



Public Hearing Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

State Road (SR) 31 Project Development and Environment (PD&E) Study from SR 80 (Palm Beach Boulevard) to SR 78 (Bayshore Road) Financial Project Number: 441942-1

1. *What is a Project Development and Environment (PD&E) Study?*

A Project Development and Environment (PD&E) study is a formal process that includes preliminary engineering and environmental review. This process includes detailed development and comparison of alternatives to identify a recommended preferred action that addresses transportation needs while minimizing impacts to the social, cultural, natural, and physical environments. Public involvement is a key component of a PD&E Study. The process also ensures compliance with state and federal laws and regulations, notably the National Environmental Policy Act, so that a project can advance into final design, right of way, and construction.

2. *What is the status of the PD&E study?*

The PD&E study is approaching the latter stages. FDOT is responding to the formal comments received during the Public Hearing comment period and finalizing the environmental documents. The intent is to receive Location and Design Concept Approval (LDCA) from the FDOT Office of Environmental Management (OEM) in Spring 2024.

3. *What are the next steps after the PD&E study is finalized?*

After LDCA, the Right-of-Way (ROW) acquisition process can begin, which takes approximately two years. Also, certain permits must be secured prior to construction. The anticipated permits are included in the draft environmental document and include a US Coast Guard Bridge Permit, USACE Permit, and state permits.

4. *How much does the project cost?*

Recent estimates, which are subject to change, are \$163 million for Construction and \$22.7 million for Right-of-Way.

5. *Who do I talk to if I have a question about the proposed project design?*

If you have comments on the project, please contact the FDOT Project Manager listed on this site.

6. *Why is grade-separation proposed at the SR 31/SR 80 intersection?*

An Intersection Control Evaluation (ICE) study was completed for this intersection. The elevated roadways and bridges provide the best design for addressing projected traffic conditions and for safety through the 2045 design year. An at-grade intersection would not provide adequate operations for projected traffic in the design year. This configuration will separate conflicting traffic movements between SR 31 and SR 80, improving traffic flow at this intersection by not requiring vehicles on SR 80 to stop at the at-grade signal for heavy left turn movements.

7. *How will the project change access management along SR 31?*

In accordance with Rule 14-97 of the Florida Administrative Code, the proposed improvements will include a median to control the movements, or access, of turning traffic. These changes are presented in compliance with Section 335.199 Florida Statutes (Transportation projects modifying access to adjacent property).

The proposed project would include modifying the existing access management classification along SR 31 to Access Class 5. Spacing between driveways and side roads would be restricted to no closer than 245 feet. Spacing for median openings and signals would be restricted to no closer than 1,320 feet.

8. *How do I find out more about the Right-of-Way process?*

Please contact the Right-of-Way (ROW) agent, Jesse Moss, at 863-519-2404 or by email at Jesse.Moss@dot.state.fl.us.

FDOT's ROW Acquisition Process includes initial contact, an appraisal/evaluation inspection, a written offer, a settlement, and potentially a closing date or if no settlement is met, a condemnation filing. The process aims to acquire the necessary land for transportation projects while ensuring fair compensation for affected property owners. More information on ROW acquisition is available in the linked [Acquisition Process Pamphlet](#).

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9. *Where can I find information on adjacent projects for State Road 31 and State Road 78?*

For additional information about the SR 31 Design-Build project from SR 78 (Bayshore Road) to Cook Brown Road, please visit the project webpage at <https://www.swflroads.com/project/428917-1>.

For additional information about the ongoing SR 78 (Bayshore Road) PD&E Study from I-75 to SR 31, please visit the project webpage at <https://www.swflroads.com/project/444937-1>.