



**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

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

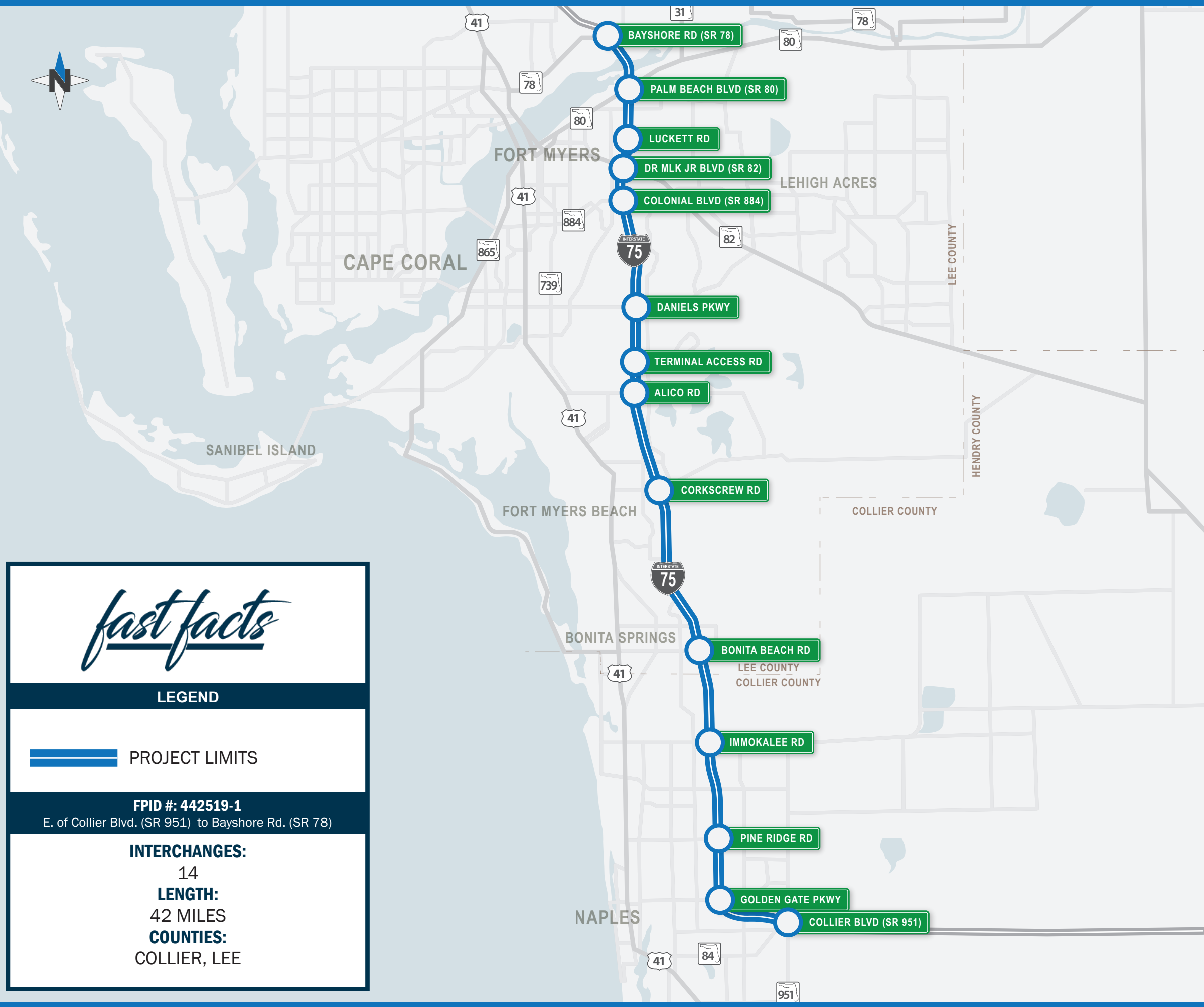
Discussion Item: Update on the I-75 Connect Corridor studies

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)

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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





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



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

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

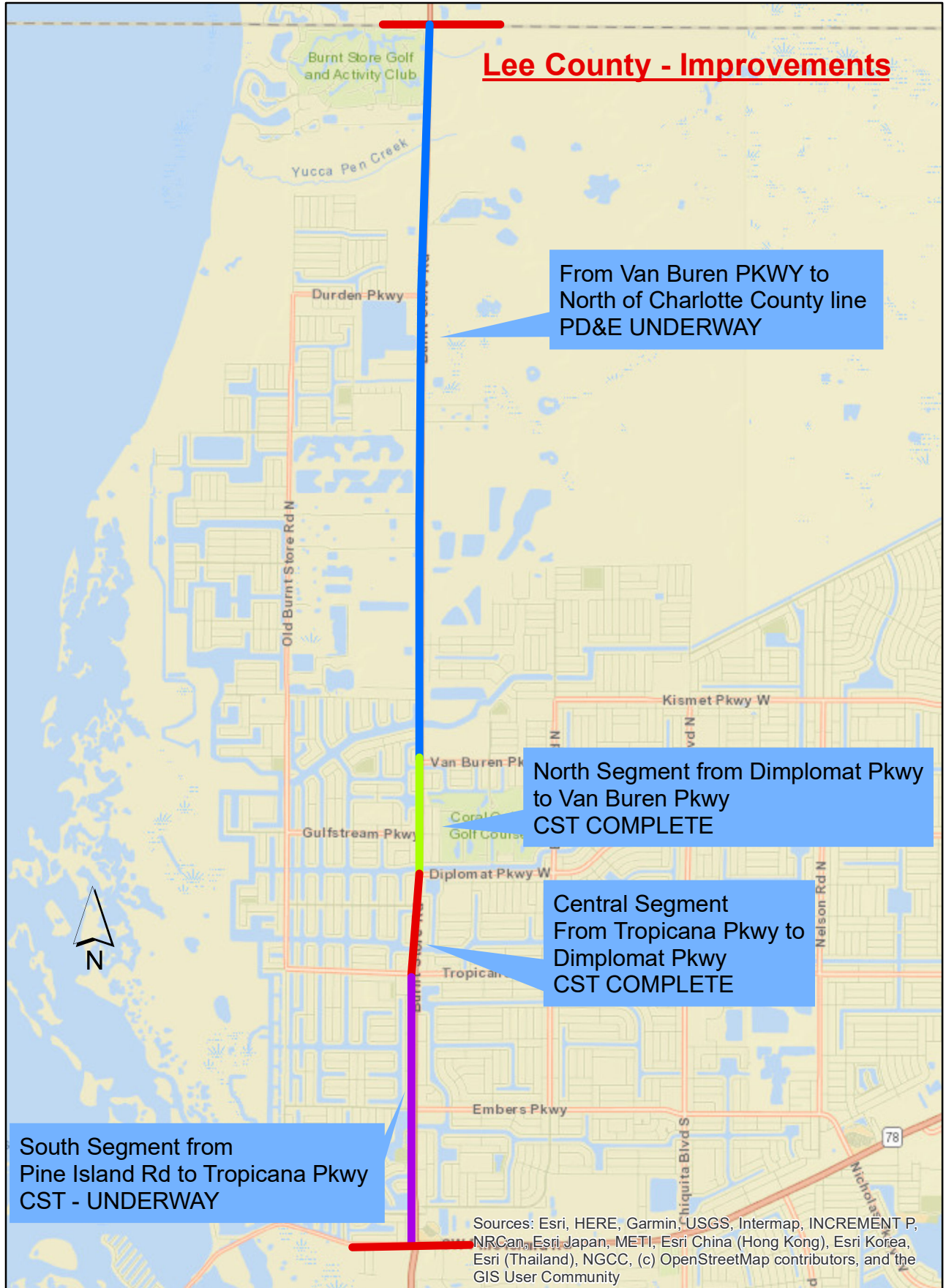
From Van Buren PKWY to North of Charlotte County line PD&E UNDERWAY

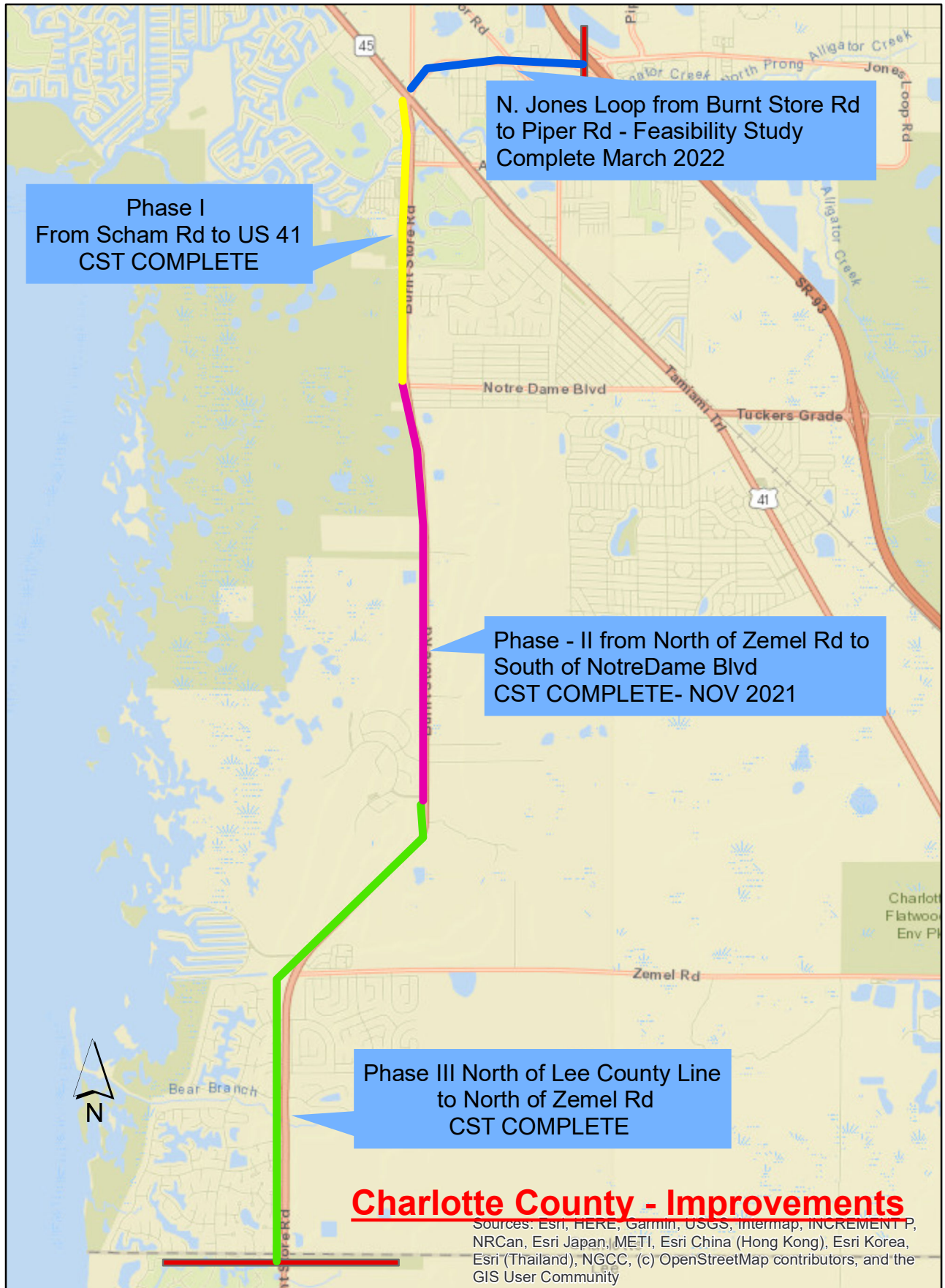
North Segment from Diplomat Pkwy to Van Buren Pkwy CST COMPLETE

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





Phase I
From Scham Rd to US 41
CST COMPLETE

N. Jones Loop from Burnt Store Rd
to Piper Rd - Feasibility Study
Complete March 2022

Phase - II from North of Zemel Rd to
South of Notre Dame Blvd
CST COMPLETE- NOV 2021

Phase III North of Lee County Line
to North of Zemel Rd
CST COMPLETE

Charlotte County - Improvements

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

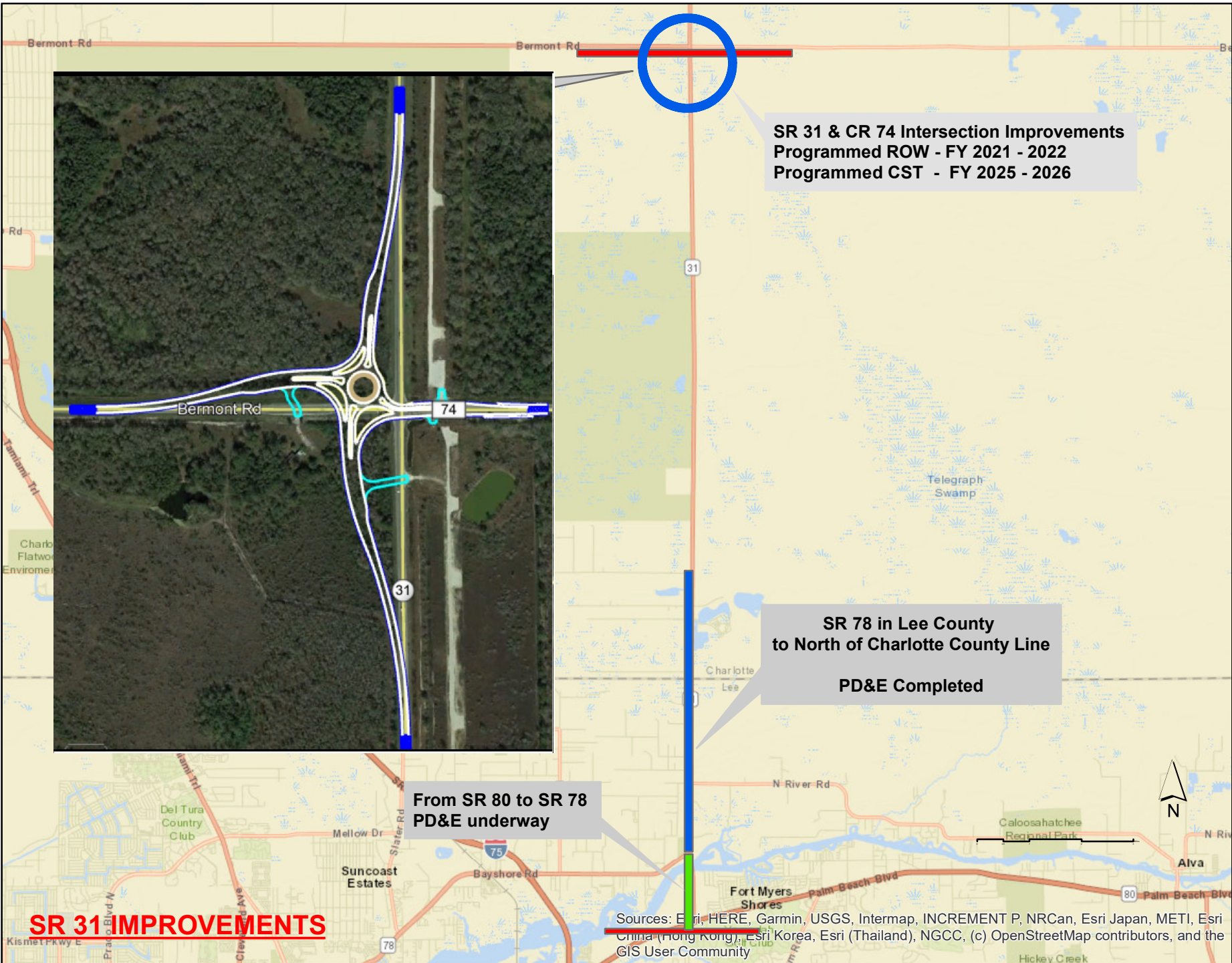
Background

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.



**SR 31 & CR 74 Intersection Improvements
Programmed ROW - FY 2021 - 2022
Programmed CST - FY 2025 - 2026**

**SR 78 in Lee County
to North of Charlotte County Line
PD&E Completed**

**From SR 80 to SR 78
PD&E underway**

SR 31 IMPROVEMENTS

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

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 LRTP 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 LRTP 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 LRTP 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 LRTP 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 LRTP Table 7-1	
3		CR 74 (Bermont Rd)	Strasse Blvd	SR 31	Widen 2L to 4L		\$166,400,000	2045 LRTP Table 7-1	
18		Del Prado Extension	e/o US 41	SR 31	New 4 lanes		\$263,200,000	2045 LRTP Table 4-1	
29		I-75	I-75	SR 78	Interchange modifcaiton		\$40,000,000	2045 LRTP 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 MPO's 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 his 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.

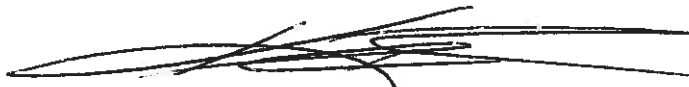
LEE COUNTY METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

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

J.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.

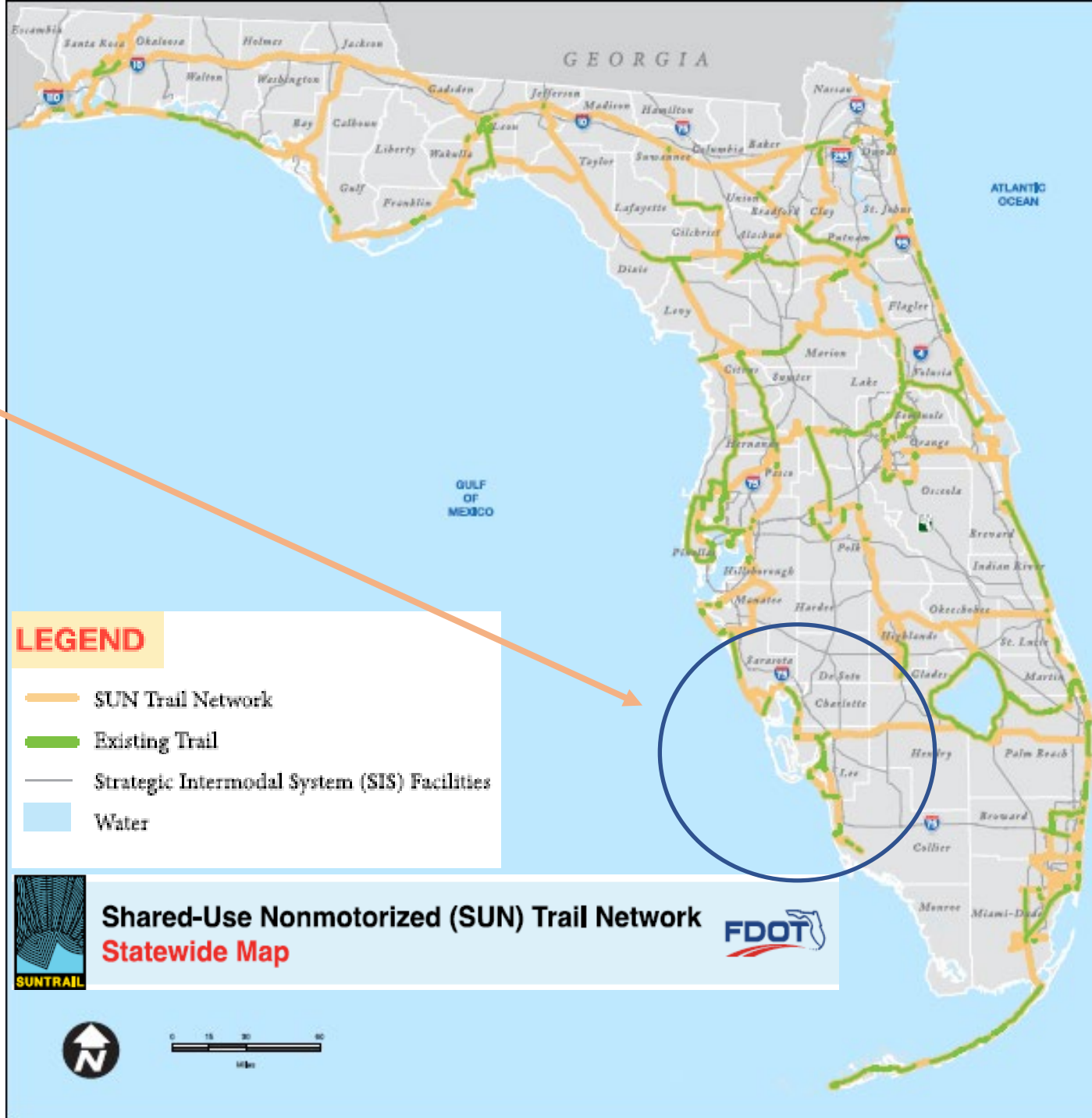
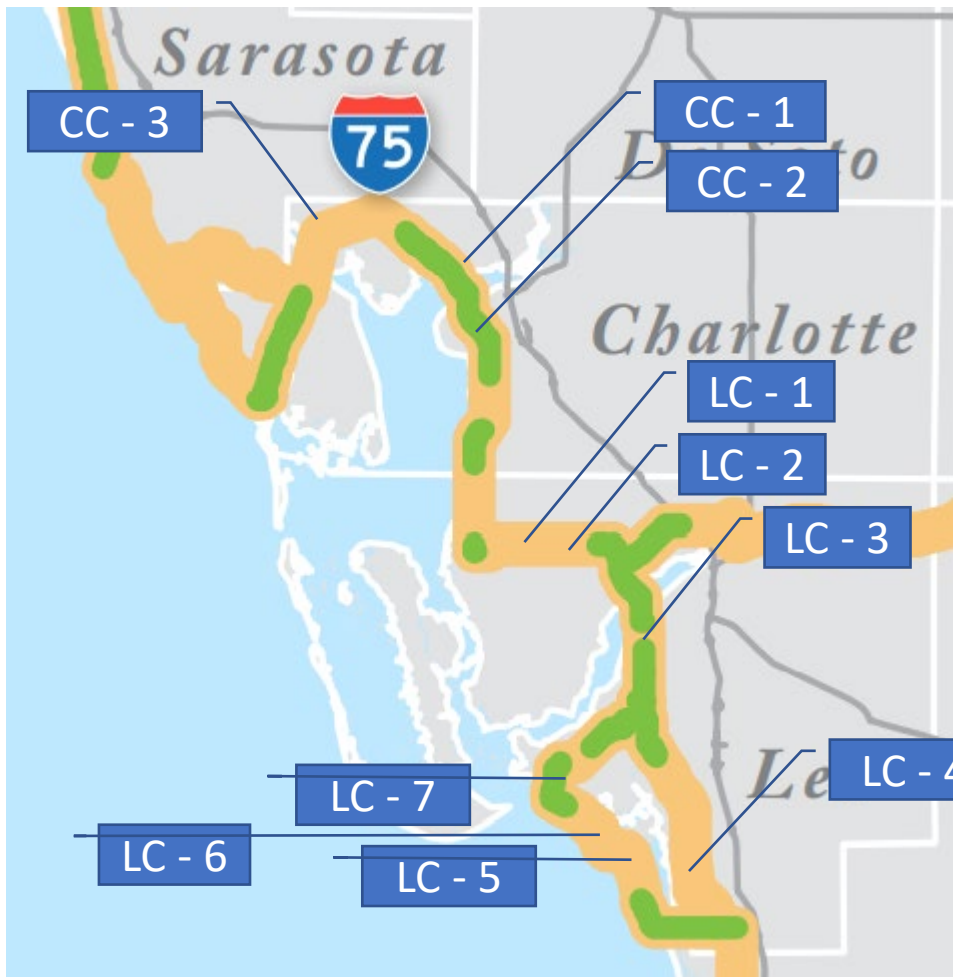
LEE COUNTY PROJECTS

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/EI 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

<u>Attachment:</u>	Purple Heart Highways and Trails Map
<u>Discussion:</u>	I-75 Purple Heart Highway Initiative
<u>Recommendation:</u>	Discussion and appropriate distribution

Background

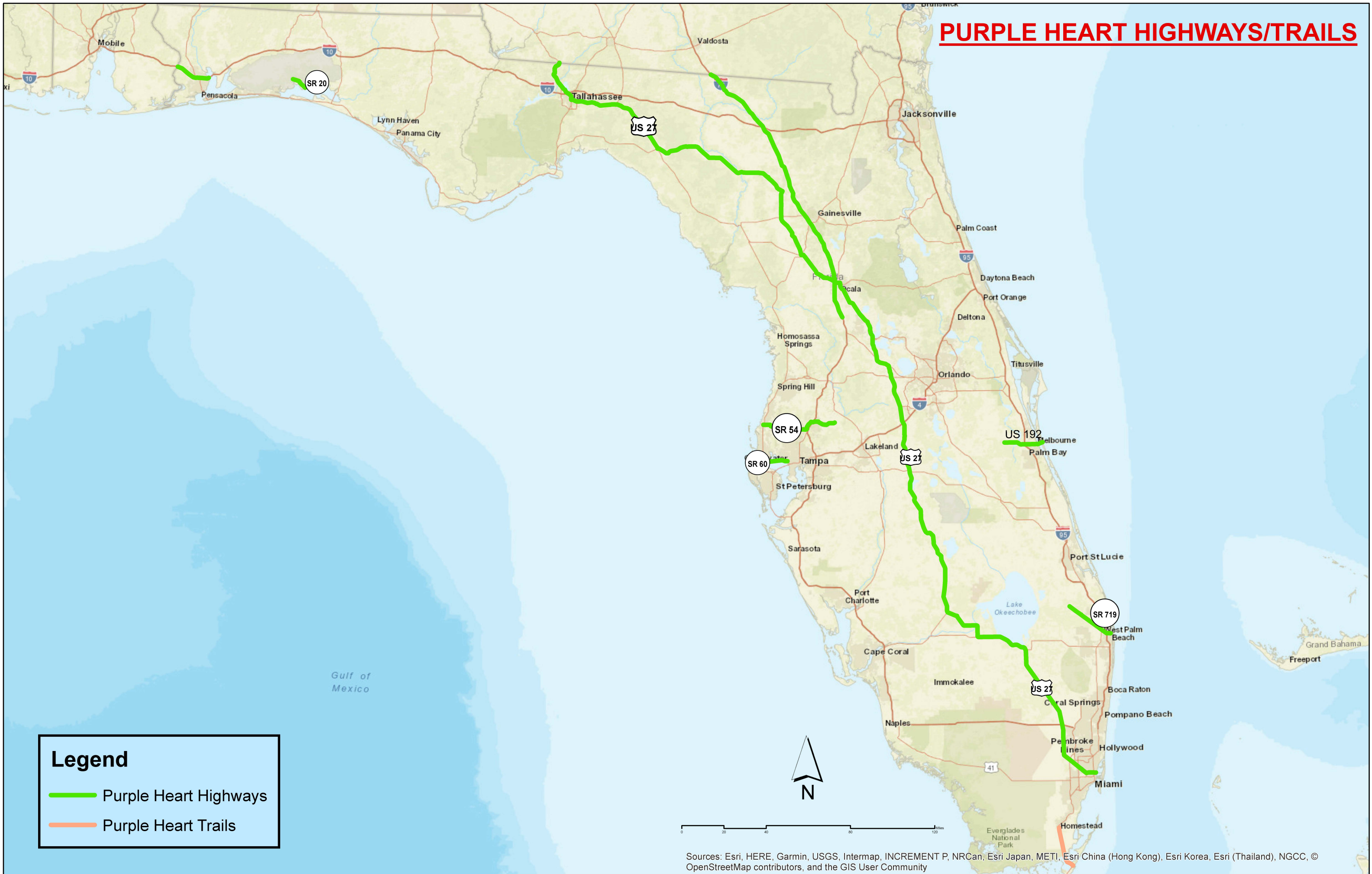
The Military Order of the Purple Heart, a national organization, established a program to identify a symbolic “Purple Heart Trail” throughout all 50 States, Puerto Rico and Guam. That has been accomplished. Florida has designated the “Purple Heart Memorial Highway” on I-75 from the Ocala City limits 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.

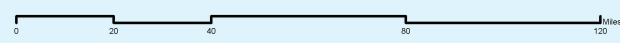
On December 7, 2020, the Charlotte County-Punta Gorda MPO Board added the I-75 Purple Heart Highway Initiative to the 2021 MPO Legislative Position Statement, authorizing its distribution to the area’s Legislative Delegation.

PURPLE HEART HIGHWAYS/TRAILS



Legend

-  Purple Heart Highways
-  Purple Heart Trails



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