

# Harborview Road PD&E Re-evaluation

From Melbourne Street to I-75

Charlotte County, Florida

FPID 434965-2



## Public Hearing – December 5, 2023

### INTRODUCTION

Welcome to the public hearing for Harborview Road PD&E, or Project Development & Environment, Re-evaluation.

The purpose of this hearing is to present information about the design changes and the re-evaluation of the engineering and environmental analysis completed to date. This hearing gives interested persons the opportunity to express their views about the proposed improvements along Harborview Road. On display this evening are maps, display boards, and project related information. The project team is available to discuss the re-evaluation and answer questions.



**Spoken statements during the public testimony and written statements submitted at the hearing, emailed, submitted on the project website, or postmarked by December 15, 2023, will become part of the official hearing record.**

### ABOUT PROJECT

The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT), District One, previously conducted a PD&E Study to evaluate and document the benefits, costs, and impacts of widening Harborview Road from the existing two-lane undivided roadway to a four-lane divided highway to address capacity needs based on projected travel demand generated by future population and economic growth. The PD&E Study (FPID 434965-1) was approved by the Office of Environmental Management on October 14, 2019. The current design has changed from what was prepared during the original PD&E Study, resulting in changes to proposed right-of-way impacts. This hearing is being held to present information about the changes in design which include the re-evaluation of the engineering and environmental analysis completed to date and to provide the opportunity for public feedback for the official hearing record.

### HEARING SCHEDULE AND WHAT TO EXPECT

**5:00 p.m. Open House | 6:00 p.m. Formal Presentation**

#### In Foyer:

- Sign-in Table
- Project Handout
- Technical Document Display
- Comments Table

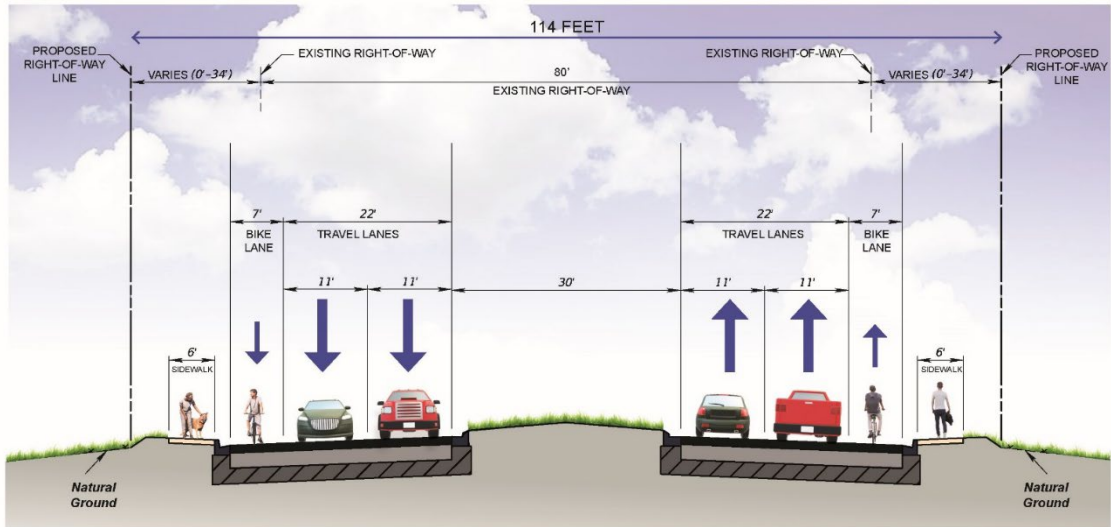
#### In auditorium:

- Project displays
- Project team available for questions and answers
- Comments Tables
- Formal presentation and public testimony (6 pm)

#### In Meeting Room #1:

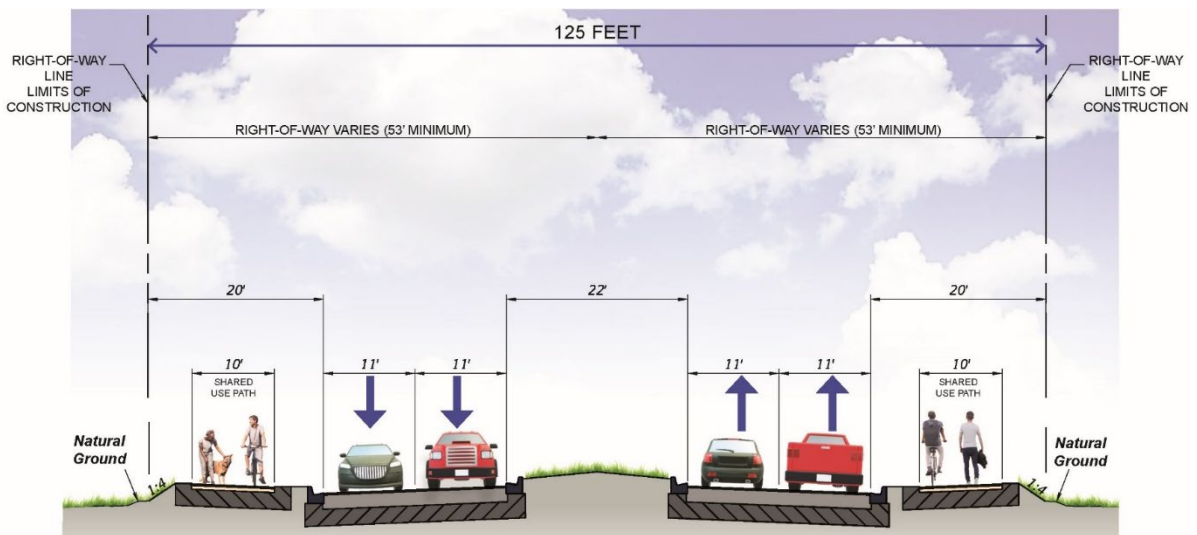
- Project Video (looping until 6 pm)

# PD&E Preferred Alternative Typical Section



The PD&E-preferred alternative is an urban typical section with a four-lane divided roadway consisting of 11-foot travel lanes bordered by Type F curb and gutter, a raised 30-foot grass median, and seven-foot buffered bicycle lanes and six-foot sidewalks on each side of the roadway. The proposed speed limit is 45 miles per hour. Roundabouts were included at Melbourne Street and at the Charlotte County East Port Environmental Campus Frontage Road. The PD&E Study also identified seven stormwater pond locations.







# Design Concept Typical Section



The design concept would similarly widen Harborview Road to four, 11-foot travel lanes. A 22-foot grass median is proposed instead of 30-feet. A 10-foot shared use path on each side of the roadway is proposed in lieu of the sidewalks and bike lanes. The design concept maintains the two roundabouts as described above and similarly proposes a 45 mile per hour speed limit. Additional right-of-way is required throughout the corridor due to raising the road profile to address the high-water table and account for sea-level rise in the design. Some locations of proposed stormwater management pond site locations have changed and the number has been reduced.

# Evaluation Matrix\*

Environmental factors relating to the proposed capacity improvements were evaluated in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended, and other federal requirements. Potential right-of-way impacts and project costs were also evaluated. The evaluation matrix below shows a detailed comparison of the PD&E preferred alternative and the design concept.

Evaluation Criteria	PD&E Preferred Alternative	Proposed Design	Difference
<b>Purpose &amp; Need</b>			
Improves roadway capacity			No change
Maximizes safety for all road users			Improvement
Improves resiliency to flooding and sea level rise			Improvement
<b>Potential Right-of-Way Impacts</b>			
Number of parcels impacted	71	95	24
Roadway right-of-way required (acres)	11.0	16.4	5.4
Stormwater management right-of-way required (acres)	9.5	5.35	- 4.15
Total right-of-way required (acres)	20.5	21.75	1.25
Potential business relocations	0	1	1
Potential residential relocations	3	7	4
<b>Environmental Effects</b>			
Archaeological/Historic sites affected	None	None	No change
Public parks or recreation areas	None	None	No change
Contamination sites (high/ medium)	0/0	0/1	0/1
Noise (potential)	Medium	Medium	No change
Wetland and surface waters (acres)	3.5	2.5	-1.0
Threatened and endangered species (potential)	Medium	Low	Reduction
Prime farmlands (acres)	1.3	0.7	- 0.6
<b>Estimated Total Project Cost</b>			
Design	\$4.0 M	\$5.3 M	\$1.3 M
Wetland Mitigation Cost	\$0.3 M	\$0.3 M	No change
Right-of-Way Cost	\$8.5 M	\$20.0 M	\$11.5 M
Total Construction Cost	\$29.0 M	\$48.1 M	19.1 M
Construction Engineering & Inspection	\$4.4 M	\$4.8 M	\$0.4 M
<b>Total Project Cost</b>	<b>\$46.2 M</b>	<b>\$78.5 M</b>	<b>\$32.3 M</b>

\*Subject to change

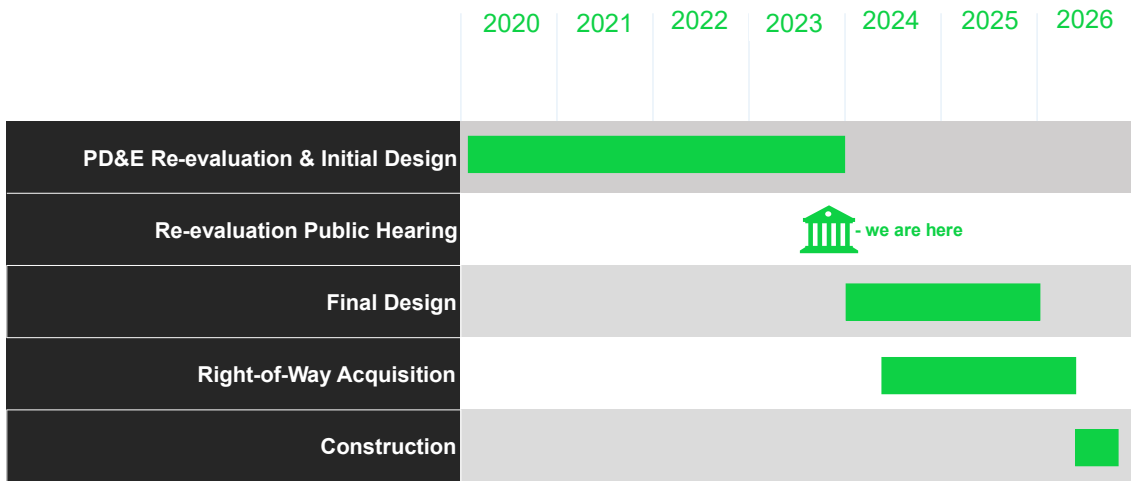
# Need for Improvements

The project need was defined in the previously completed PD&E Study in 2019. The purpose of the project is to accommodate increased traffic demand, including truck traffic, generated by projected growth in Charlotte County. The project will also improve safety along the corridor, enhance emergency evacuation, and improve connectivity between US 41 and I-75.

Within the project limits, Harborview Road is a two-lane, undivided facility with two, ten and a half foot travel lanes (one in each direction) and no paved shoulders or pedestrian or bicycle facilities. There is an existing 80-feet of right-of-way along the project limits. Stormwater runoff is collected in roadside swales and directed to Charlotte Harbor; there is no existing stormwater management system that treats or attenuates roadway runoff. The posted speed limit within the project limits is primarily 45 mph, decreasing to 35 mph through three of the horizontal curves within the project limits.

The project is part of the Charlotte County-Punta Gorda Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) and Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), the Charlotte County Comprehensive Plan, and the State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP).

# Project Schedule\*



Public Hearing    Begin Construction

*\*Dates subject to change*

# Project Funding\*

PHASE	FISCAL YEAR
Design	2020
Right-of-way	2024
Construction**	2026

*\*Dates Subject to Change*

*\*Project segment from Melbourne Street to Date Street is funded for construction in Fiscal Year 2026. Project segment from Date Street to I-75 is not funded for construction at this time.*

## Right-of-Way

Maps on display this evening illustrate right-of-way, or property FDOT needs to acquire to build the proposed project, which includes the widened roadway and stormwater management facilities. To address these effects, FDOT carries out a right-of-way and relocation assistance program in accordance with Section 339.09, Florida Statutes, and the Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Act of 1970. Representatives from FDOT are here tonight to discuss the right-of-way acquisition process with you. Please contact the FDOT District One Right-of-Way Office by telephone at (863) 519-2401 during business hours if you have additional questions about right-of-way.

## Project Technical Documents

Project technical documents will be available for public viewing from November 14, 2023 through December 15, 2023 at:

### **Punta Gorda Charlotte Library**

401 Shreve Street  
Punta Gorda, FL 33950  
Monday/Tuesday: 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.  
Wednesday-Saturday: 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.  
Phone: (941) 833 - 5460

### **Port Charlotte Public Library**

2280 Aaron Street  
Port Charlotte, FL 33952  
Monday/Tuesday/Friday/Saturday: 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.  
Wednesday/Thursday: 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.  
Phone: (941) 764 - 5562

## Comments

FDOT encourages your feedback and comments on the improvements presented at the public hearing. There are multiple ways to submit comments:

### **By Mail to:**

- Christopher Speese  
Florida Department of Transportation,  
District One  
Southwest Area Office  
10041 Daniels Parkway  
Fort Myers, FL 33913

### **At In-Person Venue:**

- Fill out the comment form and return in the comment box at this hearing or fill out a speaker card to participate in the public testimony.

### **Email Comments to:**

- Christopher Speese  
Project Representative  
[Christopher.Speese@dot.state.fl.us](mailto:Christopher.Speese@dot.state.fl.us)

### **Visit the Project Website:**

- <https://www.swflroads.com/project/434965-2>



A summary of the hearing comments and responses will be available on the webpage approximately 30 days following the close of the comment period.

**All comments submitted or spoken at the hearing, emailed, or postmarked by December 15, 2023 carry equal weight and will become part of the official public hearing record.**

*Public participation is solicited without regard to race, color, national origin, age, sex, religion, disability or family status. Persons wishing to express their concerns about Title VI may do so by contacting Cynthia Sykes, District One Title VI Coordinator, at (863) 519-2287, or via email at [Cynthia.Sykes@dot.state.fl.us](mailto:Cynthia.Sykes@dot.state.fl.us).*

*The environmental review, consultation, and other actions required by applicable Federal environmental laws for this project are being, or have been, carried out by FDOT pursuant to 23 U.S.C. § 327 and a Memorandum of Understanding dated May 26, 2022, and executed by FHWA and FDOT.*