

Project Development & Environment (PD&E) Study

A PD&E Study is the formal process that the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) uses to ensure that consideration is given to engineering design, project costs, environmental, social impacts and public input in the development of major transportation projects.

The PD&E study process is an integrated work effort involving engineering analysis and environmental evaluation, all accomplished within the context of a public participation program. The study process begins with a gathering of data and a refinement of the project needs and objectives.

The FDOT created the process to ensure that projects receiving Federal aid follow the policies and procedures outlined in the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).

The PD&E Study phase for planned transportation projects provides the interface between the Planning and Design phases to evaluate and document solutions to transportation needs that are compatible with the environment. Simply stated, the PD&E study determines if there is an engineering and environmentally feasible alternative to meet the need determined in the Planning phase.

Study Purpose

The FDOT completed the PD&E Study for Interstate 75 (SR 93 / I-75) in March of 2012. The purpose of the study was to plan for projects to relieve existing and future congestion by providing additional capacity, and alternative transportation modes, along the existing I-75 corridor.

The FDOT is currently performing a re-evaluation of the recommended alternative from the PD&E Study.

Project Characteristics

The project is located in northwestern Miami-Dade County and southwestern Broward County and is approximately 22 miles in length. The limits within the Miami-Dade County portion are I-75 from the SR 826/Palmetto Expressway to north of NW 170th Street, and along SR 826 from NW 103rd Street to NW 154th Street. The re-evaluation's objective is to advance the construction of the originally proposed express lanes and ingress/egress points. Other proposed improvements from the approved PD&E Study, such as; auxiliary lanes, interchange modifications and other transportation enhancements will be constructed as part of a future project phase. These improvements are needed to address future growth and development projected in the region, enhance hurricane and emergency evacuation response, and improve system connectivity between I-75, SR 826/Palmetto Expressway, SR 924/Gratigny Parkway, Homestead Extension of the Florida's Turnpike/HEFT, I-595 and SR 869/Sawgrass Expressway.

Public Involvement

A continuous public involvement program is being conducted as part of this re-evaluation, consisting of formal and informal meetings with the general public, governmental agencies, elected officials, municipal staff, local transportation providers and other interested parties. As a member of this community, your involvement is a vital aspect of the study process.

Preferred Alternative

- Add one tolled express lane in each direction in the center of the corridor (median).
- Provide a set of access points to enter and exit the express lanes system. Access points along I-75, within the re-evaluation limits, will be constructed at the following locations:
 1. Northbound exit just south of NW 170th Street
 2. Southbound entrance just south of NW 170th Street
 3. Northbound exit just north of NW 154th Street
 4. Southbound entrance just south of NW 154th Street
- The I-75 express lanes system will continue north of NW 170th Street beyond the Miami-Dade/Broward County Line. As part of the District Four I-75 express lanes project, the express lanes system north of NW 170th Street will have a seamless connection along I-75 to the planned express lanes system that will continue to I-595 in Broward County. The I-75 express lanes will connect to the SR 826 express lanes terminating south of SR 836.
- Maintain the existing number of general purpose lanes.
- Noise barrier walls parallel to I-75, within FDOT right away, and adjacent to some properties as identified by the environmental studies.
- Landscaping enhancements at several locations within the FDOT right of way.

For More Information

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