



Florida Department of Transportation

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Kick-Off Meetings Summary I-95 at Broward Boulevard Interchange Project Development and Environment Study

The I-95 at Broward Boulevard Interchange Project Development and Environment Study (PD&E) Kick-Off meeting for elected officials was held on Thursday, November 3, 2016 at the City of Fort Lauderdale City Hall, 100 N. Andrews Boulevard, 8th floor, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301. The Kick-Off Meeting began at 3:30 p.m. with a presentation starting soon afterwards, followed by a comment period. Additionally, a Public Kick-Off meeting was held on Wednesday, November 9, 2016, at the Reverend Samuel Delevoe Memorial Park located at 2520 NW 6 Street, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33311. The meeting began as an open house at 5:30 p.m., with a formal presentation at 6:00 p.m. followed by a comment period.

The purpose of this study is to develop and evaluate design concepts to improve connectivity for all modes of transportation within the study limits. The kick-off meetings provided an opportunity for elected officials, property owners and other interested parties to ask questions and to provide comments.

Display boards presented at both kick-off meetings included the project's schedule, the PD&E Study process, overview of the need for the PD&E Study, as well as an aerial of the study area. Prior to the presentations and during the comment period attendees discussed the project one on one with the FDOT Project Manager and Project Consultant staff.

The elected officials Kick-Off meeting was attended by three representatives from the City of Fort Lauderdale. They expressed enthusiasm about potential solutions and asked if a parking deck was still a possible option. This led to a discussion about a Broward Blvd. median station at 2nd level for premium transit that could include an elevator to the park-and-ride level (1st level). There was also discussion about replacing the existing Broward Blvd. bridge structures over I-95 and the SFRC to support future light rail. It was noted that the alternatives considered would be include replacement of both existing bridges to accommodate future rail, if warranted. Noted concerns include The Salvation Army's concern about the intersection at Broward Boulevard and NW 18th Ave, Riverland residents' sensitivity to noise, and the development coming to the west of I-95 between 21st Avenue and 31st Avenue. The City commented that their bicycle and pedestrian standards should be applied to make this area better.

The Public Kick-Off meeting was attended by more than 25 residents, interested parties, FDOT staff and consultants. After the presentation, the floor was opened to questions. See Attachment B.

Attendees to both kick-off meetings were provided with a fact sheet on this PD&E Study as well as three 95 Express Phase 3B fact sheets with information on express lane benefits, project schedule, express lanes entrances and exits and other pertinent information. A follow-up letter was sent to property owners providing them with another opportunity to learn about this study. Recipients were invited to schedule a meeting with the Study Team to either visit their business, meet one-on-one or meet at a residential gathering to discuss the Study. One call was received in response to the letter, but it did not result in a meeting being scheduled.

The meeting was announced by *Palm Beach Post* and *Sun Sentinel* digital advertisement campaigns, FDOT project website, Florida Administrative Review advertisement, a 1,100-piece mailing and approximately 80 emails to elected officials, agencies, residents, businesses and other interested parties.

Submitted by
Laila A. Haddad
Media Relations Group, LLC
November 11, 2016

Attachments:

- A. Q & A Public Kick-Off Meeting
- B. Presentation and Display Boards
- C. Sign-in Sheet Elected/Appointed Officials Kick-Off Meeting
- D. Sign-in Sheets Public Kick-Off Meeting
- E. Public Kick-Off Meeting Photos

Attachment A – Questions from the Wednesday, Nov 9, 2016, Public Kick-Off meeting

Q. How far will the sound barrier extend along southbound I-95 along River Gardens/Sweeting Estates communities? (95 Express Phase 3A project)

A. There will be a 20-ft tall ground mounted sound barrier from the North Fork of the New River to SW 6th Street, located on the west side of the railroad tracks. Additionally, there will be 8-ft shoulder mounted sound barrier of equal length along the southbound I-95 shoulder.

Q. What is the construction going on at the northbound 95 exit to eastbound Broward Boulevard? (95 Express Phase 3A project)

A. The northbound 95 exit ramp to eastbound Broward Boulevard is being widened to become three signalized right turn lanes.

Q. What is happening on the Broward Boulevard bridge that goes over the N. Fork of the New River?

A. The bridge is being widened and raised over the river. During construction, a temporary bridge will be in place, as 3 lanes in each direction must be maintained. This bridge replacement will be for 6 lanes, as currently configured, with the addition of sidewalks and bike lanes. It is a two-year project that just began.

Q. Can there be some fencing erected under the bridge under 95 near the P & R lot to keep the homeless from sleeping under the bridge?

A. This issue will be considered by FDOT. The new design may help eliminate this problem.

Q. Currently there is only sidewalk to the P&R lot on one side of the street, can another one be added to other side?

A. This issue will be considered as part of this study.

Q. How much will the whole project cost?

A. It is too early to know yet, as we do not know what will be proposed, but an estimate is \$2.6M for the PD&E, \$8.5M for the Design and \$97.7M for the Construction.

Q. Does this project include redesign for the Express Lanes?

A. That is what this study is looking at, express lane connectivity.

Q. Has it been considered which lanes will be free to get to the express lanes? Will parking continue to be free at P&R?

A. There will be no tolls on Broward Boulevard. There is no discussion about charging for parking at the P&R.

Q. Are there plans for the Juvenile Center?

A. There will be no impact to the Juvenile Center. The plans are to keep the footprint just as it is now. There are no plans to take right-of-way. There is always the possibility it could happen, but there are no plans.

Q. What is the timeline for this project?

A. The PD&E is approximately 2 years. Design should be funded in July 2020, possibly in 2019. Construction should be funded in July 2023.

Q. Is there any possibility that homeowner property will fall victim to this project?

A. At this time we don't expect that to happen. The project is intended to use the existing right-of-way and would not go west of the railroad. Once alternatives are developed, there will be more information about this and it will be shared with the public at the alternatives workshop.

Q. The southbound flyover ramp to the P& R Lot does not have much traffic on it now. Do you expect a large increase? The noise from the motorcycles racing on the ramp is bad.

A. Traffic in general for the Design year 2040 (years 2015 to 2040) will grow 1 to 3% per year. It probably is not feasible to install a sound barrier on an existing bridge structure.

Q. Will there be a Public Hearing and will the public be notified?

A. Yes, there will be a Public Hearing and the public and stakeholders notified as they were for this meeting.

Q. Can trees be planted in along the New River behind the Juvenile Center to mitigate noise? They planted in the past and it seemed to help.

A. The density needed to mitigate sound would be impossible to reach to come close to the mitigation that concrete walls provide. FDOT does not plant landscaping on non-FDOT property. Typically, after a project is completed, FDOT will consider landscaping on the FDOT right of way as a stand-alone project.



SR-9/I-95 @ SR-842/Broward Boulevard Interchange Improvements

Project Development & Environment Study

FPID 435513-1-22-01 ETDM No: 14226

Public Kickoff Meeting Presentation

November 9, 2016



Today's Meeting

- Introduce the Project
- Outline the Study Process and Schedule
- Share Information About the Project
- Receive Comments from Residents and Stakeholders
 - Questions and Concerns
 - Comment Forms
 - Requests for Group Meetings

Study Objectives

- The Project Development and Environment (PD&E) Study is a process developed by FDOT to evaluate the **social, environmental and engineering** impacts associated with a proposed transportation improvement.
- In addition to complying with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, the objectives of a PD&E Study are to support decisions concerning **if, where, and what** should be built to address the identified transportation needs.

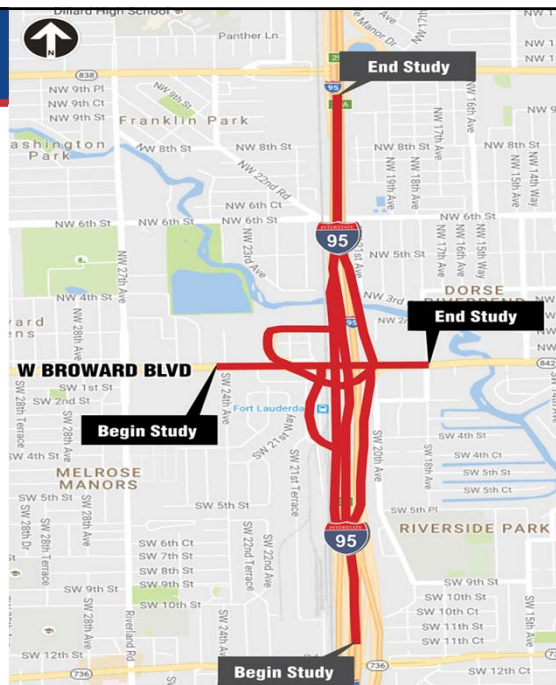


Kick-Off Meeting



About the Project

- Project limits: SR 9/I-95 from north of Davie Boulevard to south of Sunrise Boulevard and Broward Boulevard from west of SW 24 Avenue to east of NW/SW 18 Avenue.
- Interchange serves multiple users:
 - Drivers on I-95, Broward Boulevard, and Local Roads
 - Transit riders:
 - Sun Trolley (operated by the Fort Lauderdale Transportation Management Agency or TMA)
 - Broward County Transit (BCT)
 - 95 Express Bus (operated by Miami Dade Transit or MDT)
 - Tri-Rail
 - Amtrak
 - Pedestrians
 - Bicyclists



Kick-Off Meeting



Purpose and Need

- The primary **purpose** of this study is to develop and evaluate design concepts to:
 - Improve traffic flow to and from I-95 and along Broward Boulevard,
 - Improve connectivity between 95 Express and Broward Boulevard,
 - Improve intermodal connectivity and access.

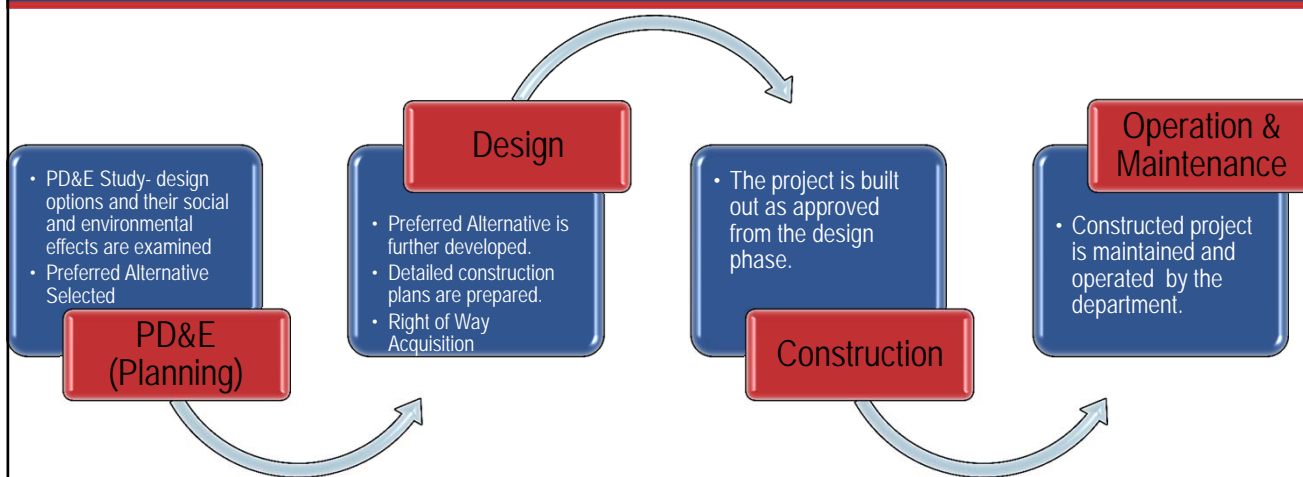
- The primary **need** for this project is to improve connectivity for all modes within the study area.



Kick-Off Meeting



Project Development Process (Idea to Implementation)



Kick-Off Meeting



PD&E Study Process



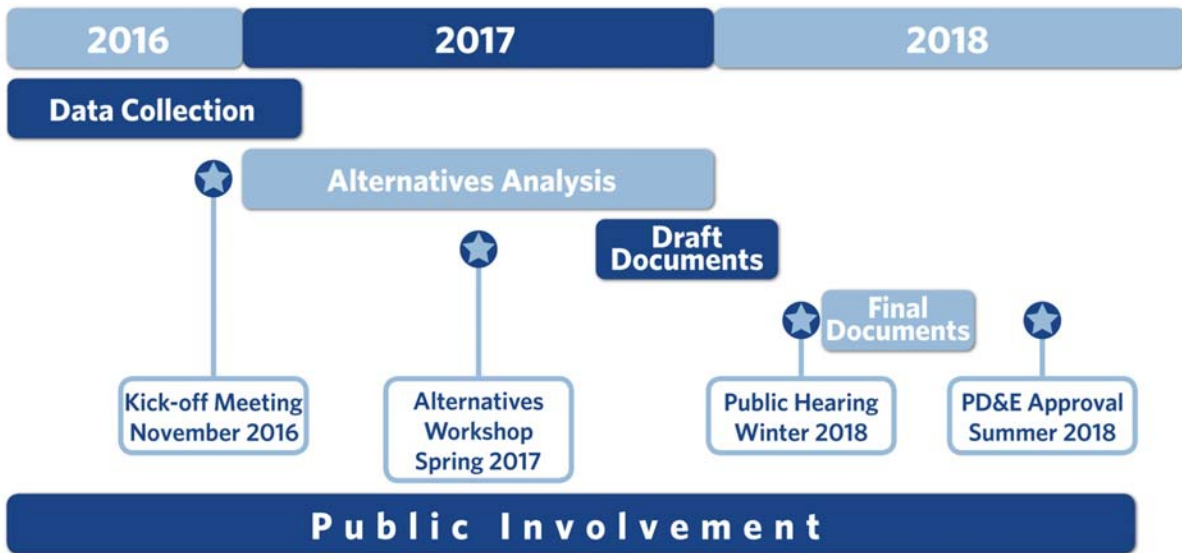
Community Outreach

A continuous community outreach process is integrated into every step of the project to ensure that the corridor residents, businesses, the traveling public, and other interested parties have meaningful opportunities for participation throughout the PD&E Study.

Kick-Off Meeting



Study Schedule



*Design and Construction occurs after PD&E Approval

Kick-Off Meeting

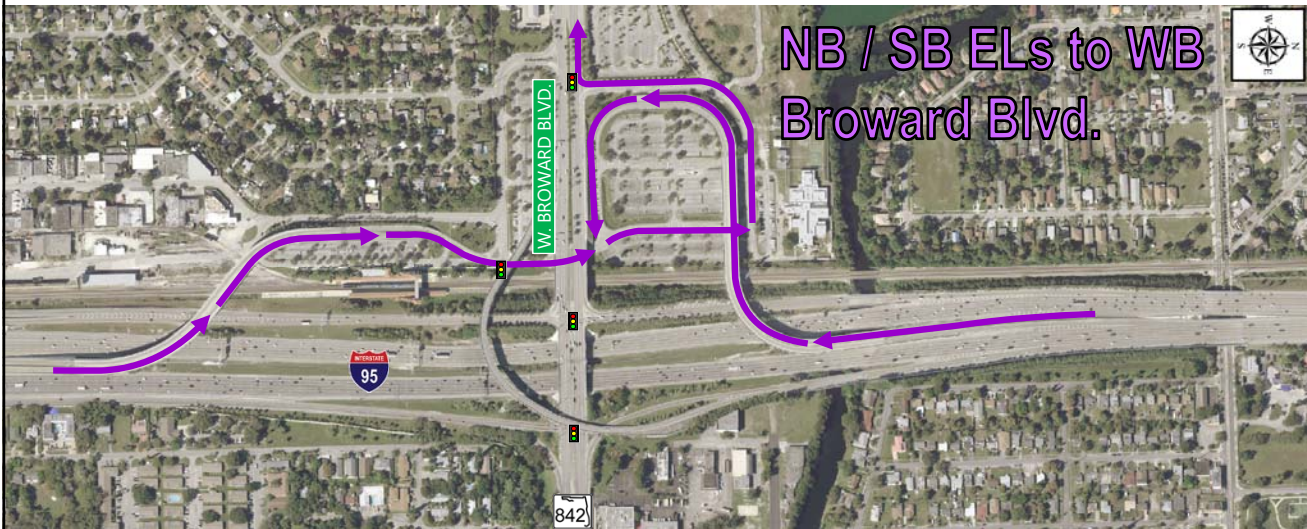


EXISTING CONDITIONS

Kick-Off Meeting



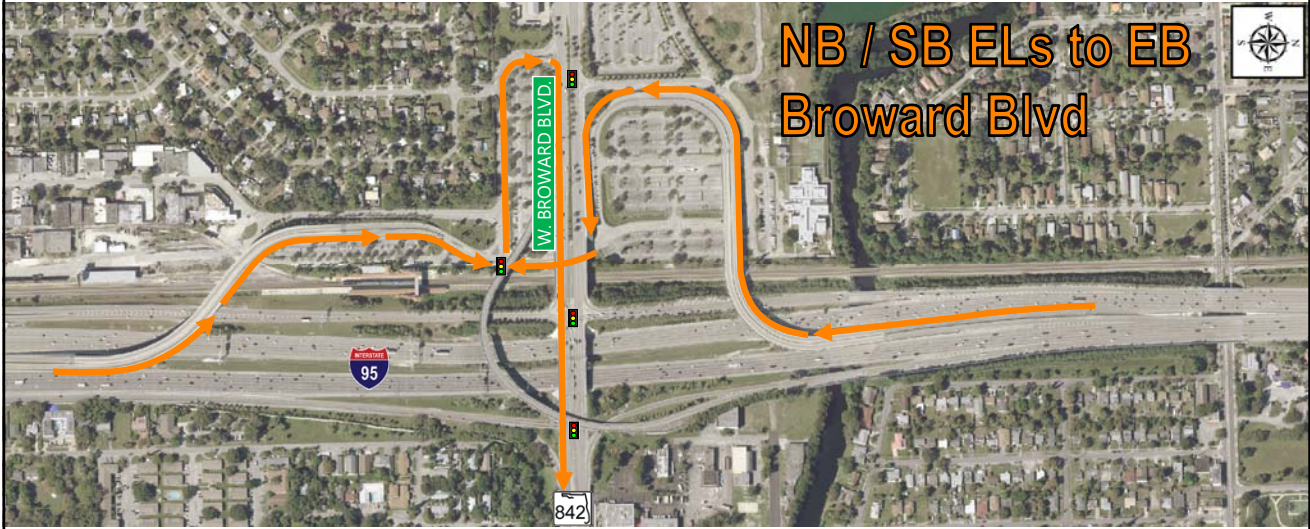
Existing Traffic Movements



Kick-Off Meeting



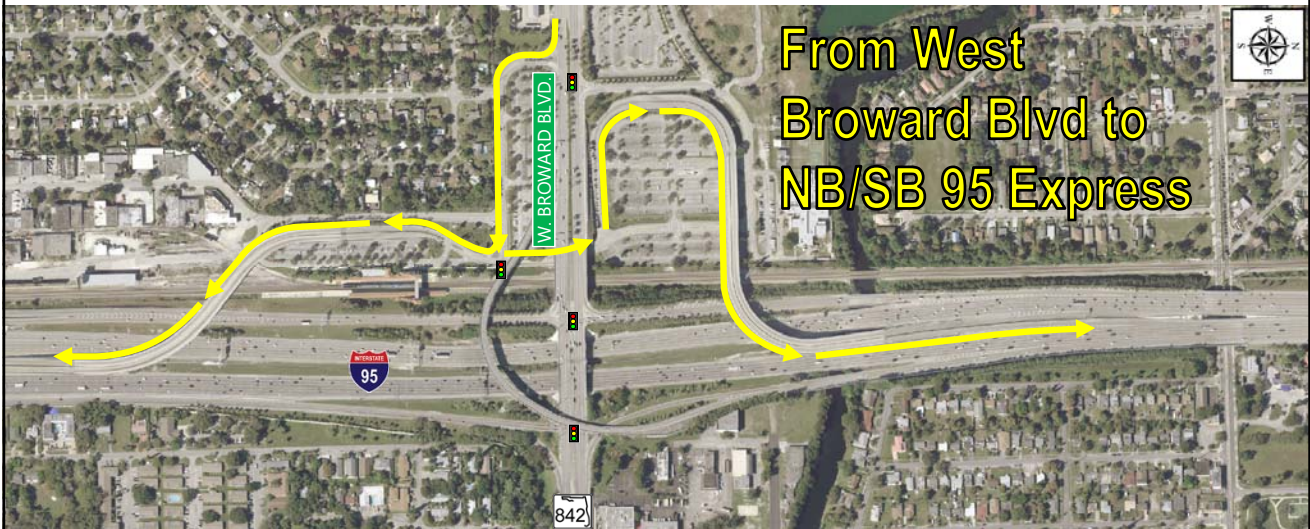
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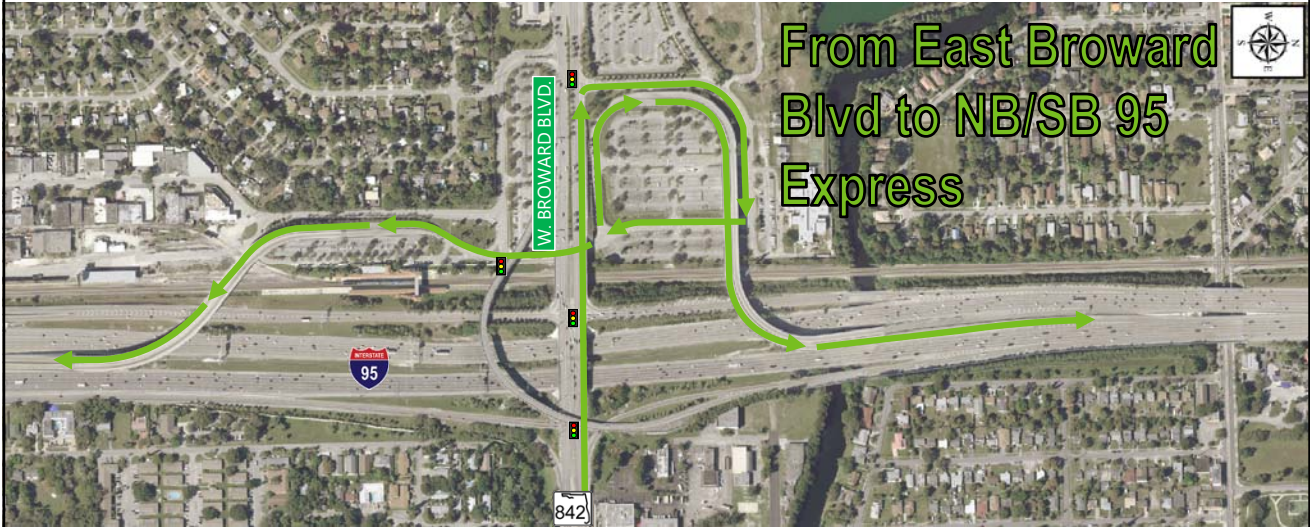
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Existing Traffic Movements



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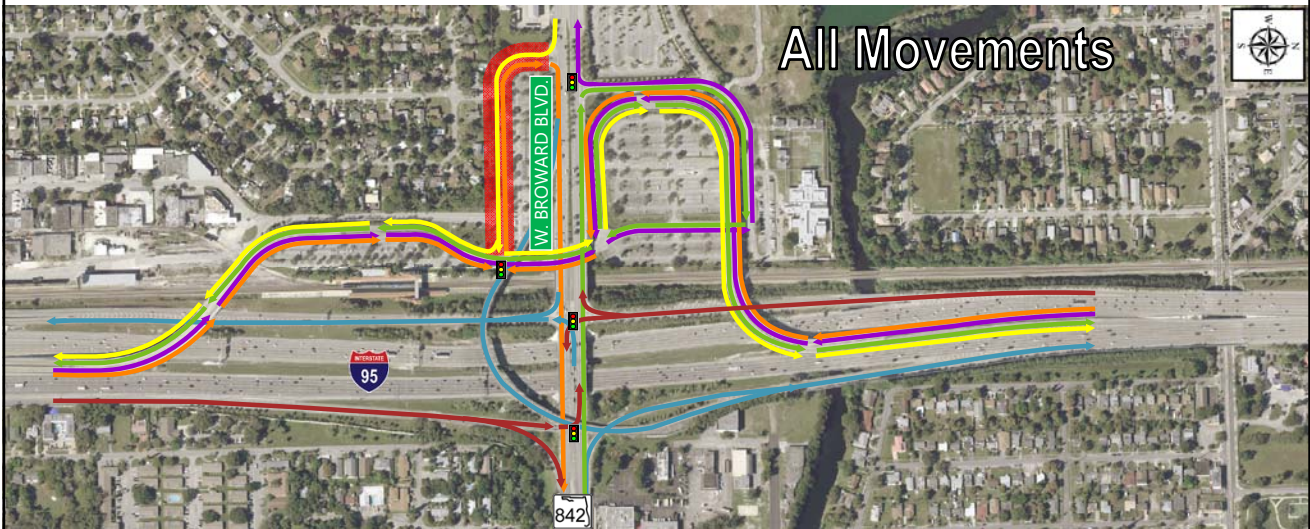
Existing Traffic Movements



Kick-Off Meeting



Existing Traffic Movements



Kick-Off Meeting



Interchange Area Stakeholders

1. City of Fort Lauderdale Neighborhoods
2. Broward Regional Juvenile Detention Center
3. Strayer University
4. Ft. Lauderdale Train Station (Tri-Rail & Amtrak)
5. Park & Ride Lots
6. North Fork Elementary School
7. Broward Sheriff's Office
8. Reverend Samuel Delevoe Memorial Park
9. Salvation Army
10. Walmart



Kick-Off Meeting



Multi-Modal Transportation



Kick-Off Meeting



PROJECT CONSIDERATIONS

Kick-Off Meeting



Project Considerations and Anticipated Issues

- Privacy/Noise Concerns
- Cut-Through Traffic
- Bicycle/Pedestrian Accommodations
- Aesthetics/Landscaping
- Operational Efficiency (SFRTA, BCT & MDT)
- "Gateway" Corridor/City Entrance
- Capacity
- Safety
- Transportation Demand
- Social Demands and Economic Development
- Emergency Evacuation



Kick-Off Meeting



Environmental Considerations

Wetlands

- North Fork of the New River
 - Sporadic red mangroves along open banks
- Develop mitigation plan, if necessary to offset impacts

Wildlife & Habitat

- Little remaining natural habitat
 - Presence of mangroves and potential for Manatees and Smalltooth Sawfish, require coordination and consultations
- Interchange within Core Foraging Area of Wood Stork colonies
- Interchange within the Consultation Area for the Everglades Snail Kite

Avoid and minimize impacts during alternatives development



West Indian Manatee

Kick-Off Meeting



Noise Considerations



Kick-Off Meeting



QUESTIONS?

Kick-Off Meeting



Contact Information

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Kick-Off Meeting



THANK YOU FOR ATTENDING!

I-95 at Broward Boulevard Interchange Broward County, Florida

Elected Official Kick-off Meeting
 Thursday, November 3, 2016
 3:30 p.m. Open House/Presentation
 City Fort Lauderdale
 100 N. Andrews Avenue, 8th Floor
 Fort Lauderdale, Florida, 33301

SR-9/I-95@SR 842/Broward Boulevard
 from West of SW 24 Avenue to East of NW/SW 18 Avenue
 Project Development & Environment (PD&E) Study
 Financial Project ID Number: 435513-1-22-02
 Efficient Transportation Decision Making (ETDM) No.: 14226

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Alisa Award	City of FTL		954-828-6078
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I-95 at Broward Boulevard Interchange Broward County, Florida

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 5:30 p.m. Open House, 6:00 p.m. Presentation
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SIGN-IN SHEET

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I-95 at Broward Boulevard Interchange Broward County, Florida

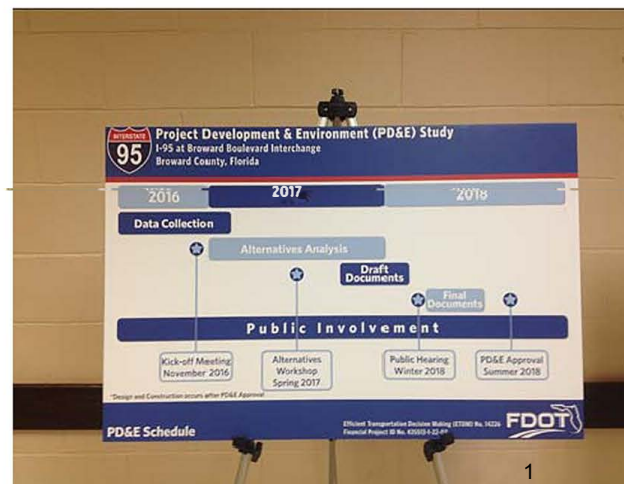
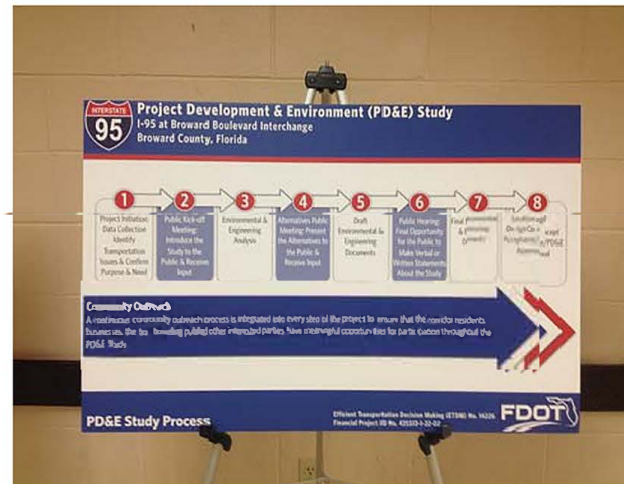
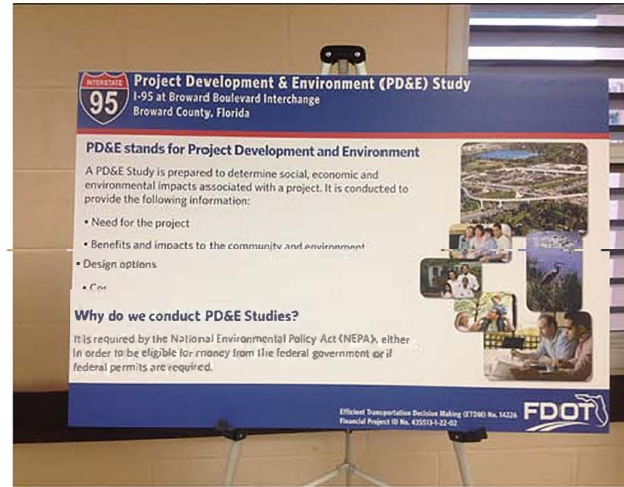
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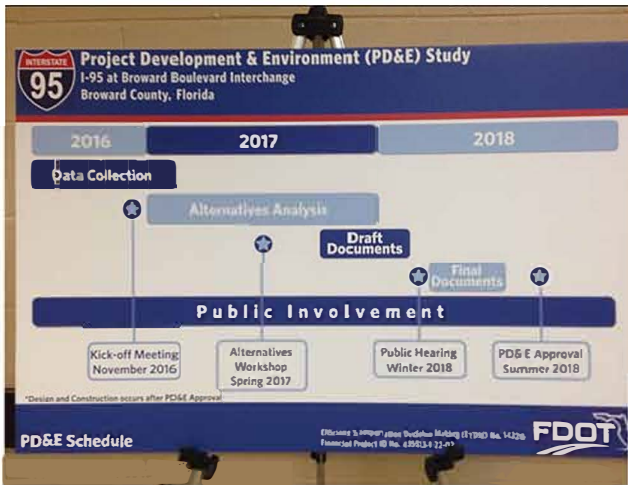
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SIGN-IN SHEET

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Project Development & Environment (PD&E) Study
I-95 at Broward Boulevard Interchange
Broward County, Florida

PD&E stands for Project Development and Environment

A PD&E Study is prepared to determine social, economic and environmental impacts associated with a project. It is conducted to provide the following information:

- Need for the project
- Benefits and impacts to the community and environment
- Design options
- Cost

Why do we conduct PD&E Studies?

It is required by the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), either in order to be eligible for money from the federal government or if federal permits are required.

FDOT
Efficient Transportation Decision Making (ETDM) No. 14226
Financial Project ID No. 43553-1-21-01

