

S.R. 70 from W of S.R. 31 to SE Highlands County Line Road

FPID NUMBER: 451942-1

www.swflroads.com/project/451942-1

Project Information

The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) is conducting a Project Development and Environment (PD&E) Study on State Road (S.R.) 70 from West of S.R. 31 to SE Highlands County Line Road in DeSoto County. The intent is to improve traffic safety conditions on S.R. 70, maintain important east-west connectivity within the regional transportation network, and accommodate freight activity within the area. The study will evaluate the widening of S.R. 70 from a two-lane undivided roadway to a four-lane divided roadway, including operational improvements from west of S.R. 31 to SE Highlands County Line Road. The project length is 16.7 miles.

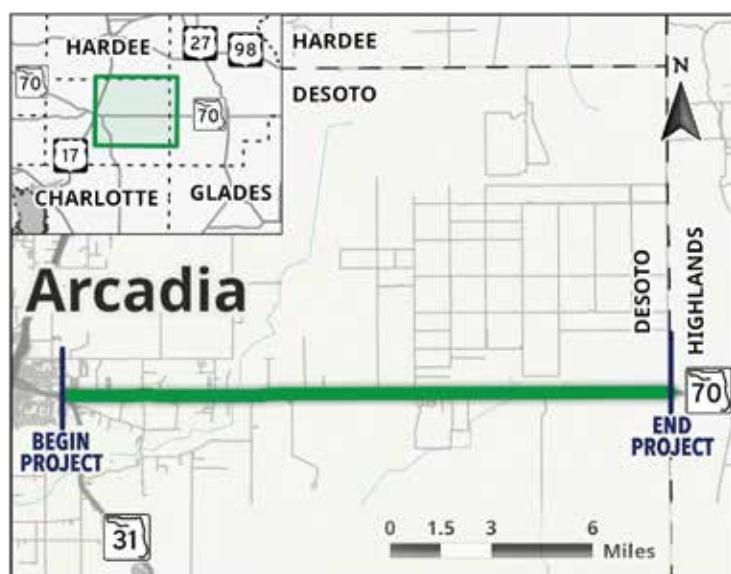
About the Project

To accomplish the roadway widening, the project proposes to construct two new travel lanes predominantly on the north side of the existing two travel lanes. The existing two lanes will stay close to their current alignment, and both become east bound travel lanes. The proposed new west bound lanes will be two new travel lanes constructed on the north side of the existing lanes.

In addition to the new travel lanes, the project proposes five new bridges and two bridge replacements, all with accommodations to allow safe wildlife crossings across the corridor at the bridge locations. A new pedestrian underpass is also proposed at the Joshua Creek bridge, to further improve accessibility and safety for non-motorized users.

The proposed project will remove a portion of the Old S.R. 18/Mahon Avenue (ODE00828) linear path along S.R. 70, which is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. While this will impact the historic resource, its previous function will be documented and the recreational function replaced by a new shared-use path throughout the entire project limits.

Project Area



Upcoming Public Hearing

FDOT, District One, invites you to the public hearing for the S.R. 70 from West of S.R. 31 to SE Highlands County Line Road Project Development and Environment (PD&E) Study.

This hearing is being conducted to present the preferred alternative and all analysis to date, as well as to give interested persons an opportunity to express their views concerning the location, conceptual design, and social, economic, and environmental effects of the proposed improvements.

You can participate live online or in-person. The information presented during either format will be the same and all attendees will have opportunity to comment.

In-Person Option: Thursday, January 8, 2026

Turner Agri-Civic Center | 2250 NE Roan St., Arcadia, FL 34266
Anytime between 5:30 - 6:00 p.m. Open house
6 p.m. Formal presentation and comment

Displays will be available starting at 5:30 p.m. to review at your own pace and the formal presentation will begin at 6 p.m. The project team will be available for discussion.



Virtual Option: Tuesday, January 13, 2026

Register in advance:

attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/5211353514640624469

6:00 p.m. Formal presentation and comment period

This event will include a livestream of the in-person presentation and the formal comment portion. Please review the materials on project webpage before attending the virtual event

(www.swflroads.com/project/451942-1).

Materials will be posted by December 30, 2025.



S.R. 70 from West of S.R. 31 to SE Highlands

County Line Road PD&E Study

Joe M. Lauk, PE

Patel, Greene and Associates, LLC (PGA)

GEC Consultant Support for FDOT District One

Florida Department of Transportation

801 North Broadway Avenue, MS 1-41

Bartow, Florida 33830

Study Website: www.swflroads.com/project/451942-1

CONTACT INFORMATION

FDOT encourages the public to participate in the S.R. 70 from West of S.R. 31 to SE Highlands County Line Road PD&E public hearing. If you have questions regarding the hearing, please contact the FDOT Project Representative, Joe Lauk at:

Joe Lauk, PE, Project Representative

Patel, Greene and Associates, LLC (PGA)

GEC Consultant Support for FDOT District One

Florida Department of Transportation | Environmental Management Office
801 North Broadway Avenue, MS 1-41, Bartow, FL 33830
(863) 519-2525 | Joe.lauk@dot.state.fl.us



Para información en español

Por favor contacte a Karina Della Sera para información en español:

Karina.DellaSera@dot.state.fl.us o 863-519-2750).

Muy pronto estaremos estrenando nuestra página web:

www.swflroads.com/project/451942-1

Project Documents

Project documents will be available for public viewing from December 17, 2025 through January 27, 2026, at the following in-person locations:

DeSoto County Library (863) 993-4851

125 N Hillsborough Ave, Arcadia, FL 34266

Tuesday & Thursday: 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Wednesday & Friday: 8:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Saturday: 9:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Sunday & Monday: Closed

FDOT District One Headquarters

801 N. Broadway Ave., Bartow, FL 33830

Hours/Times: Monday - Friday: 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Holidays may affect facility hours. 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.