ABOUT THE PROJECT

The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) is conducting a Project Development and Environment (PD&E) Study for a potential expansion of the SunRail commuter rail service into Polk County. Right now, the service operates over 61 miles with 17 stations connecting the greater Orlando region, running from DeLand in Volusia County to Poinciana in Osceola County. The potential expansion would extend service to Haines City in Polk County, with stations in the Loughman area, Davenport, and Haines City.

Need for the Project

Polk County is one of the fastest growing counties in the country as population is forecasted to grow to nearly 1.2 million by 2050. More than half of this growth is expected to occur in the northeastern portion of the county. To support this growth, additional transportation options are needed to ensure continued mobility for Polk County residents and visitors.
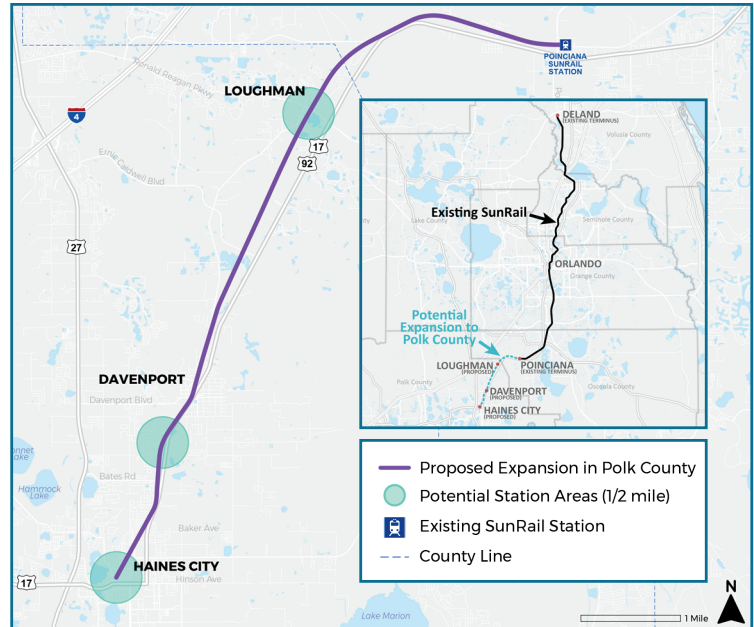
Study Process

The PD&E Study will examine project options, benefits of the expansion, environmental considerations, preliminary conceptual costs, and potential strategies to fund the expansion. The study will also look at the potential for economic development and improved mobility as a result of the expansion. The study is in its beginning stages and will evolve over the next year and a half, resulting in a project recommendation and locally preferred alternative.

Legend:
— Proposed Expansion in Polk County
● Potential Station Areas (1/2 mile)
▣ Existing SunRail Station
– – County Line

CONTACT INFORMATION

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VISIT THE WEBSITE

GET INVOLVED

A public workshop will be held in late summer, with additional public involvement opportunities available as the study progresses. Check the study's website at www.swflroads.com/project/450899-2 to keep up to date.

If you would like to submit a question or comment, or be added to the study mailing list, please send an email to D1.SunRail4Polk@dot.state.fl.us.

PD&E - STUDY TIMELINE

Jan - June **2025**
» Existing Condition Assessment
» Operations Analysis
» Travel Demand Model Refinement

Jul - Dec **2025**
» Conceptual Design & Operating Plans
» Costs
» Ridership & Revenues

Jan - June **2026**
» Environmental Existing Conditions & Impact Analysis
» Preliminary Design

Jul - Dec **2026**
» Preliminary Design Refinement
» Environmental Compliance & Documentation
» Final PD&E Report

Public Outreach and Interagency Coordination

Refine Costs and Funding Options

WHAT IS A PD&E STUDY?

A Project Development and Environment (PD&E) Study is an environmental and engineering process developed by the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) to determine social, economic, natural, and physical environmental effects associated with a proposed transportation project. The process follows procedures set forth in the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) and federal and state laws and regulations. It requires the combined efforts of professional engineers, planners, and scientists who collect and analyze project-related information to develop the best solution for transportation needs. An important component of the process is public and agency coordination.

The environmental review, consultation, and other actions required by applicable federal environmental laws for this project are being, or have been, carried out by FDOT pursuant to 23 U.S.C. § 327 and a Memorandum of Understanding dated May 26, 2022, and executed by FHWA and FDOT.

Public participation is solicited without regard to race, color, national origin, age, sex, religion, disability, or family status. Persons wishing to express their concerns relative to FDOT compliance with Title VI may do so by contacting Cynthia Sykes, Title VI Coordinator, at (863) 519-2287 or by email at Cynthia.Sykes@dot.state.fl.us.

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