# **PRESHOW** 5:45

MIAMI-DADE Parks, Recreation and Open Spaces



### WELCOME! Ludlam Trail Corridor PD&E Study The Public Hearing will begin at 6:00pm Tuesday, August 24, 2021

miamidade.gov/ludlamtrail

Parks, Recreation and Open Spaces

# START 6:00

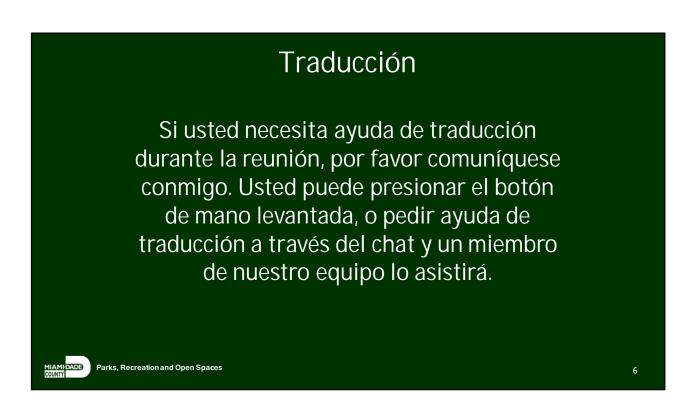
MIAMI-DADE Parks, Recreation and Open Spaces



Good evening. The Miami-Dade Parks, Recreation and Open Spaces Department would like to welcome you to the Public Hearing for the Ludlam Trail Corridor Project Development and Environment Study, also referred to as a PD&E Study. My name is Jenn L. King, P.E.. I am the Public Information Officer for tonight's Public Hearing.



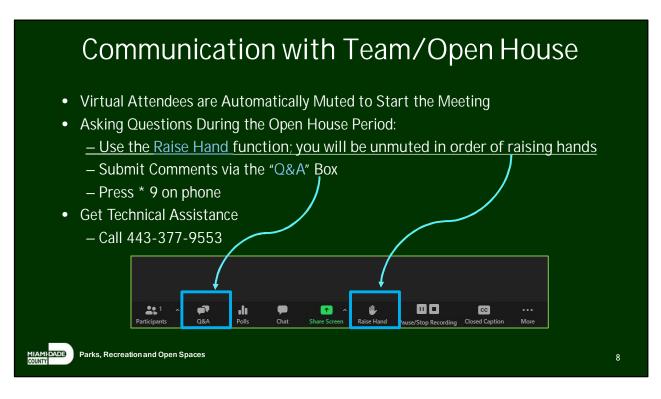
I'd like for everyone to please note, that this Public Hearing meeting is being recorded. A copy of the recording will be posted to the project website after the meeting.



Si usted necesita ayuda de traducción durante la reunión por favor comuníquese conmigo. Usted puede presionar el botón de mano levantada, o pedir ayuda de traducción a través del chat y un miembro de nuestro equipo lo asistirá.



If you need assistance in Haitian-Creole, please contact one of the staff in the room, or use the Q&A Box, or use the Raise Hand feature on-line.



Now, I will review how to Communicate with the Team for those who are attending virtually:

Currently, all microphones, other than presenters, are muted.

Our online moderator tonight is Ms. Kelly Stoll from AECOM. She will coordinate the on-line portion of tonight's meeting.

There are three ways to communicate with the team during the Open House period portion of tonight's meeting:

- you can use the Raise Hand feature on the control panel OR
- you can submit Comments by clicking the "Q&A" Button on your screen OR
- you can also use "Star 9" on your phone to indicate you would like to be unmuted

At the completion of the Open House at 6:30pm, all microphones will again be muted and will remain muted until the completion of the Public Hearing formal presentation.

If you experience technical difficulties, please call the number on the screen. This number is also listed in the Q&A section.



Tonight's agenda for the Ludlam Trail PD&E Study Public Hearing is as follows: We'll start with some opening remarks from Ms. Maria I. Nardi, who is the Director of

Miami-Dade County Parks, Recreation and Open Spaces.

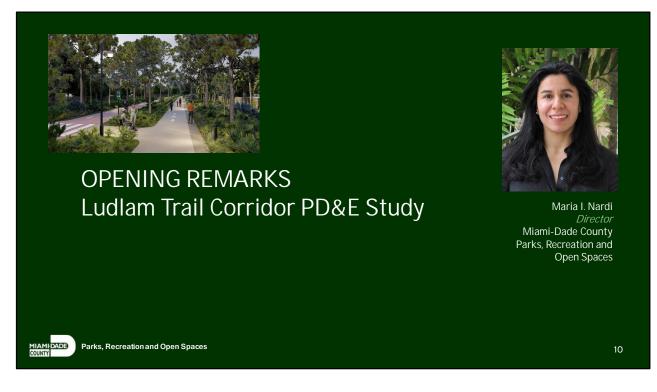
Then, we will be welcomed by the County's Project Manager, Ms. Alissa Turtletaub, M.S. Next, the consultant Project Manager, Mr. Marty Peate, AICP, will provide a brief introduction of the project and our team.

At that point, I will come back on and welcome any elected officials or their representatives to self-introduce themselves – if you are online, please use the Raise Hand feature and our moderator will unmute you.

After that, we'll introduce our team of panelists and then we will be in the Open House period of tonight's meeting.

During the Open House, you may interact with the team and panelists and ask questions. At 6:30 pm, all microphones will be muted, and we will begin the formal presentation. Following the presentation, we will open the official comment period for the public hearing.

And with that, I'll turn it over to Director Nardi.



Good evening, my name is Maria I. Nardi, Director of MDC PROS.

...Opening Remarks...

And with that, I'd like to turn it over to our Project Manager, Ms. Alissa Turtletaub.



### WELCOME

### Ludlam Trail Corridor PD&E Study

Between 400 feet north of NW 7th Street and SW 80th Street, between 69th and 70th Avenues



Alissa Turtletaub, M.S

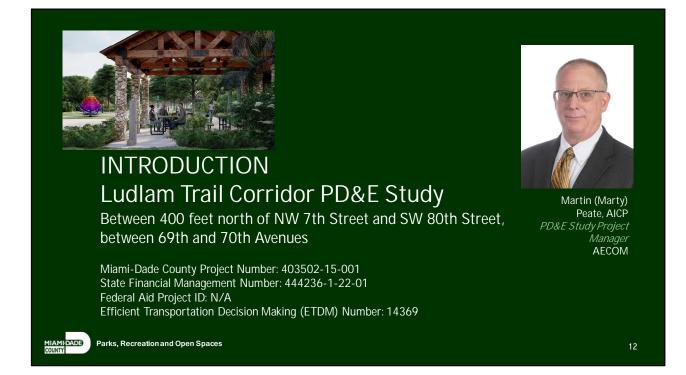
Park Planning Section Supervisor, Planning and Design Excellence Miami-Dade County Parks, Recreation and Open Spaces

AMIDADE Parks, Recreation and Open Spaces

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Good evening, my name is Alissa Turtletaub, Project Manager on behalf of Miami-Dade County Parks, Recreation and Open Spaces. It is my pleasure to be here and thank you for joining us tonight. The Ludlam Trail will be approximately 5.6-miles long, located between 400 feet north of NW 7<sup>th</sup> Street and SW 80<sup>th</sup> Street, between 69<sup>th</sup> and 70<sup>th</sup> Avenues within the former railroad right-of-way. The project is located within unincorporated Miami-Dade County and a portion of the City of Miami. The Ludlam Trail is an important component of the Miami Loop greenway network, which will be a connected system including the Underline, Miami River Greenway and the Perimeter Trail. We are pleased you are able to join us this evening, and look forward to providing information and receiving public input regarding the Ludlam Trail.

And with that, I will turn the presentation over to Mr. Marty Peate, our consultant project manager, who's with AECOM.



Thank you, Alissa. Good evening, again my name is Marty Peate and I'd also like to thank you for joining us tonight.

This Public Hearing is for Miami-Dade County Project Number 403502-15-001 and State Financial Management Number 444236-1-22-01. This environmental study has been conducted by Miami-Dade County Parks, Recreation and Open Spaces (also referred to as MD-PROS) in coordination with the Florida Department of Transportation (or, FDOT) District Six in compliance with all applicable federal environmental laws and pursuant to 23 U.S.C. Section 327 and the implementing Memorandum Of Understanding between the FDOT and the Federal Highway Administration (referred to as FHWA) signed on December 14, 2016; the FDOT Office of Environmental Management (known as OEM) in Tallahassee is the approving authority.

The proposed improvements involve the creation of a new shared-use trail with a pedestrian pathway, a soft natural jogging surface path, and a 2-way bicycle path, along with landscaping, rest areas, and parking lots, which are detailed on the Roll Plot. The proposed project includes 11 atgrade crossings, 4 bridges crossing over roads, and 2 bridges over the existing canals in the corridor. The purpose of the proposed Ludlam Trail Corridor Project is to encourage the use of alternate modes of transportation and enhance overall connectivity and accessibility between schools, parks, transit, residences, workplaces, and shopping. Over 30,000 residents live within 2 miles of the proposed project corridor. This hearing is being held to provide you with the opportunity to comment on this project.



It takes a multi-disciplinary team to complete the Ludlam Trail PD&E project. Miami-Dade County, supported by the FDOT, engaged the AECOM Team to complete this PD&E Study. Our AECOM Team includes:

- Dover Kohl and Partners for trail design support;
- Janus Research, Inc. for historic and archeological resources;
- Marlin Engineering, Inc. for structural support;
- C. H. Perez and Associates for survey;
- Geosol, Inc. provided geotechnical evaluation; and
- CalTran Engineering Group, Inc. completed the traffic study.

And with that brief introduction, I'll turn it back over to Jenn.



Thank you, Marty. At this time, we would like to recognize any federal, state, county, or city officials who may be present tonight. Are there any officials who would like to be recognized? Please stand up if you are here in the room or please select the Raise Hand feature on the control panel if you are attending on-line and our moderator will unmute you.

Thank you very much, we sincerely appreciate your attendance with us here tonight.

## **Presenters and Panelists**

### Presenters, in order:

- Jenn L. King, P.E.
- Amparo Vargas
- Maria I. Nardi
- Alissa Turtletaub, M.S.

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• Martin (Marty) Peate, AICP

### Panelists

- Alejandro Zizold
- Laura Cherney
- Babu Madabhushi
- Andrew Lloyd, P.E.
- Saul Perez, P.E.
- Victor Dover, FAICP, LEED-AP
- Clete Rooney
- Alyssa McManus

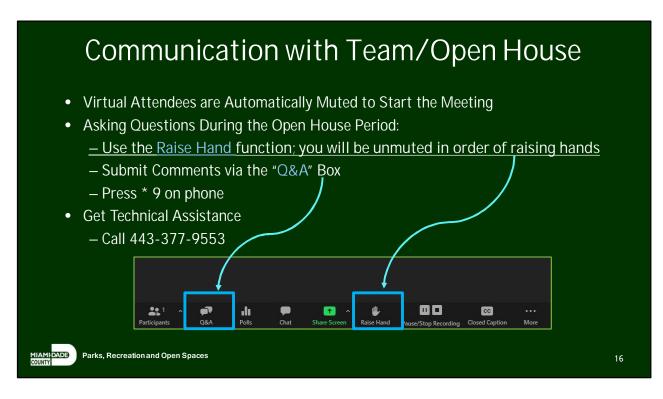
It is now my pleasure to introduce our presenters and panelists for tonight's Public Hearing. The presenters you have already heard from here tonight, in order of appearance, are as follows:

- Myself, Jenn L. King, P.E. the Public Information Officer for this project; I'm with AECOM.
- And you heard briefly from Amparo Vargas, our AECOM Spanish Translator.
- Maria I. Nardi, the Director of the County Parks, Recreation and Open Spaces Department.
- Alissa Turtletaub, our MD-PROS Project Manager.
- And Marty Peate, AICP, our AECOM consultant Project Manager.

I'd like to take a moment to thank the other representatives of Miami-Dade County and the consultant project team who also are here with us physically tonight, supporting this public hearing. And of course, all of our on-line support team as well!

Now, turning to our panelists, we have with us:

- Alejandro Zizold, the Master Plan Manager, from Miami-Dade County Parks, Recreation and Open Spaces
- Laura Cherney, our AECOM Environmental Lead
- Babu Madabhushi, our AECOM Contamination Expert
- Andrew Lloyd, P.E., our AECOM Engineering Lead
- Saul Perez, P.E., our AECOM Structural Lead, and
- Victor Dover, F.A.I.C.P., LEED-A.P., Urban Designer with D.K.P.
- Also joining us tonight is Clete Rooney, Archaeologist, Bureau of Historic Preservation, Division of Historical Resources, Florida Department of State, and
- Alyssa McManus, Architectural Historian, Division of Historical Resources, Florida Department
   of State



As a reminder, for those who are attending virtually:

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Please feel free to interact with our team and panelists during the Open House. Project displays are provided both in the room and on-line at the project website: miamidade.gov/ludlamtrail. The formal presentation will begin at 6:30pm.

Please note, verbal statements made during the Open House period will not be captured as a formal comment for the Public Hearing. If you would like to make a statement for the project record, please do that during the official comment period which will open up after tonight's presentation; or you can type it in directly using the Q&A Button.

<u>AT 6:25</u>: I'd like to make an announcement. We will be ending the Open House in 5 minutes. The formal presentation will begin at 6:30pm. Thank you.

AT 6:30: At this time, it is 6:30pm and we now will begin the presentation.



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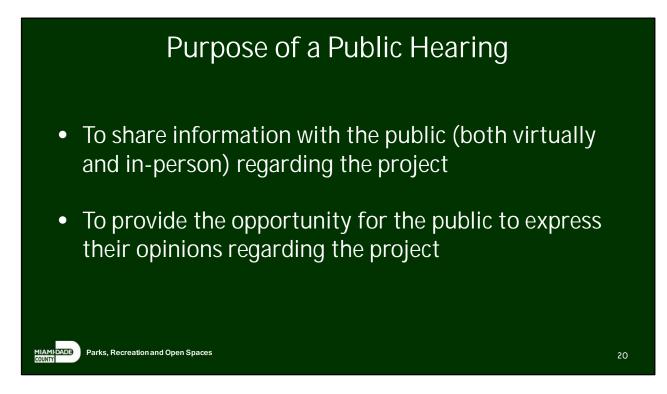
### PUBLIC HEARING PRESENTATION Ludlam Trail Corridor Project Development and Environment (PD&E) Study

Between 400 feet north of NW 7th Street and SW 80th Street, between 69th and 70th Avenues

Miami-Dade County Project Number: 403502-15-001 State Financial Management Number: 444236-1-22-01 Federal Aid Project ID: N/A Efficient Transportation Decision Making (ETDM) Number: 14369

MIAMI-DADE Parks, Recreation and Open Spaces

Miami-Dade County Parks, Recreation and Open Spaces Department would like to welcome you to the Public Hearing for the Ludlam Trail Corridor Project Development and Environment Study (or PD&E Study), located between 400 feet north of NW 7th Street and SW 80th Street, between 69th and 70th Avenues, within Miami-Dade County, Florida. This Public Hearing pertains to Miami-Dade County Project Number 403502-15-001; State Financial Management Number 444236-1-22-01; and Efficient Transportation Decision Making (E.T.D.M.) Number 14369.



The purpose of a Public Hearing is to share information with the general public about the proposed improvements, the conceptual designs, all alternatives under study, and the potential beneficial and adverse social, economic, and environmental impacts upon the community. The Public Hearing also serves as an official forum, providing an opportunity for members of the public to express their opinions regarding the project.

The feedback gathered from this Public Hearing will be used to finalize the Study recommendations.



There are three primary components of a Public Hearing: an Open House; a formal presentation; and a period for public comment.



The first portion of the Public Hearing, the Open House, has already occurred, prior to this presentation. During the Open House, the public was invited to view the project displays, speak directly with the project team, and provide comments, either in writing or verbally to the court reporter.



The second component of a Public Hearing is this presentation, which will explain the project's Purpose and Need, the PD&E Study Alternatives, potential impacts - both beneficial and adverse - and proposed methods to mitigate adverse project impacts.



The third part of the Public Hearing will be a formal comment period, which will follow this presentation. The public will have the opportunity to provide oral statements, at the microphone or online; or to provide comments in writing, at the meeting or online; or speak directly to the court reporter.

# Laws and Regulations

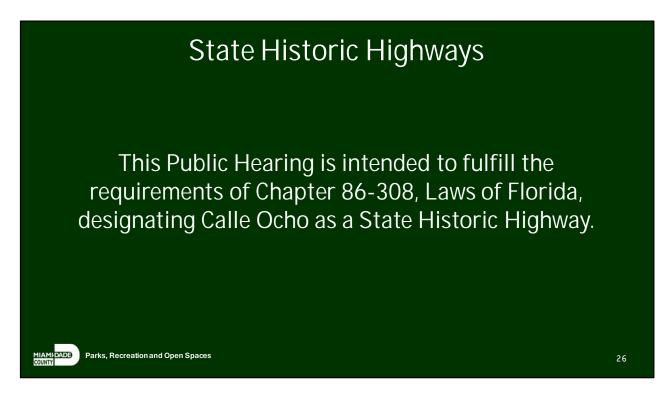
- Section 120.525, Florida Statutes Meetings, hearings, and workshops
- Section 286.011, Florida Statutes Government in the Sunshine Law
- Section 335.199, Florida Statutes Transportation projects modifying access
- Section 339.155, Florida Statutes Transportation planning
- Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA)
- Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and Other Nondiscrimination Laws
- 49 CFR Part 24, Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition for Federal and Federally-Assisted Programs
- 40 CFR Part 1506, Other Requirements of NEPA



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This Public Hearing was advertised consistent with the federal and state requirements shown on this slide:

- Section 120.525, Florida Statutes
- Section 286.011, Florida Statutes
- Section 335.199, Florida Statutes
- Section 339.155, Florida Statutes
- Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990
- Title Six of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and Other Nondiscrimination Laws
- 49 C.F.R. Part 24, Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition for Federal and Federally-Assisted Programs
- 40 C.F.R. Part 1506, Other Requirements of NEPA



This Public Hearing is intended to fulfill the requirements of Chapter 86-308, Laws of Florida, designating Calle Ocho as a State Historic Highway.

Representatives from the Division of Historical Resources, Florida Department of State, are in attendance and available at tonight's Public Hearing.



Public participation at this Public Hearing is encouraged and solicited without regard to race, color, national origin, age, sex, religion, disability, or family status.

Persons wishing to express any concerns about Title Six may do so by contacting Miami-Dade County; the FDOT District Six office; or the Tallahassee office of the FDOT. This contact information is also provided in the project fact sheet and on a sign displayed at this hearing.

# NEPA Assignment Statement

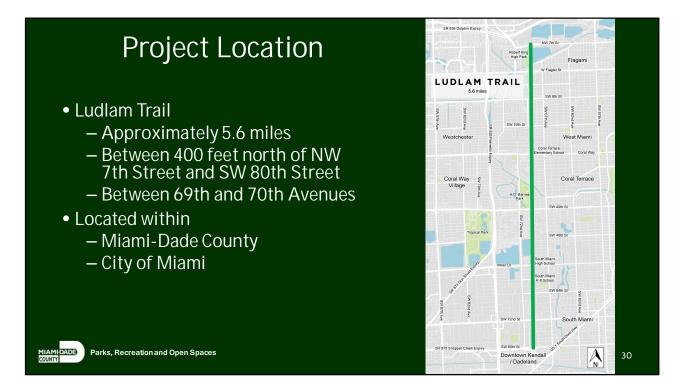
The environmental review, consultation, and other actions required by applicable federal environmental laws for this project are being, or have been, carried out by the FDOT pursuant to 23 U.S.C. § 327 and a Memorandum of Understanding dated December 14, 2016 and executed by the Federal Highway Administration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

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The environmental review, consultation, and other actions required by applicable federal environmental laws for this project are being, or have been, carried out by the Florida Department of Transportation pursuant to 23 U.S.C. Section 327 and a Memorandum of Understanding dated December 14, 2016 and executed by the Federal Highway Administration and the FDOT. The FDOT Office of Environmental Management (OEM) in Tallahassee is the approving authority.



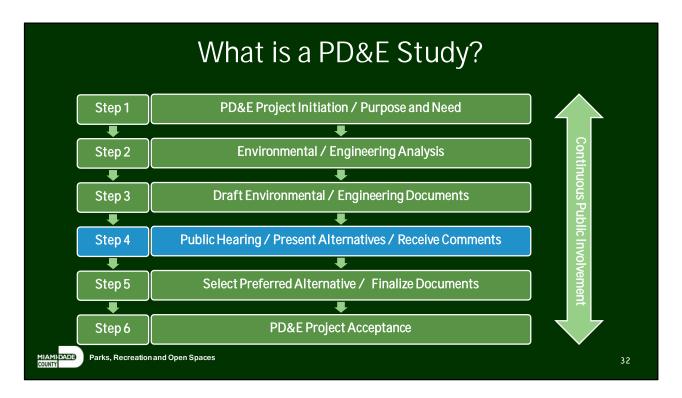
This presentation will cover the project's Purpose and Need; how the project is consistent with local and regional transportation plans; the project alternatives considered in the PD&E Study; and the potential impacts, both beneficial and adverse, the project may have on the surrounding environment.



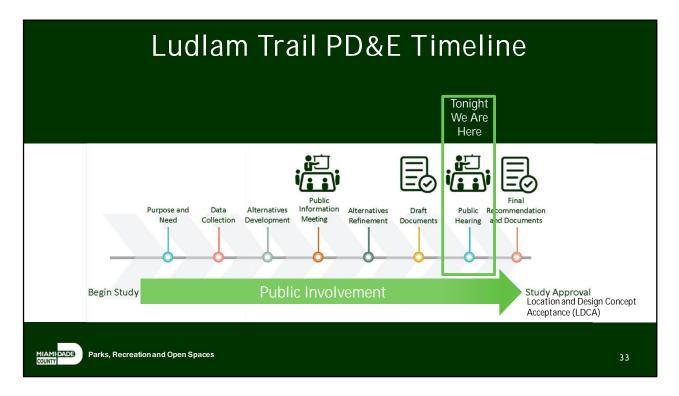
The proposed project limits extend along a segment of the former Florida East Coast Railroad corridor between 400 feet north of NW 7th Street and SW 80th Street, between 69th and 70th Avenues. The project study area is located within unincorporated Miami-Dade County and the City of Miami.

Project Development Process	
PROJECT PHASES:	
Planning Advanced Land Acquisition PD&E Final Design Const	struction
Continuous Public Involvement	
MIAMEDADB Parks, Recreation and Open Spaces	31

A transportation project generally has five phases. This Ludlam Trail project has already completed the Advanced Land Acquisition process, with approval from FDOT, in 2018. This project is currently in the PD&E phase. The next phase will be the final design phase. Public involvement is solicited throughout the PD&E phase and all project development phases.



A PD&E Study develops alternatives that address the project's Purpose and Need. The process requires continuous interaction with the public and project stakeholders to identify and address issues. As noted in blue on the graphic, this project is at a point in the PD&E Study where the Preferred Alternative is being presented at tonight's Public Hearing. The next step will be to incorporate input from this Public Hearing into the final decision-making process.



For this Ludlam Trail PD&E Study, once the comment period closes (21 days after the Public Hearing, on September 14, 2021), and after public feedback has been considered, a decision will be made by Miami-Dade County on the preferred action, and final PD&E documents will be submitted for project acceptance. The goal of a PD&E Study is to obtain Location and Design Concept Acceptance (or L.D.C.A.) from the FDOT Office of Environmental Management in Tallahassee, which will allow the project to move to the next phase, final design.

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The purpose of the proposed Ludlam Trail Corridor Project is to encourage the use of alternate modes of transportation and enhance overall connectivity and accessibility to schools, parks, transit stations, bus stops, residences, workplaces, and shopping.

The need for the proposed project is based on the following criteria:

One, System Linkage: The Ludlam Trail will be a vital component of the Miami-Dade County trail network linking a system of parks, greenways, trails, and water trails, while offering a reliable transportation alternative.

Two, Social and Economic Demand: The Ludlam Trail is anticipated to improve public mobility for walking and biking to schools, parks, and transit stations, resulting in a reduction of daily vehicle trips in the project vicinity. By providing additional non-motorized transportation options, fewer vehicles will likely travel on the surrounding roadway network, which will help to reduce traffic congestion on major arterials in the area. Furthermore, the proposed project will enhance mobility and strengthen connections to neighboring communities, providing increased opportunities for social and economic development as well as recreational opportunities.



This project is consistent with area transportation plans including the FDOT Work Program State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP). The project is also included in the Miami-Dade Transportation Planning Organization's (TPO) Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). Ludlam Trail is also noted in the TPO Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) for the current plan period.

# Alternatives Analysis

- Develop/refine with input from the public, local governments, and agencies
- Meet purpose and need
- Avoid or minimize impacts to the community and environment
- Evaluation matrix for comparison
- No-Build Alternative versus Build Alternative(s)

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During a PD&E Study, alternatives are developed and refined to meet a project's Purpose and Need, as well as avoid or minimize impacts to the social, cultural, natural, and physical environments. Alternatives are compared in an Evaluation Matrix. Build Alternatives are compared against a No-Build Alternative, which serves as a baseline and must be included until the end of the PD&E Study.

# No-Build Alternative

- Remains a viable alternative until the end of the PD&E Study
- No improvements will be made



By definition, a No-Build Alternative requires no expenditure of funds for design, right-ofway, construction, or utility relocation. However, it does not address the Purpose and Need of a project, either. As required, the No-Build Alternative remains a viable option for a PD&E Study and it can be selected as the final decision.



The Ludlam Trail considered a total of two alternatives for the PD&E Study – the No-Build Alternative and one Build Alternative.

The No-Build Alternative will not provide any enhancement to pedestrian and bicycle mobility or access in the project area.

This project has one Build Alternative, which will be described in the next slides. The Build Alternative is being proposed as the Preferred Alternative for this PD&E Study project.

## **Preferred Alternative**

- 10-foot-wide pedestrian path
  Includes a 2-foot wide soft, natural surface path
- 12-foot-wide 2-way bicycle path
- Landscape buffers
- Runs along the center of the trail corridor
- Connections to adjacent community features via 10-foot-wide multi-use paths

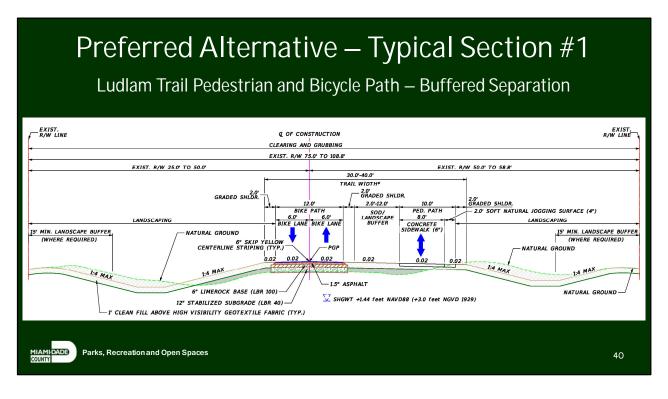


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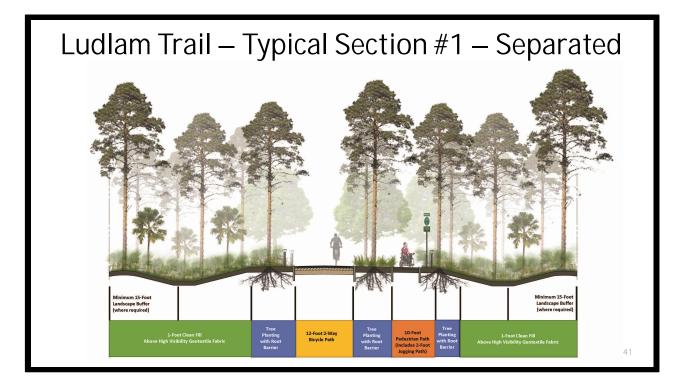
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The Preferred Alternative consists of a 10-foot-wide pedestrian path, which includes an 8-foot-wide pedestrian trail and a 2-foot wide soft, natural surface trail; and a 12-foot-wide 2-way bicycle path, separated from the pedestrian path by a landscape buffer. The corridor also includes 15-foot-wide landscape buffers next to properties zoned for single family and duplex use.

Generally, the paths will run along the center of the 5.6-mile trail corridor. The Ludlam Trail will provide access to activity centers like schools, parks, and transit centers via 10-foot-wide multi-use paths that can accommodate both pedestrians and bicyclists. Connections to neighborhoods and proposed parking facilities will be also be provided via 10-foot-wide multi-use paths.



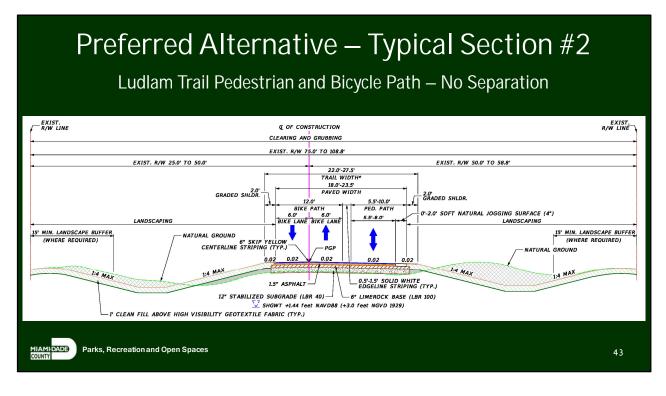
There will be two general configurations for the Ludlam Trail. This is typical section #1 which is the buffer-separated pedestrian and bicycle path. Under this scenario, the trail consists of a 10-foot-wide pedestrian path, which includes an 8-foot-wide pedestrian trail and a 2-foot-wide soft natural surface trail; and a 12-foot-wide 2-way bicycle trail, separated from the pedestrian path by a landscape buffer that varies in width from 4 to 14 feet. The section also includes 15-foot-wide landscape buffers where the trail is adjacent to properties zoned for single family or duplex use.



This is a graphical representation of Typical Section #1, with the buffered separation between the bicycle path and the pedestrian path, showing potential landscaping elements.

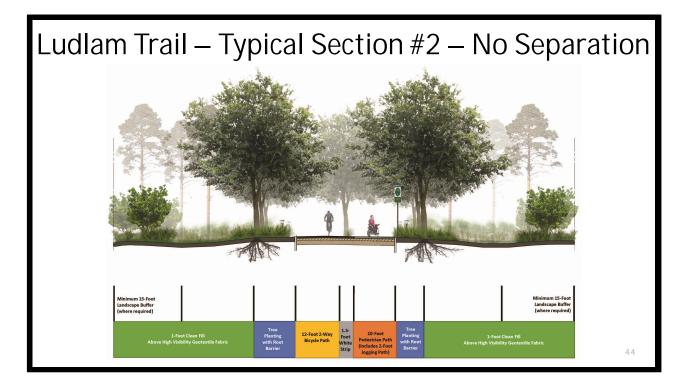


This slide shows a conceptual rendering of the proposed typical section #1 – with the 10foot-wide pedestrian path, separated by 14-feet of landscaped buffer, from the 12-footwide two-way bicycle path.



This typical section #2 shows the pedestrian and bicycle paths with no separation. Under this scenario, the trail consists of a 5.5- to 10-foot-wide pedestrian trail, which includes a 2-foot-wide soft natural surface path, in addition to a 12-foot-wide 2-way bicycle trail immediately adjacent to one another with pavement markings.

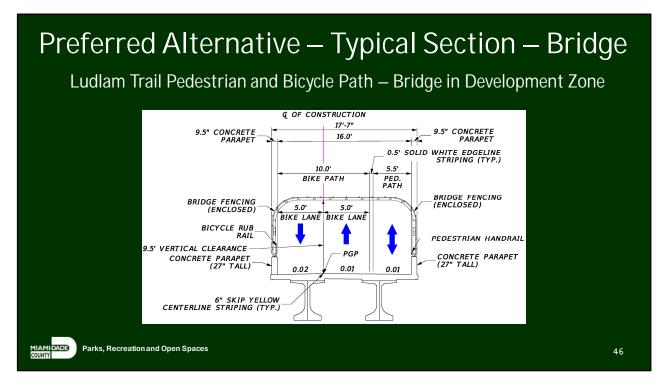
While the majority of the length of the 5.6-mile-long trail has a 10-foot-wide pedestrian path, in a few areas, the width transitions and narrows down. This happens whenever the path approaches a roadway crossing, an overpass bridge, or a development zone area. The section also includes 15-foot-wide landscape buffers where the trail is adjacent to properties zoned for single family or duplex use.



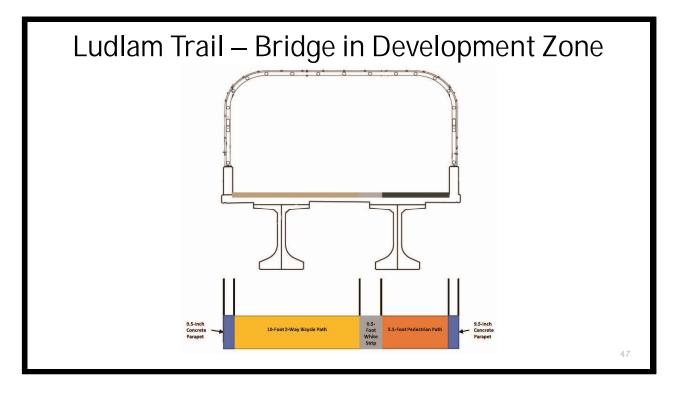
This is a graphical representation of Typical Section #2, with the pedestrian and bicycle trails adjacent to each other with an 18-inch stripe between the paths, showing potential landscaping elements.



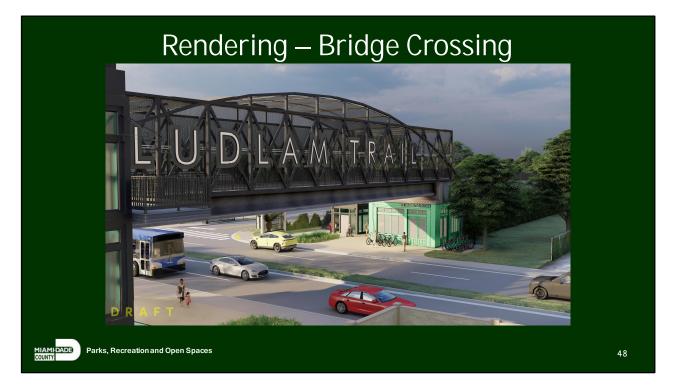
This slide shows a conceptual rendering of the proposed typical section #2 – with the pedestrian path directly adjacent to the two-way bicycle path, separated by an 18-inch paint stripe, which will occur occasionally throughout the trail, where it approaches roadway crossings, overpass bridges, or development zone areas.



This typical section shows the pedestrian and bicycle paths on a bridge in a Development Zone. Under this condition, the trail consists of a 5.5-foot-wide pedestrian trail and a 10-foot-wide 2-way bicycle trail immediately adjacent to one another with pavement markings. Within the project limits there are a total of six bridges: three overpass bridges in Development Zones, one overpass bridge outside of Development Zones, and two bridges over canals. The bridges located outside of Development Zones will be wider than the section depicted here.

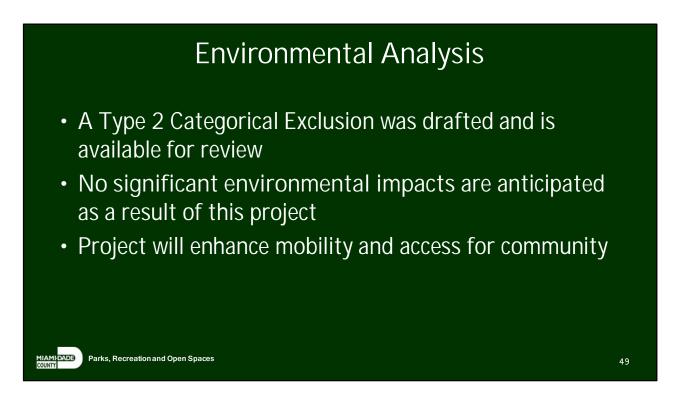


This is a graphical representation of a Bridge Typical Section in a Development Zone; there is a 6-inch stripe separating the pedestrian and bicycle paths.



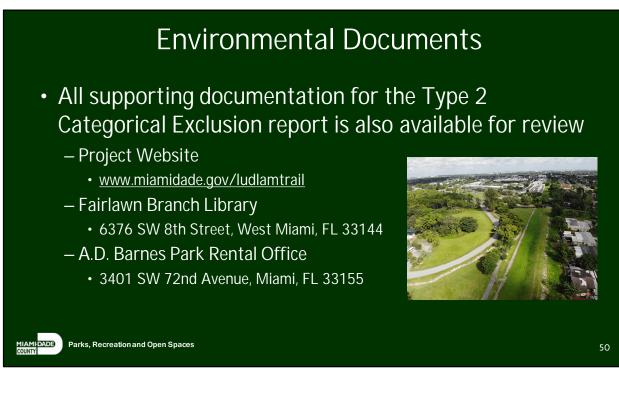
This slide shows a conceptual rendering of a proposed overpass bridge crossing for Ludlam Trail. Four overpass bridges are proposed at:

- SR 976 / SW 40 Street / Bird Road
- SW 24 Street / Coral Way
- US 41 / SR 90 / SW 8 Street / Tamiami Trail / Calle Ocho
- SR 968 / W Flagler Street



The Preferred Alternative was evaluated in terms of its impacts to the social, natural, cultural, and physical environment. A Type 2 Categorical Exclusion, which summarizes the environmental impacts associated with the Preferred Alternative, was prepared and is available for review. No significant impacts are anticipated as a result of this project.

The project will enhance both mobility and access for the overall community.



The PD&E Study documents have been available for public review since August 3rd, 2021. The documents are available for review at tonight's public hearing, and they will continue to be on display until September 14th, 2021.

## Social/Economic Topics

- Socio-Cultural Effects Evaluation
- Will benefit local bicyclists and pedestrians by enhancing non-motorized mobility in the area
- Will not cause disproportionately high and adverse effects on any minority or low-income populations
- Enhanced landscaping is planned
- · No right-of-way acquisition or relocations

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A Socio-Cultural Effects Evaluation was conducted for this PD&E Study. An analysis of the potential effects on the social environment concluded that the project would enhance the area's mobility and economic conditions. There are no impacts anticipated to the area's community resources. The Preferred Alternative will not cause disproportionately high and adverse effects on any minority or low-income populations. Enhanced landscaping is planned as part of the Preferred Alternative.

This project is not expected to require the acquisition of additional right-of-way or cause any relocation of families or businesses.



A Natural Resources Evaluation was conducted for this PD&E Study. The Preferred Alternative may affect but is not likely to adversely affect one federally listed wildlife species, the West Indian manatee. The manatee has a low probability of occurrence within the project area. The project will adhere to current Standard Conditions, Specifications, and Protection Measures during construction. The project is expected to have no effect on the other federal and state species that may potentially occur within the project limits. While the project crosses federally-designated critical habitat for the West Indian manatee, existing water control structures would likely prevent manatee migration upstream to the project area at both canal crossings. The Preferred Alternative will not result in the destruction or adverse modification of critical habitat and it will not have negative impacts on water quality, floodplains, or the Biscayne Sole Source Aquifer.

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A Cultural Resources Assessment Survey was conducted for this PD&E Study. There are no archeological resources identified within the area of potential effect for this project. There are three historic resources within the area of potential effect for this project. The project will have no adverse effect on any historic resource. The State Historic Preservation Officer concurred with the findings on August 27th, 2020.

# State Historic Highways

- State Historic Highway Technical Memorandum
- There are two routes within project limits designated by the Florida Legislature as "historic"
  - SR 986 / SW 72nd Street / Sunset Drive
    - Law 83-365, effective 6/5/83
  - US 41 / SR 90 / SW 8th Street / Tamiami Trail / Calle Ocho
    - Law 86-308, effective 7/3/86
    - Requires a Public Hearing
- Project is in compliance with all laws and requirements

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The proposed Ludlam Trail Corridor crosses two State Historic Highways: Sunset Drive, as designated by Chapter 83-365 of the Laws of Florida, and Calle Ocho, as designated by Chapter 86-308 of the Laws of Florida. Under the provisions of Chapter 83-365 and Chapter 86-308, Miami-Dade County, in coordination with the FDOT and the Division of Historical Resources, has determined that the proposed Ludlam Trail Corridor Project and its improvements will be in compliance with all laws and requirements.

Representatives from the Division of Historical Resources, Florida Department of State are in attendance and available at this Public Hearing.

Additionally, the proposed project will support the vision of the Miami-Dade County Parks and Open Space System Master Plan, as well as community goals and guiding principles related to social, environmental, and economic aspects.

### Section 4(f) Recreational Resources

- Three (3) Section 4(f) recreational resources are found adjacent to and/or in the vicinity of the project corridor
  - Robert King High Park (Exception/Exemption)
    - Enhanced
  - A.D. Barnes Park (Exception/Exemption)
    - Enhanced
  - Palmer Park (No Use)





The project has been evaluated for potential Section 4(f) impacts. The provisions of Section 4(f) apply to any significant publicly owned parks, recreation areas, or wildlife and waterfowl refuges; as well as historic and archeological sites; and properties which represent public multiple-use land holdings. Three Section 4(f) recreational resources are found adjacent to and/or in the vicinity of the project corridor. These resources are

Robert King High Park, under the jurisdiction of the City of Miami

A.D. Barnes Park, under the jurisdiction of Miami-Dade County Parks, Recreation and Open Spaces, and

Palmer Park, under the jurisdiction of the City of South Miami.

"Use", as defined under Section 4(f), of Robert King High Park and A.D. Barnes Park would be limited to the areas within the parks needed to construct new access points and pathways connecting the parks with the trail. The new pathways and access points are intended to enhance park accessibility while preserving existing park functions. Therefore, a Section 4(f) exception/exemption determination was made that the Preferred Alternative will not adversely impact, but rather enhance, the function of these two parks.

Based on the distance of Palmer Park from the proposed project and the lack of project interaction with the park, a Section 4(f) No-Use determination was made.



This project is not expected to create adverse impacts on air quality because the project area is in attainment for all National Ambient Air Quality Standards and because the project is expected to not change the Level of Service and not change delay and congestion on any facilities within the study area.

This project is a Type III project according to the provisions of 23 CFR 772 and Section 335.17, Florida Statutes, therefore noise analysis or consideration of abatement measures is not required.

There are no impacts to existing railroads.

The majority of the existing utilities within the project limits are located along major arterial and local street crossings of the proposed Ludlam Trail. Based on the preliminary design and utility information available at this time, minimal impacts are anticipated to existing utilities.



A Contamination Screening Evaluation Report was conducted for this PD&E Study and the analysis identified 15 sites with potential contamination concerns located within the half-mile study buffer around the trail corridor. The sites were rated as high-, medium-, low-, or no-risk. The project corridor itself was identified as a high-risk site. Miami-Dade County will apply an appropriate Engineering Control Plan of one foot of clean fill with high-visibility, puncture resistant fabric to address the contamination throughout the corridor. A Level 2 Contamination Assessment may be conducted during final design.



The following four permits may be required by the project:

- a Clean Water Act Section 404 permit from the United States Army Corps of Engineers;
- an Environmental Resource permit from the South Florida Water Management District;
- a Right-of-Way permit, also from the South Florida Water Management District; and
- a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit from the Florida Department of Environmental Protection.

The exact permit needs of the project will be determined in the Final Design Phase.

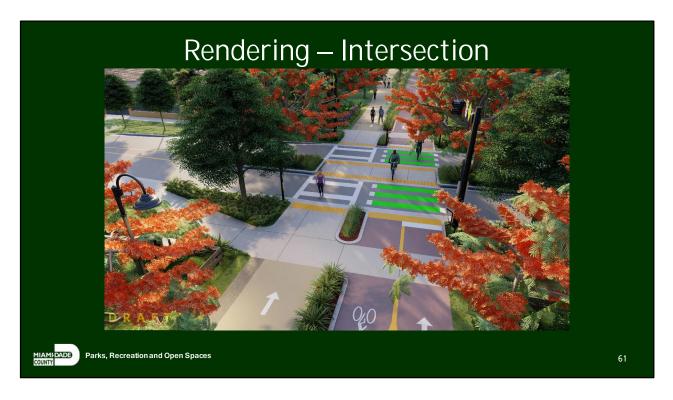


Right-of-way acquisition for Ludlam Trail was completed by Miami-Dade County in 2018 via an Advanced Acquisition process, with FDOT approval. Because the trail is proposed to be developed within the existing right-of-way of a former railroad, relocation impacts to properties located along the trail are not anticipated. Additional right-of-way acquisition is not anticipated as a part of this project.

The project will not cause any relocation of families or businesses. If it becomes needed, any right-of-way acquisition would be conducted in accordance with Florida Statute 339.09 and the federal Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970, commonly known as the Uniform Act.



This slide shows a conceptual rendering of the proposed Ludlam Trail from the ground level as it approaches a cross street. 15-foot-wide landscape buffers are applied where the trail is adjacent to properties zoned for single family or duplex use.



This slide shows a conceptual rendering of the proposed Ludlam Trail at an at-grade intersection. Striped pavement marking crossing treatments will be applied separately for the pedestrian path and the bicycle path.



This slide shows a conceptual rendering of a top-down view of the proposed Ludlam Trail crossing a roadway. The proposed trail will connect to existing sidewalks and will provide 10-foot-wide multi-use paths to schools, parks, neighborhoods, transit centers, trail rest areas, and proposed parking facilities.

### Commitments

- 1. Coordinate to ensure pine rockland protection
- 2. Use native plants in the landscaping of the trail
- 3. Re-survey for the Florida bonneted bat during final design
- 4. Follow protection guidelines for the eastern indigo snake
- 5. Adhere to standard manatee conditions for in-water work
- 6. Coordinate if any protected plant species are identified
- 7. Implement best management practices to avoid/minimize adverse impacts to surface waters and water quality

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The Type 2 Categorical Exclusion environmental impact report for the Ludlam Trail project lists the following 7 draft commitments:

1. Miami-Dade County is committed to coordinating with the Division of Environmental Resources Management and Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services during final design and construction to ensure the protection of the pine rockland community located within A. D. Barnes Park.

2. Consistent with the recommendation by US Fish and Wildlife Service provided in the ETDM Summary Report, Miami-Dade County will, to the maximum extent practicable, use native wildflowers, bushes, and trees in the landscaping of the trail to benefit fish and wildlife resources (including pollinators such as butterflies and bees).

3. Miami-Dade County is committed to re-surveying for the Florida bonneted bat during final design, prior to construction activities. All surveys will be conducted in accordance with the most current United States Fish and Wildlife Service survey guidelines, currently entitled Florida Bonneted Bat Consultation Guidelines, dated October 2019. If any signs of the Florida bonneted bat are observed, the County is committed to reinitiating coordination through FDOT with the United States Fish and Wildlife Service and consultation, as necessary.

4. Miami-Dade County will incorporate the United States Fish and Wildlife Service's most current protection guidelines for the eastern indigo snake, currently entitled Standard Protection Protocols for the Eastern Indigo Snake, into the final project design and will require that the construction contractor abide to the guidelines during construction.

5. During the construction phase of this project, Miami-Dade County and their selected contractor will adhere to the US Fish and Wildlife Service's Standard Manatee Conditions for In-Water Work, 2011.

6. Should protected plant species be identified within the project impact area during the design and permitting phase, Miami-Dade County is committed to reinitiating coordination through FDOT with the Division of Environmental Resources Management and Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, and/or other agencies as appropriate, to allow for relocation to adjacent habitats or other suitable protected lands prior to construction.

7. During the construction phase of this project, Miami-Dade County and their selected contractor will adhere to the Florida stormwater management program per the Water Resources Implementation Rule (Chapter 62-40.431 FAC) and implement best management practices to avoid, where possible, and otherwise minimize adverse impacts to surface waters and water quality within the project limits.



The public hearing comment period is 21 days and will end on September 14th, 2021. Location and Design Concept Acceptance of the PD&E Study is expected by the end of December 2021, allowing the project to move to the final design phase.

Next steps include completion of the final design phase, which is fully funded at this time. The construction phase will follow the final design phase.

The estimated preliminary base construction cost of the project is approximately \$45 million.

### PD&E Study – Next Steps

- Review public comments received
- Decide on the Preferred Alternative
- Continue to engage stakeholders
- Finalize PD&E documents
- Submit for final approval
- Complete PD&E Study

   in fulfillment of NEPA

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The next step for this PD&E Study is to incorporate input from this Public Hearing into the decision-making process. After the comment period closes on September 14th, 2021, and public feedback has been considered, a decision will be made regarding the Preferred Alternative. The PD&E Study documents will be finalized and submitted to the FDOT Office of Environmental Management for approval. Approval from Tallahassee is anticipated by the end of December 2021.



There have been various opportunities for the public to provide input on this project. A Virtual Public Information Meeting was held on November 19th, 2020. Miami-Dade County has posted project information on the County website since October 2020. Miami-Dade County has used several different media types to communicate information on this PD&E Study including direct mailing, newspaper advertisements, e-mail, social media, and press releases.

When the PD&E Study is approved, an announcement of Location and Design Concept Acceptance (or "LDCA") will be made via the project website, e-mail list, and tri-lingual newspaper advertisements, in English, Spanish, and Creole. If you are participating on-line in this Public Hearing, you are on the e-mail contact list and you will be notified of the final decision, which is expected by the end of December 2021.



We welcome your oral or written comments that will help us make this important decision. At the conclusion of this presentation our personnel will distribute speaker cards to those in the audience who have not received one and would like to make a statement. A court reporter will record your statement and a verbatim transcript will be made of all oral proceedings at this hearing. If you do not wish to speak at the microphone, you may provide your comments in writing on comment cards here in the room or by speaking directly to the court reporter at their table. You may also submit comments via the Q&A Box here tonight, or by using the project website. Every comment method carries equal weight.

Written comments received or postmarked no later than September 14<sup>th</sup>, 2021, will become a part of the public record for this hearing. All written comments should be mailed to the address shown on the slide and in your handout; or emailed to ludlamtrail@miamidade.gov.

The next step is to incorporate your input on this public hearing into our decision-making process. After the comment period closes and your input has been considered, a decision will be made and the Final PD&E document will be sent to the FDOT OEM which, based on the MOU signed with the FHWA on December 14, 2016, has approval authority on this project granting LDCA.

This project has and will continue to comply with all applicable state and federal rules and regulations.

This concludes our presentation. We now offer you the opportunity to make a statement. THIS ENDS THE PRE-RECORDED PRESENTATION.

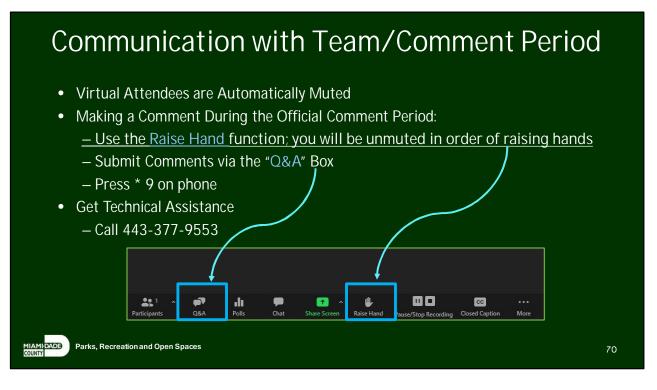
# END PPT 7:00pm -ish

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At this time, we would like to recognize any federal, state, county, or city officials who may be present tonight, if you did not get an opportunity at the beginning of the public hearing. Are there any additional officials who would like to be recognized at this time? Please stand up if you are here in the room or please select the raise hand feature on the control panel if you are attending on-line and our moderator will unmute you.

Thank you very much, we sincerely appreciate your attendance with us here tonight.



We are now in the official comment period portion of tonight's Public Hearing.

Let me review how to Communicate with the Team for those who are attending the Public Hearing Comment Period virtually:

Currently, all microphones, other than presenters, are muted and will remain muted until you are called upon.

There are three ways to make a comment if you are on-line:

- you can use the Raise Hand icon on your screen OR
- you can submit comments directly by clicking the Q&A Button on your screen OR
- you can also use "Star 9" on your phone to indicate you would like to be unmuted

In a moment, our moderator will call on attendees to provide verbal comments in the order hands were raised. Once your name is called, please ensure you are not self-muted before making your comment.

If you experience technical difficulties, please call the number on the screen. This number is also listed in the Q&A section.

### Comment Period Open

- Please submit your comments in the "Q&A" box
- After addressing comments in the box, we will open the on-line microphones
- If you would like to speak, please press the Raise Hand button
- Participants will have two minutes to provide comments
- Please clearly state your <u>name</u> and <u>address</u>

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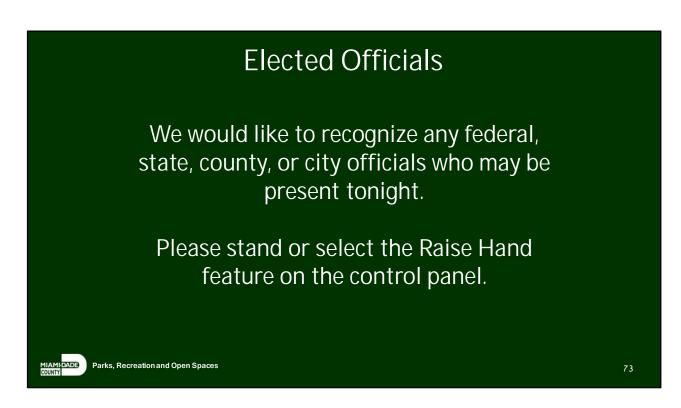
Anyone desiring to make a statement or present written views regarding the location; conceptual design, or social, economic, and environmental effects of the improvements will now have an opportunity to do so. If you are in the room and wish to speak, please follow the marks on the floor to come to the microphone. Written statements may be presented in lieu of or in addition to oral statements. All written material received at this public hearing and/or postmarked no later than September 14th, 2021 will become a part of the public record for this hearing. All written comments should be addressed to Alissa Turtletaub, M.S., Park Planning Section Supervisor, Planning and Research, Miami-Dade County Parks, Recreation and Open Spaces, 275 NW 2nd Street, 4th Floor, Miami, FL 33128, or by email to ludlamtrail@miamidade.gov. You may also use the project website to submit comments at www.miamidade.gov/ludlamtrail.

We will now begin taking comments. When you come forward, please state your name and address clearly into the microphone. If you represent an organization, municipality, or other public body, please provide that information as well. We ask that you limit your input to two minutes, to allow others to speak. If you have additional comments, you may continue after other people have had an opportunity to comment. Please come to the microphone so the court reporter will be able to get a complete record of your comments. If you are on-line please remember to un-mute yourself after the moderator unmutes you.

Does anyone else desire to speak? If so, state your name and address and give your statement for the public record.

The verbatim transcript of this hearing's oral proceedings, together with all written material received as part of the hearing record and all studies, displays, and informational material provided at the hearing will be made a part of the project decision-making process and <u>will be available on the project website</u> <u>at www.miamidade.gov/ludlamtrail</u>.





At this time, we would like to recognize any federal, state, county, or city officials who may be present tonight, if you did not get an opportunity earlier in the public hearing. Are there any additional officials who would like to be recognized at this time? Please stand up if you are here in the room or please select the raise hand feature on the control panel if you are attending on-line and our moderator will unmute you.

Thank you very much, we sincerely appreciate your attendance with us here tonight.



Thank you for attending this public hearing and for providing your input into the Ludlam Trail project. You may send comments in after tonight via the website, email, or by mailing to the address on this slide. Any comments received and/or postmarked no later than September 14<sup>th</sup>, 2021 will be included the project record. It is now (*state the time, presumably 8:00PIM*). I hereby officially close the public hearing for the Ludlam Trail PD&E Study.



We thank you for your interest and involvement in this important project.

I will officially close this session and end the recording session. Have a good night!

