



**JOINT MEETING OF THE CHARLOTTE COUNTY-PUNTA GORDA
METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION BOARD AND LEE COUNTY
METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION BOARD**

**Burnt Store Road Presbyterian Church, Stewart Hall, 11330 Burnt Store Road,
Punta Gorda, Florida at 10:00 a.m.
Friday, February 18, 2022**

- 1. Call to Order/Roll Call/Invocation**
- 2. Pledge of Allegiance**
- 3. Chairs' Comments**
- 4. Public Comments on Agenda Items**
- 5. [Approval of Agenda](#)**
- 6. FDOT Report**
- 7. [Review and Comment on the Joint Transportation Regional Incentive Program \(TRIP\) Project Priority List](#)**
- 8. [Update on the I-75 Connect Studies](#)**
- 9. [Burnt Store Road Corridor Improvements - Status Update](#)**
- 10. [Status of the SR 31 Projects and Staff Coordination on Future Improvements](#)**
- 11. [Regional Coordination Proposal for the Collier, Lee and Charlotte-Punta Gorda MPO Boards](#)**
- 12. [Update on the Regional SUN \(Shared Use Network\) Trail Projects](#)**
- 13. [I-75 Purple Heart Highway Initiative](#)**
- 14. Next Meeting Date**
- 15. Staff Comments**
- 16. Member Comments**
- 17. Public Comments**
- 18. Adjournment**

All interested parties are invited to appear and be heard on each of the above items. Written comments filed with the MPO will be considered. Copies of all of the above proposed documents are available by calling the Lee MPO Office at 239-244-2220 or the Charlotte County-Punta Gorda MPO Office at 941-883-3535.

THIS NOTICE is published pursuant to the requirements of the Federal Laws, Florida Statutes and MPO Policy. NO STENOGRAPHIC RECORD BY A CERTIFIED COURT REPORTER IS MADE OF THIS MEETING. ACCORDINGLY, ANY PERSON WHO MAY SEEK TO APPEAL ANY DECISIONS INVOLVING THE MATTER NOTICED HEREIN WILL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR MAKING A VERBATIM RECORD OF THE TESTIMONY AND EVIDENCE AT THIS MEETING UPON WHICH ANY APPEAR IS TO BE BASED.

Public participation is solicited without regard to race, color, national origin, age, sex, religion, disability, or family status. Persons who require special accommodations under the Americans with Disabilities Act or persons who require translation services (free of charge) should contact the Lee MPO at 239-244-2220 or the Charlotte County-Punta Gorda MPO at 941-883-3535 at least seven (7) days prior to the meeting.

THE MPO'S PLANNING PROCESS IS CONDUCTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH TITLE VI OF THE CIVIL RIGHTS ACT OF 1964 AND RELATED STATUTES. ANY PERSON OR BENEFICIARY WHO BELIEVES HE/SHE HAS BEEN DISCRIMINATED AGAINST BECAUSE OF RACE, COLOR, RELIGION, SEX, AGE, NATIONAL ORIGIN, DISABILITY OR FAMILY STATUS MAY FILE A COMPLAINT WITH THE LEE MPO TITLE VI COORDINATOR CALANDRA BARRACO AT (239) 244-2220 OR BY WRITING HER AT P. O. Box 150045, CAPE CORAL, FLORIDA 33915 OR THE CHARLOTTE COUNTY-PUNTA GORDA MPO TITLE VI COORDINATOR WENDY W. SCOTT AT (941) 883-3535 OR BY WRITING HER AT 25550 HARBOR VIEW ROAD, SUITE 4, PORT CHARLOTTE, FL 33980



JOINT MEETING OF THE CHARLOTTE COUNTY-PUNTA GORDA METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION BOARD AND LEE COUNTY METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION BOARD

**Charlotte Harbor Event and Convention Center
75 Taylor Street, Punta Gorda, Florida
Hibiscus Hall A and B, at 10:00 a.m.
Friday, February 19, 2021**

MEETING MINUTES

Agenda Item #1 - Call to Order/Roll Call/Invocation

The meeting was called to order by Charlotte County Commissioner/Charlotte County – Punta Gorda MPO Chair Joseph Tiseo at 10:00 a.m. The members introduced themselves. There was a quorum for each MPO present. Those present are as follows:

Lee County MPO Board

Commissioner Frank Mann	Lee County Commission
Commissioner Brian Hamman	Lee County Commission
Commissioner Raymond Sandelli	Lee County Commission
Councilmember Teresa Watkins Brown	City of Fort Myers
Councilmember Johnny Streets, Jr.	City of Fort Myers
Councilmember Fred Burson	City of Fort Myers
Councilmember Darla Betzer Bonk	City of Fort Myers
Councilmember Richard Johnson	City of Sanibel
Mayor John Gunter	City of Cape Coral
Councilmember Tom Hayden	City of Cape Coral
Councilmember Dan Sheppard	City of Cape Coral
Councilmember Fred Forbes	City of Bonita Springs
Councilmember Laura Carr	City of Bonita Springs
MPO Chair/Mayor William Ribble	Village of Estero
Vice-Mayor Katy Errington	Village of Estero

Charlotte – Punta Gorda MPO Board

MPO Chair/Commissioner Joseph Tiseo	Charlotte County Commission
MPO Vice-Chair/Commissioner Christopher Constance, M.D.	Charlotte County Commission

Commissioner Stephen R. Deutsch
Commissioner James Herston
Mayor Lynne Matthews

Charlotte County Commission
Charlotte County Airport Authority
City of Punta Gorda

Others in attendance included: Donald Scott, Calandra Barraco and Ranjit Gogoi with the Lee County MPO; Gary Harrell, Bekie Leslie, and Lakshmi N. Gurram with the Charlotte County-Punta Gorda MPO; Stacy Bjordahl, Attorney for the Charlotte County-Punta Gorda MPO, Derek Rooney, Attorney for the Lee County MPO; L. K. Nandam, Wayne Gaither, Jesten Abraham, Joshua Jester and Victoria Peters (FDOT); Nicole Harris (FDOT/Stantec); Lindsay Johnson (Charlotte County); Wally Blain (Tindale Oliver); Ned Baier (Volkert); Katie Habgood (Jacobs Engineering); Peyton McLeod (Patel, Greene & Associates); Nancy Crocker (Lee County School District); Fabiana Solano (City of Punta Gorda); Persides Zambrano (Cape Coral); Rich Walker (GHD); and Charles Counsil (CC/PG MPO's CAC).

Commissioner Herston gave an invocation, and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Agenda Item #2 - Chairs' Comments

Commissioner Tiseo asked for all cell phones to be silenced. He also asked for members to introduce themselves each time before they commented.

Agenda Item #3 - Public Comments on Agenda Items

There were no public comments on agenda items.

Agenda Item #4 - Approval of Agenda

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER CONSTANCE TO APPROVE THE AGENDA FOR THE FEBRUARY 19, 2021 JOINT LEE/CHARLOTTE MPO MEETING. SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER HAMMAN. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Agenda Item #5 - FDOT Report

Mr. L. K. Nandam with FDOT presented the FDOT Report. Mr. Nandam's report contained information on the CARES Act Relief Bill, September Revenue Estimating Conference projections, next Revenue Estimating Conference meeting date, gas tax revenue discussions and alternate solutions, and an M-Cores update. Commissioner Tiseo asked if there were any member comments. There were none. Mr. Jesten Abraham with FDOT then provided information on the upcoming Virtual Safety Summit being held March 4. Commissioner Tiseo asked if there were any member comments. There were none.

Agenda Item #6 - I-75 Managed Lanes Study Presentation

Mr. Wayne Gaither with FDOT introduced Mr. Joshua Jester (FDOT) and Ms. Nicole Harris (FDOT/Stantec) to present this agenda item on the I-75 Managed Lanes Study. Ms. Harris provided a PowerPoint presentation with slides that included information on study update, program history, key milestones, origin/destination traffic data, virtual public meeting preview, revising the direction of the project, new project direction, planning and feasibility phase with

upcoming deliverables, and upcoming events and milestones. The presentation provided by Ms. Harris can be viewed here: [I-75 Managed Lanes Study Presentation](#). Ms. Harris asked if there were any questions. Commissioner Tiseo asked if there were any comments. Commissioner Herston, referencing slide four, asked if the distribution of linear miles is even across each corridor. Ms. Harris replied the North and South corridors are each forty miles, and she was unsure of the length of the Central corridor. Commissioner Herston then asked about slide eight regarding public involvement. Ms. Harris noted the involvement was virtual for both North and South, and public from both areas visited the project website. Commissioner Herston, referring to slide nine, then questioned if the goals of FDOT have changed over the last thirty years. Mr. Nandam replied that the process to determine future needs adjusted with practices. Mr. Nandam also mentioned long term goals, identifying goals, issues with limited funding, and dividing projects into smaller segments to move projects forward. Commissioner Herston then referred to slide ten and asked about target demand and horizon time spans. Mr. Nandam asked if Commissioner Herston was specifically referring to this program. Commissioner Herston replied that it could be confined to this program since it is the subject of the presentation. Mr. Nandam replied that this program will identify both long- and short-term needs and demand. Commissioner Herston commented that FDOT was the most consequential department in the state as well as the state's greatest asset. Commissioner Tiseo asked if there were any comments or additional presentations. Commissioner Constance asked about new interchanges proposed in the southern connector area. Ms. Harris said the slide was an overall handout that showed existing interchanges, and the new interchanges were not on the handout referred to. Commissioner Constance asked if the final Master Plan will be completed in 2022. Ms. Harris replied yes. Commissioner Constance asked if the reports were available for the north and south portions. Ms. Harris noted the update is similar for the north except there are new interchanges. Commissioner Constance asked about an interchange near 301 or the Bradenton River. Mr. Nandam said that interchange is near the border of District One and District Seven and most likely included in the District Seven Plan. Mr. Nandam noted District One is south of that area mentioning modifications and requests to examine interchange possibilities in the area near Del Prado Boulevard in Lee County and Everglades in Collier County. Vice-Mayor Errington commented on the amount of litter and debris on I-75 in Lee County. Commissioner Tiseo said the concern will be noted by FDOT staff. Commissioner Hamman questioned future planning to address congestion on I-75. Ms. Harris mentioned managed lanes and interchange improvements as well as partnering with local jurisdictions on arterials. Commissioner Hamman asked about data to assist with this. Ms. Harris commented on the StreetLight data purchased by FDOT. Commissioner Hamman asked where the most congestion on I-75 was located. Ms. Harris replied that data wasn't available yet. Commissioner Hamman asked how quickly this could go from being in the plan to construction. Ms. Harris said the plan will be implemented in summer of 2022 with PD&E in late 2022 or 2023. Commissioner Hamman asked if there were any near future plans to address concerns. Mr. Nandam responded that the study examines short and long term improvements. He continued that the Cost Feasible update will take place later this year and projects could be inserted based on priorities. He added that the Cost Feasible process must be completed first to provide an idea how to proceed. Mr. Nandam noted it was a separate exercise for Lee County to examine the interchange improvements mentioning SR 78 and Daniels Blvd. specifically. He concluded that as far as the mainline, an update will be provided once the study is completed. Commissioner Hamman asked about the best type of feedback that could be provided. Mr. Nandam mentioned robust public engagement including providing information on problem areas to FDOT. Commissioner Tiseo commented on additional funding. Mr. Nandam noted it is helpful if local jurisdictions commit to funding their fair share. Commissioner Constance mentioned being proactive and looking at growth. Mr. Nandam commented on the

start of the Master Plan study and continued collaboration for identification of roads that will fail as well as partnerships to move projects forward. He provided an example of SR 72 in Sarasota County where growth was identified, and the county worked with developers on proportionate share/impact fees.

Councilmember Laura Carr questioned planning for increased prices/materials costs. Mr. Nandam explained the gas tax and incorporation of inflation in project costs. Commissioner Constance commented on the gas tax and electric vehicles (EV) bring to questioning the best approach/practice for EV legislation. Mr. Nandam replied the best model is the pay as you go/mileage-based model. He added that several states already have an EV registration fee that goes directly to the trust fund and this may be an easy short-term solution. Commissioner Constance mentioned indexing the gas tax and fuel price increases based on weather and pipeline closures. Mr. Nandam said the average car driver pays around \$300 per year in gas taxes. Commissioner Tiseo suggested impact fees could be adjusted based on gas tax revenue shortages.

Agenda Item #7 - Review and Comment on the Joint Transportation Regional Incentive Program (TRIP) Project Priority List

Mr. Scott referred to the table of Joint Trip Priorities that was included in the agenda packet and posted to the MPO websites. The table can also be viewed here: [Joint TRIP Priorities](#). He noted the priorities will be voted on separately at the Charlotte County – Punta Gorda MPO Board meeting in May and the Lee County MPO Board meeting in June. Mr. Scott also discussed the criteria followed, regional map, Burnt Store Road as the top priority, and some TRIP funding for every segment of Burnt Store Road. Mr. Harrell added that both MPOs had previously agreed Burnt Store road would be the top priority. He also mentioned the Harborview Road project and the use of a one percent sales tax/local fund source to match the TRIP funds. Commissioner Tiseo asked if there were any member comments. Commissioner Deutsch referred to previous joint meetings and complimented all on the coordination between Charlotte County and Lee County. Commissioner Tiseo asked if there were any other comments. There were none.

Agenda Item #8 - Burnt Store Road Corridor Improvements - Status Update

Mr. Harrell commented on the Burnt Store improvements in Charlotte County. He noted the Phases I and III of Burnt Store Road are complete with Phase III limits from a point just north of the Lee County Line to a point north of Zemel Road and Phase I limits from south of Notre Dame Blvd. to US 41. He added Phase II, from a point north of Zemel Rd to a point south of Notre Dame Blvd, is currently under construction and is scheduled to be completed in the spring of 2022. He mentioned the project was fully funded in the CIP and this enabled relative ease to provide the required fifty percent match for TRIP funding. Mr. Harrell then introduced Ms. Lindsay Johnson, the Charlotte County manager of the project, to provide a PowerPoint presentation of the Charlotte County progress with Phase II. Ms. Johnson's presentation included slides with information on project cost, design, roadway alignment, schedule, and construction operations. Ms. Johnson's presentation can be viewed here: [Charlotte County Burnt Store Phase II](#). She asked if there were any questions. Commissioner Tiseo asked if there were any comments. There were none. Mr. Scott continued this agenda item with a presentation of the Lee County improvements to the Burnt Store corridor. Mr. Scott gave a brief PowerPoint presentation that included slides with information on a map of the segments, southern segment description, middle and north segment description, and Van Buren to North of Charlotte County line description. Mr. Scott's presentation can be accessed here: [Lee County Burnt Store Improvements](#). He asked if there were any questions. Commissioner Tiseo asked if there were any comments. There were none.

Agenda Item #9 - Status of Planned SR 31 Improvements

Mr. Scott began the PowerPoint presentation for this agenda item on the Planned SR 31 Improvements with slides that provided information on SR 31 from SR 80 to SR 78 description, SR 31 from SR 78 to Cook Brown description, typical section illustration, public meeting PD&E information, and SR 78 from I-75 to SR 31 information. Mr. Harrell then continued the presentation with details on the roundabout planned at the high crash intersection of SR 31 at CR 74/Bermont Road and project description. Commissioner Mann asked about the status of the roundabout at CR 74. Mr. Harrell responded that it is currently programmed for construction in the Work Program so it should be moving forward in the next few years. Commissioner Mann mentioned the initial traffic impact of Babcock Ranch in Lee County and thanked FDOT for including him in the coordination meetings. Commissioner Deutsch noted the large amount of accidents in the area of the planned roundabout and asked FDOT to consider two lanes in both directions on SR 31. Commissioner Mann noted this intersection has record fatalities and the traffic light hasn't made a difference. Commissioner Constance commented on the alignment. Mr. Nandam noted the alignment was based on avoidance of the existing gas line. He also mentioned meeting with Commissioner Mann in Lee County as well as creating a working group with Lee County and Charlotte County staff for continued collaboration with Babcock Ranch. Commissioner Tiseo referenced the developer agreement for Babcock Ranch that takes into account all of the phases through completion and asked if the Lee County portion was taken into account. Mr. Nandam said there are incremental re-evaluations that ensure input at all stages. Commissioner Tiseo deferred to MPO staff to take notes and be involved. Mr. Harrell commented that Lee and Charlotte County staffs would work with FDOT and the MPOs for coordination. Commissioner Mann asked about the trigger mechanisms as to who pays for what and when. He also mentioned there would be numerous decisions ahead about cost allocations noting much of the traffic from Babcock Ranch currently flows south into Lee County for supplies. Commissioner Tiseo mentioned that one of the triggers is certificate of occupancies. He continued that Babcock Ranch is also developing the commercial property with the recent opening of Publix and Starbucks with the idea to provide all of the community necessities on site. Mr. Scott mentioned one additional slide in the presentation that provided information on extending the northern end of SR 31 back into US 17 near Bartow. The entire presentation can be viewed here: [SR 31 Improvements](#). Commissioner Tiseo asked if there were any more comments. There were none.

Agenda Item #10 - I-75 Purple Heart Highway Initiative

Mr. Harrell explained the work and goals of the Military Order of the Purple Heart. He referred to a map of the Purple Heart Highways/Trails in Florida and reviewed the designations. The map can be viewed here: [Purple Heart Highway/Trail Map Florida](#). He added that the possible designation of I-75 as a Purple Heart Memorial Highway in both Charlotte and Lee Counties was discussed at previous joint meetings and a joint resolution was approved in 2019. He noted the end result is to have all of I-75 in Florida designated as a Purple Heart Highway. He added this is not an MPO action but can be coordinated for each county. Commissioner Deutsch noted there is a large number of veterans in Charlotte County and support would be welcomed. Councilmember Fred Forbes mentioned Senate Bill 408 from Senator Bradley of Clay County that could easily include an amendment for Purple Heart designation of I-75 in Lee and Charlotte Counties. He added that the office staff of Senator Rodrigues has a copy. Commissioner Tiseo clarified that there was no action on this item. Mr. Harrell affirmed there was no MPO action, but this could be taken back to each county for support. Mayor Lynne Matthews said that she would present the information to Senator Albritton for support.

Commissioner Tiseo noted there was a delegation meeting coming up. Commissioner Deutsch added both have supported this in the past. He asked if there were additional comments. There were none.

Agenda Item #11 - Next Meeting Date

Mr. Harrell commented the joint meeting was originally held in November but due to many items not being ready at that time it was switched to February. He added that if February was agreeable, then the joint meeting could be continued in February of next year. Mr. Scott said the exact date would be February 18, 2022. Commissioner Tiseo asked if the venue would be switched. Mr. Harrell explained that normally the venue would be switched between counties each year, but due to COVID-19 related issues with securing a large enough venue, it was again held in Charlotte County. Mr. Harrell continued that it would most likely be held in the same venue, the Charlotte Harbor Event Center, next year as well. Commissioner Tiseo reiterated the meeting would be held on February 18, 2022 in Charlotte County and delegated MPO staff to work out the details. He asked if there were any comments. There were none.

Agenda Item #12 - Staff Comments

Mr. Harrell thanked everyone for attending. Mr. Scott thanked Charlotte County- Punta Gorda MPO for arranging the venue.

Agenda Item #13 - Member Comments

Commissioner Deutsch thanked everyone for attending, invited them to view Charlotte County, and wished safe travels for all. Councilmember Carr thanked Charlotte County – Punta Gorda MPO for hosting. Commissioner Tiseo reminded those present about continuing Babcock coordination.

Agenda Item #14 - Public Comments

There were no public comments.

Agenda Item #15 - Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 11:33 a.m.

An audio recording of the entire meeting can be accessed here: [Joint MPO February 19, 2021](#)

All interested parties are invited to appear and be heard on each of the above items. Written comments filed with the MPO will be considered. Copies of all of the above proposed documents are available by calling the Lee MPO Office at 239-244-2220 or the Charlotte County-Punta Gorda MPO Office at 941-883-3535. THIS NOTICE is published pursuant to the requirements of the Federal Laws, Florida Statutes and MPO Policy. NO STENOGRAPHIC RECORD BY A CERTIFIED COURT REPORTER IS MADE OF THIS MEETING. ACCORDINGLY, ANY PERSON WHO MAY SEEK TO APPEAL ANY DECISIONS INVOLVING THE MATTER NOTICED HEREIN WILL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR MAKING A VERBATIM RECORD OF THE TESTIMONY AND EVIDENCE AT THIS MEETING UPON WHICH ANY APPEAR IS TO BE BASED. Public participation is solicited without regard to race, color, national origin, age, sex, religion, disability, or family status. Persons who require special accommodations under the Americans with Disabilities Act or persons who require translation services (free of charge) should contact the *Lee MPO at 239-244-2220 or the Charlotte County-Punta Gorda MPO at 941-883-3535 at least seven (7) days prior to the meeting.* **THE MPO'S PLANNING PROCESS IS CONDUCTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH TITLE VI OF THE CIVIL RIGHTS ACT OF 1964 AND RELATED STATUTES. ANY PERSON OR BENEFICIARY WHO BELIEVES HE/SHE HAS BEEN DISCRIMINATED AGAINST BECAUSE OF RACE, COLOR, RELIGION, SEX, AGE, NATIONAL ORIGIN, DISABILITY OR FAMILY STATUS MAY FILE A COMPLAINT WITH THE LEE MPO TITLE VI COORDINATOR CALANDRA BARRACO AT (239) 244-2220 OR BY WRITING HER AT P. O. Box 150045, CAPE CORAL, FLORIDA 33915 OR THE CHARLOTTE COUNTY-PUNTA GORDA MPO TITLE VI COORDINATOR WENDY W. SCOTT AT (941) 883-3535 OR BY WRITING HER AT 25550 HARBOR VIEW ROAD, SUITE 4, PORT CHARLOTTE, FL 33980**

REVIEW AND INPUT OF THE JOINT TRANSPORTATION REGIONAL INCENTIVE PROGRAM (TRIP) PROJECT PRIORITY LIST

Attachment: [Joint 2022 TRIP Priorities for Lee and Charlotte County-Punta Gorda MPOs](#)

Discussion Item: Review of the Proposed TRIP Project Priorities

Background

The TRIP program provides funding for roadway and transit projects on the regional roadway network map. The TRIP priority projects seeking funding require a minimum fifty percent local funding match; must be a facility on the regional roadway network map; be submitted on a joint project priority list by adjacent MPOs; and are required to be programmed in the local Capital Improvement Element.

Recommendation

Provide input on the proposed priorities for the Joint 2022 TRIP Priorities for Lee and Charlotte County-Punta Gorda MPO. The Joint TRIP Priority List will come back to each MPO Board for approval at a future Regular MPO Board Meeting. Previously, joint meetings of the Charlotte County-Punta Gorda MPO and Lee MPO Boards agreed to make completion of the needed improvements to Burnt Store Road the top annual Joint TRIP project priority submitted to FDOT until completion of all segments of the roadway. We appreciate the commitment that FDOT has made with this funding in the past for the segments that have been completed or are currently underway and hope to continue that with the remaining two-lane segments. FDOT should continue to work with the respective County, City and MPO staffs to complete all segments.

JOINT TRIP PRIORITIES FOR LEE AND CHARLOTTE COUNTY-PUNTA GORDA MPO

Adopted by Lee MPO in May or June

Adopted by Charlotte County-Punta Gorda MPO in May

Sponsor	Route	From	To	Proposed Improvement	Requested Phase	Total Cost	Requested TRIP Funds	Amount of TRIP Funds Prgrammed	Year Funded	2022 Joint Priority
Lee County	Burnt Store Rd	Van Buren Pkwy	Charlotte Co/L	2L to 4L	PE	\$8,320,000	\$4,100,000			
Charlotte County	Harborview RD	Melbourne St	Date St	2L to 4L	CST	\$45,630,000	\$4,000,000	TBD	2025/2026	
Lee County	Corkscrew Road	E. Ben Hil Griffin Road	Bella Terra	2L to 4L	CST	\$24,525,000	\$6,975,000	\$2,651,966	2021/2022	
Charlotte County	Edgewater Dr/Flamingo Blvd Ext.	Midway Blvd	Collingswood Blvd	2L to 4L	PE, CST	\$38,080,000	\$2,200,000			
Lee County	Ortiz Avenue	Colonial Blvd	SR 82	2L to 4L	CST	\$16,520,000	\$4,000,000			
Charlotte County	Jones loop Rd	US 41	Piper Rd	4L to 6L	PE, CST	\$45,020,000	TBD			
Lee County	Corkscrew Road	Bella Terra	Alico Road	2L to 4L	CST	\$16,068,000	\$4,000,000			
Lee County	Three Oaks Pkwy Ext.	Fiddlesticks Canal	Pony Drive	New 4L	CST	\$60,774,000	\$8,000,000			
Lee County	Three Oaks Pkwy	Pony Drive	Daniels Parkway	New 4L	CST	\$31,720,000	\$7,500,000			
Lee County	Ortiz Avenue	SR 82	Luckett Road	2L to 4L	CST	\$28,475,000	\$5,000,000			
Lee County	Alico Extension	Alico Road	SR 82	New 4L	CST	\$106,540,000	\$8,000,000			
Lee County	Ortiz Avenue	Luckett Road	SR 80	2L to 4L	CST	\$28,418,000	\$5,000,000			

UPDATE ON THE I-75 CONNECT STUDIES

Attachments: [Maps of the project limits for the I-75 South, Central and North Corridor Projects](#)

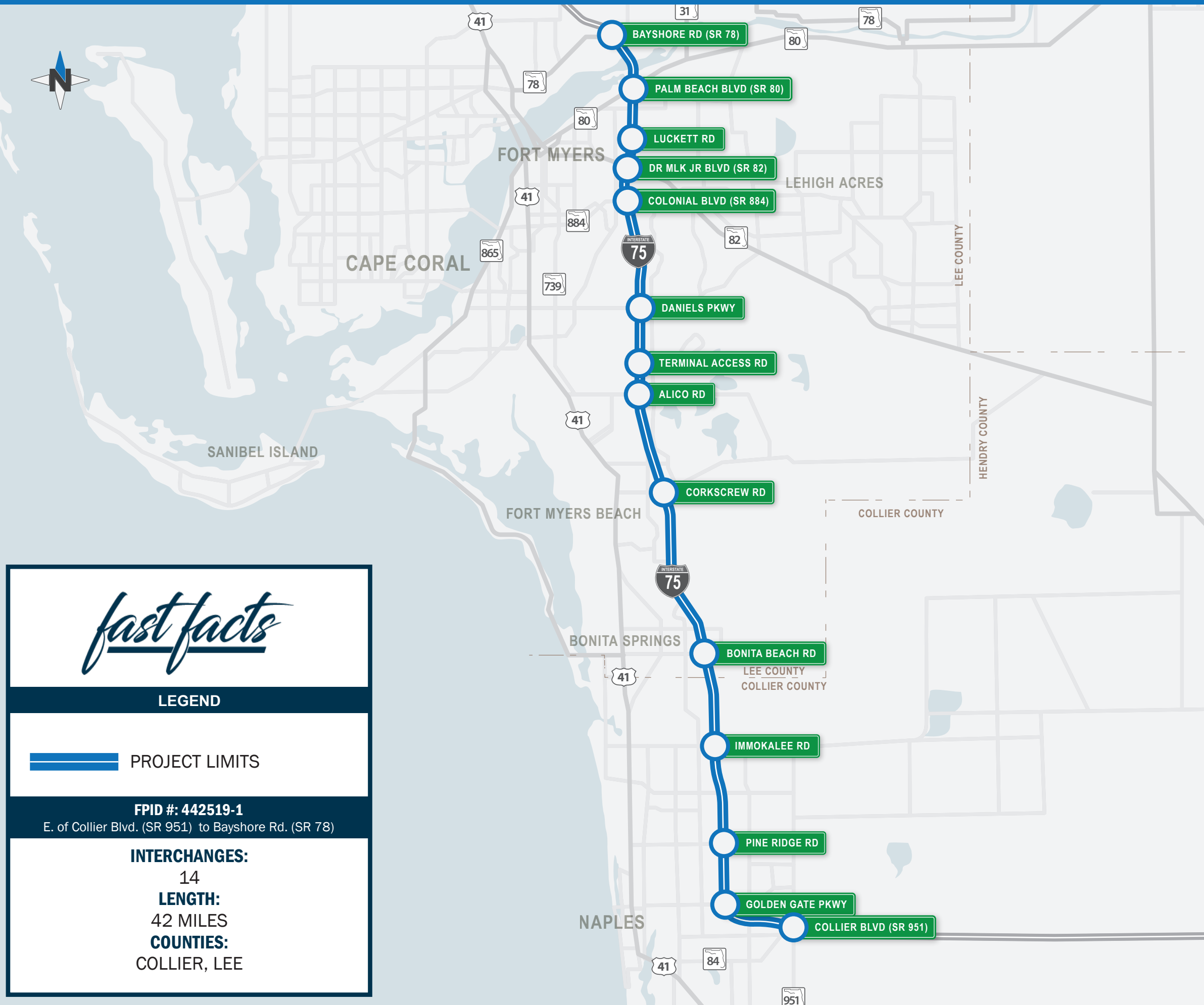
Discussion Item: Update on the I-75 Connect Corridor studies

Background

FDOT is currently conducting the I-75 Connect studies that are working on identifying the needed improvements that will enhance mobility, reduce congestion and improve safety on I-75. The current and future needs of the Interstate will be documented in corridor Master Plans that will provide recommended improvement priorities for implementation.

Presentation

The MPO staff will provide a short overview of the project that will include traffic information from the studies, public comments and questions from the public meetings that were held last June and the current project status.



fast facts

LEGEND

 PROJECT LIMITS

FPID #: 442519-1

E. of Collier Blvd. (SR 951) to Bayshore Rd. (SR 78)

INTERCHANGES:

14

LENGTH:

42 MILES

COUNTIES:

COLLIER, LEE



MOVING FORWARD...TOGETHER

I-75 SOUTH CORRIDOR

PROJECT LIMITS

**I-75 FROM COLLIER BLVD. (SR 951)
TO BAYSHORE RD. (SR 78)**

KATI SHERRARD, PE

Interstate Program Manager

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FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION - DISTRICT ONE
801 N. BROADWAY AVE., BARTOW, FL 33830

STAY INFORMED

www.SWFLINTERSTATES.COM/I75-south-corridor



@myfdotswfl



@mydot_swfl



SARASOTA

SARASOTA COUNTY

780

758

72

INTERSTATE
75

VENICE

NORTH RIVER RD

41

SUMTER BLVD

776

PORT CHARLOTTE

SARASOTA COUNTY

TOLEDO BLADE BLVD

HARDEE COUNTY
DESOTO COUNTY

70

ARCADIA

17

72

17

DESOTO COUNTY
CHARLOTTE COUNTY

KINGS HWY

HARBOR VIEW RD

US 17 (DUNCAN RD)

JONES LOOP RD

TUCKERS GRADE

41

PUNTA GORDA

CHARLOTTE COUNTY
LEE COUNTY

FORT MYERS

78

CAPE CORAL

78

INTERSTATE
75

41

82

fast facts

LEGEND



PROJECT LIMITS

INTERCHANGES:

7

LENGTH:

45 MILES

COUNTIES:

LEE, CHARLOTTE, SARASOTA



MOVING FORWARD...TOGETHER

I-75 CENTRAL CORRIDOR

PROJECT LIMITS

I-75 FROM NORTH OF BAYSHORE RD (SR 78)
TO SOUTH OF NORTH RIVER RD

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FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION - DISTRICT ONE
801 N. BROADWAY AVE., BARTOW, FL 33830

STAY INFORMED

www.SWFLINTERSTATES.COM/I75-central-corridor



@myfdotswfl



@mydot_swfl

ABOUT THE PROJECT

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

I-75 Southwest Connect (North Corridor) is a project that will evaluate the current and future needs that improve safety, operational capacity, functionality, efficiency and connectivity along and across the corridor. The North Corridor project limits are from south of River Road (State Road 777) to north of Moccasin Wallow Road in Sarasota and Manatee counties.

Managed lanes, collector-distributor roadways, auxiliary lanes, interchange operational improvements or new interchanges are being considered.

PURPOSE AND NEED

The purpose of this project is to address the existing operational deficiencies of I-75 within Sarasota and Manatee counties and to accommodate future travel demand projections as a result of forecasted population and employment growth.

Other goals of the project are to

- 1) preserve the operational integrity and regional functionality of I-75 (and, therefore, the regional transportation network) by complementing similar corridor improvements to the south and north on I-75 and
- 2) enhance emergency evacuation and response times.



I-75 NORTH CORRIDOR MASTER PLAN

PROJECT LIMITS: I-75 from south of River Road (SR 777) to north of Moccasin Wallow Road



CONNECTED

INTERSTATE 75 (I-75) CENTRAL CORRIDOR MASTER PLAN STUDY | 2022

MOVING FORWARD...TOGETHER

Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) - District One

Financial Management No: 448864-1

PROJECT CONTACTS

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Nicole.Harris@dot.state.fl.us

WHAT IS A MASTER PLAN?

A Master Plan is a document that summarizes a community's vision for future transportation and provides a set of recommended improvements to enhance safety and mobility.

Development of a Master Plan involves data collection, public outreach, analysis of current and future transportation needs, and the identification and evaluation of potential projects to address those needs.

PROJECT DETAILS

The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) is conducting a Planning and Feasibility study from north of Bayshore Road (SR 78) in Lee County, through Charlotte County to south of River Road (SR 777) in Sarasota County. This project will evaluate the future needs of the I-75 Southwest Connect™ Central Corridor in District One; and, evaluate strategies for the mainline and interchanges that will improve accessibility, mobility, and safety. Results of this study will be documented in this corridor's Master Plan.

The Master Plan will allow FDOT to focus future efforts and funding in the most critical areas. By analyzing existing and expected future traffic and demand on the interstate system. The plan will provide a long-range approach as well as a regional perspective to areas where future demand is predicted. This data will then assist in defining the Project Development and Environment (PD&E) Study limits for the corridor.



CORRIDOR LIMITS:

I-75 from north of Bayshore Road (SR 78)
to south of River Rd. (SR 777)

Improvements identified in this Master Plan may include widening, modifying interchanges, and evaluating requests for new interchanges.

I-75 CENTRAL CORRIDOR MASTER PLAN SCHEDULE



2020				2021				2022			
JAN-MAR	APR-JUN	JUL-SEP	OCT-DEC	JAN-MAR	APR-JUN	JUL-SEP	OCT-DEC	JAN-MAR	APR-JUN	JUL-SEP	OCT-DEC



DATA COLLECTION AND
EXISTING CONDITIONS ANALYSES

AGENCY COORDINATION/PRESENTATION

TRAFFIC FORECASTING & ANALYSIS
AND FACILITIES ENHANCEMENTS REPORTS

AGENCY COORDINATION/PRESENTATION

DRAFT MASTER PLAN

FINAL MASTER PLAN

fast facts



LENGTH

47 MILES



COUNTIES

LEE
CHARLOTTE
SARASOTA



PHASE

PLANNING



Visit www.SWFLInterstates.com/i75-central-corridor for more information.

The Florida Department of Transportation is required to comply with various non-discrimination laws and regulations, including Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. Public participation is solicited without regard to race, color, national origin, age, sex, religion, disability, or family status.

Para información en español por favor comuníquese con nuestro representante, Luis Díaz al 407-710-3341.

Nos interesa mucho la opinión del público sobre este proyecto.

The Florida Department of Transportation may adopt this planning product into the environmental review process, pursuant to Title 23 U.S.C. § 168(d)(4), or to the state project development process.



02112022



CONNECTED

INTERSTATE 75 (I-75) SOUTH CORRIDOR MASTER PLAN STUDY | 2022

MOVING FORWARD...TOGETHER

Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) - District One

Financial Management No: 442519-1

PROJECT CONTACTS

Interstates Project Manager

Joshua Jester, EI

Joshua.Jester@dot.state.fl.us

I-75 Projects Manager

Nicole Harris, PE

Nicole.Harris@dot.state.fl.us

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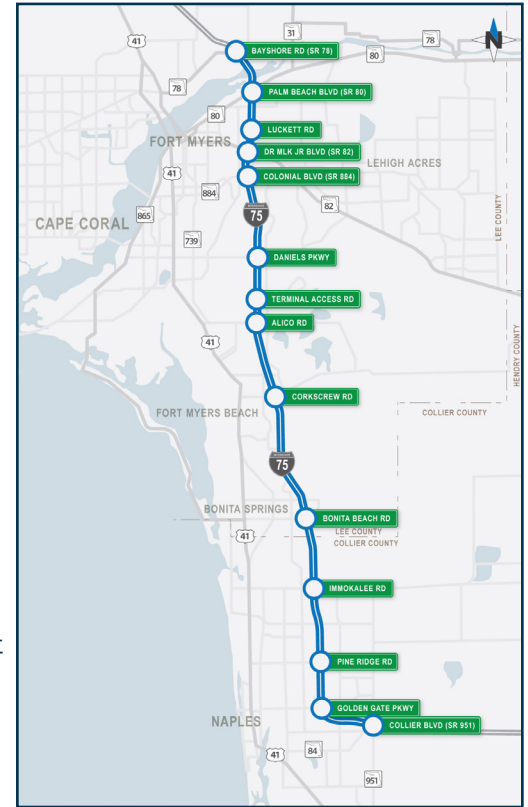
Development of a Master Plan involves data collection, public outreach, analysis of current and future transportation needs, and the identification and evaluation of potential projects to address those needs.

PROJECT DETAILS

The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) is conducting a Planning and Feasibility study from south of Collier Boulevard (SR 951) in Collier County to north of Bayshore Road (SR 78) in Lee County. This project will evaluate the future needs of the I-75 Southwest Connect™ North Corridor in District One; and, evaluate strategies for the mainline and interchanges, including managed lanes, that will improve accessibility, mobility, and safety. Results of this study will be documented in this corridor's Master Plan.

The Master Plan will allow FDOT to focus future efforts and funding in the most critical areas. By analyzing existing and expected future traffic and demand on the interstate system, the plan will provide a long-range approach as well as a regional perspective to areas where future demand is predicted. This data will then assist in defining the Project Development and Environment (PD&E) Study limits for the corridor.

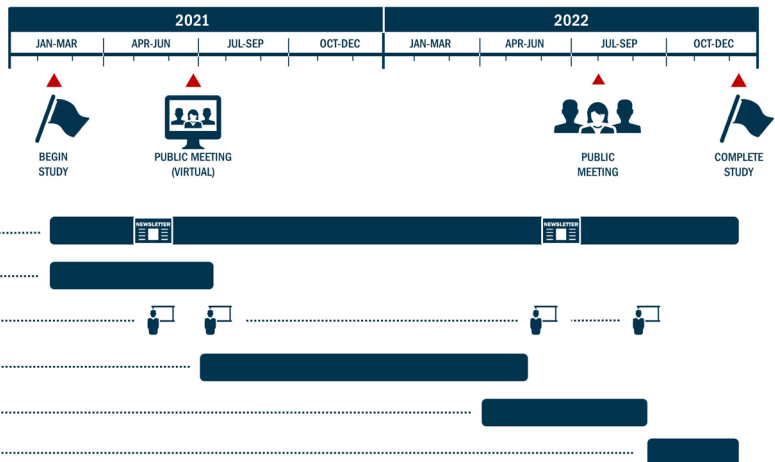
Improvements identified in this Master Plan may include widening, managed lanes, modifying interchanges, and evaluating requests for new interchanges.



CORRIDOR LIMITS:

I-75 from south of Collier Blvd. to north of Bayshore Rd.

I-75 SOUTH CORRIDOR MASTER PLAN SCHEDULE



fast facts



Visit www.SWFLInterstates.com/i75-south-corridor for more information.

The Florida Department of Transportation is required to comply with various non-discrimination laws and regulations, including Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. Public participation is solicited without regard to race, color, national origin, age, sex, religion, disability, or family status.

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CONNECTED

INTERSTATE 75 (I-75) NORTH CORRIDOR MASTER PLAN STUDY | 2022

MOVING FORWARD...TOGETHER

Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) - District One

Financial Management No: 442518-1

PROJECT CONTACTS

Interstates Project Manager

Joshua Jester, EI

Joshua.Jester@dot.state.fl.us

I-75 Projects Manager

Nicole Harris, PE

Nicole.Harris@dot.state.fl.us

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Development of a Master Plan involves data collection, public outreach, analysis of current and future transportation needs, and the identification and evaluation of potential projects to address those needs.

PROJECT DETAILS

The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) is conducting a Planning and Feasibility study from south of River Road (SR 777) in Sarasota County to north of Moccasin Wallow Road in Manatee County. This project will evaluate the future needs of the I-75 Southwest Connect™ North Corridor in District One; and, evaluate strategies for the mainline and interchanges, including managed lanes, that will improve accessibility, mobility, and safety. Results of this study will be documented in this corridor's Master Plan.

The Master Plan will allow FDOT to focus future efforts and funding in the most critical areas. By analyzing existing and expected future traffic and demand on the interstate system. The plan will provide a long-range approach as well as a regional perspective to areas where future demand is predicted. This data will then assist in defining the Project Development and Environment (PD&E) Study limits for the corridor.

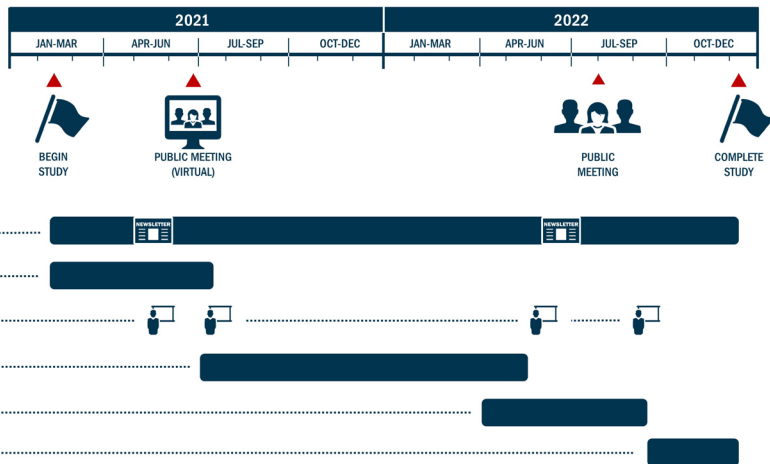
Improvements identified in this Master Plan may include widening, managed lanes, modifying interchanges, and evaluating requests for new interchanges.



CORRIDOR LIMITS:

I-75 from south of River Rd.
to north of Moccasin Wallow Rd.

I-75 NORTH CORRIDOR MASTER PLAN SCHEDULE



fast facts



Visit www.SWFLInterstates.com/i75-north-corridor for more information.

The Florida Department of Transportation is required to comply with various non-discrimination laws and regulations, including Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. Public participation is solicited without regard to race, color, national origin, age, sex, religion, disability, or family status.

Para información en español por favor comuníquese con nuestro representante, Luis Díaz al 407-710-3341.

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BURNT STORE ROAD CORRIDOR IMPROVEMENTS-STATUS UPDATE

Attachments: [Map & Aerial of Burnt Store Road Corridor in Charlotte and Lee Counties](#)

Discussion Item: Burnt Store Road Corridor Improvements Status Report

Background

Burnt Store Road is a north/south two-lane undivided rural roadway that runs from Pine Island Road in Lee County to US 41 in Charlotte County. Capacity improvements to the roadway were recommended in the Burnt Store Road-Veterans Parkway-Colonial Boulevard Bi-County Corridor Study that was completed in 2005. The study called for widening the Burnt Store Road Corridor from two to four lanes from Pine Island Road (SR 78) to I-75 in Charlotte County. The corridor is identified as a critical evacuation route for both Charlotte County and the City of Cape Coral.

Project Development - Lee County

The Lee County DOT segmented the Burnt Store Road project into three different segments from Pine Island Road (SR 78) to Van Buren Parkway using local and Transportation Regional Incentive Program (TRIP) Funding. The Lee County South segment on Burnt Store Road is from Pine Island Road (SR 78) to Tropicana Parkway and is currently under construction. Construction completion is planned for late fall of 2022. The widening of the other two segments, from Tropicana Parkway to Diplomat Parkway and Diplomat Parkway to Van Buren Parkway have been completed.

A Project Development & Environment Study (PD&E) started in January of 2020 for the two-lane segment of Burnt Store Road from Van Buren Parkway to the south terminus of Charlotte County's Segment III. The PD&E study is scheduled to be completed in the fall of 2023. There are currently no other phases programmed at this time, but the design phase is a high priority and the two MPO's are seeking TRIP funding for the design phase.

Project Development - Charlotte County

In Charlotte County, capacity improvements include four-laning, with the addition of bicycle lanes and sidewalks on Burnt Store Road from the Lee County line to US 41, divided into three phases. Phases I and III of Burnt Store Road are complete. Phase III is from a point just north of the Lee County Line to a point north of Zemel Road and Phase I from south of Notre Dame Blvd. to US 41.

Phase II from a point north of Zemel Rd to a point south of Notre Dame Blvd was completed in November 2021. The total cost for construction of this project is \$26.4 million and there were \$4 million dollars of TRIP funds allocated to this project.

The section of North Jones Loop Road from Burnt Store Road to Piper Road is also part of a Feasibility Study that is currently underway, and a PD&E study is planned to follow the feasibility study.

Recommendation

At the April 12, 2012, Joint Lee/Charlotte County-Punta Gorda MPO meeting, it was agreed that the Burnt Store Road Corridor is a regional road that is critical to evacuation efforts for Lee and Charlotte Counties. Both Counties have identified funds to complete significant segments of the roadway expansion in the Corridor but more remains to be done. The MPO Boards agreed to make completion of the needed improvements the annual Joint TRIP project priority submitted to FDOT until completion of all segments of the roadway. FDOT should continue to work with the respective County, City and MPO staffs to complete all segments.

Lee County - Improvements

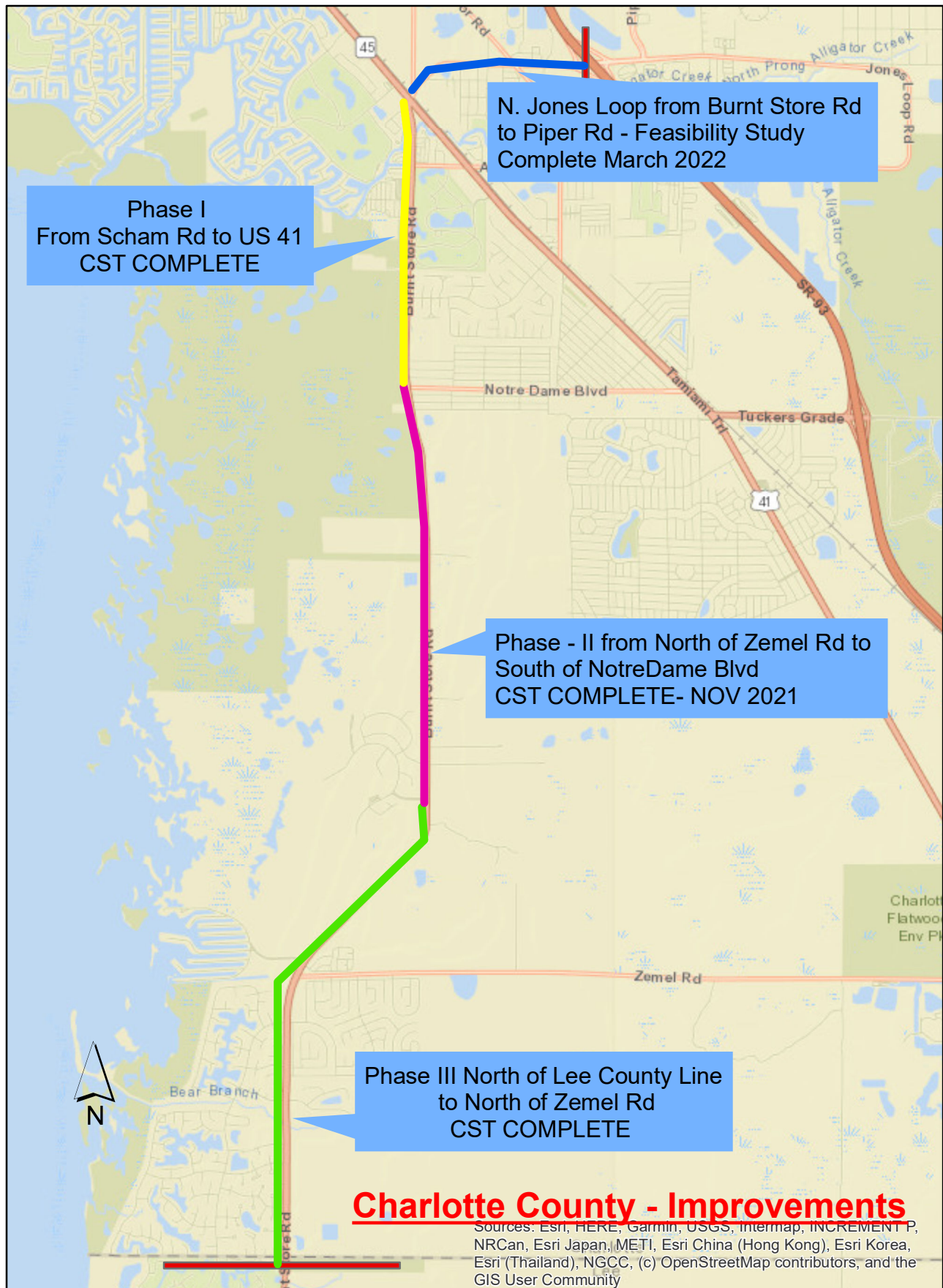
From Van Buren PKWY to
North of Charlotte County line
PD&E UNDERWAY

North Segment from Diplomat Pkwy
to Van Buren Pkwy
CST COMPLETE

Central Segment
From Tropicana Pkwy to
Diplomat Pkwy
CST COMPLETE

South Segment from
Pine Island Rd to Tropicana Pkwy
CST - UNDERWAY

Sources: Esri, HERE, Garmin, USGS, Intermap, INCREMENT P, NRCan, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), Esri Korea, Esri (Thailand), NGCC, (c) OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community



Burnt Store Road Phase II from North of Zemel Road to South of Notre Dame Completed November 2021



STATUS OF SR 31 PROJECTS

Attachments: [SR 31 Project Map](#) and [Long Range Project Table](#)

Discussion Item: SR 31 Corridor Improvements Status

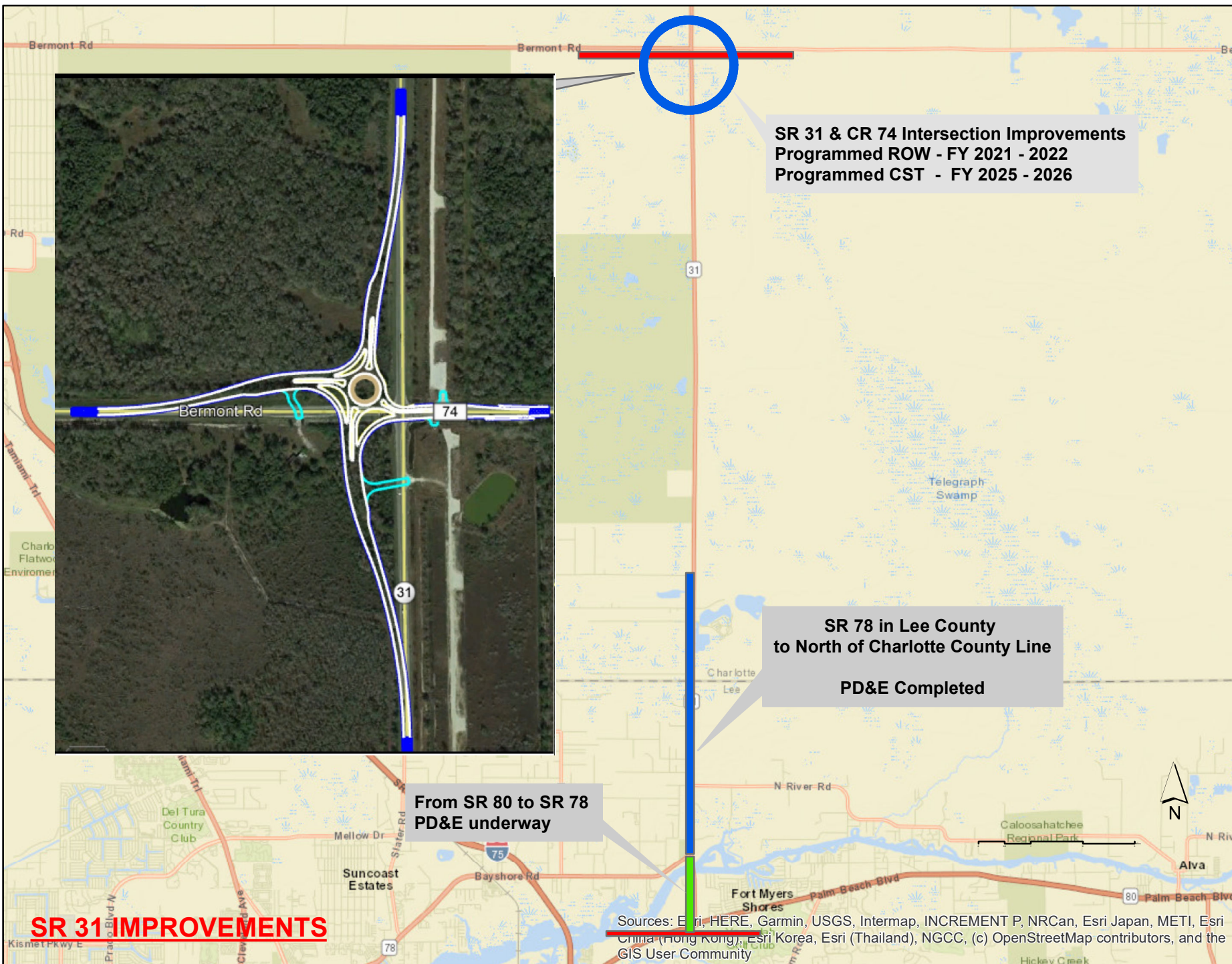
Background

SR 31 is a north/south two-lane undivided rural roadway that runs from SR 80 in Lee County to SR 70 in DeSoto County. The roadway currently carries 9,182 vehicles daily of which approximately 23% are trucks. Capacity improvements to the roadway are included in the Lee and Charlotte County-Punta Gorda 2045 LRTP Cost Feasible plans to meet future traffic needs.

Current Projects in Lee and Charlotte County

- SR 31 from SR 80 (Palm Beach Blvd.) to SR 78 (Bayshore Road) – A Project Development and Environment Study started in February of 2019 and completion of this study is planned for March of 2024. An alternatives public workshop is planned for later this year.
- SR 31 from SR 78 in Lee County to Cook Brown Road in Charlotte County – The SEIR was completed in May of 2021 and the improvements include widening from two to four lanes with a design/build project starting soon.
- SR 31 at CR 74 – A high crash intersection that is currently under design for a roundabout with the construction phase programmed in FY 2025/2026 in FDOT's Tentative Work Program.
- SR 78 from I-75 to SR 31 – A Project Development and Environment Study started in November of 2019 and completion for this study is planned for early 2024. A public information meeting is planned for later this year.

Attached is a project table that includes the proposed projects in the SR 31 Babcock Ranch area that are included in each of the two MPO's Long Range Plans. The staff of the Counties, MPOs and FDOT have met once in the previous year to coordinate on the projected development in the area and future improvements.



Proposed Improvements from the Lee and Charlotte-Punta Gorda MPO Plans in the SR 31/Babcock Ranch Area

L RTP Project Number	FPN	On Street	From Street	To Street	Description	Work Program / TIP funding	L RTP Costs	Source	Notes
44		SR 31	SR 80 (Palm Beach Blvd)	SR 78 (Bayshore Rd)	Widen 2L to 6L		\$100,000,000	2045 L RTP Table 4-1	
SIS 4	441942-2	SR 31	SR 80 (Palm Beach Blvd)	SR 78 (Bayshore Rd)	Widen 2L to 6L	\$9,950,000		2023-2027 Tentative Work Plan	Preliminary Engineering & Utilities
45		SR 31	SR 78	Cook Brown Rd (Charlotte County)	Widen 4L to 6L (Ult Imp.)		\$30,973,000	2045 L RTP Table 4-1	Cost estimate from SR 31 Presentations
	442027-3	SR31	SR 78	Cook Brown Road	Widen 2L to 4L	\$51,078,000		TIP FY21-22 through FY 25-26	ROW; 21/22 SIB Loan
35		SR 31	North of Cook Brown Rd	CR 74	Widen 2 to 4 lanes		\$115,590,000	2045 L RTP Table 7-1	
60	441950-1	SR 31	@ CR 74		Roundabout	\$8,136,173		2021/2022 - 2025/2026 Work Program	
S8		SR 78	I-75	SR 31	Widen 2L to 4L		\$35,710,000	2045 L RTP Table 5-9	PE (2026-2030), ROW (2031-2035) and CST (2031-2035)
2		CR 74 (Bermont Rd)	US 17	Strasse Blvd	Widen 2L to 4L		\$36,840,000	2045 L RTP Table 7-1	
3		CR 74 (Bermont Rd)	Strasse Blvd	SR 31	Widen 2L to 4L		\$166,400,000	2045 L RTP Table 7-1	
18		Del Prado Extension	e/o US 41	SR 31	New 4 lanes		\$263,200,000	2045 L RTP Table 4-1	
29		I-75	I-75	SR 78	Interchange modificaliton		\$40,000,000	2045 L RTP Table 4-1	

REGIONAL COORDINATION PROPOSAL FOR THE COLLIER, LEE AND CHARLOTTE-PUNTA GORDA MPO BOARDS

Attachment: [Lee and Charlotte County - Punta Gorda MPO
Coordination Agreement](#)

Discussion Item:

Background

Last month the Lee MPO Executive Committee discussed options for improving regional coordination between the MPO Boards stemming from some options that were raised by Collier County Commissioner McDaniel at a Collier MPO Board meeting last fall. One of the options he raised included forming a subcommittee of the MPO Board that would meet periodically to make recommendations on regional issues that would then be brought back to each MPO Board for further discussion and action, as necessary. Commissioner McDaniel attended the Lee MPO Executive Committee meeting to provide his input on this and he plans on attending this meeting as well to outline his recommendations. Following the discussion, the Lee County MPO Executive Committee recommended forming an ad-hoc regional coordination committee consisting of three members of the MPO Board that would include one County Commissioner and two elected officials from the communities adjoining the other counties.

Recommendation

Discuss and if there is consensus to implement, provide staff direction to bring the necessary amendments to the coordination agreement to future Lee MPO and Charlotte County - Punta Gorda MPO Board meetings for action.

INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT FOR JOINT REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLANNING AND COORDINATION BETWEEN THE CHARLOTTE COUNTY-PUNTA GORDA AND LEE COUNTY MPOS

This INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT (Agreement) is made and entered into by and between the Charlotte County-Punta Gorda Metropolitan Planning Organization (hereinafter the Charlotte County-Punta Gorda MPO) and the Lee County Metropolitan Planning Organization (hereinafter the Lee County MPO).

Whereas, the Charlotte County-Punta Gorda and the Lee County Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs) are the duly designated and constituted agencies responsible for carrying out the metropolitan transportation planning and programming processes for the Cape Coral-Fort Myers and North Port - Punta Gorda Urbanized Areas; and

Whereas, the elected and appointed officials comprising the policy boards of the Charlotte County - Punta Gorda and the Lee County MPOs recognize the benefits of regional cooperation; and

Whereas, it is to the best interest of Charlotte County - Punta Gorda MPO and the Lee County MPO to coordinate transportation planning and policy activities in this bi-county region to promote regional transportation solutions and enhance overall regional transportation system efficiency using a straightforward, resourceful method; and

Whereas, staff and policy board members from both the Charlotte County-Punta Gorda MPO and the Lee County MPO already coordinate regional transportation issues through their joint participation in the Metropolitan Planning Organization Advisory Council (MPOAC), the District One Coordinated Urban Transportation Studies (CUTS) Committee, Southwest Florida Region Continuing Florida Aviation System Planning Process (CFASPP) Steering Committee and coordination with the Southwest Florida Regional Planning Council (SWFRPC); and

Whereas, the Charlotte County-Punta Gorda and Lee County MPO's staff have always coordinated with each other on projects of mutual interest such as the Burnt Store Road Corridor Study.

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the covenants made by each party to the other and of the mutual benefits to be realized by the parties hereto, the Charlotte County-Punta Gorda and the Lee County MPOs hereby agree as follows:

Section 1. Authority. This Interlocal Agreement is entered into pursuant to the general authority of Sections 339.175, Florida Statutes, relating to metropolitan planning organization, and 163.01, Florida Statutes, relating to interlocal agreements.

Section 2. Purpose. The purpose of this Agreement is to promote and establish a forum for communication and coordination between the Charlotte County-Punta Gorda and Lee County MPOs and to foster joint regional cooperation and conduct regarding transportation planning in accordance with Section 339.175, Florida Statutes, 23 C.F.R. Part 450, Subpart C, and the requirements of related federal legislation. More specifically, this Agreement establishes the commitment by the parties to coordinate and collaborate in good faith and due diligence toward the development of joint regional transportation planning products and processes for the bi-county region of Charlotte and Lee Counties.

Section 3. Joint Meetings. Joint meetings of the governing boards of the Charlotte County-Punta Gorda and Lee County MPOs will be held at least once annually. Representatives from the Citizens' advisory committees of each MPO, will attend their counterparts meetings when common regional issues are to be discussed. The MPO Staff Directors or their alternates will be added as a voting member to the Technical Advisory Committees of the respective opposite MPOs. Quorum requirements for the individual boards of each MPO will determine the quorum requirements at the joint meetings. No action will be taken except upon a majority vote of and among the members of the respective board members present. The Robert Rules of Order will be used as the official rules of procedure while conducting the joint meetings.

Section 4. Planning Functions. The MPOs hereby agree to coordinate and collaborate in good faith and with due diligence to work on the following issues:

1. The planning and project development of roadway and Intelligent Transportation System (ITS) projects that are of common interest to both counties. These projects may include new roadways or improvements on roadways that directly connect both counties, including Interstate 75, US 41, SR 31, and Burnt Store Road.
2. The planning and project development of regional bikeway and/or greenway projects, identified in the Lee County Greenway Plan, the future Charlotte County Bike/Pedestrian Master Plan and either MPO's Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP), that connect both counties and proposed to be funded with regional enhancement and other federal, state, or public-private funds.
3. The planning and project development of urban transit connections between Lee and Charlotte County as identified in each MPO's LRTPs, including all connections between Lee and Charlotte County that may be included in the updates of each MPO's LRTP.
4. The location, planning and project development of future park and ride facilities along the routes of urban transit connections identified in each MPOs' LRTPs and all such facilities that may be included in the updates of each MPO's LRTP.
5. The planning and project development of any future transit services connecting new communities arising out of residential Developments of Regional Impacts in either county to employment generators in the other county.
6. The planning and project development of future intercity passenger rail and freight services connecting the Tampa area to South Florida through Southwest Florida.
7. The planning and project development of a future commuter and freight rail system to assist in alleviating transportation congestion in the Southwest Florida Counties of Desoto, Charlotte, and Lee.
8. The adoption of joint priorities for funding unprogrammed improvements on the identified Regional Multi-Modal Transportation Systems of both MPOs that will be competing for discretionary funding at the state level such as Strategic Intermodal (SIS), Transportation Regional Incentive Program (TRIP) projects and Regional Transportation System Enhancement projects. This provision would also apply to any other future discretionary funding programs that may be established through either state or federal legislation.

Section 5. Planning Products. The parties hereby agree to coordinate and collaborate in good faith and with due diligence to develop the following joint regional planning product described below:

A. Joint Regional Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) Component

The parties will consider the identification and designation of a Joint Regional Multi-Modal Transportation System as a component of each MPO's LRTP. Specifically, this action will identify regionally significant corridors and facilities. If established, this identified System will be studied and refined, as necessary, and considered throughout the LRTP process. Each MPO's LRTP will be consistent with this system, if developed.

B. Joint Regional Priorities

The MPOs will annually consider identifying regional priorities on the MPOs' Regional Multi-Modal Transportation Systems or on the Joint Regional Multi-Modal Transportation System, if established, and include said priorities in the respective MPO's Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). In addition, the MPOs will consider collaborating and prioritizing such project priorities in a joint regional priority list. The joint project priority list will be included in the adopted project priorities of each MPO's TIP and project priorities will be consistent with the jointly identified regional project priorities. Following the submittal of a joint regional priority list to FDOT for TRIP funding consideration, if said projects are not funded, the same list will be resubmitted the following year.

C. Joint Regional Public Involvement Process Component

The MPOs may collaborate to develop and adopt a Joint Regional Public Involvement Component for inclusion into each MPO's existing Public Participation Plan. This Joint Regional Component will prescribe public notice and outreach actions and measures to assure public access and involvement for all joint regional activities.

D. Conflict Resolution

The MPOs will mutually consider developing and adopting a Conflict Resolution Process to resolve any conflicts that may arise related to issues covered in this Agreement. Notwithstanding any such resolution process, the parties to this agreement do not waive their respective rights to seek redress in a court of competent jurisdictions.

Section 6. Staff Services and Costs. The Directors and staffs of each MPO will be responsible for development of the joint regional products identified in this Agreement, with review and final approval by each MPO Board. In this regard, each MPO will cooperate to equitably assign and share in the needed staff resources to accomplish these regional efforts, consistent with their respective Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP). Similarly, non-MPO staff services and costs for the joint regional efforts and products identified in this Agreement will be borne by each individual MPO, as described in its UPWP with deference to the size and budgets of the respective MPOs. The parties agree, as may be necessary in order to carry out the terms and commitments of this Agreement, to cooperate in seeking Federal, State, and local funding for the joint regional products to be developed.

Section 7. Duration of Agreement. This Agreement shall have an initial term of five (5) years, and shall automatically renew at the end of five (5) years for an additional five (5)-year term and every five years thereafter unless terminated or rescinded as set out in Section 9, herein. Prior to the end of each five (5)-year term, the parties shall reexamine the terms hereof to affirm or for possible amendment. However, the failure to amend or reaffirm the terms of this Agreement shall not invalidate or otherwise terminate this Agreement. As a condition subsequent to the approval of this Agreement, this Agreement shall be null

and void and of no effect should the Governor not issue a letter designating the Charlotte County-Punta Gorda and Lee County MPOs as individual MPOs.

Section 8. Modification. This Agreement may be modified at any time, with the approval of both parties, by adopting a new or interlocal agreement addendum, in the same form and manner as this Agreement.

Section 9. Termination-Rescission. This Agreement shall continue in force unless terminated with or without cause by either party by providing thirty (30) days written notice to the other party.

Section 10. Liability. The parties agree that nothing created or contained in this Agreement shall be construed, interpreted or inferred to establish any joint liability amongst or between the parties by the actions or omissions of its individual employees or agents acting pursuant to the terms of this Agreement. In this regard, each party agrees that it shall be solely responsible and bear its own cost of defending any claim or litigation arising out of the acts or omissions of its employees or agents for actions or omissions in carrying out the terms and provisions of this Agreement. Finally, pursuant to Section 768.28, Florida Statutes, neither party shall indemnify the other and nothing contained herein shall be construed or is intended to waive the protections, to either party, of sovereign immunity.

Section 11. Notice. Any notice provided for herein, including the written notice referenced in Section 9 above, shall be provided by Certified Mail, Return Receipt Requested, to the other party's representatives listed below at the following addresses:

Director,
Charlotte County - Punta Gorda MPO
25550 Harbor View, Suite 4
Port Charlotte, Florida 33980

Director,
Lee County MPO
P.O. Box 150045
Cape Coral, Florida 33915-0045

Notice shall be deemed received on the first business day following actual receipt of the notice. The parties will promptly notify the other in writing of any change to their respective addresses.

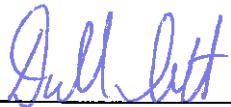
Section 12. Effective Date. This agreement shall become effective upon its approval by both the Charlotte County-Punta Gorda MPO and the Lee County MPO. As required by Section 163.01(11), Florida Statutes, this Interlocal Agreement and all future amendments hereto shall be filed with the Clerks of the Circuit Courts of Charlotte and Lee Counties, Florida.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties herein have executed this Agreement by their duly authorized written below, and shall become effective on the 13th day of December, 2013, as per section 12 of this Agreement.

LEE COUNTY METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

ATTEST:

BY:



Donald Scott
MPO Director



Mayor Kevin Ruane
MPO Chairman

Approved as to form and legal
sufficiency.

MPO Attorney

CHARLOTTE COUNTY – PUNTA GORDA METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

ATTEST:

BY:



Robert M. Herrington
MPO Director



Commissioner Christopher G. Constance,
MPO Chairman

Approved as to form and legal
sufficiency.



Janette S. Knowlton, County Attorney

D.D. 13-2655

UPDATE ON THE REGIONAL SUN (SHARED USE NETWORK) TRAIL PROJECTS

Attachment: A. [SUN Trail Network \(the portion in Charlotte and Lee County is called the Gulf Coast Connector\)](#)

Discussion: Status of projects along the SUN Trail Network (Gulf Coast Connector) in Charlotte and Lee Counties

FDOT developed the statewide SUN Trail Network which is comprised of the paved Priority Land Trails identified in the Florida Greenways and Trails Master Plan. The development of the network is supported by funds available through the SUN Trail Program. These funds are automatically available for projects along the top two regional trail systems in Florida – the Coast to Coast Trail and the St. Johns River-to-Sea Loop. Projects along other trail systems such as the Gulf Coast Connector in Lee and Charlotte County have to compete through a discretionary grant program. Local governments in Charlotte and Lee County have applied for and received \$2.2 million and \$18 million respectively in SUN Trail Program funds. In Lee County, SUN Trail Program funds have been supplemented with Lee MPO allocated federal funds and local funds. Bicycle pedestrian facilities along the Gulf Coast Connector have also been implemented as part of road improvement projects funded through a combination of state County Incentive Grant Program (CIGP), Transportation Regional Incentive Program (TRIP), and local funds. The status of projects along the SUN Trail Network/Gulf Coast Connector in Charlotte and Lee Counties are as follows:

CHARLOTTE COUNTY

Two proposed projects along the SUN Trail Network in Charlotte County were awarded Shared Use Non-Motorized (SUN) Trail Program funds during the 2016 funding cycle for \$1.329 million. In 2019 funding cycle an additional \$782,000 was awarded for construction of North Alligator Creek Pedestrian Bridge and \$110,000 for SR 776 SUN Trail Feasibility Study on SR 776. To qualify for SUN Trail funds, projects must be along trails identified in FDOT's SUN Trail Network (Attachment A).

The status of the SUN Trail funded projects in Charlotte County are as follows

- **Harborwalk Phase 1B (Map ID# CC -1)**, Southern Boardwalk under US 41 Bridges, has been completed. Harborwalk Phase 1A was damaged by Hurricane Irma and officially re-opened after the completion of the repairs.

- **The North Alligator Creek Pedestrian Bridge on US 41 (Map ID# CC-2)** is complete. The project was implemented by the City of Punta Gorda as Local Agency Program project. City provided a local match of \$339,340 total for design & construction.
- **SUN Trail Feasibility Study from Myakka Forest to US 41 (Map ID# CC-3).** The Feasibility Study was approved by the MPO and BoCC at their Dec 16, 2021, and January 25, 2022, meetings. Charlotte County will request approximately \$500,000 towards design for this project in the upcoming 2022 Work Program Project Priority Cycle.

LEE COUNTY PROJECTS

There is a lot of activity taking place in the Lee County portion of the north south SUN Trail network. These activities include bicycle pedestrian improvements in various stages of development, funded through a combination of Lee MPO allocated federal funds, SUN Trail Program funds, County Incentive Grant Program (CIGP) funds, and local funds. Heading north to south, these projects (identified in Map in **Attachment A**) are as follows:

- **Van Buren/El Dorado/Kismet Trail (Map ID# LC1-1):** This is a City of Cape Coral project. Phase I Construction is under way and is anticipated to be completed in December 2022. The project limits are from Burnt Store Road to Nelson Road. Phase 2 Construction on Kismet Parkway from Nelson Road to Del Prado Boulevard is programmed in FY 2025. Phase 3 Design on Kismet Parkway from Del Prado Boulevard to NE 24th Avenue is currently under way. A total of \$12.02 Million in SUN Trail program funds were awarded to undertake the various project development phases. SUN Trail funds were supplemented with Lee MPO federal funds in the amount of \$1.6 million.
- **Littleton Road Shared Use Paths (Map ID# LC – 2):** 8' shared use path (north side), 6' sidewalk (south side), and bike lanes were completed last year as part of the Kismet Parkway/Littleton Road Realignment. Project limits are from Kismet Parkway to Corbett Road.

Right of Way acquisition is under way for the three-lane widening of the Littleton Road segment from Corbett Road to US 41. Construction is anticipated to commence at the end of this year. Both are Lee County BOCC projects. The design also includes 8' shared use paths on both sides of the roadway and bike lanes. The project is funded with CIGP and local funds.

- **John Yarbrough Linear Park Trail Extension (Map ID# LC-3)**: This is a City of Fort Myers project which calls for the extension of the John Yarbrough Linear Park (JYLP) Trail extension from south of Colonial Boulevard to Hanson Street. The project also includes a new pedestrian overpass at Colonial Boulevard. The design phase is complete and construction is funded in FY 2026 with \$5.9 million in SUN Trail funds that was previously awarded for undertaking both phases. The design funds are supplemented with Lee MPO funds in the amount of \$358,608.
- **Estero Bonita Rail Trail Feasibility Study (Map ID# LC-4)**: This is a Lee MPO project that is currently under way. The study will evaluate the feasibility of a rail trail along the Seminole Gulf Railroad corridor from Bonita Beach Road in Bonita Springs to Alico Road in unincorporated Lee County. The project is funded with \$400,000 in SUN Trail funds, and a local match of \$25,000 each from the City of Bonita Springs and the Village of Estero.
- **Big Carlos Bridge Replacement (Map ID# LC-5)**: This is a Lee County BOCC project. The construction phase is anticipated to start in 2023 and will replace the existing bascule bridge with a fixed span bridge. The new bridge will include a 10' wide shared use path on the Gulf Side, a 6' wide sidewalk on the bay side, and bike lanes. The project is funded with local and federal funds.
- **Refresh Estero Boulevard (Map ID# LC-6)**: This is a Lee County BOCC project on Estero Boulevard in Fort Myers Beach. The project limits are from the Big Carlos Bridge to Lovers Lane. The project is divided into six segments. Depending upon the right of way availability, the project added sharrows, bike lanes, wide sidewalks and a shared use path along the various segments. The project is funded entirely with local funds.
- **San Carlos Boulevard Intersection Improvements (Map ID# LC-7)**: This is a FDOT managed project funded with \$7.8 million in Lee MPO funds and \$410,800 in local (LC BOCC) funds. The PD&E and design are currently underway. The construction phase is programmed in FY 2023. The project is anticipated to improve safety and traffic circulation in and out of the Town of Fort Myers Beach. The proposed improvements include new traffic signals; intersection improvements; the widening of the sidewalk on the east side of Matanzas Pass Bridge to 8'; adding sharrows on San Carlos Boulevard from Crescent Street to Main Street, bike lanes from Main Street to Hurricane Pass Bridge and a new 5' wide sidewalk on east side of Hurricane Pass Bridge.

I-75 PURPLE HEART HIGHWAY INITIATIVE

Attachment: [Purple Heart Highways and Trails Map](#)

Discussion: I-75 Purple Heart Highway Initiative

Recommendation: Discussion and appropriate distribution

Background

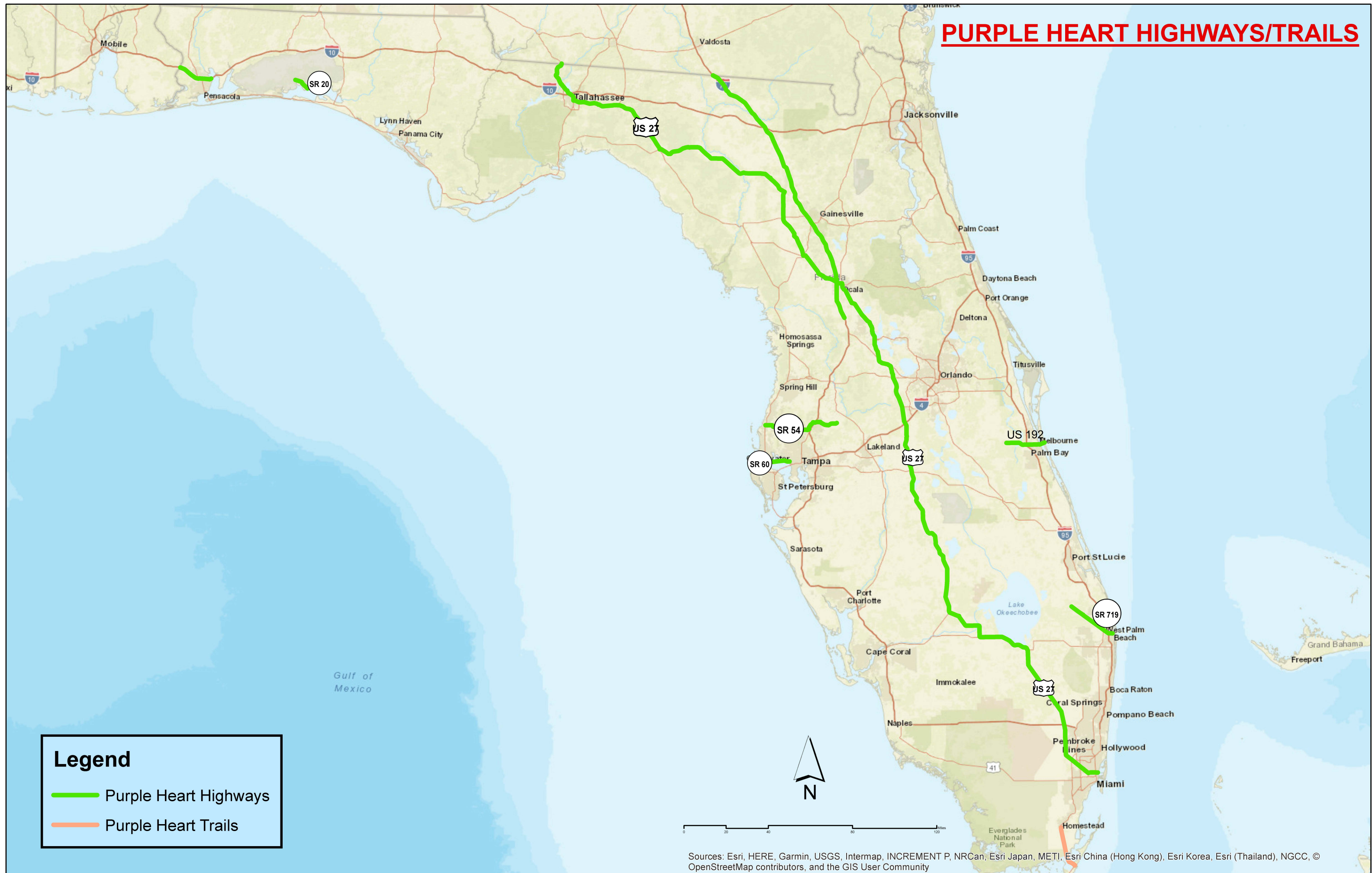
The Military Order of the Purple Heart, a national organization, established a program to identify a symbolic “Purple Heart Trail” throughout all 50 States, Puerto Rico and Guam. That has been accomplished. Florida has designated the “Purple Heart Memorial Highway” on I-75 from the Ocala City limits to the Georgia State line. US 27 is designated a “Purple Heart Highway” essentially the length of the State. The designations of a transportation facility are an act of the State Legislature, and erection of appropriate markers are contingent on appropriate city or county commissions passing a resolution in support of the honorary designation before Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) installs signage.

The possible designation of I-75 as a continuous Purple Heart Memorial Highway has been part of the agenda of the Joint MPO Meetings with the Sarasota/Manatee MPO since January 28, 2019, and the Lee County MPO since February 22, 2019. The Charlotte and Lee Counties subsequently supported the initiative through a motion to compose a resolution from the two MPO Boards in support of the effort to designate the portion of I-75 in Lee and Charlotte Counties as a Purple Heart Highway, with the additional goal of the entire length of I-75 being designated.

Of note, during the last Legislative Session, I-95 in Florida was designated as a Purple Heart Highway.

On December 7, 2020, the Charlotte County-Punta Gorda MPO Board added the I-75 Purple Heart Highway Initiative to the 2021 MPO Legislative Position Statement, authorizing its distribution to the area’s Legislative Delegation.

PURPLE HEART HIGHWAYS/TRAILS



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