

Concept, Feasibility & Mobility Studies

SOUTHPORT CONNECTOR EXPRESSWAY

Fall 2017

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The Southport Expressway is a proposed east-west toll facility connecting Poinciana Parkway at the west terminus to Florida's Turnpike at the east terminus, a distance of approximately 14 miles. The proposed expressway is co-located with existing Cypress Parkway for approximately 3.5 miles, crosses Reedy Creek, then proceeds east, terminating at Florida's Turnpike. The proposed Southport Connector Expressway is a segment of a nearly 60 mile outer beltway of Orlando. Connecting to I-4 near the communities of ChampionsGate and Reunion on the southwest side of Orlando, the proposed beltway extends southeasterly through Poinciana, continues south of Lake Toho, connects to the Florida's Turnpike via an interchange, passes southeast of St. Cloud, and ultimately connects to SR 417 (Central Florida GreenWay) and SR 528 (Beachline Expressway.)

STUDY OBJECTIVE

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 interchanges and intersection improvements. Public involvement and interagency coordination are integral parts of the assessment process.



GOALS OF THE PROJECT

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 improving the roadway connection from the greater Poinciana area to Florida's Turnpike, enhancing mobility of the area's growing population and economy, relieving congestion on local roads, providing for the incorporation of transit options, and promoting regional connectivity.

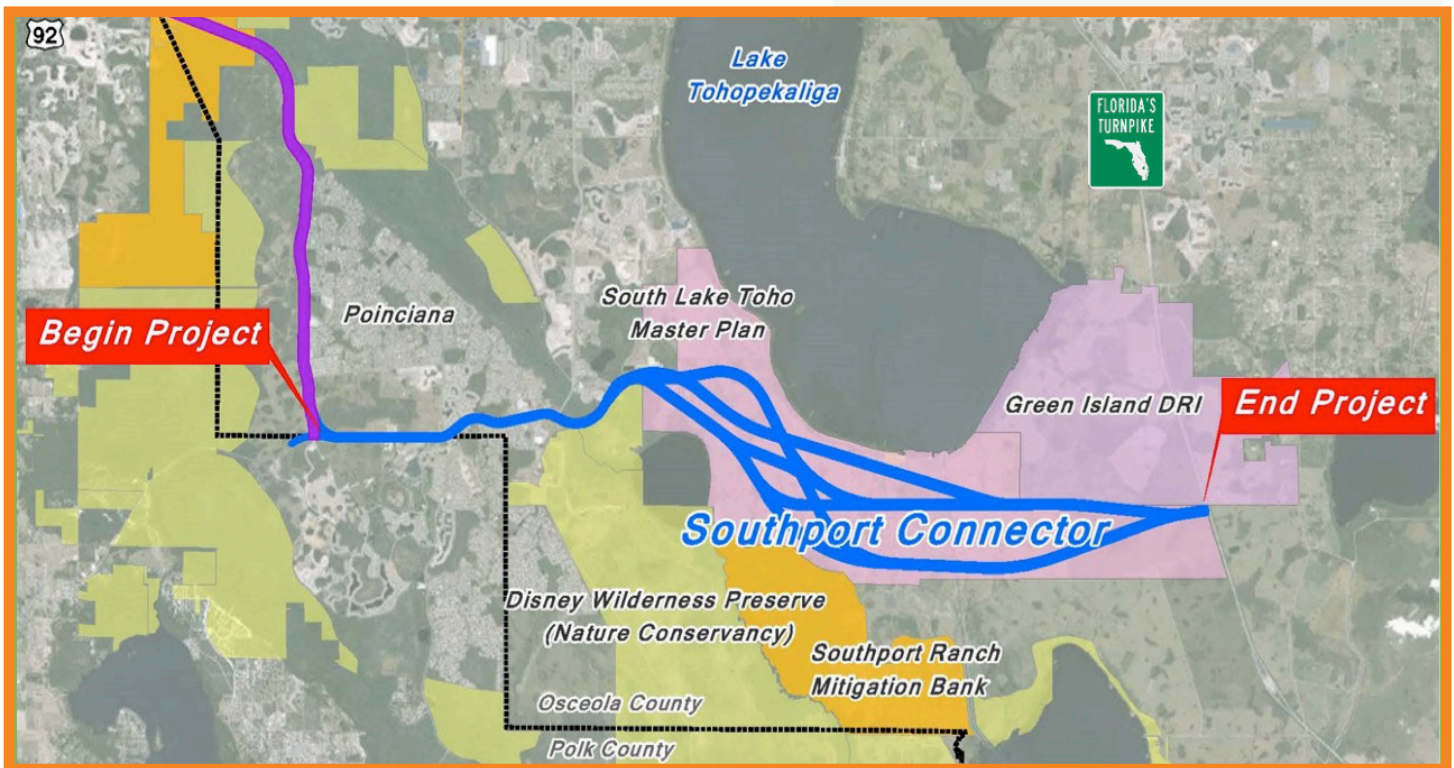


STUDY CONSIDERATIONS

During a previous FDOT study, concern was expressed that corridors crossing Lake Toho would be detrimental to environmental resources and were viewed as having flaws with respect to environmental impacts. Therefore, only corridors south of Lake Toho are being considered for this study. The analysis will consist of incorporating and building upon the previous work achieved from the preceding study, 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 would 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.



TO FIND OUT MORE ABOUT THE STUDIES, CONTACT:

CENTRAL FLORIDA EXPRESSWAY AUTHORITY

Mary Brooks, Public Involvement Coordinator
Phone: (407) 802-3210
Email: ConceptStudies@CFXway.com

4974 ORL Tower Road
Orlando, FL 32807
Phone: (407) 690-5000
Fax: (407) 690-5011
Email: Info@CFXway.com

You may also visit the studies' webpage at:

www.cfxway.com/agency-information/plans-studies/project-studies/concept-studies/

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Public participation is solicited without regard to race, color, national origin, age, sex, religion, disability or family status. Para más información en español acerca del proyecto, por favor comuníquese con Alicia Gonzalez al 786-280-6645 o por correo electrónico agonzalez@mrgmiami.com.