The objective of this Concept, Feasibility, and Mobility Study is to develop and evaluate alternative mobility programs within the project corridor. The work includes the evaluation and documentation of the physical, natural, social, and cultural environment within the corridor and the potential impacts associated with the various mobility alternatives. This analysis also addresses economic and engineering feasibility, mobility, capacity and levels of service, conceptual geometry and structures, and potential interchange and intersection improvements. Public involvement and interagency coordination are integral parts of the assessment process.

In order to meet the demands of projected population growth, increased cargo movement, sustained growth of tourism activity, anticipated job growth, and planned development, a limited-access, high-speed facility is needed. The goals of this proposed new limited-access facility include providing a connection from Florida’s Turnpike to US 192 and the Osceola Parkway Extension, enhancing mobility of the area’s growing population and economy, providing for the incorporation of transit options, and promoting regional connectivity.

The study corridor of the proposed Northeast Connector Expressway extends from the proposed terminus of the Southport Connector Expressway at Florida’s Turnpike northeast to the vicinity of the Osceola / Orange County line for a distance of approximately 25 miles. The study includes a proposed interchange with Florida’s Turnpike. The Northeast Connector Expressway has been known as the “Southport Connector East” and the “SR 417 Southern Extension in previous studies and discussions.

NORTHEAST CONNECTOR EXPRESSWAY

STUDY OBJECTIVE

GOALS OF THE PROJECT

www.CFXway.com
STUDY CONSIDERATIONS

During previous studies, multiple corridors were developed and presented for further study. This study has performed an evaluation of those previous corridors and concurs with carrying forward and evaluating two, with refinements and shifts analyzed in an effort to improve the viability of the alignments. Additionally, corridors both within and outside of the OCX Master Plan Northeast Connector Corridor will be developed and analyzed. The analysis will consist of incorporating and building upon the previous work achieved from the preceding studies, while conducting a “fresh-look” and researching recent information that could influence the current decision-making. Transportation demands will be determined and a range of mobility options and programs will be evaluated. If one or more of the corridors are found to be feasible as a result of this concept study, they will then proceed to a Project Development and Environment (PD&E) Study to create and evaluate alternative alignments.

PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

This study envisions a robust public involvement program. An Environmental Advisory Group (EAG), a Project Advisory Group (PAG), and public workshops and informational meetings will be held starting July 2017 and continuing through March 2018. In addition, meetings with various stakeholders including neighborhoods, special interest groups, one-on-one meetings with directly affected property owners, as well as direct mailings and newsletters to persons that may have an interest in this project are all aspects of the overall public involvement activities.