



Kick-Off Newsletter



U.S. 98 (State Road (S.R.) 30) Trail Project Development and Environment (PD&E) Study From Kenneth B Cope Avenue to East End of Ochlockonee Bridge Financial Project Identification Number: 437090-2-22-01

February 2023

The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) is conducting a Project Development and Environment (PD&E) Study to consider a trail along U.S. 98 (S.R. 30) in Franklin County, Florida.

The project extends from Kenneth B Cope Avenue to the east end of Ochlockonee Bridge, approximately 21 miles in length as shown below.



Why is the project needed?

The purpose of the project is to determine multi-use trail concepts and provide connectivity between the coastal and forest trail system to the north in Wakulla County and to the forest and coastal system to the west in Franklin and Gulf Counties.

What is a PD&E Study?

A PD&E study is the formal process that develops and compares alternatives to determine a preferred action that meets project needs, while minimizing impacts to the social, natural, and physical environments. Engaging the public by sharing and receiving information is a key component of this process and is required by the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).

What Can You Expect?

Over the next several months, FDOT will collect and analyze data to help compare the project alternatives. A virtual public update and a hybrid public hearing will be held to provide interested persons the most current information on the project and allow an opportunity for input. Additional details will be provided as they become available. Updates will be posted to www.nwflroads.com/virtualmeetings.

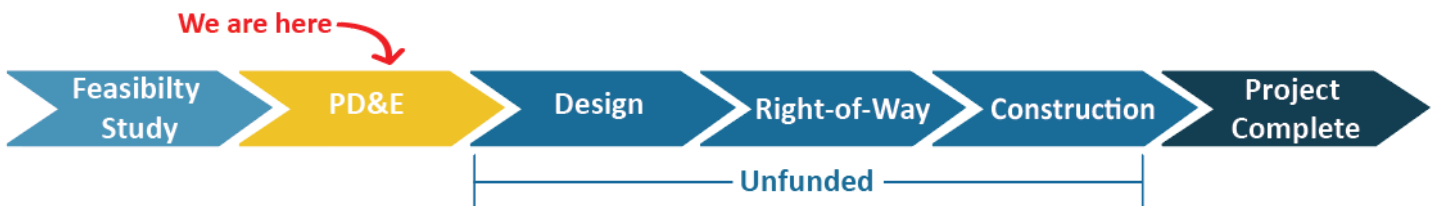
Project Goals

- Provide connectivity to trail systems in Wakulla, Franklin, and Gulf Counties
- Provide safe pedestrian transportation along U.S. 98
- Promote economic development: ecotourism, sight-seeing, parks and commercial visitors and customers

Project Schedule



What comes after a PD&E Study?



Get Involved

We invite you to get involved! Send us your comments and ideas regarding the proposed improvements. There are multiple ways to get involved—call, write, or email.

Contact Information



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 Additional Project Information: www.nwflroads.com

Stay Involved:  @MyFDOT_NWFL  www.facebook.com/MyFDOTNWFL

 www.instagram.com/mydot_nwfl  www.youtube.com/user/MyFDOTNWFL

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 Alicia Bringer, District Three Title VI Coordinator, 1074 Highway 90, Chipley, FL 32428, toll-free at (888) 638-0250, extension 1502 or via email at alicia.bringer@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 the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) pursuant to 23 U.S.C. 327 and a Memorandum of Understanding dated May 26, 2022, and executed by the Federal Highway Administration and FDOT.