FLORIDA'S TURNPIKE WIDENING FROM SOUTH OF STATE ROAD 408 TO STATE ROAD 50

Project Development and Environment Study
Orange County

Newsletter 3 PROJECT UPDATE August 2022

ABOUT THE STUDY

Florida's Turnpike Enterprise (Enterprise) is conducting a Project Development and Environment (PD&E) study of a 10-mile segment of Florida's Turnpike from south of State Road (SR) 408 to SR 50 in west Orange County, Florida. Feasible alternatives have been developed that address the project needs. These "Build" alternatives are being evaluated based on potential effects on social, cultural, natural, and physical resources, local agency feedback, and public input. During the PD&E study, measures to avoid, minimize, and/or mitigate impacts on affected neighborhoods and the environment are identified. The need for additional right-of-way is also evaluated. A No-Build Alternative, which leaves the existing transportation infrastructure in place with only routine maintenance, remains a viable alternative throughout the study.

More information on project needs and a graphic representation of the proposed improvements can be found at the project website, www.turnpike408to50.com.

STUDY AREA



WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING?

A successful PD&E study depends on the public's participation in the study process. A Public Kickoff Meeting was held in March 2020 to notify the public that the PD&E study began, and to encourage participation. Build alternatives were presented for public input at Alternatives Public Information Meetings, held in-person and virtually, in August 2021.

Feedback has been solicited from the Town of Oakland, City of Clermont, City of Winter Garden, City of Ocoee, Orange County, MetroPlan Orlando and the Central Florida Expressway Authority (CFX). The Enterprise coordination efforts with these agencies will continue through design and construction of the proposed project. The Enterprise coordination efforts with the City of Ocoee includes exploring options to mitigate right-of-way impacts to planned developments in Ocoee, and joint-use stormwater ponds.

SCHEDULE

Study Begins

AUG 2019

Public Kickoff Meeting

MAR 2020

Alternatives Public Information Meeting

AUG 2021

Public Hearing

DEC 2022 (Tentative)

Study Complete

APR 2023 (Tentative)







PROJECT FEATURES

Public input and local agency feedback received to date have helped shape the Build alternatives. The project map above breaks the study limits into three segments. Presented below are project features within each segment that are of special interest to stakeholders. There is a concern for traffic noise throughout the project limits. The preliminary noise analysis is complete and potential noise wall locations have been identified. These locations will be finalized in the final Design phase.

Segment 1

- Gotha Road bridge over Turnpike to remain as existing.
- No right-of-way impacts to Gotha community features (e.g., Nehrling Gardens, Gotha Post Office and historical cemetery).
- Potential noise wall on Turnpike bridge over Hempel Avenue.

Segment 2

- Coordination with City of Ocoee for aesthetic features on the Maguire Road bridge.
- Shared-use path along the Maguire Rd bridge.
- Improved aesthetics on Turnpike ramp bridge over SR 50.

WHAT'S NEXT?

The Selected Build alternative, or final project recommendations, will be presented for public input at a public hearing tentatively scheduled for December 2022. A final decision will not be made until after the public hearing. Interested persons will be able to participate in the hearing, virtually and inperson, and can provide verbal comments with both options. Written comments are accepted at any time and will also be accepted at the public hearing.

- Ongoing coordination with City of Ocoee and developers to mitigate right-of-way impacts to planned developments.
- Potential joint-use stormwater ponds in Ocoee.
- SR 50 (Ocoee) interchange ramps remain nontolled.

Segment 3

- A potential new Avalon Road interchange was eliminated from consideration.
- Shared-use path at the SR 50 (Oakland/Clermont) interchange to connect with the West Orange Trail.
- Enhanced bicycle and pedestrian crossings at the SR 50 (Oakland/Clermont) interchange.

CONTACT

If you have any questions or comments about the project, please contact:

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Public participation is solicited without regard to race, color, national origin, age, sex, religion, disability, or family status.



