



Tradeport Boulevard Feasibility Study

from State Road (SR) 33 to Walt Williams Road
Polk County, FL (FPID 447989-1)

STUDY HISTORY

In 2021, the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) began evaluating the feasibility of a new corridor between SR 33 (Lakeland Hills Boulevard) and Walt Williams Road. The goal of this Feasibility Study was to identify environmental and engineering constraints within the study area and develop a cost-effective preliminary corridor to be evaluated in a future Project Development and Environment (PD&E) Study.

This potential new connection will serve residential areas north of Interstate 4 (I-4), enhance roadway and multimodal connectivity for the community, improve safety, and accommodate increasing traffic. The study focused between the Socrum Loop Road interchange (exit 33) to the west and the SR 33 interchange (exit 38) to the east in the City of Lakeland.

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

FDOT hosted an in-person public workshop for the Tradeport Boulevard Feasibility Study on February 20, 2024, and the live-online public workshop was held on February 22, 2024. Approximately 170 people attended the workshops and FDOT received 26 comments related to the project.

- Attendees at the in-person workshop were able to utilize the “sticker method” to indicate their preference for a particular corridor.
- 103 individuals participated, and of the selections, Corridor 2 received 57% of the stickers.

The public was also encouraged to complete the study survey. The survey was made available on the project website from February 14 through March 4, 2024, and paper copies were also available at the in-person public workshop. FDOT received 58 responses from the survey (55 online and 3 printed surveys which were turned in at the in-person workshop). The survey not only allowed the public to select and/or draw their preferred corridor, including the No Build option, but also asked for their preference on multimodal features, landscaping, and the roadway and median characteristics. The survey also asked respondents to select or recommend potential safety improvements along the corridor.

RECOMMENDATION

Based on environmental and engineering analysis, as well as public input, FDOT recommends Corridor 2, which includes the area between Tradeport Boulevard, crossing I-4 and tying back into Walt Williams Road south of the elementary school, move forward into the next phase as a two-lane roadway, with no median, and a shared-use path.

NEXT STEPS

The City of Lakeland will consider FDOT’s recommendation for Tradeport Boulevard and advance the study to the next phase as funding becomes available.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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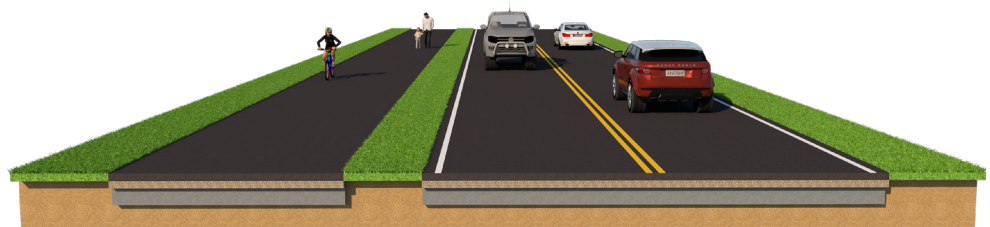
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PROJECT WEBPAGE www.swflroads.com/project/447989-1

