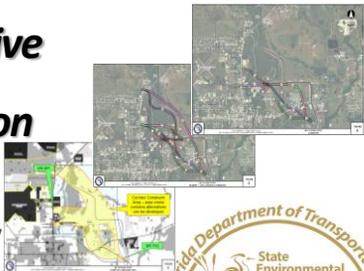


# Alternative Corridor Evaluation Process

Presented by:  
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**Pete McGilvray**  
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## What is ACE?

- ◆ Intended for various project types regardless of mode:
  - New alignments
  - Major realignments
  - Major bypasses – truck, city/town, etc.
  - Other projects?
- ◆ Purpose of ACE is to identify reasonable alternatives for NEPA analysis
- ◆ Provides a continuously coordinated and documented process to make corridor decisions with stakeholder involvement
- ◆ Early avoidance, minimization and consideration/identification of mitigation opportunities
- ◆ Helps refine the affected environment and identify issues/resources of focus

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## ACE Basics

- ◆ Define initial corridor alternative(s) and considerations
  - Use Corridor Planning Process and technology
- ◆ Define environmental setting
  - Issues/resources of focus
  - Greater understanding and coordination
- ◆ Develop Analysis Methodology Memorandum to define/refine alternatives with stakeholder input
  - e.g., Land Suitability Mapping and/or other tools
- ◆ Define/ refine corridor alternatives using methodology
- ◆ Alternative Corridor Evaluation Report (ACER)
  - Defined affected environment
  - Alternative(s) for detailed study in NEPA with stakeholder input
  - Elimination of unreasonable alternative(s)
- ◆ Planning Product to be adopted into NEPA

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**MM Reviews**

◆ ETAT Review

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**MM Reviews**

◆ ETAT Review

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**MM Reviews**

◆ LEAD Review

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### MM Revisited if Progression



- Background
  - Contact personnel
  - Basic project information
    - Include previous EST Screening info
    - Include planning studies or relevant information
    - Include known issues of concern
  - Brief description
    - Brief Purpose and Need of the project
- Describe the goals and objectives of the ACE
  - Provide the status in project delivery
  - Define the intent of the study
  - Identify the decision points/milestones
- Describe the methods that will be used to analyze the alternatives and make decisions
  - Describe alternative corridors
  - Describe screening criteria
  - Briefly describe the data that will be used and how it will support the decision making process going forward
  - Describe the rationale that will be used to eliminate alternatives
  - Describe the data tools that will be used in the analysis [i.e., EST, Land Suitability Mapping (LSM), Quantum, etc.]
- A brief description of stakeholder involvement

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### ACE Process

- Complete Reviews
  - ETAT
  - Lead
- Apply Methodology
- Develop Draft ACER
  - ETAT Reviews
- Eliminate Unreasonable alternatives
  - Justification in ACER
- Publish Summary Report
- After COA - but within 5 years, request formal adoption of Final Programming Screening Summary Report with ACER

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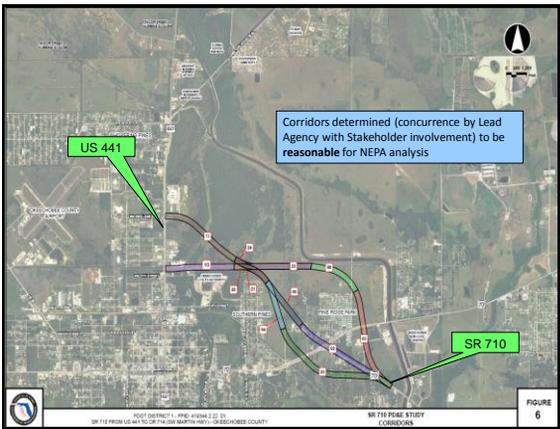
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### Results of ACE



- ◆ Continuous coordination with Lead Agency including concurrence at decision points
- ◆ Documented involvement of stakeholders in decision-making
- ◆ Uses existing and new vetted technologies
- ◆ Flexibility in its application
- ◆ Information all in one place, products available for future phases
- ◆ Define Purpose and Need
- ◆ Define affected environment
- ◆ Identify reasonable alternatives for NEPA Analysis

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### For More Information



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**References :**

- ◆ FDOT PD&E Manual
  - Available at:  
<http://www.dot.state.fl.us/emo/pubs/pdeman/pdeman1.shtm>
- ◆ FDOT ETDM Manual
  - Available at:  
<http://www.dot.state.fl.us/emo/pubs/etdm/etdmmanual.shtm>



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