

# PROJECT FACT SHEET

## US 301 Study

### PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Hillsborough County continues to grow, with many of the new residents moving to the eastern and southern portions of the county. This substantial growth is putting a burden on the roads in the area. In response, the Hillsborough County Board of County Commissioners and the Tampa Hillsborough Expressway Authority (THEA) Board of Directors voted unanimously in June 2023 for THEA to conduct a Project Development and Environment (PD&E) Study for US 301, from the Selmon Expressway to Big Bend Road. This comprehensive study will identify needs, assess the requirements, evaluate alternatives, calculate costs, and identify potential impacts of adding capacity on US 301 to alleviate congestion on US 301, I-75, and surrounding local roads.

### WHAT IS THEA DOING TO PREPARE FOR THE STUDY?

As we get ready to begin this important study, THEA is taking proactive steps along with agencies and stakeholders to listen to the community in advance of initiating the technical work. Through this early effort, THEA hopes to further understand what the community needs in order to inform the study process.

### WHAT OPTIONS WILL THEA EVALUATE?

The PD&E Study will look at different alternatives for adding capacity to US 301, including providing toll lanes along the corridor, along with a No Build (or do nothing) alternative. The PD&E Study will evaluate the alternatives to quantify the potential benefits and help to identify a preferred alternative.

### COMMUNITY BENEFITS

Changes to US 301 are expected to result in significant community benefits such as potential time savings to commuters, shorter wait times at intersections along US 301, safer travel, improved evacuation and resiliency and higher quality of life.



### WHAT IS A PD&E STUDY?

A PD&E Study, guided by federal and state laws, assesses the social, economic, and environmental impacts of proposed transportation projects.

# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

## What is the status of the project now?

The project is in the pre-PD&E stage. Pre-planning analysis is underway, but no plans have been developed. Right now, THEA is most interested in gathering feedback from residents and businesses along the US 301 corridor, to ascertain needs, issues, and concerns. Information received during this "listening stage" will help determine how THEA should proceed. Once the PD&E study begins, the public will be provided additional opportunities to engage and provide feedback.

## How soon can this project be completed?

A projected opening date is years away, with many questions to be answered, approvals to be considered, and design plans developed before construction could begin. The next step is to start the PD&E study, which will address many initial considerations.

## How much would this cost and how would it be funded?

The capital cost and operating expenses are unknown this early in the process. Preliminary budget estimates, including funding sources, will be developed during the THEA US 301 PD&E Study.

## Are THEA road projects toll roads?

Yes, THEA is a tolling authority, established by the Florida Legislature in 1963 as a transportation option to bring roadway infrastructure projects on-line sooner by issuing bonds and using toll revenue dollars. All THEA toll revenues stay here in Tampa and Hillsborough County and are invested back into the community as part of a transportation system that provides regional connectivity to residents and visitors.

## Will transit options be considered in this study?

Yes, transit options will be considered and analyzed in coordination with HART as part of the US 301 PD&E Study. Feedback from the public and other stakeholders will help inform the evaluation of potential transit solutions alongside other transportation improvements within the study corridor.

## How can I provide feedback and stay informed?

Questions and comments can be submitted through the US 301 PD&E Study project website. The website will outline opportunities to participate in the planning process, such as surveys when they are available and public meetings as they are scheduled.

### AVERAGE SPEEDS ON US 301



ON SIGNIFICANT PORTIONS  
OF THE CORRIDOR



SIGNIFICANT CRASHES  
IN 2018-2022  
**2,674**  
WITHIN PROJECT CORRIDOR

- 18 FATALITIES
- 44 BICYCLE/PEDESTRIAN

### AVERAGE TRIP ON US 301



For more information, visit [selmonstudies.com/us-301](https://selmonstudies.com/us-301).