

Pine Island Road (CR 78) Shared Use Path Feasibility Study Pine Island Road from Stringfellow Road to Veterans Memorial Parkway Financial Project Number: 436926-1 Counties Involved: Lee

WORKSHOP SUMMARY

In Person: May 7, 2024 anytime between 5-7 p.m.

<u>Virtual:</u> May 9, 2024 from 6-7 p.m.

Attendees: In Person: 89 Attendees

Virtual: 29 Attendees

Public Officials: N/A

Media: Pine Island Eagle

Summary

FDOT conducted the Pine Island Road (CR 78) Shared Use Path Feasibility Study Public Workshop to present information about the preliminary alternatives and provide the opportunity for the public to express their views about the project. The public meeting was conducted in both an in-person and online format. The in-person meeting facility was selected because it was recently used for the Pine Island Causeway construction project, and it was the facility closest to the project area. Additionally, meeting materials were posted to the project webpage (https://www.swflroads.com/project/436926-1) on May 7, 2024.

In-Person Option

Tuesday, May 7, 2024 Anytime between 5-7 p.m. Pine Island United Methodist Church 5701 Pine Island Rd NW Bokeelia, FL 33922

Live Online Option

Thursday, May 9, 2024 6-7 p.m. https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/3169166782701490781

A total of 89 citizens signed in at the in-person meeting. A total of 29 citizens joined the online meeting. No elected officials joined either event. This provided a total of 118 attendees for the Pine Island Road (CR 78) Shared Use Path Feasibility Study Public Workshop.

The Public Workshop was advertised in the following manner:

- Email to Elected Officials Distributed on April 10, 2024
- Email to Appointed Officials Distributed on April 11, 2024
- Email to Interested Parties Distributed on April 22, 2024
- Email to PAG Members Distributed on April 11, 2024
- Newsletter to Property Owners Mailed on April 12, 2024

- Florida Administrative Register Published on April 29, 2024
- FDOT Public Notice Website Published on April 30, 2024
- Display Advertisement Published in Pine Island Eagle on April 10, 2024

At the start of both events, meeting attendees were provided with a handout and the project team explained the comment process. Both events provided the opportunity to view project materials, discuss Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ), and ask questions to the project team.

The following project-related information was on display at the meeting:

- Project Location Map
- Roll Plots of Pine Island Road
- Proposed Segment Alternatives
- FAQs Video
- Project Advisory Group Summary
- What We Heard

- Frequent Trips
- Transportation Development Process
- Comment Board
- Title VI
- Welcome and Thank You Boards

Attendees were asked to provide input in various ways at the in-person workshop. Alternatives for each segment were displayed, with a "thought wall" for each segment where attendees could provide their feedback for others to see or build upon. Highlights from previously received comments were included in a "word cloud" on the What We Heard display. Attendees were encouraged to add additional words to this board. A large map of the project area was stationed next to paper copies where attendees could draw their frequent trips that were made by walking or by bicycle within the project area. A looping video showing FAQs and answers played throughout the evening.

Additionally, at the in-person meeting, attendees were able to leave written comments. All other comments were submitted either by email, website, or by mail. A total of 34 comment forms were received at the in-person meeting.

At the virtual option, the project team discussed the alternatives and the other displays from the in-person event.

A total of 88 comments were received during the 10-day comment period following the meeting, ending May 17, 2024. Please see below for a list of common discussion topics during the workshop and comment period:

- Safety concerns if no improvements were made
- Safety concerns if the path was constructed (mainly Segment 2)
- Parking concerns in Segment 2
- Requests to decrease speed on Pine Island Road
- Concerns with how utilizing the right-of-way would affect Matlacha
- No lighting should be added (Segment 1)
- More support for a path in Segments 1 & 3