



www.roundlakeroadstudy.com

SUMMARY

Project Overview Public Meeting on March 8, 2018

Round Lake Road Project Development and Environment (PD&E) Study

LOCATION: Mount Dora Community Building
520 N. Baker Street
Mount Dora, Florida 32757

TIME: 5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

ATTENDEES: 170 Signed in Citizens

Project Team

Fred Schneider, Lake County
George Gadiel, Lake County
Sharon Lewis, Lake County
Luis Diaz, Stantec
John Moore, Stantec
Deepika Fields, Stantec
Mike Drauer, Stantec
Laura Turner, Laura Turner Planning Services

Other Project Representatives

Mary Brooks (Central Florida Expressway Authority), Wekiva Parkway
Gallus Quigley (Lake County), Master Trails Plan
Vince Sandersfeld (City of Mount Dora), Wolf Branch Innovation District
Adam Chandler (City of Mount Dora), Wolf Branch Innovation District
Brian Hutt, Lake-Sumter Metropolitan Planning Organization

PREPARED BY: Laura Turner, Laura Turner Planning Services **Date:** April 6, 2018

In January 2018, Lake County began the Round Lake Road Project Development and Environment (PD&E) Study which is focusing on proposed transportation improvements along existing Round Lake Road from Meadowland Drive in Orange County to Wolf Branch Road in Lake County and continuing the proposed improvements on a new alignment north of Wolf Branch Road to north of State Road 44. This corridor is located partially within the City of Mount Dora and in unincorporated Lake County and is approximately 4.75 miles in length.

The purpose of this study is to review how people and vehicles travel in this area and to identify potential mobility and operational solutions. As alternatives are identified and evaluated, the study team will consider this corridor's setting, the area's mobility needs, and public input. There

are opportunities for the public to share their ideas and concerns throughout the study (as noted In Figure 2 – Newsletter #1). It is anticipated that this study will be completed by April 2019. The Project Overview Public Meeting was held on March 8, 2018 to introduce the Round Lake Road PD&E Study to the public. This summary provides the highlights of the notification process, information shared at the public meeting, and the comments received.

Meeting Notification

Several notification techniques were used to publicize the public meeting, which are summarized in **Figure 1**. Generally, the meeting was publicized through: advertisements (*Florida Administrative Register* and *Lake Sentinel*); website announcements (study website and Lake County website - Public Works page); direct mailings (emailed letters with Newsletter #1 to elected leaders and government partners; letters to property owners and stakeholders with Newsletter #1 were mailed); hand distributions of Newsletter #1 to key gathering spots in the area; and a news release (emailed to Lake County media outlets).

At the Meeting

As individuals signed in, they could receive a comment form and a copy of Newsletter #1. A copy of the newsletter is provided in **Figure 2**. Individuals could share their input by submitting a completed form at the meeting or by sending it to the study team afterwards through March 19, 2018. Throughout the evening, the following display boards were available for review:

- Welcome;
- Project location map;
- Environmental resources;
- Existing traffic volumes;
- Future land uses;
- Historic crashes;
- How do we get there;
- How to make a comment;
- Lake County regional map;
- PD&E Study process;
- Schedule; and
- Title VI.

In addition, the following area projects had information displays: the Wekiva Parkway (Section 3A with the State Road 46 interchange) and the Lake Wekiva Trail Map. Individuals were available to answer questions for these two projects along with those about the Wolf Branch Innovation District of Mount Dora and Lake-Sumter Metropolitan Planning Organization projects. Throughout the evening, a project video ran on a continuous loop, providing a project overview. Meeting information was posted to the study website www.roundlakeroadstudy.com on March 12, 2018.

Comments Received

This summary of comments includes those received from February 12, 2018 (beginning of the public meeting notification process) through March 19, 2018. A total of 39 comments were received during the public meeting comment period with 10 completed comment forms submitted at the public meeting and 29 emails submitted before and after the public meeting.

The following summary presents the comments that were shared. The number in parenthesis indicates how often the comment was made.

Support for the Project

- Great idea (consider Lake County's easement south of 439 (1)
- This project will make the Wolf Branch Innovation District a valuable regional asset (1)
- This project will help SR 44 residents to go east and west of Mount Dora (1)
- Benefit drivers going from Eustis to 429 (1)

Project is Not Needed or Wanted

- Improve Britt Road instead (3)
- Don't build (2)
- Don't build the roadway on my property (2)
- Round Lake Road extension from Wolf Branch Road to SR 44 (2)
- If the Round Lake Road extension is built:
 - Move it as far west as possible (1)
 - Begin the extension south of Wolf Branch Road and keep it west of Hills of Mount Dora (1)
 - Noise buffers will be needed (1)
- Britt Road and 437 can handle the traffic from Wolf Branch road to SR 44 (1)
- Don't build the roadway over my business (1)

Concerns about Potential Impacts

- Wildlife impacts (9)
- Increase in traffic (7)
- Changes to the area's rural character (7)
- Noise impacts (7)
- Quality of Life (6)
- Changes to Property Values (4)
- Safe access to/from Hills of Mount Dora (3)
- Horseback riding impacts (2)
- Drainage impacts in Birr Court area (2)
- Aquifer/natural springs impacts (2)
- Potential zoning changes (1)
- Cause to add water and sewer service (1)
- Air quality (1)
- Increase in crime (1)
- Topography impacts (1)
- Ecosystems impacts (1)

Suggestions

- Traffic signal needed at Round Lake Road and Wolf Branch Road (2)
- Left turn arrows needed at Round Lake Road and SR 46 (2)
- Need to slow down traffic on Round Lake Road (2)
- Put a vehicle weight limit on Round Lake Road (1)
- Need an alternative north-south road to 429 that is not Round Lake Road (1)
- Keep drive through traffic in Sorrento and Mount Plymouth to a minimum (1)
- Look at the powerline easement at Scenic Hills Drive (1)

- Do not impact the trees along the west side of Round Lake Road, in front of Sullivan Ranch (1)
- Need to address the drop off/pick up issue at Round Lake Charter School; queues spill out onto Round Lake Road (1)
- Include traffic counts after the new SR 46/Toll Road 429 interchange is open; need to determine if drivers are using Round Lake Road to avoid the toll road (1)
- Include the Audubon Society in the study process (1)
- If road is needed, place in the middle of the study area, away from Hills of Mount Dora (6)
- Minimize the impacts to Hills of Mount Dora and Timberlake area (1)
- Direct traffic to major highways and not to residential and agricultural areas (1)
- Have the alignment go at least 300 feet west of the Hills of Mount Dora to allow for distance between the proposed road and the existing Hills of Mount Dora lots (1)
- Begin the Round Lake Road extension behind Round Lake Charter School; from this point north name the road “New Round Lake Road” and from this point south name the road “Old Round Lake Road” (1)
- Begin the Round Lake Road extension south of Wolf Branch Road so it will keep traffic away from the Hills of Mount Dora and create a safer situation by moving traffic away from the blind hill (1)
- Change the access to the Hills of Mount Dora from Wolf Branch Road to the Round Lake Road extension (1)

Agency Comments

- Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission – offer to review potential project impacts to fish and wildlife
- Seminole Tribe of Florida – request to be consulted as cultural resources are identified and evaluated
- Muscogee (Creek) Nation – request for additional project information as it becomes available (coordination on cultural resources)

Requests

- Add to study contact list (29)
- Comment form (1)
- Schedule for identifying alignments (1)
- Specific roadway features (1)
- Video presentation (1)

Additional Comments Not Related to this Study

- Against the Wolf Branch Innovation District (1)
- Interest in the bikeway trail from Round Lake Road to Mount Dora, along the old railroad bed (1)

Next Steps

This input will guide the study team as data collection activities are completed and as improvement options are developed and studied. The results of this work will be presented at the next public meeting to be held in September 2018.

Figure 1 Notification Summary for the Project Overview Public Meeting Round Lake Road PD&E Study



Notification Summary for Project Overview Public Meeting March 8, 2018 Round Lake Road PD&E Study



<i>Date Completed</i>	<i>Notification Activity</i>
February 12, 2018	Study website went live (www.roundlakeroadstudy.com), Including public meeting information
February 13, 2018	Letter + Newsletter #1 emailed to 45 Elected Leaders
February 13, 2018	Letter + Newsletter #1 emailed to 84 Government Partners; Letter + Newsletter #1 mailed to 5 Government Partners
February 13, 2018	Letter + Newsletter #1 mailed to 377 Property Owners
February 15, 2018	Newspaper display ad published in <i>The Lake Sentinel</i> (<i>Orlando Sentinel</i>) 1 st time; ad copy submitted February 9, 2018
February 25, 2018	Newspaper display ad published in <i>The Lake Sentinel</i> , (<i>Orlando Sentinel</i>) 2 nd time
February 26, 2018	Ad published in <i>Florida Administrative Register</i> (uploaded February 15, 2018)
February 27, 2018	50 copies of Newsletter #1 hand delivered 5 – Round Lake Charter School 20 – Mount Dora Public Library 20 – Mount Dora City Hall 5 – Mount Dora Parks & Recreation (for posting on outside information boards Downtown)
February 28, 2018	Lake County Communications Office emailed news release to media outlets; news release submitted to Lake County on February 19, 2018

Figure 2 Newsletter #1- Round Lake Road PD&E Study



ROUND LAKE ROAD PD&E STUDY Newsletter



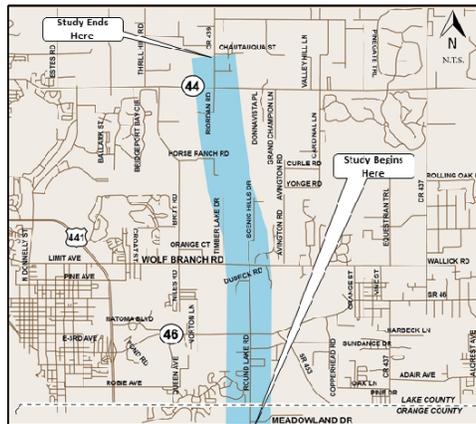
Issue #1 – February 2018

www.roundlakeroadstudy.com

Lake County Launches Round Lake Road PD&E Study

In January 2018, Lake County began the Round Lake Road Project Development and Environment (PD&E) Study which is focusing on proposed transportation improvements along existing Round Lake Road from Meadowland Drive in Orange County to Wolf Branch Road in Lake County and continuing the proposed improvements on a new alignment north of Wolf Branch Road to north of State Road 44. This corridor is located partially within the City of Mount Dora and in unincorporated Lake County and is approximately 4.75 miles in length.

The purpose of this study is to review how people and vehicles travel in this area and to identify potential mobility and operational solutions. As alternatives are identified and evaluated, the study team will consider this corridor's setting, the area's mobility needs, and public input. There are opportunities for the public to share their ideas and concerns throughout the study (see related article on the back page). It is anticipated that this study will be completed by April 2019.



Map of Round Lake Road PD&E Study Area

Project Overview Public Meeting Scheduled for March 8, 2018

Lake County invites you to the Project Overview Public Meeting regarding transportation improvements to Round Lake Road. The meeting is being held on **Thursday, March 8, 2018** at the **Mount Dora Community Building located at 520 N. Baker Street, Mount Dora, Florida 32757**. This meeting will introduce the project while providing the status of the study to date and the opportunity for attendees to ask questions and to provide input to the study team. The meeting will be held as an open house from **5:30 pm to 7:30 pm** with a project video that will run continuously throughout the meeting. There will be no formal presentation. Participants may review project information and discuss the project with the study team at any time during the meeting. The meeting video and displays will be posted on the study website (www.roundlakeroadstudy.com) within a week after the meeting. This meeting provides interested persons an opportunity to express their views concerning the social, economic, and environmental impacts of the proposed Round Lake Road improvements.

Public participation is solicited without regard to race, color, national origin, age, sex, religion, disability, or family status. Persons who require language translation or interpretive services, which are provided at no cost, or those requiring special accommodations under the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA) may request assistance by contacting Fred Martin, Lake County Title VI/Nondiscrimination and ADA Coordinator, at 352.343.9653 or fmartin@lakecountyfl.gov at least seven (7) days prior to the meeting.

The environmental review, consultation, and other actions required by applicable federal environmental laws for this project are being, or have been, carried out by Lake County pursuant to 23 U.S.C. §327 and a Memorandum of Understanding dated December 14, 2016 as executed by FHWA and FDOT.

**Figure 2 (continued)
Newsletter #1- Round Lake Road PD&E Study**

Study Schedule

Key Study Activities	2018												2019			
	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A
Notice to Proceed	●															
Public Involvement																
Project Overview Public Meeting (March 8, 2018)			★													
Data Collection																
Alternatives Developed and Studied																
Alternative Concepts Public Workshop (September 2018)								★								
Study Documents																
Draft Recommended Improvement Public Meeting (January 2019)													★			
Lake County BCC Public Hearing (February 2019)														★		
Final Approval																●

Stay Informed! Stay Involved!

If you have questions, want to learn more about the study, or would like to request a meeting with your group, you may contact our study team leaders.

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Visit the study website, www.roundlakeroadstudy.com, to stay informed about the study's progress.



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