

Get Involved Today!

We invite you to get involved! The public plays an important role in the project development and decision-making process of this study. Opportunities for you to provide your input will be available throughout the study by means of submitting comments or attending the public hearing. There are multiple ways to get involved - call, write, or email us. For details on how to provide your input and attend the public hearing, please see the insert page provided.

Non-Discrimination

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 (ADA) or persons who require translation services (free of charge) should contact Roger Roscoe, Title VI Coordinator, at roger.roscoe@dot.state.fl.us, by telephone at (813) 975-6411 or toll-free at 1(800) 226-7220, or by written correspondence at least seven (7) days prior to the hearing to the Florida Department of Transportation, District Seven, 11201 N. McKinley Drive, MS 7-500, Tampa, FL 33612.

Comuniquese Con Nosotros

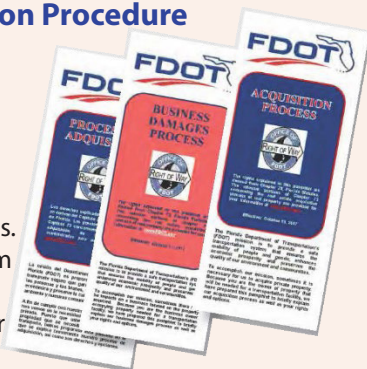
Si usted tiene preguntas o comentarios, o si simplemente desea más información sobre este proyecto, favor de ponerse en contacto con nuestro representante el señor **Manuel Flores** al teléfono 813-975-4248 o al correo electrónico: manuel.flores@dot.state.fl.us.

Right of Way Acquisition Procedure

We understand that when a transportation project proposes the acquisition of private property, you may have questions and concerns. To better educate and inform you about the Right of Way acquisition process and your rights, the FDOT has created real estate acquisition and relocation brochures.

These brochures and other education material will be available at the public hearing along with representatives from the FDOT's Right of Way acquisition and relocations departments. Copies of the brochures may also be found on our website at www.dot.state.fl.us/rightofway/documents.shtm.

We are interested in hearing your concerns and answering your questions. Please feel free to speak with the FDOT's Project Manager or a Right of Way representative at your convenience either at the workshop or by phone at (813) 975-6495.



For more information on this study, visit our project website:
<https://active.fdotd7studies.com/us301/fowler-to-sr56/>

NOTICE FOR 2ND PUBLIC HEARING | PROJECT NEWSLETTER: JULY 2023

HEARING DATE
 Tuesday
August 1, 2023

5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.
 Formal Presentation 6:30 p.m.

In-Person Session Location

FDOT District Seven
 Headquarters
 11201 N. McKinley Dr.
 Tampa, FL 33612

Registration to Virtual Session

<https://active.fdotd7studies.com/us301/fowler-to-sr56/>

JOIN THE CONVERSATION
 about the

US 301 PD&E Study
 We want your comments and suggestions throughout the study.

HAVE QUESTIONS?

We're here to help.
 Give us a call, send us an email, or let us come speak to your group:

Amber Russo, P.E.

FDOT Project Manager

amber.russo@dot.state.fl.us
 813-975-6260
 FDOT—District Seven
 11201 N. McKinley Dr.
 Tampa, FL 33612

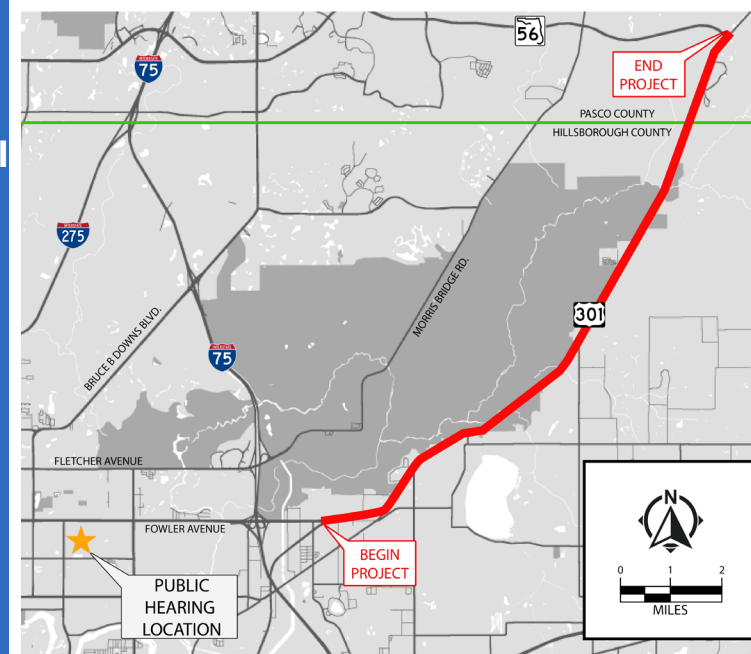
— Or —

For Media Inquiries:
Kris Carson
Public Information Officer
 FDOT—District Seven
 11201 N. McKinley Dr.
 Tampa, FL 33612
kristen.carson@dot.state.fl.us
 813-975-6202
 800-226-7220

The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) District Seven will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, August 1, 2023, regarding the Project Development & Environment (PD&E) study, Work Program Item (WPI) Segment No. 255796-1, for the proposed improvements to US 301 from Fowler Avenue to SR 56 in Hillsborough and Pasco Counties, a distance of approximately 13.1 miles. **This is the second public hearing for this project to address public comments and provide updated concepts.**

This public hearing is being conducted in-person with an option to attend virtually to present information to the public and receive public input from interested persons regarding the proposed improvements to US 301.

Citizens who choose to attend the virtual hearing session must do so through a computer, tablet or smartphone via GoToWebinar. Virtual attendees must register online at the project website: <https://active.fdotd7studies.com/us301/fowler-to-sr56/>



PROJECT LOCATION & STUDY AREA MAP

This public hearing will be conducted in accordance with all federal, state, and local requirements. This newsletter also serves as notice to property owners (pursuant to Florida Statutes 339.155) that all or a portion of their property is within a minimum of 300 feet of the centerline of the alignment; however, this does not mean that all properties would be directly affected. The concept plans, display boards, and video presentation from the in-person session will be available for viewing starting on July 24, 2023, at

<https://active.fdotd7studies.com/us301/fowler-to-sr56/>

Draft project engineering and environmental reports will be available for public viewing from July 11, 2023, to August 11, 2023, on the project website and at the following locations:

- Zephyrhills Public Library: 5347 8th Street, Zephyrhills, FL 33542, Tues. through Thurs.: 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.; Fri.: 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., and Saturday 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
- Thonotosassa Branch Library: 10715 Main Street, Thonotosassa, FL 33592, Mon. Through Sat.: 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.
- Florida Department of Transportation, District Seven: 11201 N. McKinley Drive, Tampa, FL 33612, Mon.-Fri.: 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

FDOT Staff will not be present at the public viewing locations to answer project questions.

Federal funds are not planned to be used for the project, so this study is being conducted in accordance with the PD&E Manual, Part 1, Chapter 10, which addresses non-federal projects. A State Environmental Impact Report (SEIR) is being prepared as the environmental document for this study.

FDOT welcomes and appreciates everyone's participation. If you have questions about the project or the scheduled hearing, please contact Amber Russo, P.E., FDOT PD&E Project Manager at (813) 975-6260 or visit our project website at <https://active.fdotd7studies.com/us301/fowler-to-sr56/>

Sincerely,

Kirk Bogen

Kirk Bogen, P.E.
 Environmental Management Engineer

What is a PD&E Study?

A Project Development and Environment (PD&E) study is a comprehensive study that evaluates social, economic, and environmental effects associated with the proposed transportation improvements so that the FDOT can reach a decision on the type, location and conceptual design to meet the project's proposed purpose and need. Engaging the public by sharing and receiving information is a key component of this process and is required by the National Environmental Policy Act.

Study Purpose

The purpose of this project is to provide additional roadway capacity and improve safety on this portion of US 301 in unincorporated Hillsborough and Pasco Counties.

Project Description

The proposed action involves widening US 301 from the existing two-lane undivided roadway to a four-lane divided roadway and includes pedestrian and bicycle accommodations. The proposed improvements will include construction of stormwater management facilities and floodplain compensation sites, various intersection improvements, and multimodal facilities. Wildlife crossings and/or features are also being evaluated and coordinated with the resource agencies in accordance with the FDOT Wildlife Crossing Guidelines. The proposed improvements will require additional right-of-way detailed on the concept plans in the Appendix of the Preliminary Engineering Report (PER) and the roll plots that will be on display at the public hearing.

Existing Conditions

The existing US 301 has a two-lane undivided rural typical section from Fowler Avenue to SR 56. The roadway is functionally classified as an Urban Other Principal Arterial from Fowler Avenue to just north of CR 579 (Mango Road) and from the County line to SR 56. The remaining portion of the project is classified as a Rural Other Principal Arterial. The posted speed limits within the study corridor are 55 miles per hour (mph) from Fowler Avenue to Flint Creek and 60 mph from Flint Creek to SR 56. The existing right-of-way (ROW) width ranges from 100 feet to 200 feet.

Traffic & Crash Data

Crash data from the FDOT Crash Analysis Reporting System (CARS) database was provided by District Seven for the five-year period from January 1, 2015 through December 31, 2019. This historic crash data was analyzed to identify the characteristics of the crashes that occurred within the study corridor. A total of 464 crashes occurred during this five-year time period, and these crashes resulted in 16 fatalities and 338 injuries. Approximately 51.5% of the total crashes involved injuries or fatalities, and 5.2% of the total crashes were head-on collisions.

The 2015 Average Annual Daily Traffic (AADT) volumes on US 301 range from 11,600 vehicles per day (vpd) to 18,400 vpd. The existing daily truck percentages range between 10.6% and 11.4%. The 2045 AADT volumes within the study corridor are projected to range from 29,200 vpd to 51,200 vpd.

Preferred Alternative

The Preferred Alternative includes an urban typical section with a target/design speed of 45 mph is proposed from Fowler Avenue to Stacy Road. This typical section has two 11-foot travel lanes in each direction, a 30-foot raised median, including 4-foot paved inside shoulders, and 7-foot buffered bike lanes in each direction. There is a 6-foot sidewalk on the east side of the roadway and a 12-foot shared use path on the west side of the roadway, as illustrated in **Typical Section 1**. The proposed typical ROW width varies from 151 feet to 200 feet.

A suburban typical section with a target/design speed of 55 mph is proposed from Stacy Road to SR 56. This typical section has two 12-foot travel lanes in each direction, a 30-foot raised median, including 4-foot paved inside shoulders, and 10-foot outside shoulders (5-foot paved). There is a 6-foot sidewalk on the east side of the roadway and a 12-foot shared use path on the west side of the roadway, as illustrated in **Typical Section 2**. The proposed typical ROW width varies from 192 feet to 230 feet. Where possible, pavement savings will be achieved by converting the existing two-lane roadway to southbound operation.

The Preferred Alternative will reduce the possibility of head-on collisions with the introduction of medians along the corridor. It will also provide the additional roadway capacity needed to accommodate the future year (2045) traffic volumes projected to occur within the study corridor and provides pedestrian and bicycle facilities throughout the entire corridor, thus increasing the safety for these users.

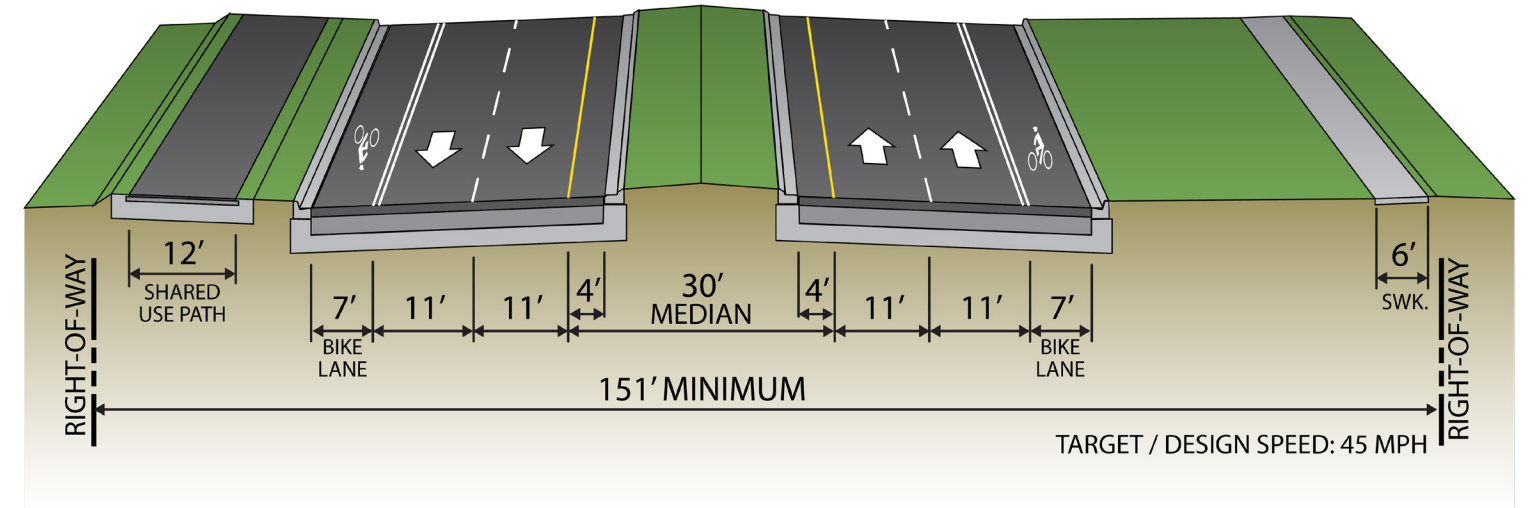
Evaluation Matrix

An evaluation matrix comparing the No Build and Preferred Alternative is shown below. This matrix compares natural, physical and social environmental factors, as well as preliminary cost estimates (ROW acquisition, wetland mitigation, engineering and construction).

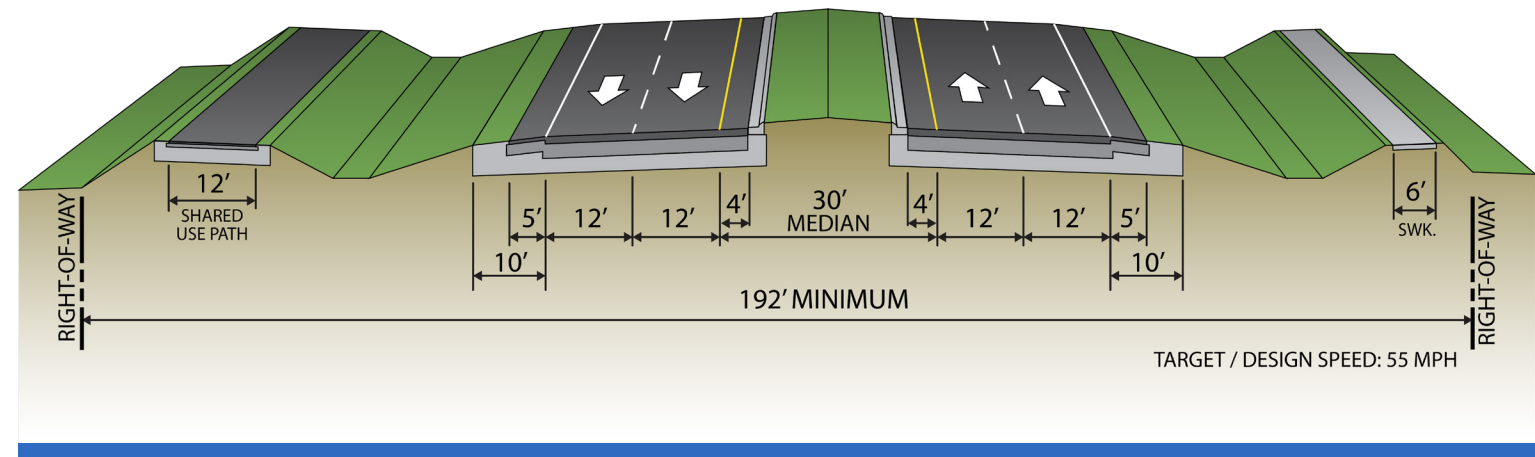
Evaluation Matrix		
Evaluation Criteria	No-Build Alternative	Preferred Alternative
Potential Relocations		
Number of business/residential	0	9/11
Right-of-Way-Needs		
Roadway improvements (acres)	0	85.1
Stormwater facilities (acres)	0	97.1
Potential Environmental Effects		
Archaeological sites/Historic resources	0	22/55
Public lands (acres)	0	18.9
Noise sensitive sites	32	67
Wetlands (acres)	0	16.6
Surface waters (acres)	0	33.7
Floodplains (acre-feet)	0	123.3
Threatened and endangered species (potential)	None	Low
Contamination sites (low/medium/high)	0	31/ 4/ 0
Estimated Total Project Costs		
Design (10% of the construction cost)	\$0	\$22.6 M
Wetland mitigation cost	\$0	\$2.9 M
Right-of-way cost	\$0	\$41.8 M
Construction cost	\$0	\$226.5 M
CEI (10% of the construction cost)	\$0	\$22.6 M
Estimated Total Project Costs	\$0	\$316.4 M

Right-of-way cost estimates were prepared in June 2023. Construction costs were prepared in July 2023 using the FDOT LRE system.

Typical Section 1 PROPOSED TYPICAL FROM FOWLER AVENUE TO STACY ROAD



Typical Section 2 PROPOSED TYPICAL FROM STACY ROAD TO SR 56



Project Shedule

Study Began	May 2015
Project on hold	2017 - 2019
Data Collection	Completed August 2021
Preparation of Documents	Ongoing
First Public Hearing	March, 24 2022
★ Second Public Hearing	August, 1 2023
PD&E Study Approval	Fall 2023

Project Funding

FDOT Adopted Five Year Work Program Fiscal Year 2023/24 to Fiscal Year 2027/28

Phase	Fiscal Year(s)
Design	Underway
Right of Way Acquisition	Not Currently Funded
Construction	Not Currently Funded



US 301 (SR 41)

Project Development & Environment Study (PD&E) Study

from Fowler Avenue to SR 56

Hillsborough and Pasco Counties | WPI Segment No. 255796-1 | ETDM# 14194

Instructions for attending the public hearing

The public hearing will be offered in person with the option to attend virtually. The same materials will be presented for the in-person and virtual formats.

Pre-registration is required for the virtual format only. Registration is available online at the project website <https://active.fdotd7studies.com/us301/fowler-to-sr56/> or from your mobile device, scan the QR Code to the right.

If you have any questions or issues registering, please contact **Amber Russo, P.E.**, the FDOT PD&E Project Manager at **(813) 975-6260**.



To attend the Public Hearing in-person

In-Person Public Hearing Session will be held at:

FDOT District Seven Headquarters

11201 N. McKinley Drive

Tampa, FL 33612

5:30 p.m. Open house

6:30 p.m. Formal Presentation/Comment Period

1. Upon arrival, please sign-in. If you wish to make a formal public comment, please fill out a speaker card and give it to a project team member. You will be called during the formal portion in the order in which the cards are received.
2. During the Open House period starting at 5:30 p.m., a repeating informational presentation will be shown and project displays will be available for review. Team members will be on-site to assist with questions and/or concerns.
3. At 6:30 p.m. the formal public hearing portion will begin.
4. Those who filled out a speaker card will be called upon to make a formal comment.
5. At the conclusion of the formal portion of the hearing and the public comment period, the open house will resume until 7:30 p.m.

To attend virtually

The Virtual Public Hearing Session will be held through:

GoToWebinar

5:30 p.m. Open house

6:30 p.m. Formal Presentation/Comment Period

Persons registered for the Virtual Public Hearing can attend online using GoToWebinar.

1. Virtual online attendees should use the sign-in link emailed to them after registering. **A call in number is not available.**
2. During the Open House period, starting at 5:30 p.m., attendees will be able to view materials online and ask questions to FDOT staff through the GoTo question box. Team members will be available virtually to assist with questions and/or concerns.
3. At 6:30 p.m. the formal public hearing portion will begin and will be broadcast from the in-person event to those attending virtually.
4. After in-person formal comments have been made, virtual attendees may use the Raise Hand function of the webinar to be called upon if they choose to make a formal public comment.
5. At the conclusion of the formal portion of the hearing and the public comment period, the open house will resume until 7:30 p.m.

There are many ways to provide comments:

- Submit your comments through the project website on the "Send Us Your Comments" page.
- Make a verbal statement during the public comments period after the formal portion (see above for in-person and virtual options on how to submit a speaker request).
- Make a verbal statement directly to the court reporter in a one-on-one setting for those attending the in-person session.
- Complete a comment form and drop it in the comment box in-person or mail comment to the address listed on the back. Please post mark by August 11, 2023.

Persons wishing to submit written statements or other exhibits, in place of, or in addition to oral statements, may do so at the hearing or by mailing them to Kirk Bogen, P.E., Environmental Management Engineer, FDOT District Seven, 11201 N. McKinley Drive MS 7-500, Tampa, FL 33612, or provide them on the "[Send Us Your Comments](https://active.fdotd7studies.com/us301/fowler-to-sr56/)" page on the project website at <https://active.fdotd7studies.com/us301/fowler-to-sr56/>

All comments postmarked on or before August 11, 2023, will become part of the official public hearing record.



US 301 (SR 41)

Project Development & Environment (PD&E) Study

From Fowler Avenue to SR 56

Hillsborough and Pasco Counties WPI Segment No.: 255796-1, ETDM No.: 14194

2nd PUBLIC HEARING COMMENT FORM

Comments may be provided in one of three ways: complete the form and place in the "comments" box, mail comments to the address on the back of this form, or visit our website at <https://active.fdotd7studies.com/us301/fowler-to-sr56/>.

To become part of the official public hearing record, comments must be **postmarked by August 11, 2023**.

Large empty area with horizontal lines for writing comments.

Contact Information (please print):

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State _____ Zip: _____

Email: _____

If you did not receive notice of this Public Hearing but would like to be included on the mailing list for this project, please check.



NOTE: All comments are part of the project record and are available for viewing by the public and the media.

Public participation is solicited without regard to race, color, national origin, age, sex, religion, disability, or family status. Persons who need special accommodation under the Americans with Disabilities Act or persons who require translation services (free of charge) please contact Roger Roscoe, District Seven Title VI Coordinator, at (813) 975-6411 or Roger.Roscoe@dot.state.fl.us.

Comuníquese con nosotros: Si usted tiene preguntas o comentarios o si simplemente desea más información sobre este proyecto, favor de ponerse en contacto con nuestro representante el señor Manuel Flores al teléfono (813) 975-4248 o correo electrónico manuel.flores@dot.state.fl.us.

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Here

Florida Department of Transportation - District Seven
Attn: Kirk Bogen, PE, Environmental Management Engineer
11201 N. McKinley Drive, MS 7-500
Tampa, FL 33612

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