

Wekiva Parkway Update

Thank you for your continued interest in the Wekiva Parkway project. While we continue moving forward with the Project Development and Environment (PD&E) Study, here is a brief update on where we stand with the proposed project:

Declining Funding Available for Transportation Projects

After a financial analysis estimated the total cost of construction of the parkway to be \$1.8 billion (2008 dollars), and with declining transportation dollars available to the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT), it is evident that the Wekiva Parkway (including portions from Apopka to Sanford) is not financially feasible unless built as a toll road. However, a specific funding plan has yet to be determined.

Recent Project Developments in East Lake County

Residents of east Lake County that live and work along existing SR 46 expressed concerns over potentially having to pay a toll for local trips. In response to those concerns, the study team analyzed options to provide a non-tolled service road in east Lake County along the recommended Wekiva Parkway route. The preliminary concept was presented to the east Lake County community at a public workshop in December 2009. Input from the workshop is being incorporated as work on the concept continues. The service road will be part of the recommended alternative in east Lake County.

Next Steps

The study team continues to coordinate with state and federal agencies to obtain the necessary approvals to move forward with the recommended Wekiva Parkway route. Once those approvals are received, District 5 of FDOT, along with the Orlando-Orange County Expressway Authority (OOCEA), will hold the much anticipated public hearings in Seminole, Lake and Orange Counties. The public hearings will be an essential next step in gathering further community feedback on the proposed parkway route. You will be notified in advance of the locations, dates and times for those public hearings.

FDOT and OOCEA remain committed to this very important regional transportation initiative, which would complete the beltway around metro Orlando. As we move forward, the study team will continue to meet with residents and community groups. In addition, we will continue exploring funding options as the project moves into the design phase, which will begin after the PD&E Study is finalized.

[Click here](#) for the background of the Wekiva Parkway and maps and study information.

Thanks again for your continued interest in this project. We will continue to keep you updated as the PD&E Study moves forward.

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