

SR 35 (US 98) PD&E Study from North of West Socrum Loop Road to South of CR 54 Polk County, Florida



Financial Project Number: 436673-1-22-01

March 2022, Newsletter #2

Public Hearing Scheduled Thursday, March 31, 2022

The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT), District One, invites you to the US 98 (State Road 35) Project Development & Environment (PD&E) public hearing on **Thursday, March 31, 2022**. For your convenience, FDOT is providing three ways to participate:

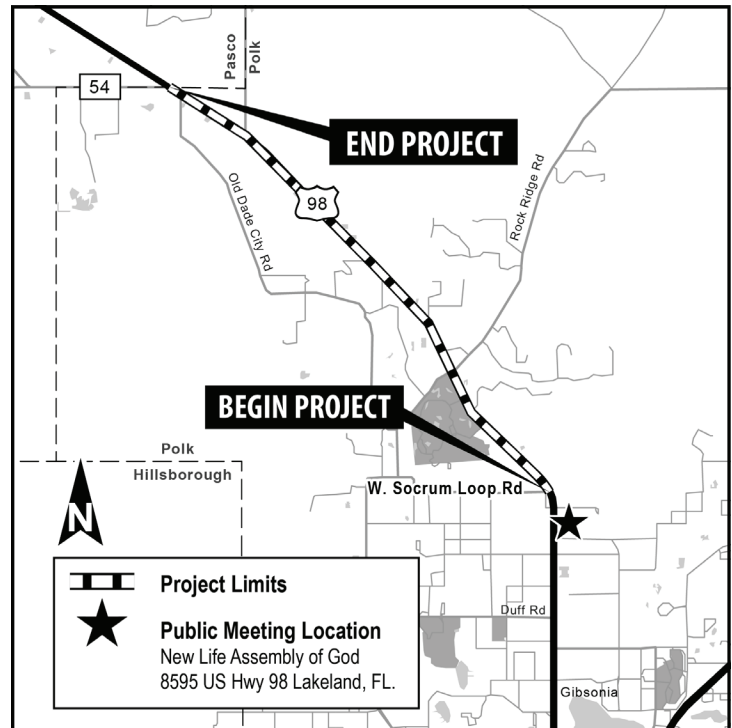
Virtual Option: Attend virtually beginning at 6 p.m. from a computer, tablet, or mobile device. You can register in advance at <https://bit.ly/35eLAHr>. Once registered, attendees will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the hearing online. *Please note, Internet Explorer cannot be used to register or attend this webinar.*

In-Person Option: Attend in-person at New Life Assembly of God, 8595 US Hwy 98 in Lakeland, FL. The in-person open house will begin at 5 p.m. and the presentation and testimony will begin at 6 p.m.

Website: View the materials online at www.swflroads.com/us98/socrumlooptocr54/

All hearing materials, including the project video, will be available online by March 24, 2022. You do not have to attend a live event in order to submit a comment. Comments can be submitted at the live hearing, through the website, or by mail or email (see the Project Manager's information on the back page).

This hearing gives interested people the opportunity to express their views about the proposed improvements along US 98 (SR 35) from north of West Socrum Loop Rd. to south of CR 54. **Written statements or exhibits submitted at the hearing, emailed, or postmarked by April 14, 2022**, will become part of the official hearing transcript.



Hybrid Hearing Information

Thursday, March 31, 2022

5 p.m. In-Person "open house" begins
6 p.m. Formal Presentation & Testimony

Virtual:



<https://bit.ly/35eLAHr>

In-Person:

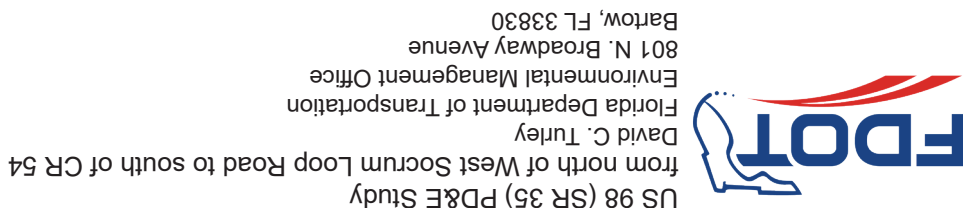
New Life Assembly of God
8595 US Hwy 98
Lakeland, FL 33809

About the Project

FDOT, District One, began a PD&E study in spring 2021 to evaluate capacity and safety improvements along an 8.7-mile segment of US 98 from north of West Socrum Loop Road to south of CR 54 in Polk County. The purpose of the PD&E study is to evaluate and document the benefits, costs, and impacts of widening the existing roadway from two lanes to four lanes. Widening the roadway will help to accommodate projected future population growth that will result in increased passenger vehicle and freight traffic. The project will also seek to enhance regional transportation network connectivity while improving emergency evacuation and safety for all roadway users.

www.swflroads.com/us98/socrumlooptocr54/

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 December 14, 2016 and executed by the Federal Highway Administration and FDOT.



CONTACT US

FDOT encourages the public to participate in the US 98 (SR 35) PD&E public hearing. If you have questions regarding the hearing, please contact the FDOT Project Manager, David C. Turley, P.E. at:

David C. Turley, P.E.
Florida Department of Transportation
Environmental Management Office
801 N. Broadway Avenue
Bartow, FL 33830

Phone: (863) 519-2255
Email: David.Turley@dot.state.fl.us

PROJECT DOCUMENTS

Project documents will be available for public viewing from Thursday, March 10, 2022, through April 14, 2022, at the following locations:

www.swflroads.com/us98/socrumlooptocr54/

In-Person Locations:

Larry R. Jackson	Florida Department of
Branch Library	Transportation
1700 N Florida Ave	801 N. Broadway Avenue
Lakeland, FL 33805	Bartow, FL 33830
Call for hours:	
(863) 834-4288	

Copies will also be displayed at the in-person hearing.

FDOT solicits public participation without regard to race, color, national origin, age, sex, religion, disability or family status. People who require special accommodations under the Americans with Disabilities Act or who require translation services (free of charge) should contact Cynthia Sykes, District One Title VI Coordinator, at (863) 519-2287, or email at Cynthia.Sykes@dot.state.fl.us at least seven days prior to the public hearing.