



# STATE ROAD (SR) 70

FROM COUNTY ROAD (CR) 29 TO LONESOME ISLAND ROAD  
HIGHLANDS COUNTY

# PUBLIC HEARING

PROJECT PRESENTATION



## PROJECT DEVELOPMENT & ENVIRONMENT (PD&E) STUDY

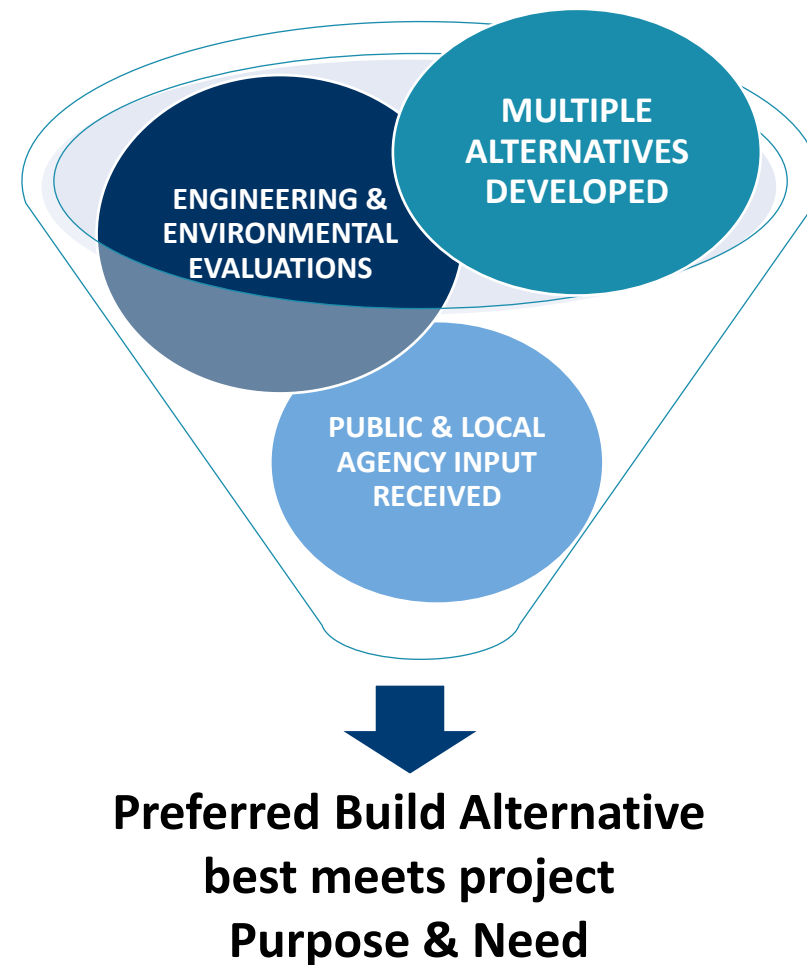
FPID No. 414506-5-22-01

ETDM No. 14364

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 2023



- **Evaluate Engineering and Environmental Data**
- **Document Information**
- **Determine the type, preliminary design, and location of the proposed improvements**

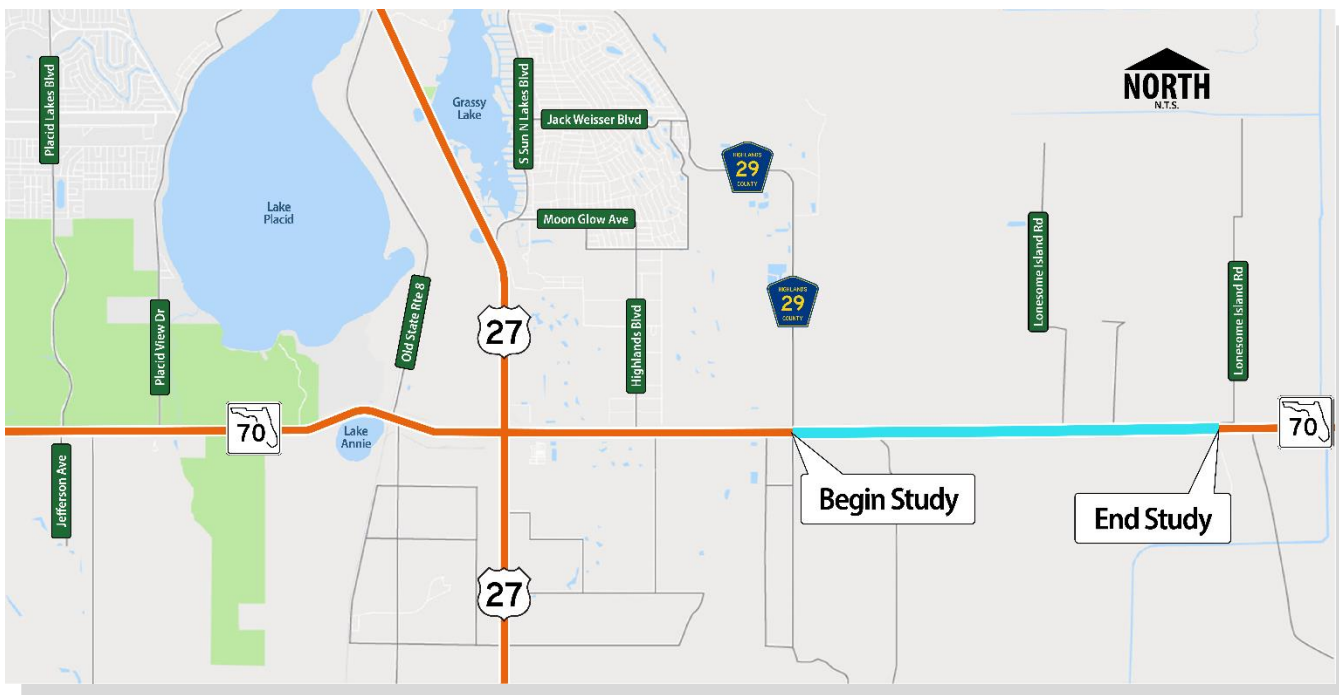


- The project will evaluate widening the existing two-lane undivided roadway to a four-lane divided roadway.

SR 70 PROVIDES

Regional access to

- Employment Centers
- Agricultural Lands
- Industrial Areas
- Commercial Developments
- Freight Distribution Facilities
- Hurricane Evacuation Routes



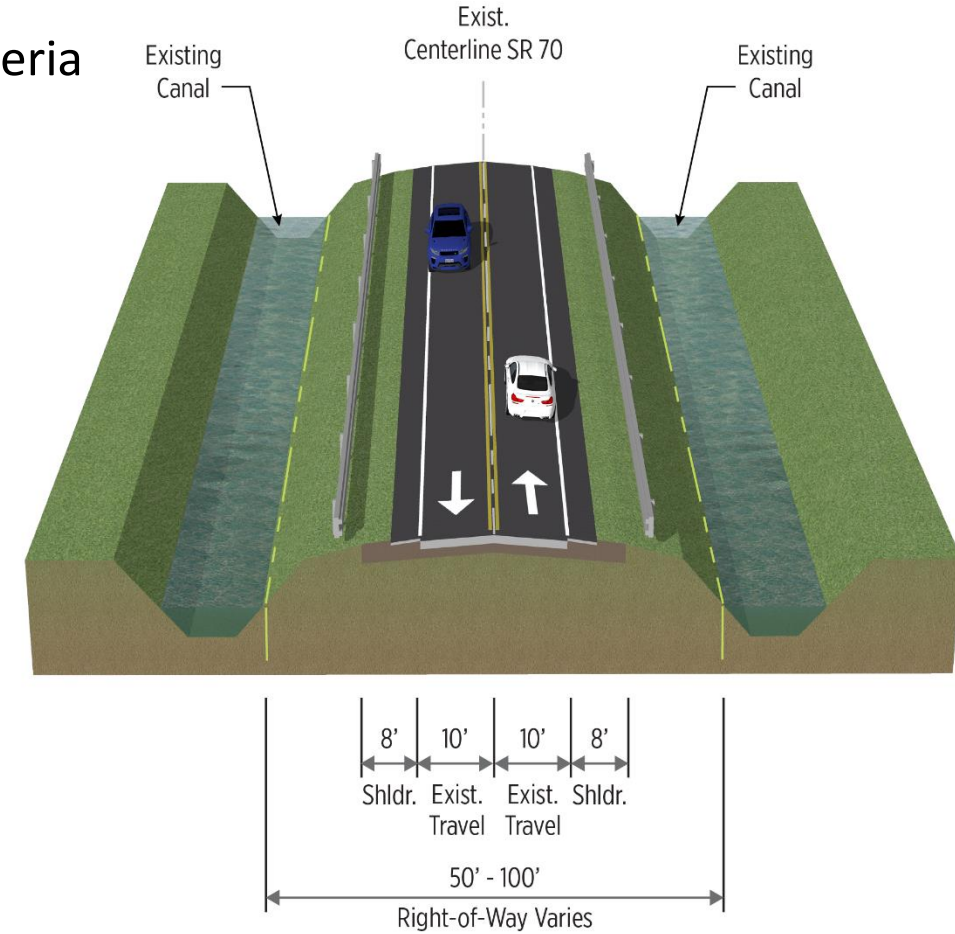
## FDOT anticipates this project will address:



- Address roadway deficiencies
- Enhance operational capacity of the corridor
- Enhance safety along the project corridor
- Improve emergency evacuation/response times
- Improve connectivity between the east and west sides of the state
- Provide access for standard roadway maintenance.

▪ **Identified along existing sections of the project segment:**

- Cross section does not meet SIS facility standards and criteria
- Narrow shoulders
  - Limited space for emergency service vehicles
  - Substandard setback of guardrails
- Pavement distress
  - Severe cracking,
  - Rutting, and
  - Potholes
- Failing roadway slopes
- Prone to flooding



1

## PROJECT BUILD ALTERNATIVES

Multiple Alternatives Developed

2

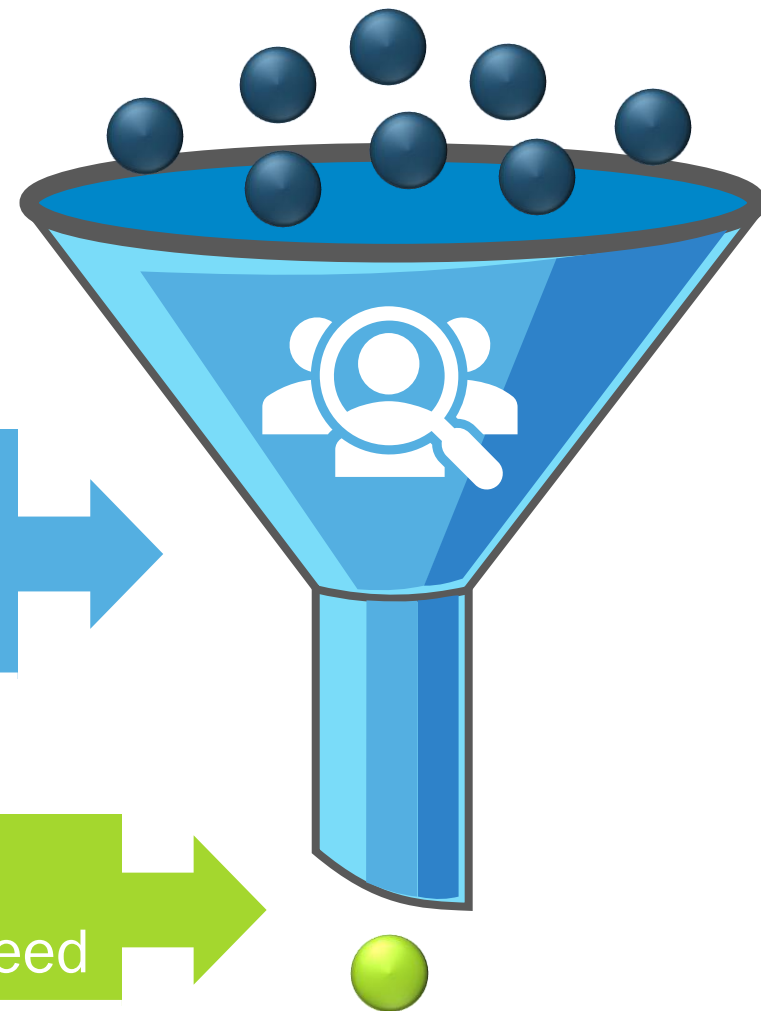
## ANALYSIS

Engineering & Environmental Evaluations Performed  
Public & Local Agency Input Received

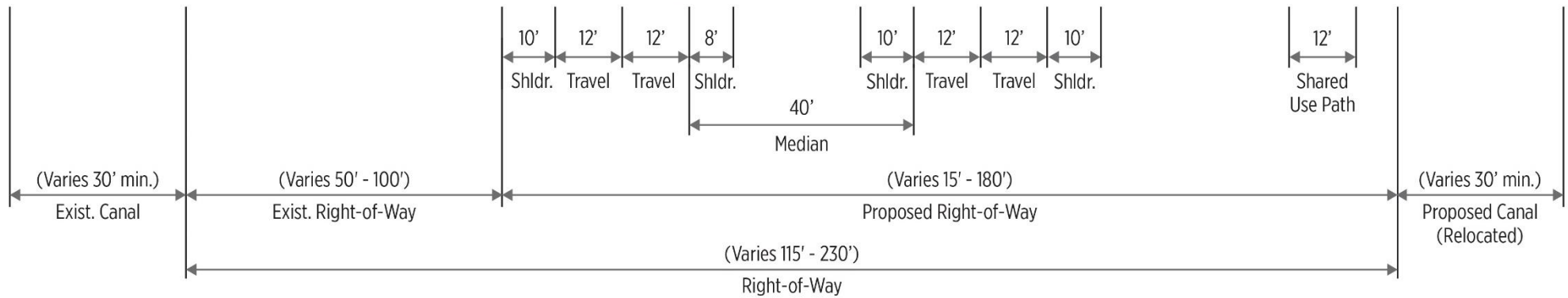
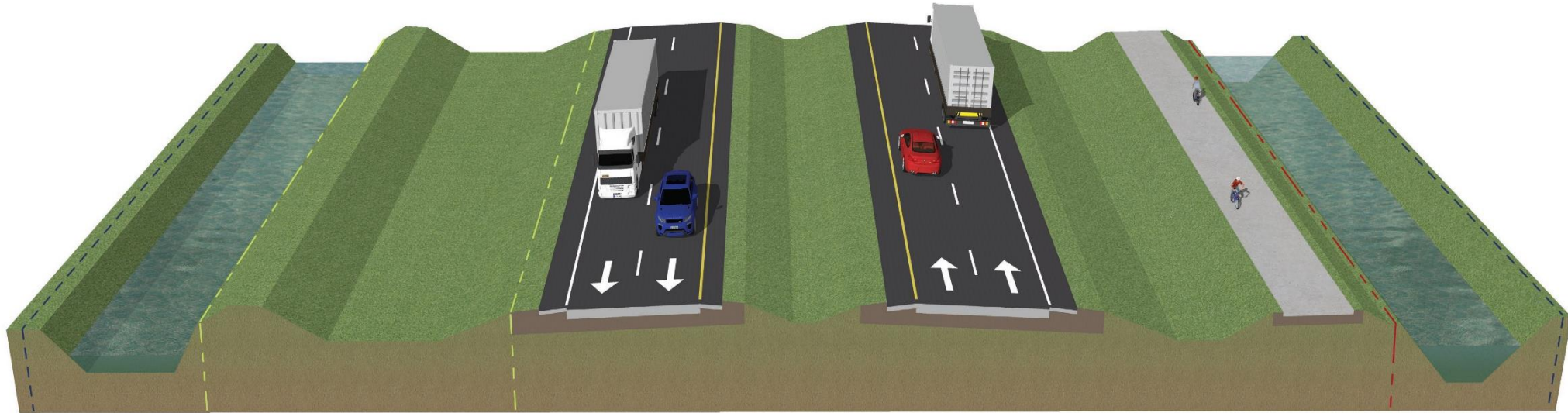
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## PREFERRED BUILD ALTERNATIVE

Preferred Alternative Best Meets Project Purpose & Need







- **Advantages:**

- No additional Social, Cultural, Physical, or Natural Environmental impacts
- No additional right-of-way

- **Disadvantages:**

- Does not accomplish the project Purpose and Need
- Only standard maintenance activities would be conducted along the project.





## ■ Social

- Community Resources
- Parks & Recreational Resources
- Potential Relocations

## ■ Cultural

- Historic Resources
- Archaeological Resources

## ■ Natural

- Wetlands
- Wildlife & Habitat
- Water Quality
- Floodplains

## ■ Physical

- Air Quality
- Contamination
- Noise



### Studies Done in Accordance with:

- Executive Order 11988 Floodplain Management
- Executive Order 11990 Protection of Wetlands

ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION  
TYPE 2 CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION

Florida Department of Transportation

SR 70 FROM CR 29 TO LONESOME ISLAND ROAD

District: FDOT District 1  
County: Highlands County  
ETDM Number: 14364

Financial Management Number: 414506-5-22-01  
Federal-Aid Project Number: N/A  
Project Manager: David C. Turley

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 the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) pursuant to 23 U.S.C. § 327 and a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) dated May 26, 2022 and executed by the Federal Highway Administration and FDOT.

This action has been determined to be a Categorical Exclusion, which meets the definition contained in 40 CFR 1508.4, and based on past experience with similar actions and supported by this analysis, does not involve significant environmental impacts.

Signature below constitutes Location and Design Concept Acceptance:

Director Office of Environmental Management  
Florida Department of Transportation

- **No effect**

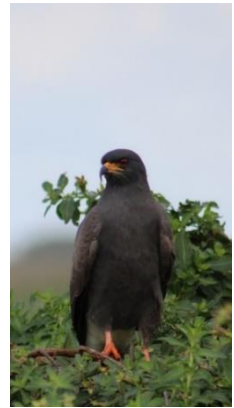
- Florida scrub-jay
- Florida panther
- Federal listed plants

- **May affect, but is not likely to adversely affect**

- Audubon's crested caracara
- Everglades snail kite
- Florida bonneted bat
- Wood stork

- **May affect, likely to adversely affect**

- Eastern indigo snake



Coordination will continue during future project phases.

▪ **No adverse effect anticipated**

- Gopher tortoise
- Short-tailed snake
- Florida pine snake
- Florida sandhill crane
- Florida burrowing owl
- Little blue heron
- Tricolored heron
- Southeast American kestrel
- Roseate spoonbill
- State listed plants



Coordination will continue during future project phases.



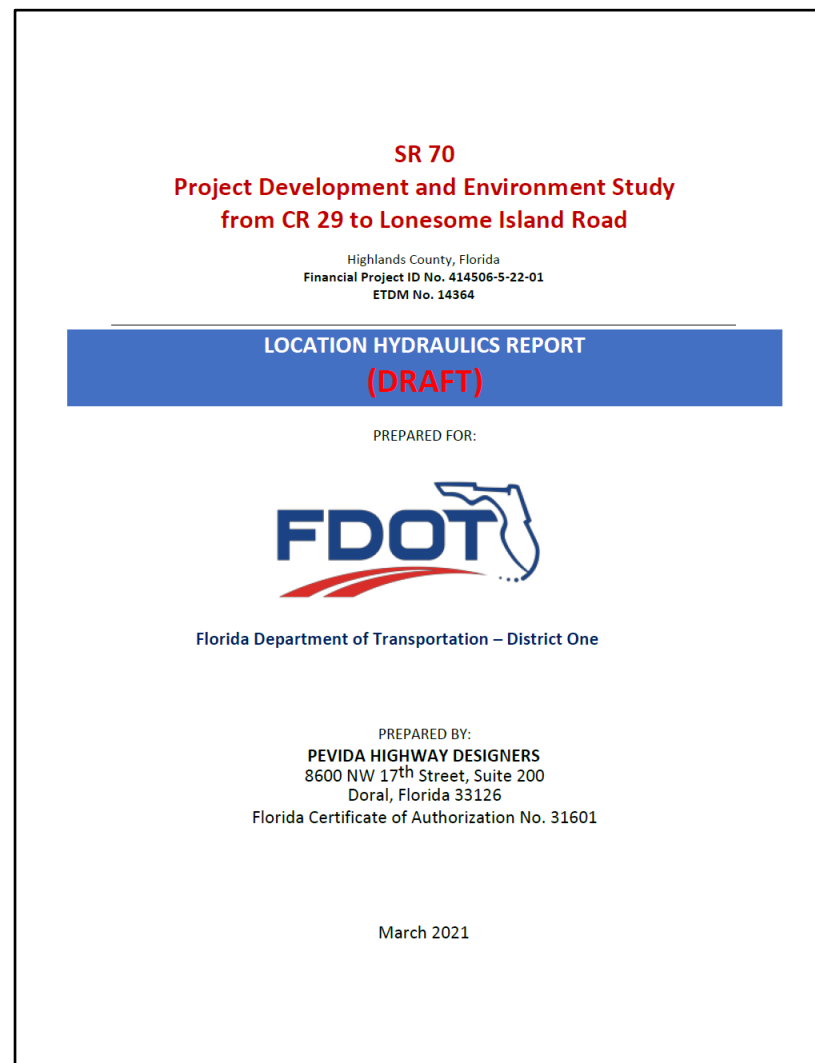
- **Wetlands/Surface Waters impacts**

- 3.7 acres of wetlands
- 32.9 acres of surface waters



**Unavoidable wetland impacts will be mitigated pursuant to all federal and state requirements.**

- Approximately 82.8 acres of the project are within the 100-year floodplain Zone A
- No FEMA Regulatory Floodways are crossed by the project

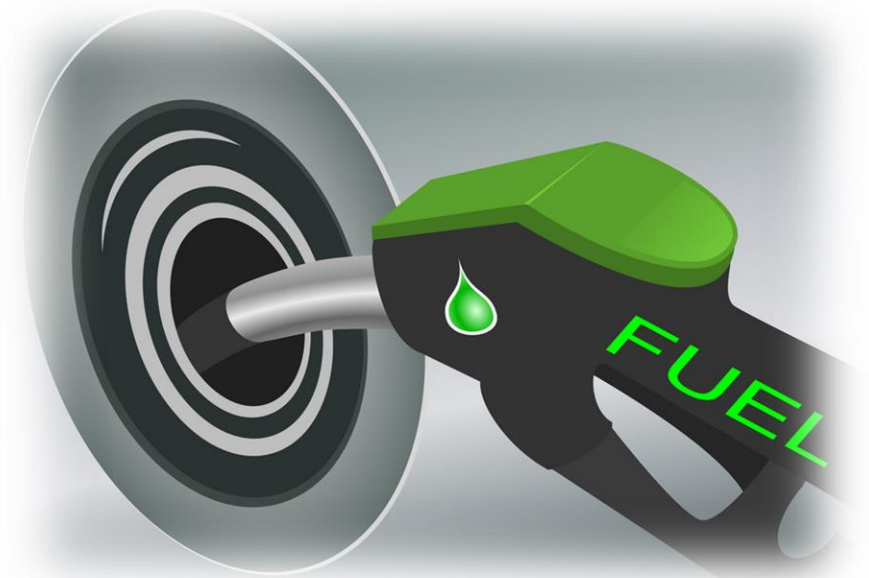


## ■ Impacts to Potential Contamination Sites

- Medium risk ranked sites – 9

## ■ Potential Contamination Sites Include:

- Agricultural
- Cattle dip vat
- Petroleum tank
- Spill





- **Draft Noise Study Report dated July 17, 2023**
  - Available on project website and at the in-person venue
- **Noise levels approach, meet, or exceed FDOT Noise Abatement Criteria at two evaluated receptors in the future build condition**
- **There are no reasonable solutions to abate the predicted noise impacts at these receptors**

## ▪ Right-of-Way impacts anticipated

- 156.8 acres of additional right-of-way potentially required
- No residential or business relocations anticipated

 <p><b>RESIDENTIAL RELOCATION</b></p> <p><b>UNDER THE FLORIDA RELOCATION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM</b></p>  <p>FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AUGUST 1, 2015</p>	 <p><b>BUSINESS DAMAGES PROCESS</b></p>  <p>The rights explained in this pamphlet are derived from Chapter 73, Florida Statutes. The relevant portions of Chapter 73 concerning the real estate acquisition process of real property are provided for your information at <a href="http://www.FDOT.gov">www.FDOT.gov</a>.</p> <p>Effective: October 11, 2017</p>	 <p><b>ACQUISITION PROCESS</b></p>  <p>The rights explained in this pamphlet are derived from Chapter 73, Florida Statutes. The relevant portions of Chapter 73 concerning the real estate acquisition process of real property are provided for your information at <a href="http://www.FDOT.gov">www.FDOT.gov</a>.</p> <p>Effective: October 13, 2017</p>
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# SUMMARY OF EVALUATION RESULTS

Evaluation Criteria	No-Build Alternative	Preferred Alternative
<b>Purpose &amp; Need</b>		
Improves Transportation Network Connectivity?	✗	✓
Improves Operational Conditions?	✗	✓
Improves Safety Conditions?	✗	✓
<b>Potential Right-of-Way Impacts</b>		
Relocations (Business/Residential)	0/0	0/0
Number of Parcels Impacted	0	13
Right-of-Way Required (acres)	0	156.8
<b>Potential Environmental Effects</b>		
Archaeological & Historic Sites	0	0
Section 4(f) Resources	0	0
Contamination Sites (Medium/High)	0/0	9/0
Wetlands (acres)	0	3.7
Surface Waters (acres)	0	32.9
Floodplains (acres)	0	82.8
Threatened & Endangered Species	None	High
<b>Preliminary Estimated Costs (in millions)</b>		
Right-of-Way Acquisition	\$0	\$10.4 m
Wetland Mitigation	\$0	\$0.5 m
Final Design & Construction	\$0	\$41.2 m
Construction Engineering & Inspection	\$0	\$5.4 m
<b>Preliminary Estimate of Total Project Cost</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$57.3 m</b>





# ESTIMATED PROJECT COSTS

Evaluation Criteria	No-Build Alternative	Preferred Alternative
<b>Estimated Total Project Costs (2023 Costs)</b>		
<b>Mitigation Cost</b>		
Wetland Mitigation (\$129,000 x 3.67 acres)	\$0	\$473,430
<b>Total Mitigation Cost (\$)</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$473,430</b>
<b>Right-of-Way Cost</b>		
Right-of-way acquisition for roadway **	\$0	\$6,220,000
Right-of-way acquisition for stormwater facilities	\$0	\$0
Right-of-way acquisition for floodplain compensation	\$0	\$4,130,000
<b>Total Right-of-Way Cost (\$)</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$10,350,000</b>
<b>Construction Cost</b>		
Construction cost for roadway	\$0	\$27,048,738
Construction cost for drainage	\$0	\$8,099,970
Construction cost for structures/bridge	\$0	\$0
Construction cost for signing & pavement markings	\$0	\$633,442
Construction cost for signalization	\$0	\$0
<b>Total Construction Cost (\$)</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$35,782,150</b>
<b>Preliminary Estimate of Engineering Cost</b>		
Design (15%)	\$0	\$5,367,322
Construction Engineering & Inspection (15%)	\$0	\$5,367,322
<b>Total Preliminary Estimate of Engineering Cost (\$)</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$10,734,645</b>
<b>Preliminary Total Cost (\$)</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$57,340,225</b>

Costs subject to change  
 Utility costs will be determined during project design phase

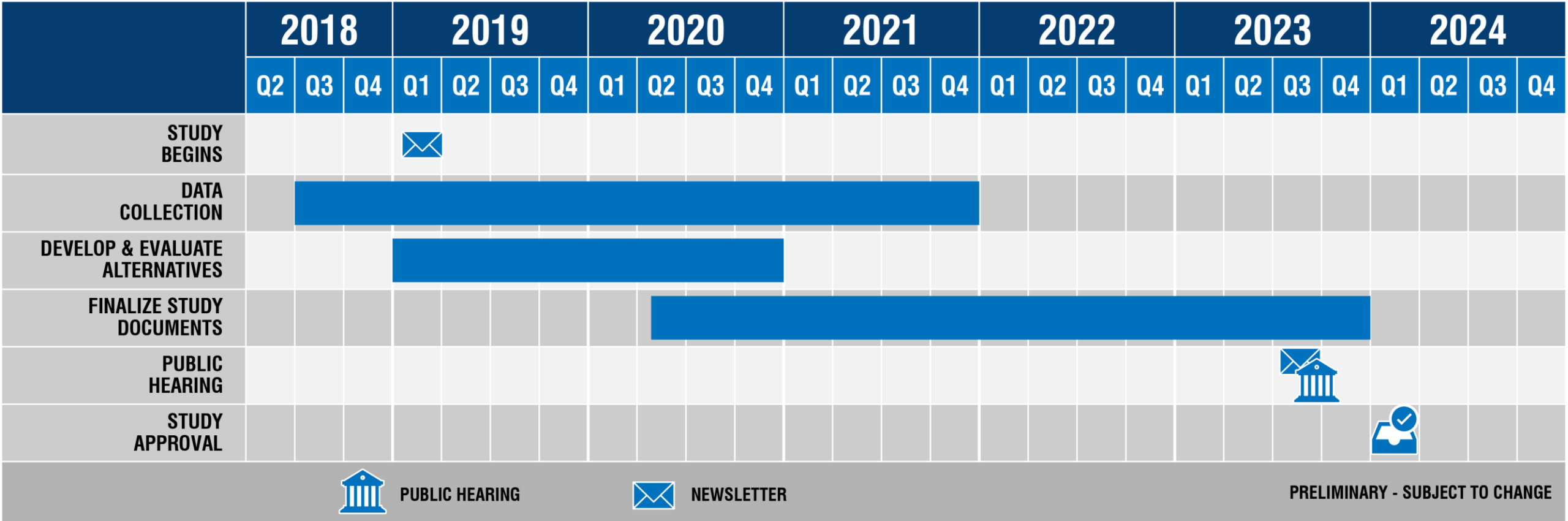


<b>FDOT ADOPTED 5-YEAR WORK PROGRAM            JULY 1, 2023 TO JUNE 30, 2028</b>	
<b>PD&amp;E STUDY</b>	<b>ONGOING</b>
<b>DESIGN</b>	<b>UNFUNDED</b>
<b>RIGHT-OF-WAY (LAND) ACQUISITION</b>	<b>UNFUNDED</b>
<b>CONSTRUCTION</b>	<b>UNFUNDED</b>





# STUDY SCHEDULE





- **We encourage you to submit:**
  - On-line at the project website
  - In-person using comment form
  - By email to Project Manager
  - By U.S. mail to Project Manager



**VISIT THE PROJECT WEBSITE AT:**

[WWW.SWFLROADS.COM/PROJECT/414506-5](http://WWW.SWFLROADS.COM/PROJECT/414506-5)

## ***PD&E Project Contact Information***

**David C. Turley, PE**

Florida Department of Transportation  
801 N Broadway Avenue  
Bartow, FL 33830

**(863) 519-2255**

[David.Turley@dot.state.fl.us](mailto:David.Turley@dot.state.fl.us)

▪ **Draft Environmental Document and Technical Reports for the proposed improvements are available tonight for public review.**

- These same documents are available daily through October 12, 2023 at the following locations:

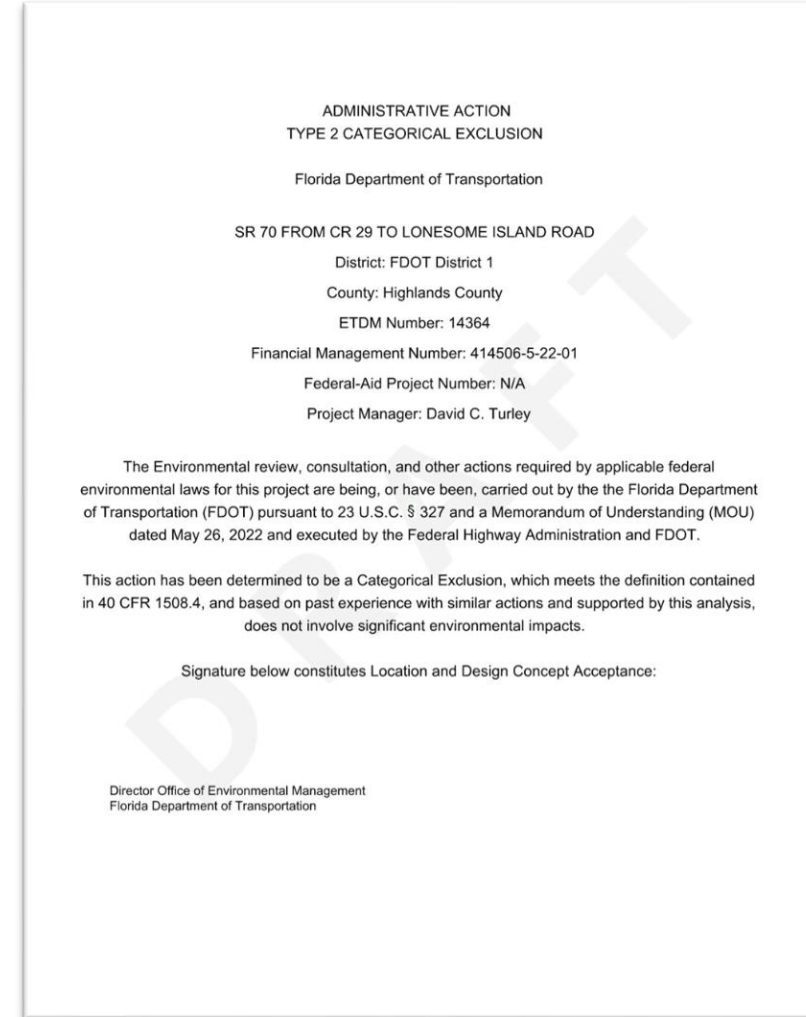
**Lake Placid Memorial Library**  
**205 West Interlake Boulevard**  
**Lake Placid, FL 33852**  
**Phone: 863.699.3705**

**From 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. daily**

**District One Headquarters**  
**801 N. Broadway Avenue**  
**Bartow, FL 33830**  
**Phone: 800.292.3368**

**From 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. daily**

**Project Website:** [www.swflroads.com/project/414506-5](http://www.swflroads.com/project/414506-5)



- **We encourage you make an appointment:**
  - By email to Project Manager
  - By U.S. mail to Project Manager
  - Call (836) 519-2255



**VISIT THE PROJECT WEBSITE AT:**  
[www.swflroads.com/project/414506-5](http://www.swflroads.com/project/414506-5)

## PD&E Project Contact Information

**David C. Turley, P.E.**

Florida Department of Transportation

P.O. BOX 1249

Bartow, FL 33831-1249

(863) 519-2255

[David.Turley@dot.state.fl.us](mailto:David.Turley@dot.state.fl.us)



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# TITLE VI OF CIVIL RIGHTS ACT OF 1964

The Florida Department of Transportation is required to comply with various Non-discrimination laws and regulations, including Title VI of the Civil Rights of 1964.

Public Participation is solicited without regard to race, color, national origin, age, sex, religion, disability, or family status.

Persons wishing to express their concerns about Title VI may do so by contacting either:

**District One**

**Cynthia Sykes**

Title VI Coordinator

Florida Department of Transportation  
Equal Opportunity Office  
801 N. Broadway Avenue, MS 1-40  
Bartow, Florida 33830  
(863) 519-2287

[Cynthia.Sykes@dot.state.fl.us](mailto:Cynthia.Sykes@dot.state.fl.us)

**Tallahassee Office**

**Stefan Kulakowski**

State Title VI Coordinator

Florida Department of Transportation  
Equal Opportunity Office  
605 Suwannee Street, MS 65  
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0450  
(850) 414-4742

[Stefan.Kulakowski@dot.state.fl.us](mailto:Stefan.Kulakowski@dot.state.fl.us)



**NO SEAT BELT. NO EXCUSES.**

CLICK IT OR TICKET.





# THANK YOU FOR ATTENDING THE PUBLIC HEARING!

## PLEASE VISIT THE PROJECT WEBSITE TO:

- View a recording of the meeting (posted within 30 days)
- Ask questions or provide your comments

[www.swflroads.com/project/414506-5](http://www.swflroads.com/project/414506-5)

