

# Ludlam Trail

## Public Information Meeting Summary Memo

November 19, 2020







## PROJECT TEAM





# Project Development and Environment Study: Public Information Meeting

The Ludlam Trail Public Information Meeting was an opportunity to recapture public involvement, gather additional input and, inform neighbors and the community about the ongoing progress of the project. The meeting was held on November 19th, 2020 from 6:00-8:00 pm. In compliance with COVID-19 guidelines, the event was held virtually via Zoom with an interactive web site affording the public several opportunities to send questions and comments, answer polling questions about who the participants were, where they lived in relation to the trail, their interests in the Ludlam Trail Project. The event was promoted and advertised through mail-outs, newspaper ads, email, the Miami-Dade County website, social media, flyers, and stakeholder meetings.

(A requirement of the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) - Project Development and Environment (PD&E) Study for the Ludlam Trail Project)



## PROJECT PRESENTATION

The meeting was comprised of a presentation by Marty Peate (AECOM) and Victor Dover (DK&P) and followed by a Question-and-Answer session where subject matter experts, including the design team, answered the public's questions related to the Ludlam Trail. The presentation started with welcoming comments by Miami-Dade Parks and Open Spaces Director Maria I. Nardi followed by a reading of the NEPA/PD&E process into the records and then followed by the 15% design in progress presentation. The 15% engineering drawings were the foundation for the aspirational renderings and an interactive Ludlam Trail map that is available on the County project website. Additional information was presented regarding the length, location, proposed landscape palette, proposed rest area locations, planned connections to adjacent neighborhoods, bridges, and street crossings. There were over 400 attendees participating in the 2-hour event. A recording of the meeting and a copy of the presentation is available on the project website for those that could not attend the live meeting.



<https://www.miamidade.gov/global/recreation/ludlam-trail/home.page>

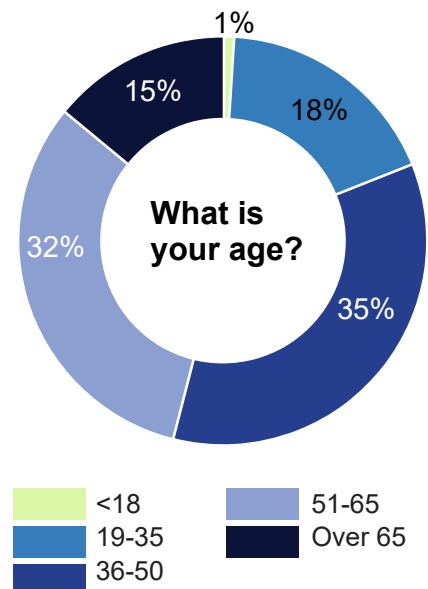
## POLLING

During the presentation, the Project Team asked interactive polling questions to gather feedback from the participants. The poll had **242** participants. Questions included:

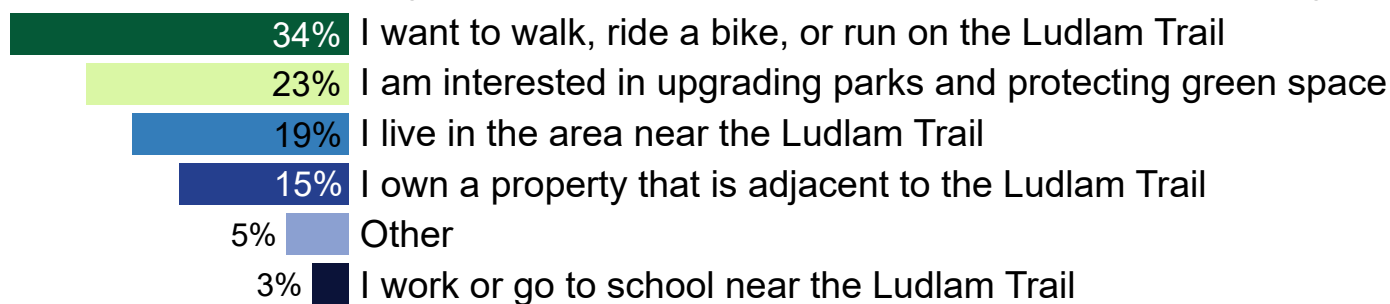
- What best describes your interest in the Ludlam Trail?
- What is your zip code?
- What is your age?
- In ONE word, what is your top priority for implementation of the Ludlam Trail?
- Do you like the idea of including a limited number of shelters along the trail?
- Do you like this example of a proposed trail crossing?
- How likely are you and members of your household to use the proposed Ludlam Trail?
- Is the proposed Ludlam Trail generally on the right track?

The information gathered from the polls has been included in the form of charts and graphs in this document.

The presentation is available on the project website:  
[www.miamidade.gov/ludlamtrail](http://www.miamidade.gov/ludlamtrail).



## What best describes your interest in the Ludlam Trail? (Text all that apply)



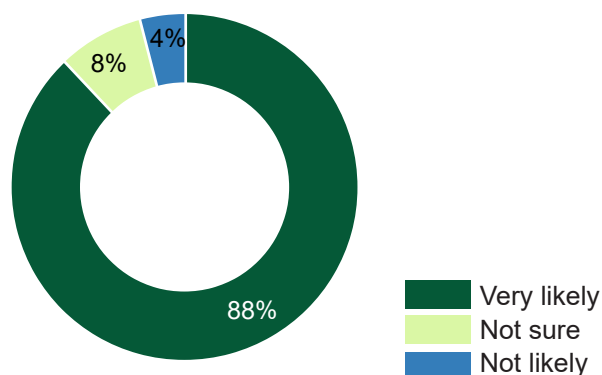
## Do you like the idea of including a limited number of shelters along the trail?



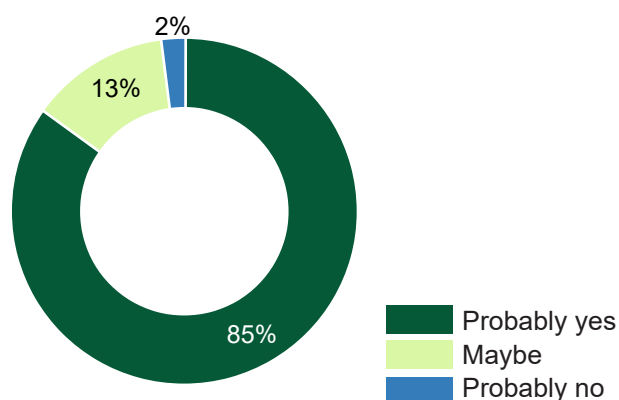
## Do you like this example of a proposed trail crossing?



## How likely are you and members of your household to use the proposed Ludlam Trail?



## Is the proposed Ludlam Trail generally on the right track?



In ONE word, what is your top priority for implementation of the Ludlam Trail?



What is your zip code? Top answers from 190 poll participants.

**33143** South Miami

**33155** Coral Terrace, West Miami, Westchester, & Tropical Park

**33146 & 33133** University of Miami, French Country Village & Coconut Grove

## QUESTIONS FROM THE Q&A:

During the Public Information Meeting participants were able to ask the Project Team and Miami-Dade County Parks Staff questions. Below are samples from the 200+ questions and comments that were received during the event.

**“Will I have access from my backyard? I live by the trail, I was planning to have a gate or door in the current fence.”**

**“Can there be vibratory striping on the roadway leading to the intersections so that cars “feel” and “hear” an upcoming intersection where cyclists/peds will be crossing?”**

**“Are there going to be restrictions for electric vehicles?”**

**“Do not install irrigation. Plant natives in low spots so they get watered naturally. We get 60 inches of rain a year, a natural jungle.”**

**“I am concerned about ground level crossings; what will the timing be like on the lights?”**

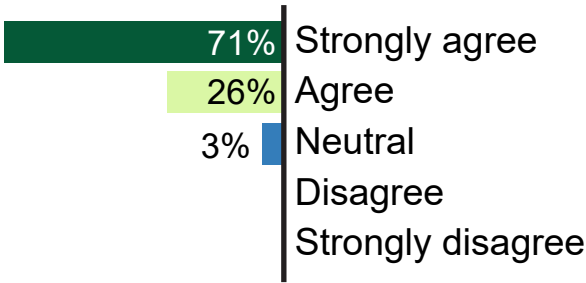
**“What will the cross section look like when the trail passes through the private building development nodes?”**

**“What is the surface made of and will it be consistent thru the development nodes?”**

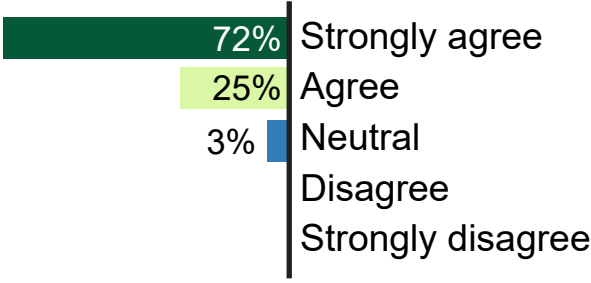
PARTICIPANT SATISFACTION SURVEY:

After the Public Information Meeting, participants were given an opportunity to take a satisfaction survey to inform the Project Team what was done well during the meeting and what could have been improved. Over 100 people participated in the survey.

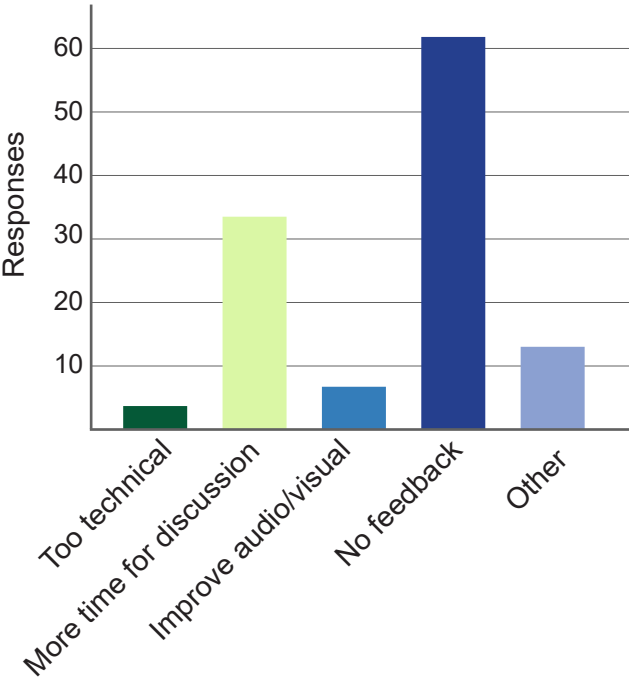
Overall, I am very satisfied with the way the meeting was conducted



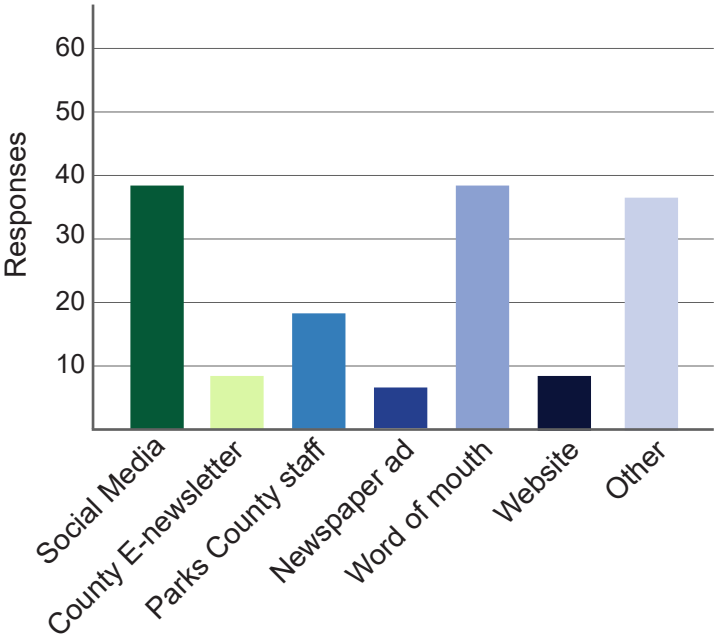
Overall, I found the meeting informative.



How would you improve this meeting? (check all that apply.)



How did you first learn about this Meeting? (check all that apply.)





## PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD:

The public had 21 days to send comments, questions, suggestions and/or concerns to the Project Team. Over 290 comments were categorized into the topics below.

**41%**

### DESIGN CONCERNS

- Lights after dark: How will they impact adjacent properties?
- Landscaping and planting selections; consider native and more shade trees.
- How will existing fences be impacted?
- What will the private development nodes look like? Requests to see designs
- Requests for more detail on road crossings

*Total Mentions: 119*

**20%** OVERALL SAFETY & TRAIL COMFORT

- Concerns about shelters attracting vagrants
- Amenities along trail like restrooms and other concessions
- Privacy of adjacent private properties
- Parking and distance to trail
- Security of trail after dark
- Hours of operation for public

*Total Mentions: 57*

**15%**

### OTHER

- Concerns about flooding on adjacent property
- Interest in historical monuments or interpretive signage along trail
- Requests to stay involved in process
- Events like "Ludlam Lights" were a success; bring that back.
- Potential encroachments along the trail right-of-way: How will it be managed?

*Total Mentions: 43*

**11%** CONNECTIONS & TRAIL ACCESS

- Access from adjacent private properties
- Access to lakes and canals along trail
- Timing of public access to trail
- ADA access for wheelchair users, cyclists and strollers, etc.

*Total Mentions: 34*

**8%**

### NEXT STEPS

- Affects on property values along trail
- Timing of construction and phasing
- Cost benefit analysis on trail
- Funding for project
- Maintenance of proposed trail

*Total Mentions: 22*

**5%**

### TRAIL USE

- Pet friendly trail with water stations
- Suggestions for horses on part of the trail
- Restrictions on electric or motorized bicycles or wheelchairs
- Delivery and drop-off lanes near trail

*Total Mentions: 16*

