



P D & E STUDY

PROJECT DEVELOPMENT & ENVIRONMENT STUDY

"...this process satisfies the National Environmental Protection Act (NEPA) of 1969 which requires federal agencies to integrate environmental values into their decision making processes."

WHAT IS A PD&E STUDY?

A Project Development & Environment (PD&E) Study is a process followed by the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) to evaluate social, economic and environmental impacts associated with a planned transportation improvement project.

FDOT established the PD&E process as the state's procedure for complying with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969.



PURPOSE AND NEED

A PD&E Study begins with the definition of the Purpose and Need. The purpose is a set of goals and objectives that FDOT intends to fulfill by the transportation improvement project under evaluation. The need is the reason(s) why the transportation improvement project is proposed.



EXPLORING SOLUTIONS

During a PD&E study, several improvement alternatives are developed that meet the purpose and need. These alternatives are developed with input from the public, local government and environmental agencies obtained throughout the study process.

The No-Build or No-Project alternative remains a valid alternative throughout the study process. Under the No-Build alternative, no improvements are made. The project area remains the same.



PD&E STUDY ...

10 STEP PROCESS

The PD&E Study process used in the development of a project is made up of several components. The intent of the process is to study each valid alternative to the level of detail necessary to accurately assess any potential impacts associated with the proposed improvements and to make a recommendation of the preferred alternative(s).



BEING GREEN

FDOT conducts extensive studies to ensure that the design of transportation projects appropriately reflects the unique engineering and community characteristics of the local area. Engineers, planners and scientists work together to collect and analyze project information to develop the best solution for a community's transportation needs. Consideration of the human, natural and physical environment is an important part of this process.



Historic Resources



Aesthetics



Sociocultural Effects



Bicycle



Pedestrian



Noise



Farmlands



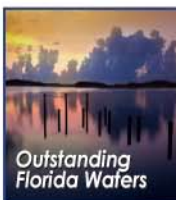
Air Quality



Wildlife



Contamination



Outstanding Florida Waters



Wetlands



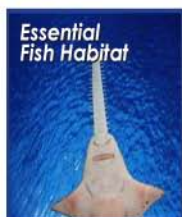
Utilities



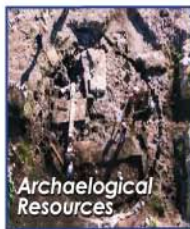
Public Lands



Community Facilities



Essential Fish Habitat



Archaeological Resources



Construction Impacts

INVOLVING THE PUBLIC

A comprehensive Public Involvement Program is conducted for each study. The program is designed to make the public aware of the project and to solicit comments and input from the public during the development and evaluation of the alternatives and the selection of the recommended alternative.



RECOMMENDING AN ALTERNATIVE

Once the analysis of all valid alternatives, including the No-Project alternative, is completed and the public has had the opportunity to comment on these alternatives, a recommendation is made. This recommended alternative, along with the supporting documentation and summary of public input, will be presented to the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) for Location and Design Concept Acceptance (LDCA).

WHAT'S NEXT?

Upon obtaining LDCA, FDOT proceeds to the next phases in the transportation process... final design, right of way and construction.

NO.2735343R
PUBLIC NOTICE

On April 9, 2008, the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) granted Location and Design Concept Acceptance (LDCA) for the following Non-Federal Aid project for Flagler Memorial Bridge (SR A1A) in Palm Beach County, Florida:

Project Name: Flagler Memorial Bridge (SR A1A)
Project limits: From Southbound US 1 Over Highway (MP 28.9) to County Road (MP 27.9) in Palm Beach County, Florida

Financial Project ID No.: 2735343R
Federal Aid Project ID No.: 2735343R

Project Description: The existing bridge (SR A1A) has become obsolete and is eligible for replacement through the Interstate Bridge Replacement Program due to its deficient structural condition. The Project Development and Management (PDM) Study evaluated the replacement or reconstruction of existing bascule (movable) bridge. The study included the development of design and evaluation of alignment alternatives, traffic analysis, and supporting technical documents. The project is located in North Lagoon, near Intracoastal Waterway (ICW) in the City of Palm Beach, Florida. The City of West Palm Beach, Florida, in addition to the main span of the bridge, a portion of the existing bridge on the west approach to the bridge.

The recommended alternative that consists of a two-span of a low-level bascule bridge with 21 feet of clearance over the ICW with 125 feet of horizontal clearance beneath the bridge. The replacement bridge will be constructed in phases with a portion of the existing bridge constructed to the south of the existing bridge. When this portion is complete, the existing bridge will be removed and the remainder of the replacement bridge will be constructed. The existing bridge over Flagler Drive will be removed and a signalized at-grade intersection with Flagler Drive will be constructed. Other improvements include new approach roadway pavement, drainage, pedestrian and bicycle facilities and landscape enhancements. This project will now proceed to the next phase of development. For information please contact:

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PUB: May 25, 2008



SMART TRANSPORTATION

Smart Transportation begins at the planning level. FDOT works with local governments and agency partners in the planning of our communities' transportation needs. The public and our environmental resources are involved from the initial planning phases through the final design and construction of projects.



MORE INFORMATION

For additional information concerning a PD&E Study in your area, please contact the Florida Department of Transportation:



3400 West Commercial Boulevard
Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33309-3421
Telephone: (954) 777-4601

Or call toll free at (866) 336-8435 ext. 4601