



SUMMARY

Public Kick-Off Meeting on March 31, 2015 Clearlake Road (State Road 501) Project Development and Environment (PD&E) Study

LOCATION: Eastern Florida State College – Community Dining Room (Building 11, Room 129)
1519 Clearlake Road, Cocoa, Florida 32922

TIME: 5:30 pm to 7:30 pm

ATTENDEES: 18 Signed in Citizens

Elected Officials/Agency Members

Tyler Furbish, Cocoa City Councilman – District 4
Steve Beldon, Community Services Director, City of Cocoa
Ed Wegerif, Public Works Director, City of Cocoa
Georganna Gillette, Transportation Program Specialist, Space Coast TPO

Project Team

Jazlyn Heywood, Florida Department of Transportation
Amy Sirmans, Florida Department of Transportation
Bill Walsh, Florida Department of Transportation
Taleb Shams, Florida Department of Transportation
Judee Boland, Florida Department of Transportation (HDR)
Rudy Gotmare, Scalar Consulting Group
Mary Hayden, Scalar Consulting Group
Linda Trujillo, Scalar Consulting Group
John Scarlatos, Scalar Consulting Group
Laura Turner, Laura Turner Planning Services

PREPARED BY: Laura Turner, Laura Turner Planning Services **Date:** April 23, 2015

The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) is conducting a Project Development and Environment (PD&E) Study to evaluate improvements to Clearlake Road (State Road 501) from south of Michigan Avenue to west of Industry Road in Brevard County. The project is approximately 1.35 miles in length. The intersections with Michigan Avenue and Industry Road are included in the project limits. There are three signalized intersections: Michigan Avenue, Otterbein Avenue, and Industry Road.

The roadway configuration varies throughout the corridor; however, it generally has two northbound lanes and one southbound lane. The posted speed limit varies from 40 mph to 45 mph along the corridor. The traffic evaluation study is underway, which will update the 2008 study. The proposed improvements are to include four travel lanes (two lanes in each direction) throughout the entire corridor. Two typical sections will be considered: (1) four-lane divided, and (2) five-lane undivided, which includes a center bi-directional turn lane. Sidewalks and bicycle lanes will be included in both typical sections.

Before improvement alternatives are developed, the study team wanted to gather input from the public. A Public Kick-Off Meeting was held on March 31, 2015, from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at the Eastern Florida State College – Cocoa Campus, Community Dining Room (Building 11, Room 129), located at 1519 Clearlake Road, Cocoa, Florida 32922. Study information was displayed in an open house format, which provided the opportunity for the public to review information displayed throughout the meeting as well as to discuss specific items with the study team members. This summary provides the highlights of the notification process, information shared at the Public Kick-Off Meeting, and the comments received. Details are located in the project files and are included in the *Public Involvement Program*.

Meeting Notification

Several notification techniques were used to publicize the Public Kick-Off Meeting, which are summarized in **Figure 1**. Generally, the meeting was publicized through: advertisements (*Florida Administrative Register* and *Florida Today*); website announcements (FDOT public meetings page and the Clearlake Road project website); direct mailings (emailed letters with Newsletter #1 to elected and appointed officials as well as mailed letters to property owners with Newsletter #1); hand distributions of Newsletter #1 to corridor businesses; and a news release (emailed to Brevard County media outlets).

Study Information at the Meeting

As individuals signed in, they could receive a comment form and a copy of Newsletter #1 (English and Spanish versions available). A copy of the newsletter is provided in **Figure 2**. Individuals could share their input by submitting a completed form at the meeting or send it to the study team afterwards through April 17, 2015. From 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m., two sets of the following study displays were available for review in an open house format: aerial map of the study area; project process board; project schedule; Title VI board; and a PD&E Study description board. Citizens were able to review this information throughout this meeting. In addition, study team members were available to answer questions and to hold “one-on-one” conversations with the meeting attendees. There was no project presentation.

Written Comments Received

Written comments were shared with the study team through the submittal of six completed comment forms at the March 31, 2015 meeting and four emails submitted from March 26, 2015 through April 1, 2015. These comments and related study team responses are included in the project files. Here is a summary of the comments that were shared during this time. The number in parenthesis indicates how often the comment was made.

Consider Project Elements

- Have an advanced railroad signal at the Clearlake Road/Michigan Avenue intersection so drivers know when Michigan Avenue is closed to US 1 due to trains (1)
- Include sound walls for homes that backup to Clearlake Road (1)
- Re-look at continuing State Road 524 eastward (along the north side of Wal-Mart) to US 1, which would be convenient and alleviate traffic issues (1)
- Need to expand to multiple lanes (1)

Impacts to Property

- Concerns about impacts to homes on Clearlake Road, including: septic tank; driveway access; and noise and air pollution (2)
- Concerns about business impacts (West Cocoa Pharmacy) during construction (1)
- Concerns about the effect and look in the vicinity of The Courtyards of Cocoa (1)
- Prefer to sell home rather than have five or ten feet acquired, which would result in huge impact to remaining parcel (1)

Bicycle and Pedestrian Features

- Like to have a bike path, although not necessarily on both sides of the road (1)
- Need continuous sidewalks (1)
- Need bike lane (1)
- Continue sidewalk on the south side of Clearlake Road (1)
- Ensure that there are bike lanes at the Clearlake Road/Michigan Avenue intersection and east of the intersection along Michigan Avenue (1)

Other

- Add to study mailing list (4)

Next Steps

This input will guide the study team as alternatives are developed and studied. Study updates will continue to be posted on the study website (www.clearlakeroadstudy.com). The FDOT Project Manager, Jazlyn Heywood, and the Consultant Project Manager, Rudy Gotmare, will continue to be available to the public by responding to questions and providing project information as requested. It is anticipated that the Alternatives Public Meeting will be held in Fall 2015.

**Figure 1
Notification Summary for the Public Kick-Off Meeting
Clearlake Road (State Road 501) PD&E Study**



**Notification Summary for
Public Kick-Off Meeting
March 31, 2015
Clearlake Road (SR 501) PD&E Study**

Financial Project ID: 433605-1-22-01

www.clearlakeroadstudy.com

<i>Date Completed</i>	<i>Notification Activity</i>
March 3, 2015	International Property Owner letters mailed (4)
March 3, 2015	Letter and newsletter emailed to Government Partners (100)
March 5, 2015	Letter and newsletter emailed to Elected Officials (30)
March 5, 2015	Newspaper display ad published in <i>Florida Today</i>
March 6, 2015	Letter and newsletter mailed to Property Owners (688)
March 6, 2015	Meeting posted on project website (www.clearlakestudy.com)
March 22, 2015	Newspaper display ad published in <i>Florida Today</i>
March 23, 2015	Ad published in <i>Florida Administrative Register</i> (uploaded March 17, 2015)
March 23, 2015	Meeting appears on FDOT website – Public Notices page
March 24, 2015	News Release emailed by FDOT PIO to local media outlets
March 25, 2015	Notices hand delivered in project corridor (100)

Figure 2
Newsletter #1 (English) for the Clearlake Road (State Road 501) PD&E Study

Study Schedule

The PD&E Study schedule is shown below. The study began in December 2014 and is anticipated to be completed in late 2016. There will be two public meetings and a public hearing; notices will be sent by U.S. mail and published in *Florida Today*. Three newsletters will be distributed to keep the public informed about the study's progress. At the end of the PD&E Study, a recommended alternative will be selected and then all engineering and environmental reports will be finalized. The Public Hearing is expected to be held in April 2016. At the Hearing, the recommended "Build" Alternative will be presented along with the "No Build" Alternative for public review and comment.

Study Activities	2014			2015												2016								
	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	
Study Begins	●																							
Data Collection																								
Newsletters																								
Public Kick-Off Meeting																								
Develop and Evaluate Alternatives																								
Alternatives Public Meeting (Tentative)																								
Finalize Draft Study Documents																								
Public Hearing (Tentative)																								
Finalize Study Documents for FDOT																								
SEIR (FDOT Acceptance)																								



Clearlake Road PD&E Study

City of Cocoa, FL
 FDOT Project Number: 433605-1-22-01



Newsletter No. 1
www.clearlakeroadstudy.com
March 2015

The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) is conducting a Project Development and Environment (PD&E) Study for Clearlake Road (State Road 501) from south of Michigan Avenue to west of Industry Road. This study will evaluate several alternatives to improve roadway capacity, add bicycle and pedestrian facilities, and address transit needs. The study length is approximately 1.35 miles and is located within the City of Cocoa and unincorporated Brevard County.

Public Kick-Off Meeting

Date: March 31, 2015
Time: 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.
Location: Eastern Florida State College (see map)
Format: Open House with no formal presentation

A Public Kick-Off Meeting has been scheduled. The meeting will provide an introduction to the study and an opportunity for citizens to ask questions and provide input. Participants may review study information and discuss the study with FDOT staff at any time during the meeting.

The study is being developed in compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and related amendments. Public participation is solicited without regard to race, color, national origin, age, sex, religion, disability, or family status. Persons who require special accommodations under the Americans with Disabilities Act or persons who require translation services (free of charge) should contact Ms. Jazlyn Heywood, P.E., FDOT Project Manager, at 386-943-5100 or by email at jazlyn.heywood@dot.state.fl.us at least seven (7) days before the meeting.



Steps After the PD&E Study

This study has been classified as a State Environmental Impact Report (SEIR); this means the FDOT District Five Secretary will provide final acceptance of the study's recommended "Build" or "No Build" Alternative. If improvements are recommended and accepted by the Secretary, the proposed transportation project will proceed into future project phases as funding becomes available. Those project phases include: design, right-of-way acquisition, and construction. The design phase is currently funded and scheduled to begin in 2016. The right-of-way acquisition and construction phases are currently unfunded.

How can you get involved?

Public comments and questions are welcome at any time throughout the study. If you would like to learn more about the study or would like to schedule a small group meeting, please contact one of the following individuals:

<div style="border: 1px solid #ccc; padding: 5px;"> <p align="center">FDOT Project Manager</p> <p align="center">Ms. Jazlyn Heywood, P.E.</p> <p align="center">Florida Department of Transportation</p> <p align="center">719 S. Woodland Boulevard, MS 501</p> <p align="center">DeLand, Florida 32720</p> <p align="center">Phone: 386-943-5100</p> <p align="center">Email: jazlyn.heywood@dot.state.fl.us</p> </div>	<div style="border: 1px solid #ccc; padding: 5px;"> <p align="center">Consultant Project Manager</p> <p align="center">Mr. Aniradha (Rudy) Goimare, P.E.</p> <p align="center">Scalar Consulting Group Inc.</p> <p align="center">4152 W. Blue Heron Boulevard, Suite 119</p> <p align="center">Riviera Beach, Florida 33404</p> <p align="center">Phone: 561-429-5065</p> <p align="center">Email: agomare@scalarinc.net</p> </div>
--	--

For regular updates about the Clearlake Road PD&E Study, please visit www.clearlakeroadstudy.com. This website will be updated on a regular basis to provide the latest study information. You can also make comments or ask questions through the website, and you can request to be added to the mailing list.

4

Figure 2 (continued)
Newsletter #1 (English) for the Clearlake Road (State Road 501) PD&E Study

<p>Newsletter No. 1 Clearlake Road PD&E Study March 2015</p>	<p>Newsletter No. 1 Clearlake Road PD&E Study March 2015</p>
<p>Study Objective</p>	<p>What is a PD&E Study?</p>
<p>Recent traffic studies indicate that this corridor's traffic volumes will increase over the next 20 years. By going through the PD&E Study process, a range of solutions can be developed and studied to address future capacity needs safely and efficiently. The study also will address the lack of pedestrian and bicycle facilities along this segment of Clearlake Road. During the study, we will work with the public to receive input and identify the best solution.</p>	<p>A Project Development and Environment (PD&E) Study is a process conducted by the FDOT to determine the social, natural, cultural, and physical impacts that are associated with proposed transportation improvements. The process, mandated by the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), is a combined effort by professional engineers, planners, environmental scientists and others who analyze the study related information to develop the best alternative for a community's transportation needs.</p>
<p>Study Overview</p>	<p>Here are the key steps used during a PD&E Study:</p>
<p>The study is approximately 1.35 miles in length and is located within the City of Cocoa and unincorporated Brevard County. The existing roadway features vary throughout the study corridor. From Michigan Avenue to the Clearlake Road curve, there are two northbound travel lanes and one southbound travel lane. From the curve to Industry Road there is one lane in each direction. The corridor's sidewalk is located only on the east/north side of the road and there are no bicycle lanes.</p>	<p>Public Outreach Activities</p> <p>PD&E STUDY PROCESS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Study Begins Data Collection Engineering and Environmental Analyses Several Alternatives Developed & Studied Final Recommendation FDOT Approval
 <p>Looking north on Clearlake Road at Walmart</p>	<p>• Data collection is a review of existing conditions, traffic counts, existing and future land use, drainage, wetlands, endangered species habitat, potential contamination sites, traffic noise levels and air quality.</p> <p>• Engineering analysis is conducted to develop alternatives that meet the needs of the study area, and are environmentally responsible, socially acceptable and cost effective.</p> <p>• Environmental evaluations are documented and potential impacts to the social, natural, cultural, and physical environments are assessed, including, but not limited to: wildlife habitat, public lands, wetland locations, archeological and historic sites, and community issues and concerns.</p> <p>• Public involvement will take place throughout the PD&E Study to ensure a continuous flow of information between the study team and stakeholders and local agencies. Two public meetings and a public hearing will be held during this study.</p>
<p>What potential impacts and issues will we analyze during the study?</p>	<p>Several alternatives will be considered for this study along with the "No Build" Alternative. The "No Build" Alternative means that no transportation improvements will be made. The "No Build" Alternative will remain a viable option throughout the study process.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social Impacts <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⇒ Right-of-Way ⇒ Residential ⇒ Business ⇒ Community Services and Facilities • Cultural Impacts <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⇒ Historic and Archeological Sites ⇒ Recreational Areas • Natural Impacts <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⇒ Wetlands ⇒ Water Quality ⇒ Animal Habitat • Physical Impacts <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⇒ Visual and Aesthetics ⇒ Noise ⇒ Air Quality ⇒ Contamination ⇒ Future Traffic ⇒ Drainage ⇒ Utilities • Costs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⇒ Right-of-Way Acquisition ⇒ Construction ⇒ Mitigation 	<p>Local Agency Partners</p> <p>In addition to receiving public input, we will coordinate with the following local agencies throughout the study:</p>
<p align="right">2</p>	 <p align="right">3</p>

**Figure 2
Newsletter #1 (Spanish) for the Clearlake Road (State Road 501) PD&E Study**

Calendario del Estudio

El calendario del Estudio de Planeación, Desarrollo y Medio Ambiente "PD&E" se muestra abajo. El estudio comenzó en diciembre del 2014 y se anticipa su conclusión a finales del 2016. Habrá dos asambleas públicas y una audiencia pública; se enviarán notificaciones por correo y se publicarán también en Florida Today; Se distribuirán tres boletines informativos para mantener al público informado acerca del progreso del estudio. Al finalizar el Estudio PD&E, se seleccionará una de las alternativas recomendadas y todos los reportes de ingeniería y medio ambiente serán completados. La audiencia pública se realizará en abril del 2016. En esta audiencia, la alternativa recomendada de "construcción" será presentada al igual que la alternativa de "no construcción" para la revisión y comentarios del público.

Actividades del estudio	2014			2015												2016								
	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	
El estudio comienza	●																							
Recolección de datos																								
Boletines informativos																								
Asamblea pública inicial																								
Desarrollar y evaluar alternativas																								
Asamblea pública de alternativas (tentativamente)																								
Finalizar documentos preliminares del estudio																								
Audiencia pública (tentativamente)																								
Finalizar documentos del estudio para el FDOT																								
SEIR (aceptación de FDOT)																								



Estudio PD&E de Clearlake Road

Ciudad de Cocoa, FL
Número de proyecto FDOT : 433605-1-22-01



Boletín informativo No. 1 www.clearlakeroadstudy.com Marzo 2015

Pasos a seguir después del estudio PD&E

Este estudio ha sido clasificado como un Reporte Estatal de Impacto al Medio Ambiente (SEIR); esto significa que el secretario del Distrito Cinco del FDOT proveerá la aceptación final de la alternativa recomendada del estudio de "construir" o "no construir". Si los mejoramientos son recomendados y aceptados por el secretario, el proyecto de transporte propuesto procederá a las fases futuras del proyecto conforme se vayan obteniendo los fondos disponibles. Esas fases del proyecto incluyen: diseño, adquisición de derecho de vía, y construcción. La fase de diseño tiene actualmente fondos y está programada para empezar en el 2016. Las fases de adquisición de derecho de vía y de construcción no cuentan con fondos por el momento.

¿Cómo puede usted tomar parte?

Los comentarios y preguntas del público son bien recibidos en cualquier momento durante el estudio. Si usted desea saber más acerca del estudio o le gustaría programar una junta para un grupo pequeño, por favor contacte a una de las siguientes personas:

<p align="center">FDOT Project Manager</p> <p align="center">Ms. Jazlyn Heywood, P.E. Florida Department of Transportation 719 S. Woodland Boulevard, MS 501 Dolans, Florida 32720 Teléfono: 386-943-5388 Email: jazlyn.heywood@dot.state.fl.us</p>	<p align="center">Consultant Project Manager</p> <p align="center">Mr. Aniradha (Rady) Gotsare, P.E. Scalar Consulting Group Inc. 4152 W. Blue Heron Boulevard, Suite 119 Riviera Beach, Florida 33404 Teléfono: 561-429-5065 Email: agotsare@scalargroup.com</p>
--	--

Para información actualizada acerca de el estudio PD&E de Clearlake Road, por favor visite www.clearlakeroadstudy.com. Este sitio web será actualizado periódicamente para proporcionar la información más reciente del estudio. Usted también puede enviar comentarios o preguntas a través del sitio web, y puede solicitar que se le añada a lista de correspondencia.

Asamblea pública inicial

Fecha: 31 de Marzo del 2015
Hora: 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.
Lugar: Eastern Florida State College (ver mapa)
Formato: Presentación informal a puertas abiertas

Una asamblea pública inicial ha sido programada. La asamblea proporcionará una introducción del estudio y una oportunidad para los ciudadanos para hacer preguntas y dar sus opiniones. Los participantes podrán revisar la información del estudio y hablar sobre el estudio con personal del FDOT en cualquier momento durante la asamblea.



El estudio está siendo desarrollado de acuerdo con el Título VI de la Ley de Derechos Civiles de 1964 y sus enmiendas correspondientes. Se solicita la participación del público sin importar la raza, color, origen nacional, edad, sexo, religión, discapacidad, o estado civil. Las personas que requieran facilidades especiales bajo la Ley de Americanos con Discapacidades o personas que requieran servicios de traducción (sin costo) deberán contactar a Ms. Jazlyn Heywood, P.E., FDOT Project Manager, al 386-943-5388 o por correo electrónico a jazlyn.heywood@dot.state.fl.us al menos siete (7) días antes de la asamblea.

**Figure 2 (continued)
Newsletter #1 (Spanish) for the Clearlake Road (State Road 501) PD&E Study**

<p>Boletín Informativo No. 1 Estudio PD&E de Clearlake Road Marzo 2015</p>	<p>Boletín Informativo No. 1 Clearlake Road PD&E Study Marzo 2015</p>
<p>Objetivo del estudio</p> <p>Los estudios de tráfico más recientes indican que el volumen de tráfico de este corredor incrementará en los próximos 20 años. Al realizar el proceso del estudio PD&E, una variedad de soluciones pueden ser desarrolladas y estudiadas para reflejar las necesidades de capacidad del futuro de manera segura y eficiente. El estudio también se referirá a la ausencia de infraestructura peatonal y de ciclistas a lo largo de este segmento de Clearlake Road. Durante el estudio, trabajaremos con el público para obtener sus opiniones e identificar la mejor solución.</p> <p>Sinopsis del estudio</p> <p>El estudio abarca aproximadamente 1.35 millas de longitud y está ubicado dentro de la ciudad de Cocoa y la localidad no incorporada del condado de Brevard. Las características existentes de las vías varían en todo el corredor del estudio. De Michigan Avenue a la curva de Clearlake Road, hay dos carriles hacia el norte y un carril hacia el sur. De la curva que va a Industry Road hay un carril en cada dirección. La acera del corredor se ubica sólo en el lado este/norte de la calle y no hay carriles para ciclistas.</p>	<p>¿Qué es un estudio PD&E?</p> <p>Un estudio de Planeación, Desarrollo y Medio Ambiente (PD&E) es un proceso que el FDOT conduce para determinar el impacto social, natural, cultural, y físico que está asociado con los mejoramientos de transportación propuestos. El proceso, estipulado por la Ley de Política Nacional Ambiental (NEPA), es un esfuerzo combinado de ingenieros profesionales, planificadores, y científicos medioambientales entre otros, quienes analizan la información relacionada con el estudio para desarrollar la mejor alternativa para las necesidades de transportación de la comunidad.</p> <p>Fases importantes a seguir durante un estudio PD&E:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recolección de datos es una revisión de las condiciones existentes, centros de tráfico, utilización actual y futura de la tierra, drenaje, pantanos, hábitat de especies en peligro de extinción, lugares con potencial de contaminación, niveles de ruido del tráfico y calidad de aire. • Análisis de ingeniería se lleva a cabo para desarrollar alternativas que satisfagan las necesidades del área de estudio, y que sean ambientalmente responsables, socialmente aceptables y a costo razonable. • Evaluaciones ambientales son documentadas y los impactos potenciales al ámbito social, natural, cultural, y físico son evaluados incluyendo, pero no limitado a: hábitat de la fauna, terrenos públicos, lugares pantanosos, lugares arqueológicos e históricos, y problemas y preocupaciones de la comunidad. • Participación del público tendrá lugar durante todo el estudio PD&E para asegurar el flujo continuo de información entre el equipo del estudio y aquellos interesados y las agencias locales. Dos asambleas públicas y una audiencia pública tendrán lugar durante el estudio.
	<p>Proceso del estudio PD&E</p> 
<p>¿Qué aspectos y posible impacto serán analizados durante el estudio?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Impacto social <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⇒ Derecho de vía ⇒ Residencial ⇒ Negocios ⇒ Servicios e instalaciones de la comunidad • Impacto cultural <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⇒ Sitios históricos y arqueológicos ⇒ Áreas de recreación • Impacto natural <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⇒ Pantanos ⇒ Calidad del agua ⇒ Hábitat animal • Impacto físico <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⇒ Visual y estético ⇒ Ruido ⇒ Calidad del aire ⇒ Contaminación ⇒ Trabajo futuro ⇒ Drenaje ⇒ Servicios públicos • Costo <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⇒ Adquisición de derecho de vía ⇒ Construcción ⇒ Mitigación 	<p>¿No puede asistir a la asamblea pública?</p> <p>Todo la información presentada en la asamblea inicial del 31 de marzo estará disponible en el sitio web del estudio el viernes 3 de abril. También podrá enviar sus comentarios y preguntas a través del sitio web.</p> <p>Agencias locales en asociación</p> <p>Además de recibir la opinión del público, estaremos en coordinación con las siguientes agencias locales durante todo el estudio:</p> 
<p align="right">3</p>	<p align="right">3</p>