

5. Comments and Coordination

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A Public Involvement Program (PIP) was developed at the start of the PD&E Study and is being carried out as an integral part of this project. The Expressway Authority and FDOT, District Five recognize that the success of any transportation improvement is dependent upon a successful public outreach effort. The purpose of the PIP is to establish and maintain communication with the public at-large and individuals and agencies concerned with the project and its potential impacts.

To ensure open communication and to solicit agency and public input, an Advance Notification (AN) package was prepared and distributed to Federal, State, and local agencies and other interested persons at the onset of the project. The AN package defines the project and identifies potential issues and impacts. In an effort to resolve all issues identified, the Expressway Authority and FDOT have conducted an extensive interagency coordination and consultation effort and public participation process. This section details the Expressway Authority and FDOT program to fully identify, address, and resolve all project-related issues identified through the PIP that has been ongoing throughout the course of the PD&E Study.

5.1 Advance Notification

The Expressway Authority and FDOT initiated early project coordination on February 23, 2005, by distribution of an AN package to the Florida State Clearinghouse. Individual packages were also sent to local government officials directly. The following agencies and public officials received AN packages. An asterisk (*) indicates those agencies that responded to the package.

STATE:

- Florida Department of Community Affairs, Division of Community Planning*
- Florida Department of Environmental Protection, Office of Intergovernmental Programs*
- Florida Department of Environmental Protection, Florida State Clearinghouse Coordinator*
- Florida Department of Environmental Protection – Division of State Lands, Bureau of Submerged Lands and Preserves
- Florida Department of Environmental Protection – Office of Land Use Planning and Biological Services
- Florida Department of State, Division of Historic Resources
- Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, Northeast Regional Office
- Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, Office of Environmental Services
- Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, Division of Marine Fisheries
- Florida Department of Transportation – Federal Aid Programs Coordinator
- Florida Department of Transportation – Environmental Management Office
- Florida Inland Navigation District
- Florida Marine Fisheries Commission

- Florida's Turnpike Enterprise
- Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, Division of Forestry*

FEDERAL:

- Federal Highway Administration, Division Administrator
- Federal Highway Administration, District Transportation Engineer
- Federal Emergency Management Agency
- Federal Railroad Administration
- Federal Aviation Administration*
- Federal Transit Administration
- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers - Regulatory Branch, District Engineer
- U.S. Coast Guard, Seventh District*
- U.S. Department of Agriculture - Southern Region
- U.S. Department of Health and Human Services - Centers for Disease Control*
- U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Regional Environmental Officer
- U.S. Department of the Interior - Fish and Wildlife Service, Field Supervisor
- U.S. Department of the Interior - Bureau of Land Management
- U.S. Department of the Interior - Office of Environmental Policy and Compliance
- U.S. Department of the Interior - U.S. Geological Survey, Environmental Affairs Program
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency - Region IV, Regional Administrator*
- U.S. Department of Commerce - National Marine Fisheries Service
- U.S. Department of Interior - National Park Service
- U.S. Department of Commerce - National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration*
- U.S. Department of Interior - Bureau of Indian Affairs
- Miccosukee Tribe of Indians of Florida*
- Muscogee (Creek) Nation of Oklahoma
- Poarch Band of Creek Indians of Alabama
- Seminole Nation of Oklahoma
- Seminole Tribe of Florida

REGIONAL:

- St. Johns River Water Management District*
- East Central Florida Regional Planning Council*
- Center for Urban Transportation Research
- Central Florida MPO Alliance
- METROPLAN ORLANDO
- Seminole County Expressway Authority

ELECTED OFFICIALS:

- Governor Jeb Bush
- United States Senate
 - Senator Mel Martinez
 - Senator Bill Nelson
- United States House of Representatives
 - Congressman Corrine Brown District 3
 - Congressman John Mica District 7
 - Congressman Tom Feeney District 24
 - Congressman Ric Keller District 8
- Florida State Senate
 - Senator Daniel Webster District 9
 - Senator Gary Siplin District 19
 - Senator Carey Baker District 20
 - Senator Lee Constantine District 22
- Florida State House of Representatives:
 - Representative David Simmons District 37
 - Representative Fred Brummer District 38
 - Representative Bruce Antone District 39
 - Representative Randy Johnson District 41

LOCAL:

Orange County*

- Community and Environmental Services, Environmental Protection Division
- Growth Management Department, Planning Division
- Public Works Director
- School Board
- Mayor Richard T. Crotty
- Commissioner Teresa Jacobs District 1
- Commissioner Robert B. "Bob" Sindler District 2
- Commissioner Mildred Fernandez District 3
- Commissioner Linda Stewart District 4
- Commissioner Bill Segal District 5
- Commissioner Homer L. Hartage District 6
- Ajit Lalchandani, County Administrator

Seminole County*

- Public Works Director
- Planning and Development Director
- Jerry McCollum, P.E., County Engineer
- School Board
- Chairman Carlton D. Henley District 4
- Commissioner Bob Dallari District 1
- Commissioner Randall C. Morris District 2

- Commissioner Dick Van Der Weide District 3
- Commissioner Brenda Carey District 5
- J. Kevin Grace, County Manager

Lake County

- Public Works Director
- Planning and Development Services
- Engineer Division Director
- School Board
- Chairman Debbie Stivender District 3
- Commissioner Jennifer Hill District 1
- Commissioner Robert Pool District 2
- Commissioner Catherine Hansen District 4
- Commissioner Welton Cadwell District 5
- William Neron, County Manager

City of Apopka

- Public Services Department
- Community Development Director
- City Engineer
- Mayor John Land
- Commissioner Billie Dean
- Commissioner Marilyn Ustler-McQueen
- Commissioner Kathy Till
- Commissioner J.W. Arrowsmith
- City Administrator Jack Douglas
- City Administrator Richard Anderson

City of Sanford

- Public Works Department
- Department of Planning and Community Development
- Mayor Brady Lessard
- Commissioner Art Woodruff District 1
- Commissioner Velma Williams District 2
- Commissioner Randy Jones District 3
- Commissioner Kevin Hipes District 4
- Al Grieshaber, City Manager

City of Eustis

- Public Works Department
- Mayor Frank E. Royce Seat 1
- Vice Mayor Jonnie C. Hale Seat 5
- Commissioner Evelyn H. Smith Seat 3
- Commissioner Gwendolyn M. Manning Seat 2
- Commissioner James T. Rotella Seat 4
- Michael G. Stearman, City Manager

City of Mount Dora*

- Public Services Department
- Planning and Development Department

- Mayor James E. Yatsuk
- Vice Mayor Ryan Donovan District 1
- Councilman Robert A. Maraiio District 2
- Council Member Judy Smathers District 3
- Councilman Christopher Shipley District 4
- Councilman James Homich At Large
- Councilman Larry Baker At Large
- Bernice Brinson, City Manager

City of Lake Mary*

- Public Works Department
- Community Development Department
- Mayor Thomas C. Greene
- Deputy Mayor Janet M. Jernigan At Large
- Commissioner Gary L. Brender At Large
- Commissioner George F. Duryea At Large
- Commissioner Michael J. McLean At Large
- John Litton, City Manager

Listed below are the pertinent comments from the agencies which responded to the AN. Copies of letters from all agencies that responded to the AN are contained in **Appendix F**.

Florida State Clearing House

Florida Department of Environmental Protection, Office of Intergovernmental Programs

Comment: “The Florida State Clearinghouse, pursuant to Presidential Executive Order 12372, Gubernatorial Executive Order 95-359, the Coastal Zone Management Act, 16 U.S.C. §§ 1451-1464, as amended, and the National Environmental Policy Act, 42 U.S.C. §§ 4321, 4331-4335, 4341-4347, as amended, has coordinated a review of the referenced advance notification.”

“Based on the information contained in the advance notification and the enclosed state agency comments, the state has determined that, at this stage, the allocation of federal funds for the above-referenced project is consistent with the Florida Coastal Management Program (FCMP). The applicant must, however, address the concerns identified by the reviewing agencies prior to project implementation. The state’s continued concurrence with the project will be based, in part, on the adequate resolution of any issues identified during this and subsequent reviews. The state’s final concurrence of the project’s consistency with the FCMP will be determined during the final environmental permitting stage.”

Response: Agency comments will be addressed during the appropriate project phases, prior to project implementation.

Florida Department of Community Affairs

Comment: “The Department of Community Affairs (DCA) has determined that this project is not inconsistent with Florida Statutes or the goals, objectives and policies of the subject local government comprehensive plans. The DCA notes, however, that the project is not currently addressed in those local plans. Prior to consideration for future advancement in the Florida Department of Transportation’s Five Year Work Program, the project should be included in each of the local government’s comprehensive plans. The DCA is currently

working with the local governments to update their comprehensive plans to include the Wekiva Parkway (SR 429) on their respective Future Transportation Maps.”

Response: No response required.

Florida Department of Environmental Protection

Comment: “The Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) states that an Environmental Resource Permit (ERP) will be required for any construction in surface water, wetlands, or state lands. In accordance with the operating agreement between the DEP and water management district, DEP will process and review the application in accordance with Chapters 373 and 403 of the Florida Statutes (F.S.), Chapters 18-20 and 18-21 of the Florida Administrative Code (F.A.C.), and the applicable district MSSW handbook. The DEP notes that the proposed alignment must be based upon avoidance and minimization criteria to reduce potential impacts to resources. The DEP recommends that all mitigation funding provided to the St. Johns Water Management District (SJRWMD) be applied to mitigation activities located within the Wekiva basin.

Constructing the Wekiva Parkway will impact forested wetlands of the Wekiva River Riparian Habitat Protection Zone. The Wekiva River is an Aquatic Preserve and a National Wild and Scenic River. The information provided in the Advance Notification does not provide details regarding anticipated impacts on sovereign submerged lands. Additional details will be required regarding the type of wetlands being traversed, the type of construction, construction access, amount of dredging and filling proposed for wetlands and an explanation of how impacts to wetlands have been minimized or avoided.

The DEP notes that a public easement will be required for any portion of the roadway that crosses the Wekiva River. This proprietary authorization should be obtained from the SJRWMD.

Any water main extension or modification will require a permit from the DEP, in accordance with Chapter 62-555, F.A.C. Additionally, any water mains crossing over or under surface water bodies (rivers) must meet the requirements found in Item 8.7 of the DEP’s Recommended Standards for Water Works.

The DEP states that the Wekiva River is situated within the Middle St. Johns River, a Group 2 basin for purposes of establishing Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs) for water identified as being impaired (i.e. not meeting state water quality standards). Stormwater may require greater treatment in sub-basins where surface water are impaired. Until TMDLs are developed and implemented, however, the ramifications of TMDLs on projects such as this cannot be better defined.”

Response: During the PD&E Study phase of the project, minimization of potential environmental impacts has been a key factor in the development of the alternatives. During the design and permitting phase, the Expressway Authority and FDOT will prepare a Joint Application for an Environmental Resource Permit, Authorization to use State Owned Submerged Lands, and Federal Dredge and Fill Permit. The permit application will be reviewed by the FDEP and forwarded to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. All permits required to comply with Florida Statutes will be submitted to the appropriate agencies.

All applicable Best Management Practices included in the FDOT *Standard Specifications for Road and Bridge Construction* will be used on this project. Specific problems will be field reviewed and alternative controls developed and provided as needed on a site specific basis.

St. Johns River Water Management District

Comment: “The submittal (AN) indicates that an Environmental Resource Permit will be required from SJRWMD. However, it is our understanding that the Florida Department of Environmental Protection will handle this permit review, not SJRWMD.

Response: A Joint Application for an Environmental Resource Permit, Authorization to use State Owned Lands, and Federal Dredge and Fill Permit will be reviewed by the FDEP and the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers.

Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, Division of Forestry

Comment: “The Florida Division of Forestry offers the following comments regarding the FDOT Wekiva Parkway Study:

Road design should not reduce the number or alter the location of access points to Seminole State Forest (SSF). Currently there are four access points along SR 46 and eight along CR 46A.

It is our understanding regarding the current road design that portions of SR 46 would be elevated adjacent to SSF to provide wildlife crossings. It is important that any road design increase the area for safe wildlife crossings.

We suggest that this project comply with the Florida Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund Linear Facilities Policy on natural resource lands, which addresses avoidance, minimization of impacts, and compensation for impacts to natural resources, natural resource lands, and related appurtenances. Road and construction area footprints should be minimized on SSF. Any impacts should be mitigated directly on SSF. The proposed parkway route appears to only affect the existing SR 46 right-of-way or areas immediately adjacent to the right-of-way.

The CR 46A realignment should tie the existing CR 46A to SR 46, west of the Design Homes Parcel of SSF. Limiting traffic on the existing CR 46A, east of the Design Homes Parcel, to local use would aid forest management and provide improved wildlife crossing areas.

Response: The proposed alignment does not reduce the number or alter the location of access points to SSF. The alignment was developed based on the “Guiding Principles for Corridor Location” and the “Guiding Principles for the Wekiva Parkway Design Features and Construction” as defined by the Wekiva Basin Area Task Force, and incorporated into the *Wekiva Parkway and Protection Act*, which addresses the concerns of the Division of Forestry with regard to SSF lands. Coordination with the Division of Forestry has been ongoing throughout the study.

Federal Aviation Administration

Comment: “The FAA interposes no objection with the proposed development from an airspace standpoint. Any use of construction equipment that exceed FAR Part 77 will need to be coordinated and reviewed by the FAA.”

Response: All applicable Best Management Practices included in the FDOT *Standard Specifications for Road and Bridge Construction* will be used on this project. Specific problems will be field reviewed and alternative controls developed and provided as needed on a site specific basis.

United States Coast Guard

Comment: “Enclosed is a Bridge Project Questionnaire (BPQ) for your Advance Notification for Wekiva Parkway Development and Environment Study. Please complete the BPQ and return it to this office with required photographs at your earliest convenience. Completion of this report will facilitate a Coast Guard jurisdictional determination for this waterway and determine whether a Coast Guard bridge permit is required.”

Response: The BPQ form and required attachments were transmitted to the Coast Guard for processing. On July 19, 2007 the Coast Guard sent a response letter which stated “A Coast Guard bridge permit will not be required for the proposed bridge construction”. A copy of that letter is included in **Appendix F**.

Miccosukee Tribe of Indians of Florida

Comment: “We have no direct knowledge of any cultural, religious, or traditional sites at the proposed project location. We suggest that a cultural resources survey be conducted of the project area. We further request that we be kept informed of this project and receive a copy of the cultural resources survey.”

Response: A Cultural Resource Assessment Survey (CRAS) was performed as part of the PD&E Study to comply with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), as amended, and the implementing regulations 36 CFR 800 (revised May 1999), as well as the provisions contained in Chapter 267, F.S. A CD of the final CRAS report and Addendum (June 2010) was mailed to Mr. Steve Terry of the Miccosukee Tribe of Indians on December 10, 2010.

United States Environmental Protection Agency

Comment: “The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has received your request to review the above-referenced project, and it has been reviewed pursuant to Section 1424(e) of the Safe Drinking Water Act.

The project is determined to lie within the boundaries of the Volusia Floridan Regional Aquifer, which is a designated Sole Source Aquifer (SSA), i.e., it is the sole or principal water source for an area which, if contaminated, would create a significant hazard to the public.

After review of the information provided for this project, I conclude that the necessary precautions to prevent contamination of the underlying aquifer will be taken. It is my understanding that plans for storm water, accidental hazardous spills, and best management practices for erosion control will be adhered to along with state and local permits. It is also requested that EPA, and other permitting agencies, be notified prior to any project changes or alternative plans.”

Response: The project study area does not lie within the boundary of the Volusia Floridan Regional Aquifer. Several requests were made to the EPA between February 2005 and August 2008 to revisit the determination. The EPA revised their determination in a letter dated September 5, 2008. The letter states: “The project has been determined to **lie outside** of the designated boundaries of all sole source aquifers in Region 4. A sole source aquifer review for this project is not required.” Copies of both letters are included in **Appendix F**.

5.2 Coordination with the Public, Agencies, and Other Stakeholders

As part of the PIP for the Wekiva Parkway (SR 429)/SR 46 Realignment PD&E Study, a total of six Public Workshops (two each in Orange, Lake, and Seminole Counties) and three Public Hearing sessions (one in each county) were scheduled for the course of the study. In addition, six meetings each with the Project Advisory Group and the Environmental Advisory Committee were scheduled to ensure open communication and provide a forum for issue identification and resolution with governmental agencies and environmental groups. An additional public workshop was added to present a modification to the Proposed Build Alternative in Lake County East, as discussed in *Section 5.2.3*.

The 19-member Wekiva River Basin Commission, chaired by Senator Lee Constantine, was created by Chapter 369.324, F.S. “to monitor and ensure the implementation of the recommendations of the Wekiva River Basin Coordinating Committee for the Wekiva Study Area.” The commission must report to the Governor, the President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and the Department of Community Affairs on the implementation progress of the *Wekiva Parkway and Protection Act*, no later than December 31st of each year. To date, the Wekiva River Basin Commission has met approximately twice each year between November 2004 and February 2012. Representatives of the Expressway Authority and FDOT have presented the Wekiva Parkway (SR 429)/SR 46 Realignment PD&E Study concepts, issues, and updates to the commission at each of those meetings.

5.2.1 Coordination during the Initial Alternatives Phase

During the process of developing the initial alternatives, extensive project coordination was undertaken with local and state government agencies, advisory groups, and other entities. The following is a summary listing of meetings and/or presentations which provided study updates, specific information, and opportunities for feedback on the initial alternatives:

- 12/01/04 - *Sierra Club (Keith Schue)*
- 02/03/05 - *Wekiva River Basin Commission (presentation)*
- 03/11/05 - *Seminole County Engineer Jerry McCollum*
- 04/28/05 - *Easter Seals (Camp Challenge) Vice President Sue Ventura*
- 05/10/05 - *Seminole County Expressway Authority Board (presentation)*
- 06/02/05 - *The Nature Conservancy (Keith Schue)*
- 06/03/05 - *PD&E Study Project Advisory Group*
- 06/03/05 - *PD&E Study Environmental Advisory Committee*
- 07/18/05 - *Orlando-Orange County Expressway Authority Board (presentation)*
- 08/09/05 - *Easter Seals (Camp Challenge) Vice President Sue Ventura*
- 08/18/05 - *The Glades Homeowners Association*
- 09/13/05 - *City of Apopka Chief Administrative Officer Richard Anderson*
- 09/14/05 - *Florida Department of Transportation Executive Board (presentation)*
- 09/19/05 - *Lake County Public Works Director Jim Stivoender*
- 09/20/05 - *City of Mount Dora Planning/Development Director Mark Reggentin*

- 09/22/05 - *Wekiva River Basin Commission (presentation)*
 - 09/23/05 - *Seminole County Engineer Jerry McCollum*
 - 09/30/05 - *Orange County Public Works/Transportation Planning Staff (Renzo Nastasi, Joe Kunkel, et al)*
 - 10/03/05 - *Lake County Water Authority Executive Director Mike Perry and Staff*
 - 10/13/05 - *Lake County Commissioner Catherine Hanson**
 - 10/14/05 - *PD&E Study Project Advisory Group*
 - 10/14/05 - *PD&E Study Environmental Advisory Committee*
 - 10/26/05 - *Orlando-Orange County Expressway Authority Board (presentation)*
 - 10/26/05 - *Lake-Sumter Metropolitan Planning Organization Board*
 - 11/02/05 - *Orange County Commissioner Bob Sindler*
 - 11/03/05 - *Seminole County Commissioner Randy Morris*
 - 11/07/05 - *Seminole County Commissioner Brenda Carey**
 - 11/08/05 - *Orange County Commissioner Teresa Jacobs**
 - 11/22/05 - *Seminole County Commissioner Bob Dallari*
 - 11/22/05 - *Lake Mary Commissioner Gary Brender*
 - 11/28/05 - *Seminole County Commissioner Carlton Henley*
 - 12/01/05 - *Orange County Environmental Protection Division Manager Lori Cunniff and Staff*
 - 12/08/05 - *City of Sanford Commissioner Art Woodruff*
 - 12/09/05 - *Seminole County Commissioner Dick Van Der Weide*
 - 12/13/05 - *State Senator Lee Constantine**
 - 12/15/05 - *Wekiva River Basin Commission (presentation)*
 - 12/20/05 - *Seminole County Expressway Authority Board (presentation)*
 - 01/24/06 - *Neighborhood Lakes (Nancy Rossman and Bob Cole)*
 - 01/25/06 - *Lake County Public Works Director Jim Stivoender*
 - 02/07/06 - *Lake County Water Authority Executive Director Mike Perry and Staff*
 - 02/21/06 - *Florida Department of Transportation, District Five Secretary George Gilhooley* and Staff*
 - 02/22/06 - *Lake County Water Authority Board (presentation)*
 - 02/28/06 - *Orlando-Orange County Expressway Authority Board (presentation)*
- * *Current or former member of the Wekiva River Basin Commission*

Initial Alternatives Public Workshop

After development of the initial alternatives and refinement of them based on the feedback received at many of the above listed meetings, three workshops were held to present the initial alternatives to the public for review and comment. Those Public Workshops were on the dates and at the locations shown below:

- *November 9, 2005 – Orange County Public Workshop at Apopka High School*
- *November 10, 2005 – Lake County Public Workshop at Lake Receptions in Mount Dora*
- *November 14, 2005 – Seminole County Public Workshop at the Sanford Civic Center*

A total of 1,147 attendees signed in at the three workshops and 285 comment forms were submitted at or shortly after the workshops. All public comments were reviewed and responded to in writing. Many of the comments expressed opinions in favor of or against specific alignment alternatives or interchange concepts. The public comments on the initial alternatives were analyzed by county and utilized by the project team in the evaluation and assessment of alternatives. A complete summary and analysis of the public comments received after the workshops can be found in a separate document entitled *Wekiva Parkway PD&E Study Initial Alternatives, Summary of Public Meetings, November 2005*.

Some of the meetings and presentations after November of 2005 listed above, particularly those with decision makers, were to provide information on the public feedback received at and after the initial alternatives workshops. That also provided opportunities for those decision makers to give their comments on the alternatives. Thereafter, the project team began the process of alternatives refinement and identification of viable alternatives.

5.2.2 Coordination during the Viable Alternatives Phase

As with the Initial Alternatives phase of the PD&E Study, extensive project coordination was undertaken with local and state government agencies, advisory groups, and other entities, during the process of identifying the viable alternatives. The following is a summary listing of meetings and/or presentations which provided study updates, specific information, and opportunities for feedback on the viable alternatives:

- *03/06/06 – Scott Taylor (Landowner) and Sue Ventura (Easter Seals Camp Challenge)*
- *03/07/06 – Florida Audubon Society, The Nature Conservancy, and Friends of Wekiva River (Charles Lee*, Keith Schue, Walt Thompson, and Nancy Prine)*
- *03/08/06 – Orange County Commissioner Bob Sindler*
- *03/21/06 – Seminole County Director of Public Works Gary Johnson* and Seminole County Engineer Jerry McCollum*
- *03/24/06 – Orange County Public Works/Transportation Planning (Brian Sanders and Joe Perez)*
- *03/28/06 – Lake County Public Works Director Jim Stivender and Engineering Director Fred Schneider*
- *04/05/06 – Lake County Commissioner Catherine Hanson**
- *04/10/06 – Sanford Mayor Linda Kuhn and City Manager Sherman Yehl*
- *04/10/06 – City of Apopka Chief Administrative Officer Richard Anderson and Community Development Director Nicole Guillet-Dary*
- *04/13/06 – Seminole County Commissioner Bob Dallari*
- *04/17/06 – Florida Department of Transportation District Five Secretary George Gilhooley**
- *04/20/06 – Seminole County Commissioner Randy Morris*
- *04/20/06 – Florida Department of Environmental Protection District Director Vivian Garfein**
- *04/21/06 – St. Johns River Water Management District Executive Director Kirby Green**
- *04/25/06 – Orange County Commissioner Teresa Jacobs**

- 05/02/06 – Seminole County Commissioner Brenda Carey*
- 05/03/06 – City of Mount Dora Mayor James Yatsuk*, City Manager Mike Quinn and Planning/Development Director Mark Reggentin
- 05/09/06 – Seminole County Expressway Authority Board (presentation)
- 05/11/06 – State Representative Fred Brummer
- 05/30/06 – Orlando-Orange County Expressway Authority Board (presentation)
- 06/05/06 – Florida Department of Environmental Protection, Wekiva River Basin State Parks Manager John Fillyaw
- 06/13/06 – State Representative Dean Cannon
- 06/26/06 – State Representative Alan Hays
- 06/29/06 – Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, Division of Forestry Supervisor Joe Bishop (Seminole State Forest)
- 07/06/06 – State Senator Carey Baker
- 07/07/06 – PD&E Study Project Advisory Group
- 07/07/06 – PD&E Study Environmental Advisory Committee
- 07/11/06 – State Senator Lee Constantine*
- 07/18/06 – Mount Dora City Council (presentation)
- 07/28/06 – Wekiva River Basin Commission (presentation)

* Current or former member of the Wekiva River Basin Commission

Viable Alternatives Public Workshop

After development of the viable alternatives and refinement of them based on the feedback received at many of the above listed meetings, three workshops were held to present the viable alternatives to the public for review and comment. Those Public Workshops were on the dates and at the locations shown below:

- July 25, 2006 – Seminole County Public Workshop at the Sanford Civic Center
- July 26, 2006 – Orange County Public Workshop at Apopka High School
- August 1, 2006 – Lake County Public Workshop at Lake Receptions in Mount Dora

A total of 1,201 attendees signed in at the workshops and 573 comment forms were submitted at or shortly after the workshops. All public comments were reviewed and responded to in writing. Many of the comments expressed opinions in favor of or against specific alignment alternatives or interchange concepts/locations. The public comments on the viable alternatives were analyzed by county and utilized by the project team in further evaluation and assessment of the alternatives. A complete summary and analysis of the public comments received after the workshops can be found in a separate document entitled *Wekiva Parkway PD&E Study Viable Alternatives, Summary of Public Meetings, July/August 2006*.

After the Public Workshops, the project team began attending a series of meetings with homeowners associations, property owners, and others to discuss possible refinements to the viable alternatives in specific areas. There were numerous meetings in August, September, and October of 2006, particularly with homeowners near the alignment alternative for connecting Wekiva Parkway (SR 429) to the SR 417/I-4 interchange. As a

result, refinements and additional alignment alternatives were developed and evaluated. This was also the case in Lake County East for the CR 46A realignment and in northern Orange County for the Wekiva Parkway (SR 429) alignment north of Haas Road and east of Plymouth Sorrento Road. The following list of meetings includes coordination meetings with those stakeholders:

- 08/16/06 – Heathrow Country Estates Homeowners Association near Mount Plymouth
- 08/22/06 – Tall Trees Homeowners Association in Sanford
- 08/25/06 – Seminole County Engineer Jerry McCollum*
- 08/28/06 – Capri Cove Homeowners Association in Sanford
- 09/18/06 – Seminole County Schools Administration Representatives and Principal Barry Liebovitz at Wilson Elementary School in Sanford
- 09/28/06 – Orange County Environmental Protection Division Manager Lori Cunniff and Staff with State Representative Fred Brummer
- 10/10/06 – Estates of Wekiva Park Homeowners Association in Sanford
- 10/11/06 – Tom Vellanti, Owner of the Twelve Oaks RV Resort in Sanford
- 10/16/06 – Lake County Commission Candidate Linda Stewart*
- 10/17/06 – Lakeside Fellowship United Methodist Church Pastor Cameron Lashbrook and Members in Sanford
- 10/17/06 – Wilson Place Homeowners Association in Sanford
- 11/02/06 – Zellwood Station Homeowners Association in Zellwood
- 11/07/06 – Seminole County Expressway Authority Board (presentation)
- 11/08/06 – Sunset Pond Homeowners Association in Mount Dora
- 11/15/06 – Dennis Benbow, Owner of Wekiva River Mitigation Bank property in Lake County
- 12/04/06 – Markham Wood Homeowners Association in Sanford
- 12/05/06 – Florida Department of Transportation, District Five Director of Transportation Development George Lovett and Project Management Staff
- 12/18/06 – Orlando-Orange County Expressway Authority Board Meeting (presentation)
- 01/12/07 – Wekiva River Basin Commission Meeting at ECFRPC (presentation)
- 01/18/07 – Meeting in DeLand with George Lovett, FDOT District Five Director of Transportation Development, and FDOT project management staff
- 01/29/07 – Meeting in Sanford with Seminole County Commissioner Brenda Carey*
- 01/30/07 – Meeting in Sanford with Seminole County Commissioner Mike McLean
- 01/31/07 – Meeting in Orlando with Orange County Public Works/Transportation Planning staff
- 02/02/07 – PD&E Study Environmental Advisory Committee Project Update Meeting
- 02/02/07 – PD&E Study Project Advisory Group Project Update Meeting
- 02/07/07 – Apopka City Council Meeting at Apopka City Hall (re: Route Approval)
- 02/09/07 – Meeting at Sanford City Hall with City Manager Sherman Yehl

- 02/13/07 – Meeting in Eustis with Lake County Public Works Director Jim Stivender
- 02/20/07 – Meeting in Sanford with Seminole County Commissioner Carlton Henley
- 02/21/07 – Meeting in Eustis with Lake County Commissioner Linda Stewart*
- 02/22/07 – Meeting at FDOT Orlando Urban Area Office with FHWA District Representative Manu Chocka
- 02/22/07 – Meeting in Sanford with Seminole County Commissioner Bob Dallari
- 02/23/07 – METROPLAN Orlando Transportation Technical Committee (presentation)
- 02/23/07 – Meeting at Apopka City Hall with City of Apopka Chief Administrative Officer Richard Anderson
- 02/27/07 – Meeting in Mt. Plymouth with Heathrow Country Estates Homeowners Association
- 02/28/07 – METROPLAN Orlando Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee (presentation)
- 03/14/07 – METROPLAN Orlando MPO Board Meeting (presentation)
- 03/15/07 – Meeting at Sanford City Hall with City Commissioner Art Woodruff
- 03/15/07 – Meeting in Sanford with Tall Trees Homeowners Association
- 03/16/07 – Meeting at Mount Dora City Hall with Mayor James Yatsuk*, City Manager Mike Quinn, and Planning/Development Director Mark Reggentin
- 03/20/07 – Meeting in Orlando with Florida Department of Environmental Protection District Director Vivian Garfein* and District/Tallahassee Staff.

* Current or former member of the Wekiva River Basin Commission

5.2.3 Coordination on the Proposed Build Alternative

Based upon comparative assessment of the results of the engineering/environmental analysis and the evaluation of impacts/costs, and after extensive coordination with stakeholders, the Expressway Authority and FDOT, District Five identified a Proposed Build Alternative for the Wekiva Parkway (SR 429)/SR 46 Realignment project in April 2007. Subsequent coordination with state and local agencies, residents, homeowners associations, and other stakeholders resulted in some refinements to or further evaluation of the Proposed Build Alternative in Seminole and east Lake Counties. Meetings related to those and other matters are listed below.

- 04/05/07 – Meeting at Lake Mary City Hall with City Commissioner Gary Brender
- 04/10/07 – Meeting in Orlando with Landowner Scott Taylor and George Lovett of FDOT, District Five
- 04/10/07 – Meeting in Sanford with Representatives of Rock Church
- 04/10/07 – Meeting in Sanford with Representatives of Lakeside Fellowship United Methodist Church
- 04/26/07 – Meeting in Sanford with Seminole County Commissioner Dick Van Der Weide
- 04/30/07 – Meeting at Turnpike Headquarters with FDOT District Five Project Management Staff
- 05/08/07 – Seminole County Expressway Authority Board Meeting (presentation)

- 05/09/07 – Meeting at FDOT, District Five in DeLand with FHWA District Representative Manu Chocka
- 05/11/07 – Meeting in Apopka with State Representative Bryan Nelson
- 05/15/07 – Mount Dora City Council Meeting (presentation)
- 05/21/07 – Meeting in Umatilla with State Representative Alan Hays
- 05/29/07 – Meeting in Tavares with Lake County Commissioner Elaine Renick
- 05/29/07 – Meeting in Winter Park with State Representative Dean Cannon
- 05/30/07 – Meeting in Eustis with State Senator Carey Baker
- 06/01/07 – Meeting in Maitland with State Senator Lee Constantine*
- 06/01/07 – Wekiva River Basin Commission Meeting at ECFRPC (presentation)
- 06/04/07 – Meeting in Tavares with Lake County Commissioner Welton Cadwell
- 06/05/07 – Lake County Board of County Commissioners Meeting (presentation)
- 06/18/07 – Meeting in DeLand with FDOT District Five Project Team (presentation)
- 06/25/07 – Meeting in DeLand with FDOT District Five Secretary Noranne Downs* and senior staff on the Proposed Build Alternative in Lake and Seminole Counties
- 07/02/07 – Meeting in Eustis with Lake County Public Works Director Jim Stvoender on CR 46A Realignment Alternatives and SR 46/CR 46A Intersection Concepts
- 07/17/07 – Meeting in Tallahassee with Florida Department of Environmental Protection senior staff on the Proposed Build Alternative in Lake and Seminole Counties
- 07/24/07 – Meeting with FDOT staff and representatives of Lake, Seminole and Orange Counties on Multi Use Trail interface with Wekiva Parkway and SR 46 reconstruction
- 08/02/07 – Meeting at FDOT in DeLand with District Five Director of Transportation Development George Lovett, OOCEA Executive Director Mike Snyder, Lake County Commissioner Linda Stewart*, and Heathrow Country Estates residents on CR 46A Realignment Alternatives
- 08/06/07 – Meeting at FDOT in DeLand with District Five Secretary Noranne Downs*, George Lovett, and other senior staff regarding a decision on the Proposed Build Alternative in Lake and Seminole Counties
- 08/24/07 – Meeting at FDOT in DeLand on Access Management in Lake and Seminole Counties
- 08/28/07 – Lake County Board of County Commissioners Meeting in Tavares
- 08/30/07 – Project Update Meeting in Winter Park with Rep. Ric Keller’s Aide
- 10/16/07 – Wekiva River Basin Commission Meeting at ECFRPC (presentation)
- 10/19/07 – Meeting with Lake County’s consultant on trails coordination
- 10/22/07 – Meeting with OOCEA and Florida’s Turnpike Enterprise at FTE offices
- 10/23/07 – Lake County Board of County Commissioners Meeting in Tavares
- 10/24/07 – Orlando-Orange County Expressway Authority Board Meeting (presentation)
- 11/13/07 – Seminole County Expressway Authority Board Meeting (presentation)
- 12/04/07 – Meeting at FDOT in DeLand with FHWA District Representative Leslie McCarthy

- 12/04/07 – Meeting in Sanford with Sylvan Lake Reserve Homeowners Association
 - 01/04/08 – Meeting in Orlando with Heathrow Country Estates Homeowners Association Representative
 - 01/15/08 – Mount Dora City Council Meeting in Mount Dora (presentation)
 - 01/17/08 – Meeting in Sanford with Sylvan Lake Reserve Homeowners Association
 - 02/13/08 – METROPLAN Orlando MPO Board Meeting (presentation)
 - 02/27/08 – Wekiva River Basin Commission Meeting at ECFRPC (presentation)
 - 03/20/08 – Meeting in Orlando with Wekiva River Mitigation Bank Representative
 - 04/21/08 – Section 106 Consultation Meeting with Property Owners, et al in Apopka
 - 04/30/08 – Meeting in Sanford with Sylvan Lake Reserve Homeowners Association and Wekiva Parkway Community Coalition (WPCC) representatives
- * Current or former member of the Wekiva River Basin Commission

Seminole County Alternative Evaluation

In May of 2008, the SCEA Board asked FDOT to analyze and evaluate several Wekiva Parkway alignment alternatives in Seminole County proposed by a group of homeowner's associations and others called the Wekiva Parkway Community Coalition (WPCC). Initially, the WPCC proposed nine alternative alignments which FDOT analyzed and evaluated for several months. After a meeting with FDOT to review the results of the alignment analyses, the WPCC then requested that only one specific alignment alternative (referred to as the Northern Alternative or Map G) be further evaluated. The WPCC requested that FDOT perform a detailed assessment of the Map G alternative, including environmental and social impacts, traffic operations, construction costs, etc. After the evaluation was completed, FDOT met again with the WPCC to advise them of the estimated additional costs and substantial environmental impacts of the Map G alternative, as well as the undesirable traffic operations of the concept, compared to the Proposed Build Alternative. FDOT indicated to the WPCC that because of those factors, as well as environmental justice issues, the Map G concept could not be considered a viable alternative. FDOT recommended to the SCEA Board in November 2008 that the Map G concept be eliminated from further consideration and the Proposed Build Alternative was maintained in Seminole County. Meetings related to that and other matters are listed below.

- 05/06/08 – Seminole County Expressway Authority Board Meeting (presentation)
- 05/09/08 – PD&E Study Environmental Advisory Committee Project Update Meeting
- 06/20/08 – PD&E Study Project Advisory Group Project Update Meeting
- 07/03/08 – Meeting in Sanford with Seminole County Commissioner Bob Dallari
- 07/09/08 – METROPLAN Orlando MPO Board Meeting in Orlando (presentation)
- 07/09/08 – Mount Plymouth-Sorrento Planning Advisory Committee Meeting in Sorrento (presentation)
- 07/11/08 – Wekiva River Basin Commission Meeting at ECFRPC (presentation)
- 07/15/08 – Meeting in DeLand at FDOT District Five with DIRC and FHWA on the MLOU for the IMR
- 07/15/08 – Meeting with WPCC representatives in DeLand at FDOT District Five

- 07/23/08 – Lake-Sumter MPO Board Meeting in Tavares (presentation)
- 07/23/08 – METROPLAN Orlando Citizens Advisory Committee Meeting in Orlando (presentation)
- 07/23/08 – METROPLAN Orlando Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee Meeting in Orlando (presentation)
- 07/25/08 – METROPLAN Orlando Transportation Technical Committee Meeting in Orlando (presentation)
- 08/07/08 – FHWA, OOCEA, and FDOT Meeting in Tallahassee
- 08/07/08 – METROPLAN Orlando Municipal Advisory Committee Meeting in Orlando (presentation)
- 09/02/08 – Meeting in Sanford with Seminole County Commissioner Brenda Carey* and OOCEA Executive Director Mike Snyder
- 09/02/08 – Meeting in Sanford with Seminole County Commissioner Bob Dallari, Deputy County Manager Joseph Forte, and OOCEA Executive Director Mike Snyder
- 09/10/08 – Meeting in Orlando with Seminole County Public Works Director Gary Johnson* and County Engineer Jerry McCollum on WPCC Map G Alternatives Analysis
- 09/17/08 – Wekiva Parkway/SR 46 Realignment Project Area Field Review with George Hadley and Linda Anderson of the FHWA, Florida Division Office (Environmental Programs) and Brian Stanger, FDOT District Five Environmental Management Engineer
- 09/19/08 – Meeting in Orlando with OOCEA Executive Director Mike Snyder, Charles Lee* of the Florida Audubon Society, and Keith Schue of The Nature Conservancy
- 09/19/08 – Meeting in Orlando with Trails Stakeholders from Orange, Lake & Seminole Counties, Mount Dora, State of Florida, Metroplan and Lake-Sumter MPOs, ECFRPC, and Interest Groups
- 09/25/08 – Meeting in Sanford with Seminole County Environmental Services Director John Cirello on Impact of WPCC Map G Alternative on Yankee Lake Wastewater Treatment Facility
- 10/13/08 – Meeting in Lake Mary with Lake Mary City Commissioner Gary Brender on WPCC Map G Alternatives Analysis
- 10/15/08 – Meeting in Sanford with Seminole County Commissioner Carlton Henley on WPCC Map G Alternatives Analysis
- 10/15/08 – Meeting in Sanford with Sanford City Commissioner Art Woodruff on WPCC Map G Alternatives Analysis
- 10/16/08 – Meeting in Sanford with Seminole County Commissioner Bob Dallari on WPCC Map G Alternatives Analysis
- 10/20/08 – Meeting in Sanford with Seminole County Commissioner Brenda Carey* on WPCC Map G Alternatives Analysis
- 10/21/08 – Meeting in Sanford with Seminole County Commissioner Michael McLean on WPCC Map G Alternatives Analysis
- 10/27/08 – Meeting in DeLand at FDOT District Five with WPCC representatives to discuss the Map G Alternatives Analysis
- 11/05/08 – Wekiva River Basin Commission Meeting at ECFRPC (presentation)

- 11/18/08 – *Seminole County Expressway Authority Board Meeting in Sanford (presentation)*
 - 12/10/08 – *Meeting at FDOT in DeLand with FHWA District Engineer Chad Thompson*
 - 12/23/08 – *Meeting in Orlando with FDOT and owner of 12 Oaks RV Resort in Sanford*
- * *Current or former member of the Wekiva River Basin Commission*

Lake County East Alternative Revision

Following the identification of the Proposed Build Alternative for the overall project, extensive discussions on funding options reached a crucial decision point in early 2009. Due to declining transportation dollars available to FDOT, it was determined that the preliminary estimated cost of the project (\$1.8 billion) would not be financially feasible to fund without tolls on the Wekiva Parkway in Lake and Seminole Counties.

As stated in the purpose and need for the Wekiva Parkway, a higher capacity east-west facility is needed in east Lake County and west Seminole County. The PD&E Study initially assumed that Wekiva Parkway would be a non-tolled expressway upgrade for SR 46 through the Wekiva River Protection Area, and in compliance with the *Wekiva Parkway and Protection Act*, only those sections of SR 46 needed for local access would remain open to traffic. As such, this was the only area within the proposed project where an alternative route to the expressway would not be provided.

In response to residents in the east Lake County area who expressed concerns over paying a toll for a local trip, FDOT and the Expressway Authority analyzed options to provide a non-tolled alternative for local trips. After several meetings during mid to late 2009 with area residents, local government officials, FDEP, and representatives of the environmental stakeholder community, a two-lane, two-way service road concept parallel to the Wekiva Parkway was developed. To minimize impacts, the service road is proposed to be within the previously identified Wekiva Parkway right-of-way. The service road would extend from just north of the Wekiva Parkway interchange near Neighborhood Lakes to just east of the Wekiva River in Seminole County; that concept was presented at a Public Workshop in Lake County on December 17, 2009. Public comments resulting from the workshop were reviewed and incorporated into the preliminary design of the service road and the Wekiva Parkway mainline. Coordination with the National Park Service also continued during this period, and included discussions regarding the addition of the service road bridge over the Wekiva River.

The following is a list of meetings at which the Proposed Build Alternative, refinements and further evaluations were discussed:

- 02/05/09 – *Wekiva Parkway Project Area Site Visit at Wekiva River with National Park Service*
- 02/09/09 – *Meeting in Sorrento with Residents along SR 46 in East Lake County*
- 02/27/09 – *Wekiva River Basin Commission Meeting at ECFRPC*
- 03/16/09 – *FHWA, OOCEA and FDOT Meeting in Tallahassee*
- 04/14/09 – *Meeting in Sorrento with east Lake County SR 46 area residents, their attorney, and FDOT District Five Right-of-Way Department staff*
- 05/18/09 – *PD&E Study update meeting with Seminole County Commission Chairman Bob Dallari in Sanford*
- 06/09/09 – *Meeting with URS to assist them in starting the Trails Feasibility Study for FDOT*
- 06/10/09 – *PD&E Study update meeting with Representative Alan Hays in Umatilla*

- 06/11/09 – PD&E Study update meeting with Representative Bryan Nelson in Apopka
- 06/12/09 – Participated in a meeting/video conference with the FHWA Florida Division Administrator, Central Office, District Five and OOCEA about Section 4(f) documents
- 06/23/09 – Met at Mount Dora City Hall with City Manager and Director of Planning on results of the US 441/SR 46 Area Traffic Simulation Modeling
- 06/23/09 – Met with land owner Lou Fabrizio and developer Nathan Sanders concerning access to the Orange Commons LLC parcel on SR 46 in Seminole County
- 06/29/09 – Wekiva River Basin Commission meeting at ECFRPC (presentation)
- 06/30/09 – Meeting with Progress Energy substation site team on future parcel access
- 07/21/09 – Lake County Board of County Commissioners meeting in Tavares
- 08/12/09 – OOCEA and FDOT District Five meeting with FDEP in Tallahassee
- 08/25/09 – Project update meeting with Lake County Commissioner Linda Stewart* and Lake County Sheriff Gary Borders in Tavares
- 09/01/09 – Mount Dora City Council Meeting (presentation)
- 09/08/09 – Meeting with Sen. Lee Constantine* at his Altamonte Springs district office
- 09/16/09 – Meeting at OOCEA with Charles Lee* of Audubon Society and FDOT District Five staff
- 09/24/09 – Meeting with Sen. Carey Baker in Eustis
- 09/24/09 – Meeting with Jim Stivender, Lake County Public Works Director, in Eustis
- 09/24/09 – Meeting with Lake County Commissioner Linda Stewart* in Eustis
- 09/28/09 – Meeting with Rep. Alan Hays in Umatilla
- 09/28/08 – Meeting with Capt. Todd Luce at the Lake County Sheriff's Department in Tavares in advance of a public meeting that evening in Sorrento
- 09/28/09 – Night meeting in Sorrento with citizens from east Lake County, Rep. Alan Hays, Mike Snyder, Noranne Downs*, and FDOT Secretary Stephanie Kopelousos
- 10/02/09 – Meeting with Gary Johnson*, Seminole County Public Works Director, and Jerry McCollum, Seminole County Engineer, with Mike Snyder at OOCEA
- 10/22/09 – Meeting in Sanford with Seminole County Commissioner Dick Van Der Weide on the east Lake County frontage road concepts and traffic projections for Seminole County
- 11/09/09 – Attended OOCEA/FDOT meeting with SCEA Board member Lake Mary City Commissioner Gary Brender in Lake Mary
- 12/17/09 – OOCEA Board Meeting (presentation)
- 12/17/09 – Public Workshop in Sorrento on Preliminary Service Road Concept in East Lake County
- 01/12/10 – Presentation on Service Road Concept at East Lake County Chamber of Commerce Meeting in Sorrento

* Current or former member of the Wekiva River Basin Commission

Lake County East Service Road Concept Public Workshop

As shown in the list above, the Service Road concept was presented at a Public Workshop in Lake County on December 17, 2009 at the Sorrento Christian Center from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. A total of 33 public comments resulting from the workshop were reviewed and incorporated into the preliminary design of the service road and the Wekiva Parkway mainline.

In response to public comments at and after the workshop, options for a connector road between a remnant of existing SR 46 and the service road were developed and evaluated by FDOT and OOCEA. The connector road would provide a more direct access connection for the rural residential parcels and a saw mill located east of Old McDonald Road, as well as the parcels served by Old McDonald Road. Without the connector road, some residents along SR 46 in this area would be required to drive as much as 1.6 miles along remnant sections of SR 46 and CR 46A to connect with the service road west of the existing SR 46/CR 46A intersection. For those residents on Old McDonald Road who currently travel approximately one mile along that unimproved road to reach SR 46, without a connector road the distance to the access point at the proposed service road intersection would be approximately 2.6 miles.

A technical memorandum entitled *Evaluation of Connector Road Alternatives between Service Road and SR 46 Remnant in East Lake County* provides information on the purpose and need for a connector road and the analysis of alternatives.

In 2010, coordination continued with the SHPO and NPS regarding outstanding Section 106 and Section 4(f) issues, respectively, as seen in the following list of meetings which also includes meetings on other matters.

- 01/19/10 – *Wekiva Parkway Meeting (Video Conference) on Section 4(f) Issues with OOCEA, FDOT and FHWA in DeLand*
- 01/25/10 – *Wekiva River Basin Commission Meeting in Lake Mary (presentation)*
- 02/22/10 – *FDOT D5/OOCEA Video Conference with FHWA Florida Division Office*
- 03/04/10 – *Conference call with National Park Service at FDOT D5*
- 03/09/10 – *Conference call with SHPO staff at FDOT D5*
- 04/02/10 – *Meeting with Seminole County Engineer, Jerry McCollum, on preliminary concepts for layout of Wekiva Park Drive/Service Road intersection*
- 04/07/10 – *FDOT/OOCEA meeting in DeLand with FHWA and NPS on Wild & Scenic River Programmatic Section 4(f) Evaluation*
- 04/07/10 – *FDOT/OOCEA presentation on Wekiva River bridges to NPS and the Wekiva River System Advisory Management Committee in Sanford*
- 05/05/10 – *OOCEA/FDOT D5 Conference Call with FHWA*
- 06/10/10 – *FDOT/OOCEA Conference Call in DeLand with FHWA*
- 06/22/10 – *Meeting with Two Seminole County Property Owners on Project Impacts*
- 07/14/10 – *Meeting with Seminole County Assistant Fire Chief and County Engineer on Proposed Fire Station near Yankee Lake and Requested Revisions to Preliminary Plans*
- 07/15/10 – *FDOT/OOCEA Teleconference with FHWA*
- 08/11/10 – *Wekiva River Basin Commission Meeting at ECFRPC*

- 08/16/10 – Site Visit to Bock House and Strite House Properties with SHPO Staff
- 08/16/10 – Second Section 106 Consultation Meeting with SHPO, FHWA, Affected Property Owners and Other Stakeholders in Apopka

Prior to and after the Public Hearing on the Proposed Build Alternative

After FHWA approved the draft Environmental Assessment for public availability in August 2010, three Public Hearing sessions were scheduled and held on October 26, 27 and 28, 2010 to present the Proposed Build Alternative to the public for review and comment. The Public Hearing for the Wekiva Parkway (SR 429)/SR 46 Realignment PD&E Study is discussed in *Section 5.3*. Coordination meetings before and subsequent to the Public Hearing are listed below:

- 09/22/10 – Lake-Sumter MPO Board Meeting in Leesburg
- 09/27/10 – FDOT D5/OOCEA Teleconference with FHWA
- 10/04/10 – Meeting with WPCC at FDOT D5 in DeLand
- 10/22/10 – METROPLAN ORLANDO Transportation Technical Committee Meeting (presentation)
- 10/27/10 – METROPLAN ORLANDO Citizens Advisory Committee Meeting (presentation)
- 11/02/10 – Meeting with Harold Barley of METROPLAN ORLANDO on Wekiva Parkway Proposed Build Alternative
- 11/09/10 – Seminole County Expressway Authority Board Meeting/Public Hearing on Proposed Build Alternative (presentation)
- 11/10/10 – METROPLAN ORLANDO MPO Board Meeting (presentation)
- 12/07/10 – Lake County Board of County Commissioners Meeting on Proposed Build Alternative (presentation)
- 12/14/10 – Orlando-Orange County Expressway Authority Board Meeting on proposed Build Alternative (presentation)
- 01/04/11 – Field Visit to Bock House Property with Janus Research for Meeting with Property Owner’s Representative to Reevaluate Out-buildings
- 01/04/11 – Mount Dora City Council Meeting (presentation)
- 01/06/11 – OOCEA/FDOT Conference Call with the National Park Service and FHWA on the Conceptual Design Charette Process for the Wekiva River Bridges
- 01/26/11 – Wekiva River Basin Commission Meeting at ECFRPC (presentation) – approvals of the Proposed Build Alternative by the Lake County Board of County Commissioners, the Seminole County Expressway Authority Board, and the Orlando-Orange County Expressway Authority Board were noted
- 03/02/11 – Wekiva River Bridges Conceptual Design Charette Meeting No. 1 with the National Park Service, FHWA, the Wekiva River System Advisory Management Committee and Other Stakeholders at Wekiva Falls RV Resort in Sorrento (half-day meeting)
- 03/03/11 – Wekiva River Bridges Conceptual Design Charette Meeting No. 1 with the National Park Service, FHWA, the Wekiva River System Advisory Management Committee and Other Stakeholders at Wekiva Falls RV Resort in Sorrento (full-day meeting)

- 04/19/11 – OOCEA/FDOT Conference Call with the National Park Service to Coordinate in Advance of Wekiva River Bridges Conceptual Design Charette No. 2
- 04/20/11 – Wekiva River Bridges Conceptual Design Charette Meeting No. 2 with the National Park Service, FHWA, the Wekiva River System Advisory Management Committee and Other Stakeholders at Wekiva Falls RV Resort in Sorrento
- 05/11/11 – Meeting with the Seminole County Engineer and the OOCEA Executive Director on Alternative Concepts and Adjustments to the Wekiva Parkway (SR 429) Mainline and Service Road Bridges over the Wekiva River
- 05/19/11 – Meeting at FDOT District Five in DeLand with FHWA District Engineer on Responses to Interchange Modification Report Review Comments
- 05/31/11 – OOCEA/FDOT Conference Call with National Park Service to Coordinate on Arrangements for Wekiva River Bridges Conceptual Design Charette No. 3
- 06/07/11 – Wekiva River Basin Commission Meeting at ECFRPC
- 07/13/11 – Wekiva River Bridges Conceptual Design Charette Meeting No. 3 with the National Park Service, FHWA, the Wekiva River System Advisory Management Committee and Other Stakeholders at Wekiva Falls RV Resort in Sorrento
- 11/10/11 – Wekiva River Basin Commission Meeting at ECFRPC
- 01/12/12 – Meeting in Sanford with Seminole County Commissioner Dallari and OOCEA Interim Executive Director Crumit
- 01/17/12 – Metroplan Orlando MPO Board Meeting on Wekiva Parkway
- 02/10/12 – Wekiva River Basin Commission Meeting at ECFRPC
- 02/22/12 – Meeting in Tavares with OOCEA Interim Executive Director Crumit and Lake County BCC Chairwoman Campione, County Manager Gray, and Public Works Director Stivender
- 03/13/12 – Lake County Board of County Commissioners Meeting in Tavares

5.2.4 Pedestrian/Bicycle Coordination

Coordination and planning with representatives of Orange County, Lake County, and Seminole County governments and other stakeholders on an assessment of multi-use trails accommodation was conducted in this PD&E Study. As a result of that coordination, accommodations for potential trail alignments and connections within the project study area were identified, as previously discussed in Section 4.3.1 of this report. FDOT currently has a separate on-going feasibility study of trails in this area and the potential for interface at key locations along the proposed Wekiva Parkway (SR 429)/SR 46 Realignment.

The following is a summary listing of coordination meetings on pedestrian and bicycle facilities held or attended to date during the Wekiva Parkway (SR 429)/SR 46 Realignment PD&E Study:

- 02/28/07 – METROPLAN Orlando Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee (presentation)
- 07/24/07 – Meeting with representatives of Lake, Seminole and Orange Counties on Multi Use Trail interface with Wekiva Parkway and SR 46 reconstruction
- 10/19/07 – Meeting with Lake County’s consultant on trails coordination
- 07/23/08 – METROPLAN Orlando Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee (presentation)

- 09/19/08 – Meeting with Trails Stakeholders from Orange, Lake & Seminole Counties, Mount Dora, State of Florida, MPOs, ECFRPC, and Interest Groups on Multi Use Trail Accommodation
- 06/09/09 – Meeting with URS to assist them in starting the Trails Feasibility Study for FDOT

5.3 Wekiva Parkway Public Hearing

The Wekiva Parkway (SR 429)/SR 46 Realignment PD&E Study third draft *Environmental Assessment* (EA) was signed and approved for public availability by FHWA on August 20, 2010. Public involvement and notification activities in preparation for the public hearing commenced immediately upon receipt of the signed EA.

5.3.1 Public Hearing Preparation and Notification

The public involvement activities prior to the public hearing included preparation of newspaper, television and radio, and Florida Administrative Weekly notifications of the October 26, 27 and 28, 2010 public hearing sessions in Orange, Lake and Seminole Counties. In addition to information on the dates, times, and locations of the public hearing sessions, the notifications also included the notice of availability of the draft *Environmental Assessment* and supporting engineering/environmental documents at eight locations in Orange, Lake, and Seminole Counties and on the Expressway Authority and FDOT websites. The documents were made available for public review on October 1, 2010, more than 21 days prior to the public hearing to afford all stakeholders and other interested persons the opportunity to review the project and prepare questions and comments for the project study team. The review documents remained at the sites until after the end of the public comment period.

After updating the project mailing lists, a total of 18,320 public hearing notification letters were prepared and sent between September 21 and October 1, 2010 to local, state and federal elected and appointed officials, members of the Wekiva River Basin Commission, Environmental Advisory Committee and Project Advisory Group members, all property owners/residents/tenants within or near the study area, interested persons, and other stakeholders. Additionally, approximately 1,600 emails were sent to individuals from the Wekiva Parkway contact database. The letters and emails provided information on the dates, times and locations of the public hearing sessions and the locations of the review documents. A copy of the public hearing advertisement, a map of the hearing locations, project limits and other information about the hearing was included with the notification letters and emails.

5.3.2 Public Hearing Format

The public hearing for the Wekiva Parkway (SR 429)/SR 46 Realignment PD&E Study was conducted in October 2010 to present the Proposed Build Alternative to the public and give all interested persons an opportunity to express their views concerning the location, conceptual design and social, economic and environmental effects of the proposed project. The public hearing consisted of three consecutive sessions in Orange, Lake, and Seminole Counties as follows:

- Orange County – The first session of the public hearing was held at the VFW Post 10147 (Community Center) in Apopka on October 26, 2010 from 5:00 PM to 8:00 PM.
- Lake County – The second session of the public hearing was held at Lake Receptions in Mount Dora on October 27, 2010 from 5:00 PM to 8:00 PM.

- Seminole County - The third session of the public hearing was held at the Civic Center in Sanford on October 28, 2010 from 5:00 PM to 8:00 PM.

A total of 1,327 people attended the public hearing, with 401 at the Orange County session, 455 at the Lake County session, and 471 at the Seminole County session. The attendees were greeted at the entrance of the facility and asked to sign-in at one of two tables staffed by several greeters. Attendees were provided with a Public Hearing brochure which detailed the evening's agenda and provided pertinent project data and information, a map of the Proposed Build Alternative, a speaker request card, and other materials including methods for submitting comments and information on the right-of-way acquisition process. A Noise brochure was also available, which explained the criteria for noise abatement and the traffic noise evaluation process.

All sessions of the public hearing consisted of an open house period from 5:00 PM to 6:00 PM, during which time the public was able to review maps, drawings, documents and other pertinent project information. The study team was available to answer project-related questions. The open house was followed by a formal presentation at 6:00 PM. At the conclusion of the presentation, a ten minute intermission was provided, followed by a formal public comment period.

Two court reporters were in attendance at each of the three sessions. One court reporter was available all evening to record verbatim comments provided by the attendees. The second court reporter was available for the first hour to record attendee comments, and was then responsible for recording the formal presentation and formal speaker comments for the remainder of the evening. A total of 39 speakers provided comments to the court reporters with 6 in Orange County, 13 in Lake County, and 20 in Seminole County. Copies of the public hearing transcript, including the verbatim comments, are appended to the *Summary of Proposed Build Alternative Public Hearing Sessions, October 26, 27 and 28, 2010* (QCA and CH2MHILL). That document, prepared subsequent to the public hearing and formal comment period, is incorporated into the *Comments and Coordination Package* prepared for the Wekiva Parkway (SR 429)/SR 46 Realignment PD&E Study, as discussed below in *Section 5.4*.

5.3.3 Summary of Comments Received

The public comment period extended from October 1, 2010 to November 8, 2010. Comments collected prior to, during, and after the public hearing, up to and including November 8, 2010, are part of the public record for the project. A total of 248 comments were submitted during the public hearing comment period. That includes oral comments provided at the public hearing sessions, comment forms submitted at the public hearing sessions, and emails and mail received during the public hearing comment period. Of that total, 31 duplicate comments (such as attendees providing comments at all three meetings, faxing and then mailing a comment card, etc.) were received.

Of the comment forms received, 12 were submitted at the Orange County public hearing, 21 in Lake County, 53 in Seminole County, 39 were recorded by the court reporters (of these, 34 were speaker comments provided after the formal presentation and 5 were given directly to the court reporter), 36 were received by mail, 1 verbal comment was received by a member of the study team, and 70 were received via email. In addition, the Wekiva Parkway Community Coalition (WPCC) submitted a petition of 543 individuals objecting to the Proposed Build Alternative in Seminole County and advocating an alternative proposed by

the coalition. A copy of the WPCC petition received at the Seminole County Public Hearing session is provided on a CD in the *Comments and Coordination Package*.

The comments suggest general support for or acceptance of the Wekiva Parkway Proposed Build Alternative. A total of 86 comments were received that specifically noted the project was needed and should be completed as soon as possible, while 30 responses expressed opposition to the project. An analysis of these preferences can be found in Section 6.0 of the *Summary of Proposed Build Alternative Public Hearing Sessions* (QCA and CH2M HILL, January 2011).

Table 5-1 outlines the comments received at the public hearing sessions by county. The majority of those with general comments expressed support for the roadway. Many of those expressing support for the roadway cited benefits that the road would bring such as: improved access for the region; better protection for wildlife in the environmentally sensitive Wekiva River Basin area; reduced traffic congestion on SR 46; and greater employment opportunities. The majority of those expressing opposition to the roadway stated concerns about roadway noise in quiet rural areas and worries that their property values would erode with the construction of a new roadway near their property (a central concern in Seminole County). In Lake and Seminole Counties, especially in areas where SR 46 would be realigned or removed, concerns over access were expressed (having to go out of the way to make local trips or access the parkway, fear that emergency vehicle response times might be impacted with a limited access roadway system, etc.). Environmental concerns were also a focus in Seminole County. Several property owners requested that their property be purchased during the right-of-way acquisition process. "Other" represents an array of comments touching on issues such as traffic signal requests, funding concerns and requests to meet with the project team.

TABLE 5-1. PUBLIC HEARING COMMENT SUMMARY BY COUNTY

	Orange County	Lake County	Seminole County	Total
Access Concerns	1	6	4	11
Noise Issues	2	5	10	17
General Comments	11	13	40	64
Support Project	10	10	28	48
Oppose Project	1	3	12	16
Request Info/Maps	4	7	8	19
Drainage Concerns			5	5
Environmental Concerns		1	5	6
Aesthetics/Design			3	3
Other	1	2	3	6
Alignment		1	2	3
Property Value Concerns	1	1	5	7
Property Acquisition	1	2	2	5
Request for Trail		1		1
Keep SR 46 Open		4	1	5
Total	21	43	88	152*

*It should be noted that the number of comments exceeds the number of comment forms as many forms covered multiple topics. Note: the Comment Summary by County table only reflects comments received at the public hearings, not comments received via mail or email.

5.3.4 Comment Analysis and Conclusions

A comprehensive analysis of the public comments (with the exception of the WPCC petition) showed general support for or acceptance of the Proposed Build Alternative and a desire for the project to proceed as quickly as possible.

FHWA requirements state that following the public availability period, the *Environmental Assessment* should be revised or an attachment provided, as appropriate, to reflect changes in the proposed action or mitigation measures resulting from comments received on the *Environmental Assessment* or at the public hearing and any impacts of the changes. The sole change to the proposed action that occurred was, as a result of further coordination with FHWA and the National Park Service in 2011, the project sponsors made commitments that the proposed bridges over the Wekiva River would clear span the waters of the river, that final design coordination would be undertaken with the National Park Service through their Wekiva River System Advisory Management Committee, and that the final bridge plans would not be approved before obtaining a Section 7(a) determination from the National Park Service. As a result, FHWA determined that no impacts to recreational activities on the Wekiva River are anticipated as a result of this project. See *Section 4.3.10* for more information.

5.4 Comments and Coordination Package

A formal *Comments and Coordination Package* was prepared following the three Public Hearing sessions in Orange, Lake and Seminole Counties on the Proposed Build Alternative. The package incorporates all comments received prior to, during, and after the Public Workshops and the Public Hearing conducted during the PD&E Study, as well as the responses provided to those comments.

As previously referenced, two comments and coordination documents were prepared following the Public Workshops for the Initial and Viable Alternatives phases of the PD&E Study. Those summaries are entitled *Wekiva Parkway PD&E Study Initial Alternatives, Summary of Public Meetings, November 2005* (QCA and CH2MHILL) and *Wekiva Parkway PD&E Study Viable Alternatives, Summary of Public Meetings, July/August 2006* (QCA and CH2MHILL). A third summary was prepared following the Public Workshop for the Service Road Concept in east Lake County in December, 2009.

Those three documents contain a summary of all public comments received at and after the Public Workshops. A fourth comments and coordination document entitled *Summary of Proposed Build Alternative Public Hearing Sessions, October 26, 27 and 28, 2010* (QCA and CH2MHILL) was prepared following the Public Hearing and formal comment period. The four documents, specific to the public involvement meetings conducted at each major stage in the alternatives analysis process, are incorporated into the *Comments and Coordination Package*. All comments received through the Public Workshops and the Public Hearing during the PD&E Study, and the responses to those comments, are provided on a CD appended to the *Comments and Coordination Package*.

Public comments and questions were solicited over the course of the PD&E Study. Copies of the comments received from the public by the Public Information Officer during the study that were not directly related to the Public Workshops or the Public Hearing sessions are also provided on a CD in the *Comments and Coordination Package*.

Copies of correspondence received to date from public agencies or governmental entities regarding alternatives or any other aspect of the study are provided in **Appendix F**.

5.5 Commitments and Outstanding Engineering/Environmental Issues

The following is a list of items compiled during the PD&E Study process that have been committed to by FDOT and/or the Expressway Authority or will be revisited in/have been deferred to the final design phase of the project.

US 441/SR 46 Interchange Reconstruction

There has been on-going coordination with the City of Mount Dora on the modification design concepts for the US 441/SR 46 interchange and projected traffic operations. The Proposed Build Alternative proposes an at-grade intersection of US 441 and SR 46, with a grade separated flyover from southbound US 441 to eastbound SR 46. FDOT has committed to reassess projected traffic operations at the US 441/SR 46 interchange, and to reevaluate the design concept, during the final design phase of the project.

Wekiva Park Drive Intersection Design Concept

As requested by the Seminole County Engineer, the design concept for the intersection of Wekiva Park Drive with the service and frontage roads just east of the Wekiva River will be reevaluated during the final design phase of the project. The Proposed Build Alternative proposes a roundabout intersection concept at that location. FDOT has committed to reassess projected traffic operations and further evaluate other design concepts for that intersection.

Special Design Features for the Wekiva River Protection Area

Consistent with the recommendations of the “Guiding Principles for the Wekiva Parkway Design Features and Construction” to support the conservation of dark skies in the Wekiva River Protection Area, FDOT and the Expressway Authority will incorporate non-intrusive and minimal roadway and bridge lighting in the final design plans in appropriate areas for Wekiva Parkway. In addition, safety and design features to promote the continuation of prescribed burning in the Wekiva River Basin will be incorporated in the final design in appropriate areas, particularly near Seminole State Forest.

Landscaping Treatments

The Wekiva River Basin Area Task Force envisioned the Wekiva Parkway as similar to well known scenic highways, and included promoting “a “Parkway” look with appropriate natural buffers between the roadway and the adjacent areas” in the “Guiding Principles”. FDOT and the Expressway Authority are committed to developing a landscape plan during the final design phase that will accentuate the natural environment.

Wildlife Corridors/Habitat Connectivity

As recommended by the “Guiding Principles”, the Proposed Build Alternative includes approximately 7,710 feet of wildlife bridging on the Wekiva Parkway, and with those same bridge lengths on the parallel Service Road, in east Lake County from west of Old McDonald Road to east of the Wekiva River. These bridges will provide enhanced wildlife habitat connectivity at two significant crossing locations, as well the habitat adjacent to the river. Barriers or fencing to direct wildlife to these safe crossing points will be addressed during the final design phase of the project.

Section 4(f) Public Lands

Rock Springs Run State Reserve and Lower Wekiva River Preserve State Park

FDOT and/or the Expressway Authority have committed to actively support the involvement of FDEP, Division of Parks in the proposed project during the final design and construction phases to coordinate on ensuring the avoidance or amelioration of proximity impacts.

Seminole State Forest

The following commitments have been made to the Division of Forestry by FDOT and/or the Expressway Authority:

- to avoid any proximity impacts, particularly smoke management issues, which might impair the use of Seminole State Forest for its intended purpose,
- to actively support the involvement of DOF in the proposed project during the final design and construction phases to coordinate on ensuring the avoidance or amelioration of any such proximity impacts,
- to install two permanent overhead variable message signs that can be used to notify motorists of dangerous smoke conditions,
- to provide funding up to \$75,000 (in 2010 dollars) either as an advance or reimbursement to assist DOF in the provision of one or more remote weather stations to obtain data that can be used in conducting prescribed burns or fighting wildfires, and
- to address with permitting agencies the usage of flowage easements instead of stormwater ponds during the drainage design/permitting phase.

Wekiva Wild & Scenic River

FDOT and the Expressway Authority have made the following commitments to the National Park Service (NPS):

- to clear span the waters of the Wekiva River with the proposed Wekiva Parkway mainline and service road bridges;
- to coordinate with the Wekiva River System Advisory Management Committee on final design of the Wekiva Parkway mainline and service road bridges over the Wekiva River, and;
- to obtain the Section 7(a) determination from NPS prior to approving the final design documents for the Wekiva Parkway mainline and service road bridges over the Wekiva River.

Section 106 Historic Resources

FDOT and the Expressway Authority have concurred with the executed *Memorandum of Agreement* (June 2011) between FHWA and the SHPO for mitigation of adverse effects to the Bock House and Strite House historic resources in Orange County.

Stormwater Ponds in the Wekiva River Basin

Some wildlife advocacy stakeholders have expressed concern over the location of proposed stormwater ponds near the Wekiva River bridges as they perceive it may impact wildlife movement and habitat connectivity. The study team has previously discussed alternatives to stormwater ponds in the Wekiva River Basin with the appropriate permitting agencies, however, those agencies cannot provide formal comment until final drainage design is prepared for their review. The study team has shown the stormwater ponds in the preliminary plans as placeholders to meet stormwater attenuation and treatment requirements. FDOT and/or the Expressway Authority have committed to assess alternatives to stormwater ponds in the final design phase if those drainage alternatives can demonstrate compliance with all applicable stormwater permitting requirements, including prevention of runoff into the Wekiva River.

As noted previously under Section 4(f) Public Lands, the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, Division of Forestry (DOF) has requested that on/near Seminole State Forest land, and on/near adjacent state park and conservation lands, flowage easements be considered instead of stormwater ponds. FDOT and/or the Expressway Authority have committed to DOF to address their request with the appropriate permitting agencies during the drainage design and permitting phase of the project.

Protected Species

The on-going coordination activities with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) will continue into the final design phase. Where protected species are determined to be present, the timing and location of construction activities, and specific mitigation measures, will be in accordance with regulatory guidelines established with the appropriate agencies during the permitting process. FDOT and the Expressway Authority acknowledge the USFWS letters of January 15, 2008 and April 24, 2009 and the FWC letters of May 5, 2008 and July 1, 2010 which request surveys, as well as continued coordination to avoid, minimize, and mitigate impacts to protected species. FWC staff has requested specific consideration of the bluenose shiner as potentially occurring in the Wekiva River; a sampling survey will be conducted prior to the permitting phase. If the bluenose shiner is found in the river, FDOT will coordinate with FWC to develop Best Management Practices to avoid and minimize adverse impacts to the bluenose shiner during work proposed in and around the Wekiva River.

Accommodations for Bat Roosting

During permitting, FDOT will coordinate with the FWC to identify bridges that cross suitable habitat for bats. On those bridges, design will include Texas Bat Abode-type accommodations for bat roosting constructed in accordance with the guidelines found in the on-line compendium for NCHRP Project 25-25(04), "Environmental Stewardship Practices, Procedures and Policies for Highway Construction and Maintenance" posted on the AASHTO's Center for Environmental Excellence website at the following link: http://environment.transportation.org/environmental_issues/construct_maint_prac/compendium/manual/. The number and locations of the roosts will be coordinated with FWC and the FDOT District Five offices of Environmental Management and Maintenance.

Noise

Where determined to be needed based on the results of the TNM, Version 2.5 highway noise prediction model, FDOT and the Expressway Authority are committed to the construction of noise barriers where reasonable and feasible, contingent upon the following conditions:

- Detailed noise analysis during the final design phase supports the need for abatement.
- Reasonable cost analysis indicates that the economic cost of the barrier(s) will not exceed acceptable guidelines as determined by FDOT and the Expressway Authority.
- Community input regarding the barrier(s), solicited by FDOT and the Expressway Authority during the final design phase, is positive.
- Safety and engineering aspects as related to the roadway user and the adjacent property owner(s) are acceptable.
- Any other mitigating circumstances have been resolved.

FDOT and/or the Expressway Authority have committed to conduct a more detailed noise analysis during the final design phase. If, during the final design phase of the project, any of the contingency conditions listed above cause abatement to no longer be considered reasonable or feasible for a given location or locations, such determination will be made prior to requesting approval for construction advertisement. In addition, during final design and prior to construction, those sites that may be affected through any final design alignment changes, including those sites now considered borderline, will be revisited with regard to noise abatement analysis.

FDOT and/or the Expressway Authority have committed to the following with regard to potential construction noise and/or vibration impacts during construction of the proposed roadway improvements.

- For construction noise and vibration sensitive receptors, avoidance and/or mitigation options will be developed during the final design phase. For example, places of worship are considered to be noise-sensitive receivers; particularly noisy construction activities should be limited or avoided during scheduled worship services. These types of avoidance and/or mitigation options will be placed in the construction plans and applied during the construction of the project.
- Should unanticipated noise or vibration issues arise during the construction process, FDOT and/or the Expressway Authority will investigate additional methods of controlling such impacts.

Public Outreach During Final Design and Construction

FDOT and the Expressway Authority commit to provide continued opportunities for public outreach during final design and construction, especially with regard to noise issues.

Floodplain Compensation

Floodplain compensation will be provided in compensating storage ponds to the extent possible to mitigate impacts to existing floodplains as required by the regulatory agencies. Final determination of impacts and compensation volumes will be made during the final design phase. FDEP has asked that all stormwater ponds be located on the west side of the alignment through the Neighborhood Lakes area and, in return, FDEP has agreed to

consider additional floodplain compensation on the west side of the alignment with shortened bridge lengths over floodplains in the marsh areas to reduce construction costs.

Access Management

FDOT and the Expressway Authority are committed to working with affected property owners during the final design and right-of-way acquisition phases of the project to maintain or optimize, to the extent feasible, access to impacted parcels.

Access to Proposed Seminole County Fire Station

As discussed in a meeting with the Seminole County Assistant Fire Chief and the Seminole County Engineer on July 14, 2010, FDOT will consider and evaluate reasonable revisions to the Preliminary Plans during the final design phase in order to accommodate access needs for a proposed Fire Station near Yankee Lake.

Coordination with the U.S. Coast Guard

The United States Coast Guard (USCG) has stated in writing that a permit will not be required for the proposed bridge replacement. However, the USCG indicated that although a bridge permit will not be required from them, the Wekiva River is navigable for purposes of general USCG jurisdiction and the Seventh USCG District Bridge Office must be contacted at the completion of design regarding construction, approval of lights and other signals that may be required. Upon completion of final design of the bridges over the Wekiva River and prior to approval of construction plans, FDOT commits to coordinate with the Seventh USCG District Bridge Office on construction, approval of lights and other signals that may be required.