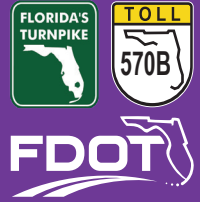


# CENTRAL POLK PARKWAY

## FROM US 17 (SR 35) TO SR 60

### PROJECT DEVELOPMENT & ENVIRONMENT STUDY



Financial Project ID Number: 440897-4; ETDM Number: 14372

Newsletter 1 - May 2019

The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT), Florida's Turnpike Enterprise (FTE) is conducting a Project Development and Environment (PD&E) Study for the Central Polk Parkway (SR 570B) from US 17 (SR 35) to SR 60 in Polk County, Florida.

#### PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING - SAVE THE DATE

**Date:** Tuesday, June 18, 2019

**Time:** 5:30PM - 7:30PM

**Location:** W.H. Stuart Center  
1710 US Highway 17 S  
Bartow, FL 33830

*\*See back page for alternate "severe weather" date.*

## PROJECT OVERVIEW

The Central Polk Parkway PD&E Study started in fall 2018 and is ongoing. The study team is evaluating alternative alignments within the study area shown in the project location map below. An adjacent segment of Central Polk Parkway from Polk Parkway (SR 570) to US 17 (SR 35) is currently in the design phase.

The proposed Central Polk Parkway would provide

benefits to the community such as:

- Better options for moving people and goods and less congestion on existing roadways;
- An additional access route to I-4 and SR 60 for travelers and truck traffic in the region; and
- Less commercial vehicle traffic through Bartow.

## WHAT IS A PD&E STUDY?

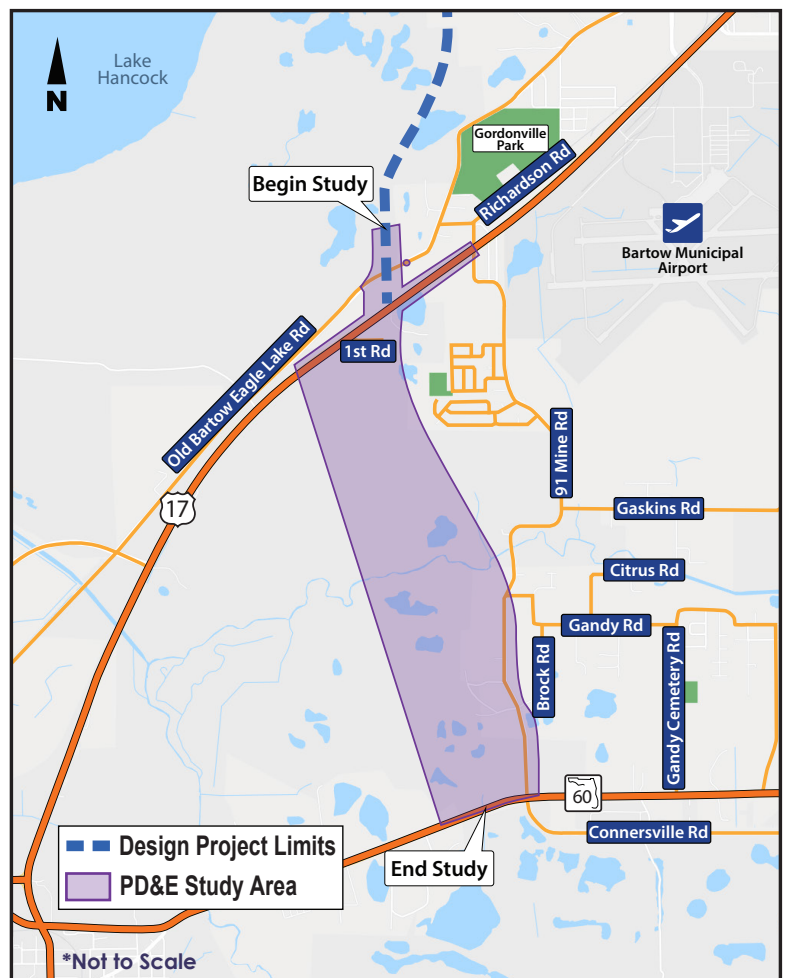
A PD&E Study is a process developed by the FDOT to evaluate social, economic, natural, physical and environmental effects associated with a proposed transportation improvement. Potential impacts to traffic operations, safety, access, and Right-of-Way are evaluated during the study. The analysis requires the combined efforts of professional engineers, planners and scientists who collect and analyze project-related information to develop the best solution that meets a community's transportation needs. Public outreach and agency coordination are key components of the PD&E Study.

## ABOUT THE STUDY

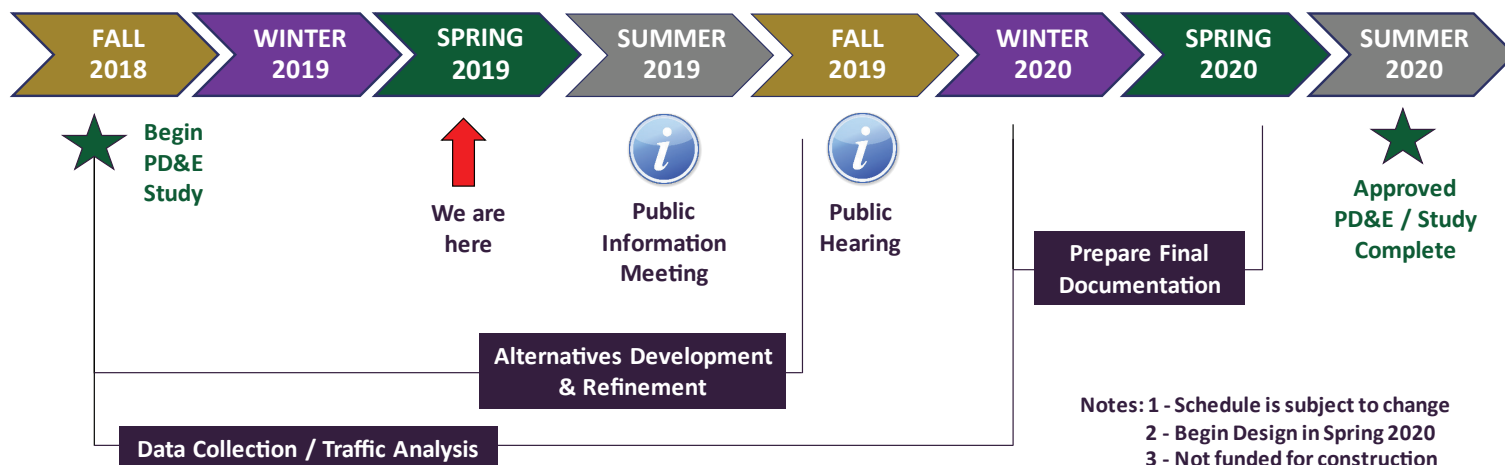
The study team is developing and evaluating alternatives to address future traffic needs and provide long-term options to move people and goods while minimizing impacts. Key study activities include:

- Data Collection
- Traffic Forecasts
- Alternatives Development
- Engineering Analysis
- Environmental Analysis
- Public Outreach / Agency Coordination

The final phase of the PD&E Study will include the preparation of preliminary engineering and environmental documentation.



## PROJECT SCHEDULE & PUBLIC PARTICIPATION



The Central Polk Parkway PD&E Study has been underway since fall 2018 and is anticipated to be completed by summer 2020. Opportunities for public input will be provided throughout the study and will be available via the **Stay Connected** page on the project website at [www.centralpolkparkway.com](http://www.centralpolkparkway.com) (available starting June 18, 2019).

FTE encourages members of the public to participate in the study by providing comments, asking questions, and offering suggestions. A Public Information Meeting is scheduled for June 18, 2019. This will be a joint meeting

to share the progress for this study as well as for the ongoing Central Polk Parkway design project from Polk Parkway (SR 570) to US 17 (SR 35). At the meeting, attendees will have an opportunity to comment on both projects. A joint Public Hearing for both projects has been tentatively scheduled for fall 2019. Public participation is solicited without regard to race, color, national origin, age, sex, religion, disability, or family status.

## PROJECT CONTACTS

If you would like to obtain additional project information or be added to the mailing list, please contact:

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**\*Alternate date information: In the event that the Public Information Meeting cannot be held on June 18, 2019 due to severe weather or other unforeseen conditions, it will be held on the alternate date of July 9, 2019 at the same time and place.**