

# Lithia Pinecrest Road (CR 640)

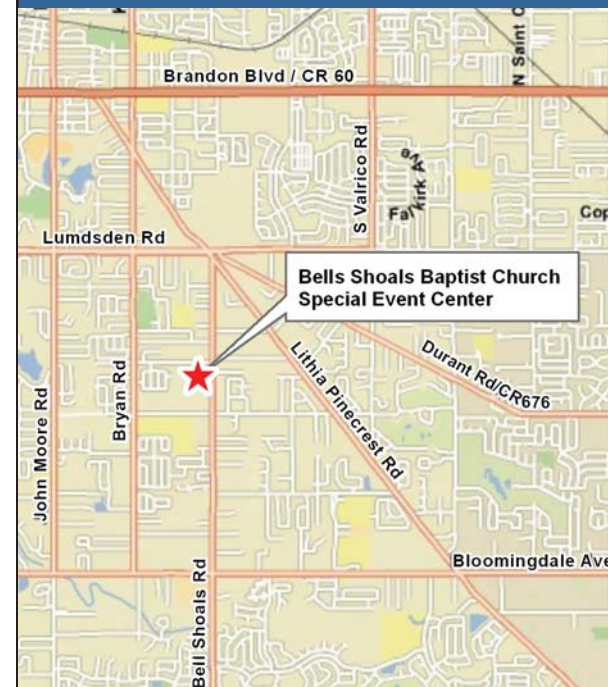
## Project Development & Environment Study

Project Newsletter  
CIP# 69125  
WPI# 421550-1

[www.LPCSTUDY.com](http://www.LPCSTUDY.com)

From SR 60 to CR 39  
Hillsborough County, Florida  
January 2010

**Public Hearing**  
**Tuesday - February 9, 2010**  
**Open House: 5:30-6:30 p.m.**  
**Formal Portion:**  
**6:30-8:30 p.m.**  
**Location:**  
**Bell Shoals Baptist Church**  
**Special Events Center**  
**2102 Bell Shoals Road**  
**Brandon, FL 33511**



Dear Interested Citizen, Business Owner and Property Owner:

Hillsborough County, in cooperation with the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT), invites you to attend and participate in a public hearing regarding the Project Development & Environment (PD&E) study for Lithia Pinecrest Road (CR 640) from SR 60 to CR 39, a distance of approximately 10.95 miles.

The hearing is intended to solicit comments from the public concerning the location, conceptual design, and the potential social, economic and environmental effects of the proposed improvements.

This letter serves as notice to property owners that a whole or portion of their property is within 300 feet of the centerline of one or more of the alternatives evaluated. However, this does not mean that all properties will be directly affected.

Study documents, such as maps, drawings, and other pertinent information depicting the project's proposed improvements will be available for public review at the hearing and from January 19, 2010 through February 23, 2010 at either of the locations listed below:

Bloomingdale Regional Public Library  
1906 Bloomingdale Avenue - Valrico, Florida 33596-6206  
M-W: 10:00-6:00 p.m.; Th: 12:00-8:00 p.m.;  
F-S: 10:00-6:00 p.m.; Sun: 12:30-5:00 p.m.

Hillsborough County  
Public Works Department / County Center, 22nd Floor  
601 E. Kennedy Blvd. - Tampa, FL 33602  
M-F: 8:00-5:00 p.m.

County representatives will be available at the public hearing beginning at 5:30 p.m. to answer questions and discuss the project with attendees. Aerial photographs, project graphics illustrating the proposed improvements and estimated costs will be on display. The formal portion of the hearing will begin at 6:30 p.m. At this time, a video presentation will be shown by the County followed by a public comment period. There will be no formal question and answer session. The video presentation will also be available on the website the day of the public hearing.

Verbal and written statements are considered equally and will become part of the official Public Hearing Record. Written statements may be provided on the enclosed comment form and submitted at the hearing, by fax to 813 272-5811 or by mail to the address on the form. You may also submit comments at our website: [www.LPCSTUDY.com](http://www.LPCSTUDY.com). Mailed comment forms must be postmarked by February 23, 2010 to become part of the official public record.

Persons who require special accommodations under the American with Disabilities Act or persons who require translation service (free of charge) should contact Sandra Sroka, ADA Liaison at 813 276-2742.



Steve Valdez, Section Manager  
Quality Assurance/ Customer Satisfaction  
Hillsborough County, Public Works Department

### WE WANT YOUR INPUT!

A successful PD&E study depends on everyone's participation in the study process. We encourage your input throughout the study. To provide comments, ask questions, and make suggestions about the study, please contact:

Steve Valdez  
Hillsborough County  
Public Works Department  
601 E Kennedy Blvd,  
22nd Floor  
Tampa, FL 33602  
(813) 307- 8384  
[valdezs@HillsboroughCounty.org](mailto:valdezs@HillsboroughCounty.org)

### RIGHT-OF-WAY ACQUISITION

We understand that when a transportation project proposes the acquisition of private property, you may have questions and concerns. To better educate and inform you about the right-of-way acquisition process and your rights, the FDOT has created real estate acquisition and relocation brochures. These brochures and other education materials will be available at the public hearing.

Copies of the brochures may also be found on the FDOT's website:  
<http://www.dot.state.fl.us/rightofway/Documents.shtm>

We are very interested in hearing your concerns and answering your questions. We encourage you to speak with the County's Quality Assurance/ Customer Satisfaction Section Manager, Steve Valdez at your convenience.

### NON-DISCRIMINATION LAWS AND REGULATIONS COMPLIANCE

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 Sandra Sroka, ADA Liaison at (813) 276-2742 at least seven days prior to the hearing.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

All comment submittal methods are weighed equally. Written statements may be provided on the enclosed comment form and submitted at the public hearing, by fax to 813 272-5811 or by mail to the address on the form. You may also submit comments at our website: [www.LPCSTUDY.com](http://www.LPCSTUDY.com). All emailed and faxed comments must be received by 5:00 p.m. on February 23, 2010 to be included in the official public record. Verbal comments will be accepted during the open house portion of the public hearing when given to the court reporter and during the formal comment period following the County's presentation.

**WHAT IS A PD&E STUDY?**

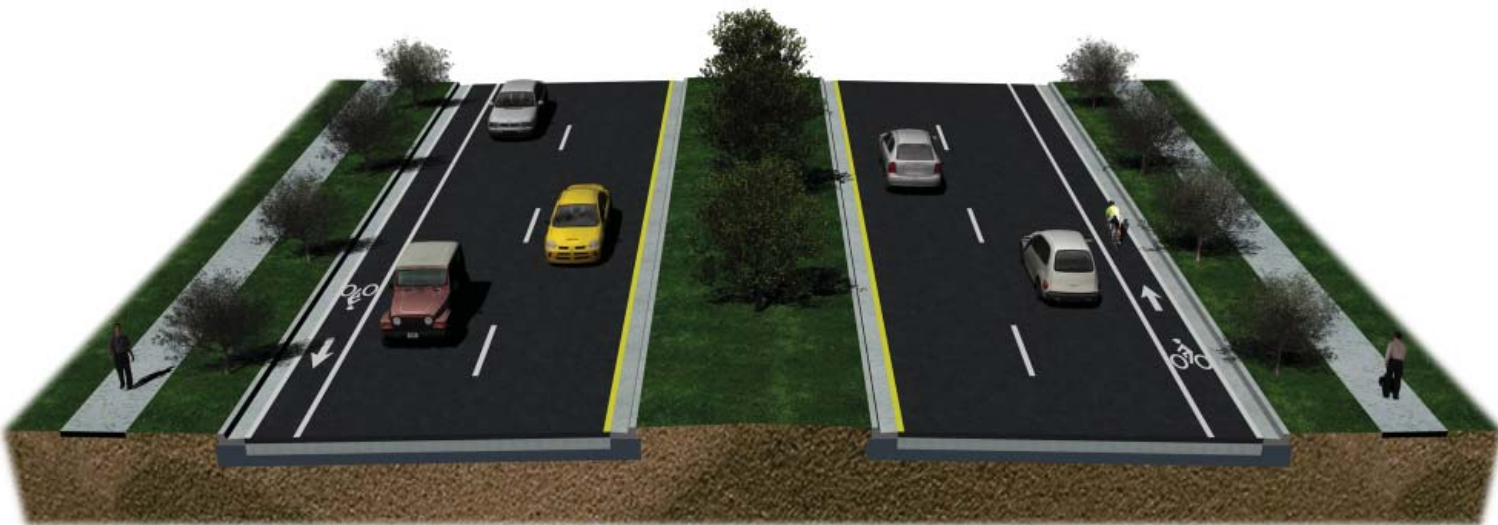
The PD&E study process develops and documents feasible alternatives for transportation improvement projects. These alternatives are evaluated based on their environmental, engineering and socioeconomic effects. This process is a combined effort of professionals who analyze the project-related information and combine it with input from a variety of public agencies and the local community to develop the best alternative.

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

Lithia Pinecrest Road currently has two travel lanes (one in each direction). The road serves as a primary transportation corridor in this area of Hillsborough County. Portions of the roadway currently operate below the County's adopted minimum acceptable level-of-service (LOS) standard. Therefore, the Hillsborough County Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) has identified the need to improve Lithia Pinecrest Road. These proposed improvements are intended to accommodate both existing and future traffic volumes, enhance motorist safety, and reduce emergency response times.

**The Recommended Build Alternative**

The Recommended Build Alternative consists of widening Lithia Pinecrest Road to a four-lane divided roadway in Segments B and C only (from west of Lumsden Road to east of Fishhawk Trails Drive) and maintaining the existing two-lanes on Lithia Pinecrest Road in Segments A and D (from SR 60 to west of Lumsden Road and from east of Fishhawk Trails Drive to CR 39). The recommended typical section for the four-lane widening is a low-speed (45 mph or less) urban typical section that includes two 12-foot travel lanes in each direction, curb and gutter on the inside and outside of the roadway, a 22-foot median, 4-foot paved outside shoulders to accommodate bicyclists and 5-foot sidewalks on both sides of the roadway within a 110-foot right-of-way (ROW). A portion of Segment C, from Bloomingdale Avenue to Adelaide Avenue, is currently under design and funded through construction as a developer project with County participation.

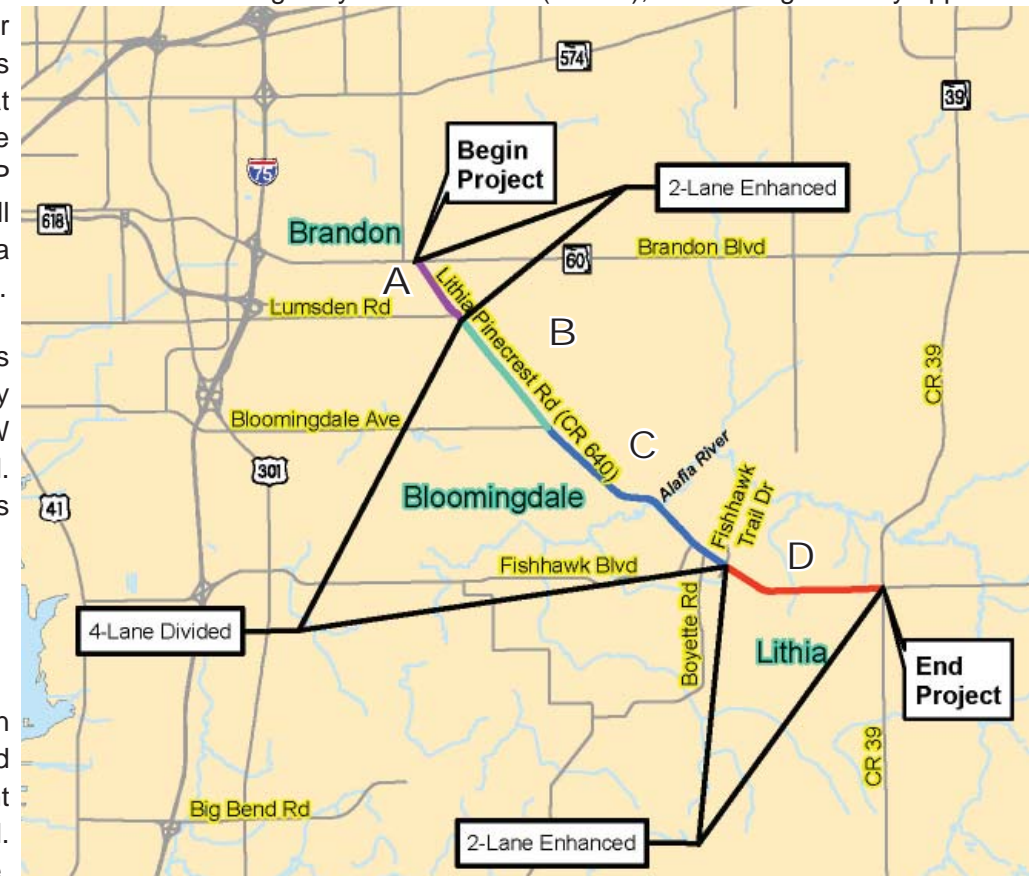


**Four Lane Typical Section**

**The Recommended Build Alternative - ELAPP Properties**

Lithia Pinecrest Road between the Alafia River and Fishhawk Boulevard borders properties that are designated to be part of Hillsborough County's Environmental Land Acquisition Protection Program (ELAPP). Implementing the Recommended Build Alternative is anticipated to impact 2.12 acres out of the total of approximately 3,500 acres that comprise the Fishhawk Creek/Alafia River Corridor Preserve. Persevered lands designated to be part of the ELAPP are protected under Section 4(f) of the US DOT Transportation Act. In coordination with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), Hillsborough County approved the use of the ELAPP property in a letter dated September 10, 2009. This letter is contained in the materials that will be at the public hearing. Public comments are welcome on the planned use of the ELAPP properties. The Section 4(f) process will be completed once the FHWA issues a finding to this effect following the hearing.

To minimize ROW acquisition needs within the ELAPP property, a roadway section that occupies a reduced ROW width of 99.5 feet may be implemented. The Alafia River bridge will also utilize this same reduced typical section.



**The Recommended Build Alternative - TSM**

In order To minimize traffic congestion and improve safety in Segments A and D, Transportation System Management (TSM) improvements may be provided. The TSM improvements could include, but not be limited to, providing sidewalks, bicycle lanes on one or both sides of Lithia Pinecrest Road, enhancing multi-modal services and providing turn lane improvements and improved traffic control system components at key intersections.

**WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?**

You will have the opportunity to present your views concerning the proposed improvements during the hearing and for the 14 days afterward. Comments must be postmarked by February 23, 2010 to be included in the Official Public Hearing Record for this project. Based on the comments received during the public involvement process, and continued coordination with the governmental agencies and FDOT, the County will recommend an alternative to FHWA for its approval. Location Design Concept acceptance is expected by Spring 2010. All individuals on the mailing list will be notified by newsletter of the FHWA's decision.

Study Schedule	
Study Began	November 2006
Alternatives Public Workshop	November 18, 2008
Public Meeting	August 18, 2009
Public Hearing	February 9, 2010
Study Approval	Spring 2010

Project Funding - Hillsborough County	
PD&E Study	Underway
Design*	Partially Funded
ROW Acquisition*	Partially Funded
Construction*	Partially Funded

\* Segment C from Bloomingdale Avenue to Adelaide Avenue is developer funded with County participation.