CENTRAL FLORIDA EXPRESSWAY AUTHORITY

CFX Contract Number: 001844
CFX Project Number: 528-307

AIR QUALITY TECHNICAL MEMORANDUM

SR 528 & DALLAS BLVD INTERCHANGE

Martin Andersen Beachline Expressway

PROJECT DEVELOPMENT & ENVIRONMENT STUDY

June 2023

the balmoral group

Introduction

In December 2022, the Central Florida Expressway Authority (CFX) began a Project Development and Environment (PD&E) Study to analyze and evaluate the completion of the Dallas Boulevard interchange by adding a westbound off-ramp and eastbound on-ramp to SR 528 to provide enhanced access and mobility to the Wedgefield community and eastern Orange County. This Technical Memorandum is to document the air quality analysis findings.

Project Description

Currently, the Dallas Boulevard interchange (Exit 24) on State Road (SR) 528 (Martin B. Andersen Beachline Expressway) is a half interchange – consisting of a westbound on-ramp and an eastbound off-ramp. The completion to a full interchange, by adding a westbound off-ramp and eastbound on-ramp, has been identified as a need to provide enhanced access and mobility to the Wedgefield community and eastern Orange County. Currently, residents within Wedgefield must travel north in the subdivision to access SR 520 and then travel south to access SR 528 in the eastbound direction – a distance that can range from approximately seven to thirteen miles – and vice versa when travelling westbound on SR 528. Therefore, this PD&E Study analyzes and evaluates the completion of the Dallas Boulevard interchange (Exit 24) by adding a westbound off-ramp and eastbound on-ramp.

Study Goals

The general objective of this study is to provide documented information necessary for the CFX to reach a decision on the type, design, and location of the completion of the existing SR 528 Dallas Boulevard interchange.

The goals of the SR 528/Dallas Blvd Interchange PD&E Study include:

- Identify transportation mobility options and programs that could meet future demand
- Complete a full interchange for SR 528 at Dallas Blvd
- Enhance mobility for the area's current and future development
- Identify a Preferred Alternative design concept that is consistent with the current and future goals of CFX
- Ensure that conceptual designs accommodate current and future capacity improvements
- Provide consistency with local plans and policies
- Promote regional connectivity

General Existing Conditions and Land Uses of the Project Area

The project area, as defined within the PD&E Study, is the extent of any alternative concepts. For consistency in studying the existing and anticipated conditions of the area surrounding the PD&E Study Area, a half mile radius of the general existing conditions surrounding the project area are used.

The entirety of the project area falls within the Orange County. Within the surrounding area, the majority of the land falls within unincorporated Orange County.

The Land Use in this area has remained a single-family residential subdivision (Wedgefield) to the north, the Econlockhatchee River and Hal Scott Regional Park & Preserve to the west and undeveloped agricultural land in the remainder of the surrounding area. **Figure 1** shows the Current Land Use designations of the area per Statewide Land Cover dataset.

Figure 1 - Project Area - Land Use Designations

Analysis and Results

As part of this project study, an air quality evaluation has been performed consistent with the FDOT PD&E Manual, Part 2, Chapter 19. Based on this initial evaluation, a detailed Air Quality analysis is not needed because the project does not meet the two qualifying criteria per Section 19.2.2.1, Part 2, Chapter 19 of the PD&E Manual. It does not require an Environmental Impact Statement, and it is not expected to have community controversy regarding air quality.

This project is not expected to create adverse impacts on air quality because the project area is in attainment for all National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) and because the project is expected to improve the Level of Service (LOS) and not change the delay and congestion on all facilities within the study area.

Construction activities may cause short-term air quality impacts in the form of dust from earthwork and unpaved roads. These impacts will be minimized by adherence to applicable state regulations and to applicable FDOT Standard Specifications for Road and Bridge Construction.

References

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