

# **Central Polk Parkway East From SR 60 to US 17/92**



Alternative Corridor Evaluation | Polk County, FL

Newsletter 2 | January 2025

Project Number: 451419-2

### **About the Project**

The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT), Florida's Turnpike Enterprise, is conducting an Alternative Corridor Evaluation (ACE) for a new north-south facility in Northeastern Polk County. The ACE, a planning-level study, will identify a potential corridor location for a new tolled, limited-access highway connecting SR 60 and US 17/92. The proposed highway will provide a direct link to Interstate 4 and SR 429 (Western Beltway) through the future Poinciana Connector (SR 538). It would serve as a high-speed, alternate travel route to US 27, where heavy traffic congestion regularly impacts the communities now and is forecasted to get worse due to population growth and increased travel demand. The proposed highway is currently being referred to as the Central Polk Parkway East and could extend nearly 28 miles within the corridor study area shown in the map below.



#### **PROJECT DETAILS:**

Central Polk Parkway East - SR 60 to US 17/92 Project Number: 451419-2

#### STUDY AREA PROJECT LIMITS:

SR 60 to US 17/92

#### **PROJECT LENGTH:**

Approximately 28 miles

#### **MUNCIPALITIES WITHIN STUDY AREA:**

Winter Haven, Lakes Wales, Dundee, Lake Hamilton, Haines City, Davenport and Polk County

#### **ACE SCOPE:**

- Identify project purpose and need
- Evaluate alternative corridor locations
- Collect agency and community input on the alternative corridor locations
- Recommend an alternative corridor that addresses project needs for further analysis in a Project Development & Environment (PD&E) Study

## **Project History**

An alignment for the Central Polk Parkway East project was approved in a PD&E Study completed by FDOT District 1 in March of 2011. The District 1 PD&E Study identified an alignment for a new highway from Polk Parkway (SR 570) to SR 60 on the west, and SR 60 to US 17/92 on the east. The project was transferred to Florida's Turnpike Enterprise in 2017. The segments on the west are now in different phases of construction, while the segments to the east could not move forward due to substantial development along the approved alignment. This ACE will identify a new corridor from SR 60 to US 17/92, for Central Polk Parkway East.



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### **Project Purpose & Need**

A project's purpose and need are the reasons why the project is necessary and serves as the basis for identifying reasonable alternatives. The needs for the Central Polk Parkway East project established in 2011 by FDOT District 1 are still valid and have been updated based on current and forecasted transportation deficiencies. The project needs include accommodating Year 2050 transportation demand, improving regional connectivity, enhancing freight mobility & economic competitiveness, and enhancing safety and emergency evacuation.



Accommodate Transportation Demand (Year 2050)



Improve Regional Connectivity

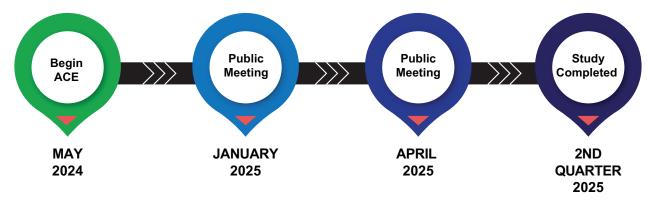


Enhance Freight Mobility & Economic Competitiveness



Enhance Safety & Emergency Evacuation

### Community Outreach Schedule\*



\*Schedule is subject to change.

### **Public Participation**

Florida's Turnpike Enterprise encourages the public to get involved by providing comments, questions, and suggestions to the study team. Project information will be available through newsletters, the project website, public inquiries, and public meetings. Please contact the Project Manager, Jazlyn Heywood, P.E., using the contact information provided below to request information, provide comments, or to be added to the project mailing list.

### **Project Contacts**

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Scan the QR code for more information about this project



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