



## *Florida Department of Transportation*

RON DESANTIS  
GOVERNOR

11201 N. McKinley Drive  
Tampa, FL 33612-6456

JARED W. PERDUE, P.E.  
SECRETARY

### **LETTER OF UNDERSTANDING FOR COUNTY LINE ROAD WIDENING (FPID: 257298-7)**

The Florida Department of Transportation (DEPARTMENT) is currently in the Design Phase for widening County Line Road from two to four lanes between Hernando and Pasco Counties from east of Mariner Boulevard to west of the Suncoast Parkway (SR 589) (PROJECT).

As the DEPARTMENT and Hernando County and Pasco County (COUNTY / COUNTIES) continue to collaborate on this PROJECT, there are several elements of the PROJECT that require coordination and assurances from both the DEPARTMENT and the COUNTIES.

The purpose of this letter, which has been acknowledged and signed below, is to confirm the understanding between the DEPARTMENT and the COUNTIES concerning roadway improvements to be made to County Line Road.

#### **DEPARTMENT COMMITMENTS:**

The DEPARTMENT shall be responsible for the design, right-of-way acquisition, and construction of the PROJECT.

The DEPARTMENT shall acquire all necessary rights-of-way for the PROJECT in its name on behalf of the COUNTIES, which rights-of-way will be quitclaimed to the COUNTIES upon completion and acceptance of the construction of the PROJECT by the DEPARTMENT.

The DEPARTMENT shall be responsible for meeting the financial match responsibilities outlined below, subject to legislative appropriations.

Financial and project related responsibilities described above are anticipated responsibilities. Actual obligations are contingent upon legislative appropriations and will be formalized through locally funded agreements.

#### **COUNTY COMMITMENTS:**

The COUNTIES shall be responsible for providing full access to County owned right-of-way for preconstruction and construction activities, if determined necessary by the DEPARTMENT, for the full duration of the design, survey, and construction period.

The COUNTIES shall separately enter into formal agreements with the DEPARTMENT to provide local funds for the PROJECT. The COUNTIES shall also provide resolutions authorizing the DEPARTMENT to acquire rights-of-way as necessary on their behalf and as provided by Section 336.467, Florida Statutes (2025). Design issues arising during the

acquisition of rights-of-way or construction of the PROJECT will be resolved by the DEPARTMENT in accordance with the DEPARTMENT's standard design procedure.

**FINANCIAL MATCH RESPONSIBILITIES:**

1. The DEPARTMENT has estimated right-of-way costs to be \$20,000,000. Each COUNTY will provide \$5,000,000 to the DEPARTMENT through a locally funded agreement on or before July 1, 2028. The DEPARTMENT will provide matching resources in the amount of \$10,000,000, subject to legislative appropriation.
2. The DEPARTMENT has estimated construction costs to be approximately \$65,000,000. Construction will be funded in the manner listed below:
  - a. Each COUNTY will provide the DEPARTMENT \$5,000,000 through a locally funded agreement on or before July 1, 2030. The DEPARTMENT will provide matching resources in the amount of \$10,000,000, subject to legislative appropriation.
  - b. The DEPARTMENT proposes to secure a State Infrastructure Bank loan for the remaining construction funding, subject to legislative appropriation. Each COUNTY will be responsible for one half of the loan repayment funds, the term of which will be determined prior to advertising of the DEPARTMENT's construction contract.

Financial payments and match contributions referenced above represent commitments only once incorporated into executed locally funded agreements. Until such execution, these items reflect planning assumptions and mutual understandings. All costs and matching contribution amounts described in this Letter of Understanding are estimates and are subject to refinement. Actual financial obligations, including the total project cost, the local match amount, and repayment terms, will be incorporated into future locally funded agreements and will govern the responsibilities of all parties.

**MAINTENANCE RESPONSIBILITY:**

1. The COUNTIES shall maintain County Line Road prior to construction. COUNTIES shall resume maintenance of County Line Road upon notification by the DEPARTMENT that it has final accepted the construction project.

This Letter of Understanding is intended solely to document the current understanding of the parties regarding the project elements and cooperative intentions described herein. This document does not create any binding obligations, contractual duties, or financial commitments beyond those already established by law or future executed agreements. The locally funded agreements between the DEPARTMENT and each COUNTY will serve as the formal, legally binding instruments outlining responsibilities, obligations, and payment terms.

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT:**

\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Brian Hunter  
District Seven Modal Development Administrator  
Florida Department of Transportation

\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Jerry Campbell, Chair  
Board of County Commissioners, Hernando County, Florida

\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Jack Mariano, Chair  
Board of County Commissioners, Pasco County, Florida

Approved as to Form and Legal Sufficiency  
By: Natasha López Perez  
Hernando County Attorney's Office