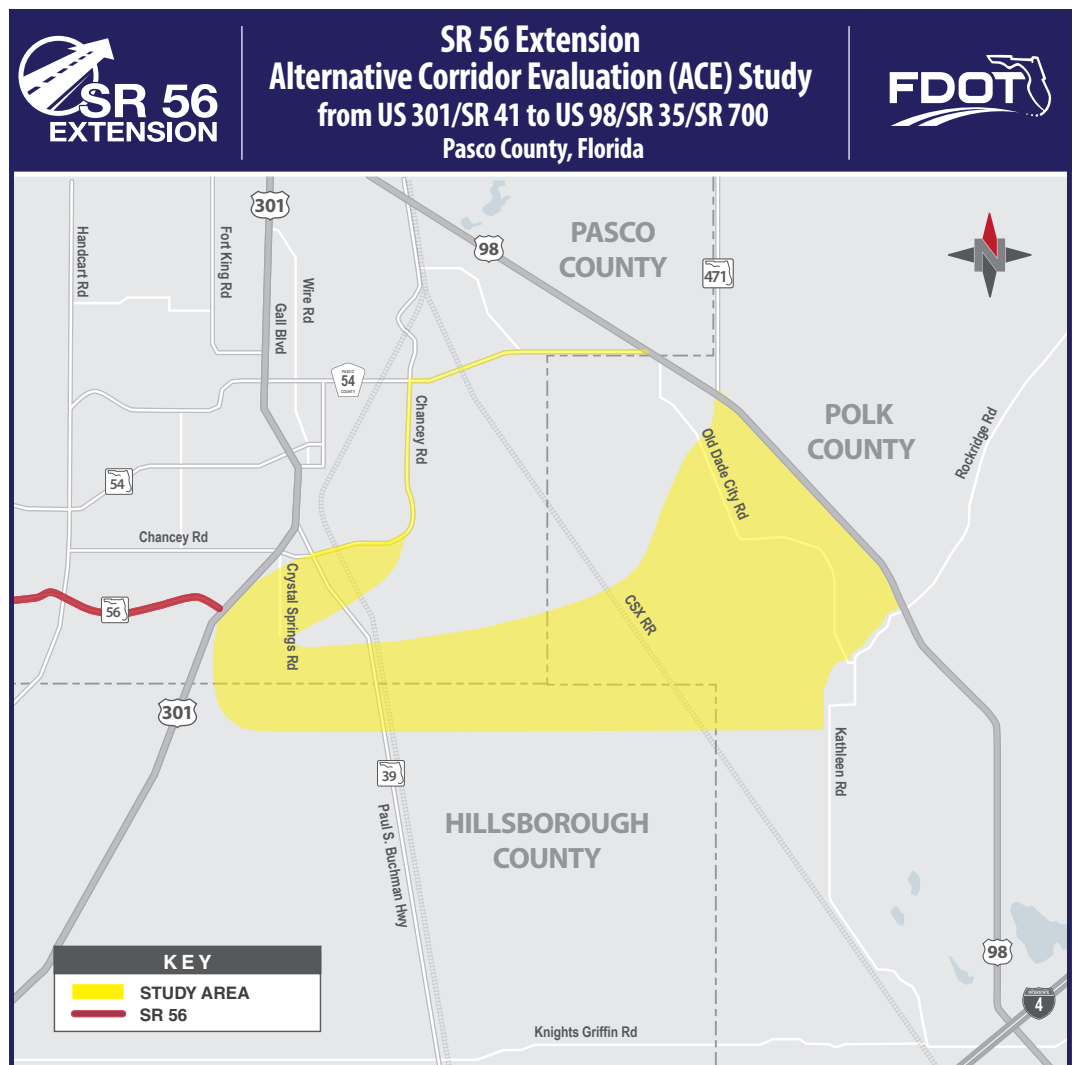


PROJECT OVERVIEW

The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) District Seven is conducting an Alternative Corridor Evaluation (ACE) Study to determine potential alignments for the extension of SR 56 from US 301/SR 41 to US 98/SR 35/SR 700 in Pasco County, Florida.

The study area, shown on the provided map, is generally bounded by just south of the Pasco/Hillsborough County Line on the south, CR 54 on the north, US 301/SR 41 on the west, and US 98/SR 35/SR 700 on the east. SR 56 is a major east-west arterial that serves both local and regional traffic for approximately 13 miles from SR 54 to US 301/SR 41. The portion of SR 56 from SR 54 to Meadow Pointe Boulevard is a six-lane divided roadway and is functionally classified as an urban principal arterial. The segment of SR 56 from Meadow Pointe Boulevard to US 301/SR 41 was recently opened to traffic and provides a new four-lane divided roadway with a ten-foot wide multi-use trail (south side), a five-foot sidewalk (north side), and seven-foot bicycle lanes on the shoulders in each direction.

The purpose of this project is to provide the extension of an east-west route through Pasco County connecting to US 98/SR 35/SR 700 that would allow regional traffic to bypass the City of Zephyrhills.



WHAT IS AN ACE STUDY?

The Alternative Corridor Evaluation (ACE) process is conducted to identify, evaluate, eliminate, and recommend reasonable alternatives to be considered for additional National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) analysis in the Project Development and Environment (PD&E) phase. The SR 56 Extension ACE Study will:

- Establish or refine the project's Purpose and Need,
- Document the general environmental setting for the project,
- Identify any potential environmental impacts and mitigation measures,
- Evaluate engineering feasibility at a conceptual level, and
- Recommend alternative corridors and/or preliminary improvements to address project need.

A Methodology Memorandum (MM) will be developed as part of the ACE process. The MM will outline the analysis methodology that will be used to refine and eliminate corridor alternatives. The project team will meet with various federal, state, and local agencies as well as other interested parties and members of the public throughout the process to obtain comments. Following approval of the MM by FDOT's Office of Environmental Management (OEM), an Alternative Corridor Evaluation Report (ACER) will be prepared, which may recommend feasible alternative corridors to be considered for further evaluation.

WE INVITE YOU TO GET INVOLVED!

The public plays an important role in the project development and decision-making process of this study. There are multiple ways to get involved – call, write, or email us – see the Contact Information below. Opportunities to participate in the study include:

- **Project Website:** The website is your best source for up-to-date information; you can get access at this link: www.fdotd7studies.com/SR56EXT/. The website will continue to be updated throughout the study with the latest documents and information.
- **WikiMap Tool:** The study will utilize a WikiMap Tool, which can be accessed here: <https://wikimapping.com/SR-56-Extension.html>. Use of this tool offers the public an opportunity to add location-based notes to a map of the study area at any point during the study process. The project team will utilize this information to help inform the process and guide solutions.
- **Project Kick-Off Meeting:** A Project Kick-Off Meeting will be held on August 13, 2019 with elected officials and public agencies to introduce the project and establish project intent, review the study approach and project schedule, and answer questions pertaining to the presented material. A copy of the presentation will be available under the Project Documents tab on the project website after the meeting.
- **Public Information Meeting:** A Public Information Meeting is tentatively scheduled for October 2020 to present the alternative corridors to be considered in the project development process and allow the public to express concerns, ask questions, and make comments to be included in the project files.

PROJECT SCHEDULE

The SR 56 Extension Alternative Corridor Evaluation (ACE) Study began in June 2019 and is expected to conclude in October 2020.

ACTIVITY	2019							2020									
	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct
Notice to Proceed - Study Begins	★																
Data Collection	[Bar]																
Public Outreach	[Bar]																
Elected Officials/Agencies Project Kick-Off Meeting			★														
Alternative Corridor Evaluation Methodology Memorandum				[Bar]													
Traffic, Engineering, & Environmental Analysis		[Bar]															
Public Information Meeting																	★
Alternative Corridor Evaluation Report											[Bar]						
Study Approved																	★

CONTACT INFORMATION

If you have questions, comments, or would like more information about the study, please contact:

FDOT Project Manager: **Brian Shroyer**

Email: Brian.Shroyer@dot.state.fl.us

Phone: (813) 975-6449

Mail: FDOT District Seven, 11201 N. Malcom McKinley Drive, MS 7-500, Tampa, FL 33612

Public participation is solicited without regard to race, color, national origin, age, sex, religion, disability, or family status. Persons who require special accommodations under the Americans with Disabilities Act or persons who require translation service (free of charge) should contact Alex Henry, Public Involvement Coordinator, at (813) 975-6405 or (800) 226-7220.

The environmental review, consultation, and other actions required by applicable federal environmental laws for this project are being, or have been, carried out by the FDOT pursuant to 23 U.S.C. §327 and a Memorandum of Understanding dated December 14, 2016 and executed by the Federal Highway Administration and FDOT.

Comuníquese Con Nosotros Nos importa mucho la opinión del público sobre el proyecto. Si usted tiene preguntas o comentarios, o si simplemente desea más información, por favor comuníquese con nosotros. Nuestro representante, Señora Lilliam Escalera, 813-975-6445, Departamento de Transportación de Florida, 11201 N. McKinley Dr., Tampa, FL 33612, Lilliam.Escalera@dot.state.fl.us.