



## **OSCEOLA PARKWAY EXTENSION PROJECT ADVISORY GROUP (PAG)**

### **MEETING SUMMARY**

**Date/Time:** Thursday, February 8, 2018, 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

**Location:** Osceola County Extension Services, Room 162, 1921 Kissimmee Valley Ln, Kissimmee, FL 34744

**Attendees:** There were eight attendees and five staff members – See sign-in sheets attached.

#### **I. Notifications**

Invitation letters were emailed to 44 members of the PAG on January 16, 2018.

#### **II. Welcome**

Mary Brooks, Public Involvement Coordinator, Quest Corporation of America (QCA), called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone. She gave a brief introduction about the meeting and provided safety, housekeeping and Title VI information. Attendees introduced themselves and the organization they represented.

Mary provided a PowerPoint presentation on the:

- Meeting agenda
- History of the study
- Overview of the study corridor
- Overall goals of the project corridors
- Study methodology
- Project schedule
- Public involvement activities



#### **III. Osceola Parkway Extension Presentation**

Matt Lamb from CH2M presented the following information, including:

- **Project Background**

- **Public & Agency Input:** Matt said the team heard the public’s desire to minimize impact to Split Oak Forest and residential areas. People want noise walls and landscape buffering. The study team also heard about the public wanting connectivity to the Florida National Scenic Trail.
- **Project Update:** Based on public comment, the study team developed additional alternatives and worked to minimize impacts to the community. Now there are six potential alignments –two westerly and four easterly alignments. The team has established construction and right-of-way cost estimates, and developed a desktop environmental analysis. Traffic projections also have been prepared for each alternative.
- **Current Alternatives:** The evaluation matrix pairs each western alternative with each eastern alternative for a total of eight combinations. Matt gave a key points’ overview of each alternative. He said all eastern alignments would provide access to the future Sunbridge community, to a future Northeast Connector, and all avoid Split Oak in Orange County. He advised that all alternatives allow 70 mph speed. The long-term plan is that this will be a future east-west route out to the coast.



- **West Ultimate Typical Sections:** Two western alignments feature expressway typical sections (six lanes and room for future transit) and an arterial typical section (four-lane, urban arterial). This would provide direct connect access to Orlando International Airport.
- **West 1B Alternative:** This alternative has fewer impacts to wetlands. It’s a little longer so it’s more costly, and has more impacts to floodways.
- **West 2 Alternative:** This is shorter, so less expensive, but has higher value impacts to parcels in the Poitras Property.

- **East Expressway Ultimate Typical Section:** This is six lanes with a mixed-use trail and transit in the median.
- **East 4A Alternative:** This avoids residential impacts on Clapp Sims Duda Road and avoids the scrub jay habitat in Split Oak Forest, but there still is some impact to the forest.
- **East 4C Alternative:** This is farther south within Split Oak and closer to Cyrils Drive.
- **East 5 Alternative:** This avoids Lake Ajay Village, but hits Southern Oaks. It runs along the southern 400 feet of Split Oak Forest and along the northern line of Cyrils Drive.
- **East 6 Alternative:** This is the full avoidance alternative for Split Oak Forest, but results in greater impacts to Lake Ajay Village and Southern Oaks. Due to the southerly route outside Split Oak Forest, this has impacts to the planned Del Webb development within the Northeast District.
- Matt explained the Evaluation Matrix and next steps for the study – public meetings, alignments refinement and the CFX Board meeting on March 8.

#### IV. Questions & Discussion

Mary Brooks invited questions and discussion on the presentation.



#### **Dave Wegman, Friends of Split Oak**

- Will it connect to State Road 520 or to Viera?
- Matt Lamb: That is still to be determined.
- Wegman: The Governor's Task Force recommended that it go to SR 520.
- Don Whyte, Deseret Ranch: The Governor's Task Force had two recommendations – one to SR 520 and another that dipped south to Nova Road then went east from there.
- Matt: This will need further study.

#### **Brian Hambrick, Lake Ajay Village**

- Who requested a change in the alternatives?
- Matt: CFX, based on all the public comment that came in.

#### **Dave Wegman, Friends of Split Oak Forest**

- What is the deadline on the comment period?
- Mary Brooks: 10 business days after the last public meeting.
- Is there no interchange between Narcoossee and the Northeast Connector?

- Matt: That's correct.
- Wegman: Is the elevated portion along Cyrils we discussed still there?
- Matt: We looked at that for the E2 alignment, but based on impacts it was deemed undesirable.

**Angela Phillips, Lake Ajay Village**

- How close does Alternative 5 come to Lake Ajay or our canals?



- Scott Carter, CH2M: We're working to get you that information. This is fat crayons – we haven't been out there to survey yet, so we don't have numbers yet.
- Angela: We want it a half mile away, so it doesn't affect our environment.

**Brian Hambrick, Lake Ajay Resident**

found them. That's why we're moving away from that area.

- Hambrick: "So if Lake Ajay had scrub jays we'd be safe?"
- Scott: What comes out of the next phase is that they'll look for protected species by sending biologists into the field.

**Napoleon Estrada, Lake Ajay Village**

- What about the use of elevated roads when going through environmentally sensitive areas?
- Scott Carter, CH2M: Yes, that's an option. For wetlands you might mitigate or build a bridge, depending on what's more cost-effective. Elevation is an option to consider. That's one of the options we'll look at.

**Dave Wegman, Friends of Split Oak Forest**

- Who all was invited to today's meeting?
- Mary Brooks: Everyone on the PAG as shown on the sign-in sheets in the back.



## V. Next Steps

Mary Brooks discussed the next three public meetings. The study teams will then take the public comment, make last input to draft reports, and present it to the CFX Board on March 8. She explained we're still six to eight years before construction, if it goes that far. Mary pointed out that public input has made a difference. She said the information from today's meeting would be sent to the attendees and posted on the study website. Mary encouraged attendees to submit comments and to encourage others to submit comments.



### END OF SUMMARY

This meeting summary was prepared by Mary Brooks, Public Involvement Coordinator at QCA. It is not verbatim, but is a summary of the meeting activities and overall discussion. If you feel something should be added or revised, please contact Mary Brooks by email at [mary.brooks@qcausa.com](mailto:mary.brooks@qcausa.com) or by telephone 407-694-5505 within (5) days of receipt of this summary.

