potential new alignment for the extension of SR 31. The study area begins on SR 31 south of SR 70 and extends north to US 17 between Fiveash Street and Moore Avenue as shown on the Project Location Map.

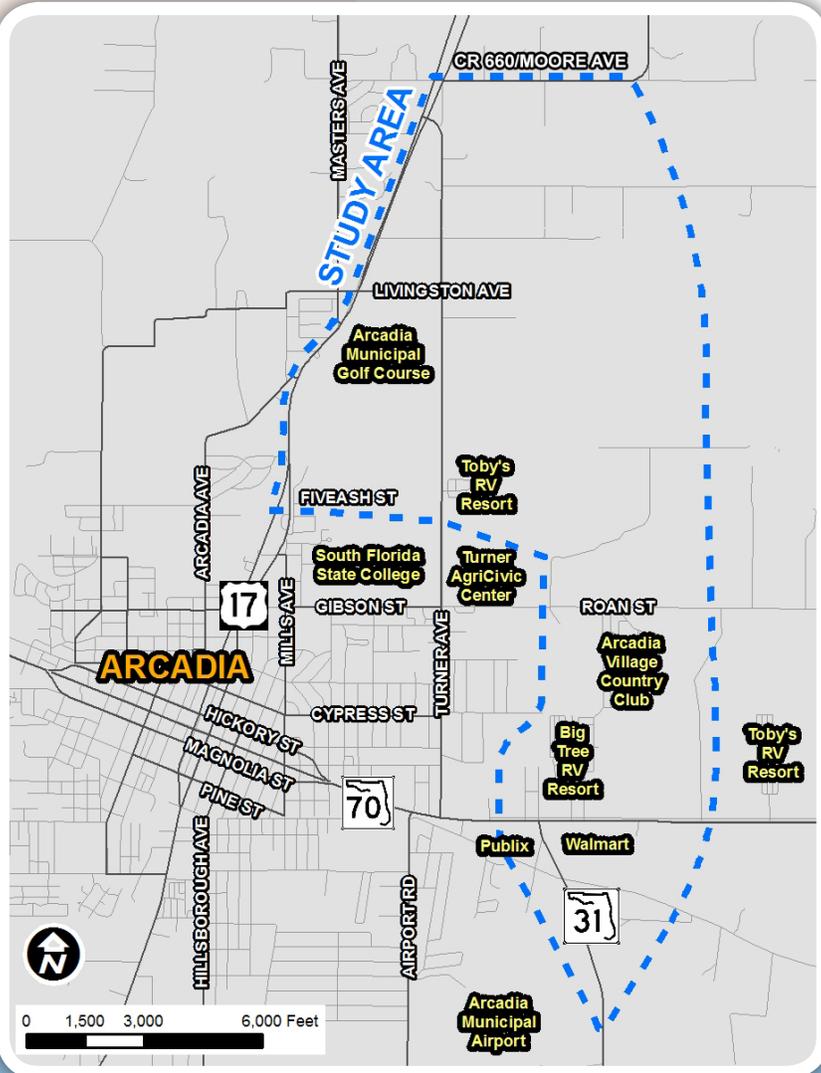
FDOT began this feasibility study in May 2017 and it is tentatively anticipated to be complete in November 2018. The schedule graphic on the back of this newsletter shows some of the key milestones for the study.

### WHAT IS AN ACE FEASIBILITY STUDY?

The primary purpose of the SR 31 Extension ACE Feasibility Study is to identify any fatal flaws and to establish the purpose and need, as well as viability of the project. A Methodology Memorandum (MM) will be developed as part of the ACE process. The MM will outline the analysis methodology that will be used to refine and eliminate corridor alternatives. The project team will meet with various federal, state and local agencies throughout the process to obtain comments. Following FDOT Office of Environmental Management (OEM) approval of the MM, an Alternative Corridor Evaluation Report (ACER) will be prepared, which may recommend feasible alternative corridors to be considered for further evaluation.

If an extension of SR 31 is determined to be feasible, a Project Development & Environment (PD&E) Study will be initiated. The alternatives recommended for further evaluation as a result of the ACE Feasibility Study will be evaluated in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), and the evaluation results will be documented in the PD&E Study. Consideration will be given to minimizing impacts to the natural, social, cultural and physical environment. The no-build alternative will remain an option throughout the ACE Feasibility Study and PD&E Study.

*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.*



### PROJECT LOCATION MAP

### CONTACT INFORMATION

Public participation is solicited without regard to race, color, national origin, age, sex, religion, disability, or family status. If you have questions, comments, or would like more information about the study, please contact Gwen Pipkin, FDOT Project Manager, by e-mail at [gwen.pipkin@dot.state.fl.us](mailto:gwen.pipkin@dot.state.fl.us), phone at (863) 519-2375, or mail at FDOT District One, P.O. Box 1249, Bartow, Florida 33831.

### PARA INFORMACION EN ESPAÑOL

Si tuviese preguntas, comentarios, o simplemente deseara más información, póngase en contacto con Marlon Bizerra por correo electrónico a [marlon.bizerra@dot.state.fl.us](mailto:marlon.bizerra@dot.state.fl.us), por teléfono al (863) 519-2375, o envíe un correo a FDOT District One, P.O. Box 1249, Bartow, Florida 33831.

Study web site: [www.swflroads.com/sr31extension/sr70tous17](http://www.swflroads.com/sr31extension/sr70tous17)

