

# Minutes of Meeting of POWS (People of Wekiwa Springs)

Date: 12/6/2022

Time: 7:00 pm

Location: Wekiva Springs Baptist Church, 584 N Wekiwa Springs Rd, Apopka, FL 32712

Attending: Separate list collected of those attending meeting

Meeting introductions run by Sue Henesy

Jeff Engelbrecht reviewed plans for the next workday. It will be at the corner of Votaw and Thompson Rd, working on the lot that the old house was removed from. Clean up and mowing.

A brief introduction on our local State Representative, Doug Bankston

Caitlin Kasheta, founder of Kasheta Farms located at 841 Votaw Rd. Apopka, FL 32703 spoke on her 501c3 farm. Specializing in locally grown foods, farm experiences for children, and craft shows. Open house Dec 11, 10 am to 2 pm. They typically have events the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the month.

Joe Martinez, store manager of Sprouts Farmers Market spoke on Sprouts concerts and community goals. Provided a sample gift to attendees.e

A local artist Delia Miller spoke on plans to add a mural to an outside wall of the convenience store located at Votaw and Thompson Rd. Delia is soliciting ideas and will also work to provide POWS opportunities to help produce the mural. Her number is (407) 920-4832.

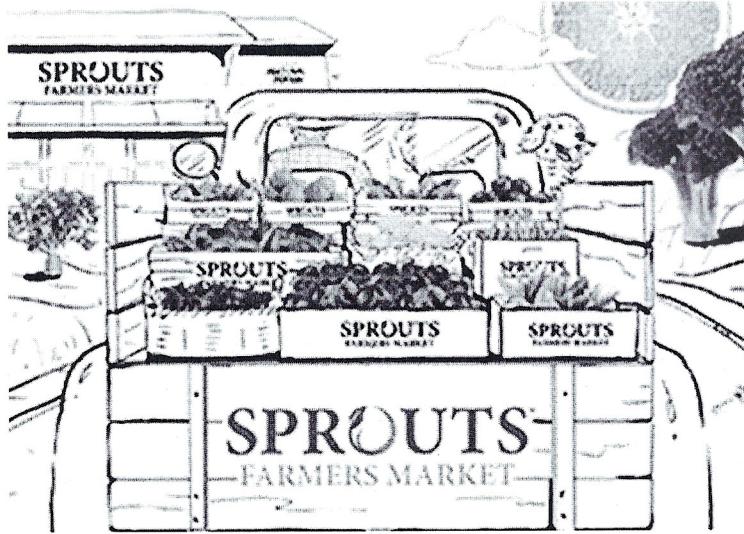
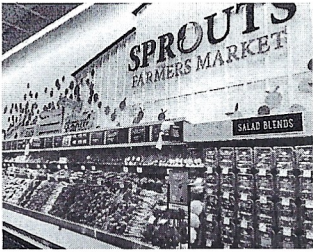
Taylor Laurent reviewed several studies on both trail extensions and road alterations. These can be seen at [MetroplanOrlando.org/RockSprings/](https://MetroplanOrlando.org/RockSprings/). It was noted by several residents that the portion of the trail planned for connecting Wekiwa Springs State Park to Rock Springs trail is poorly routed behind the homes on the corner of Wekiwa Springs Road and Welch Rd. The trail exposes homes to bike and foot traffic. The path also exposes walkers and bikers to wildlife encounters.

Christine Moore stated that POWS meetings will be held the 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of the month.

The meeting was closed at 8:15 pm



Secretary, Bob Samson



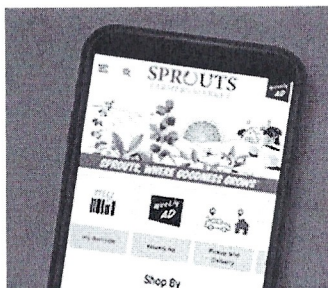
## Welcome to Sprouts – Apopka #646

2283 E. Semoran Blvd

**where goodness grows!**

**Here's a little about who we are.**

- **Sprouts Farmers Market** is one of the fastest-growing retailers in the country with over 365 stores in 23 states, coast-to-coast. Florida is one of our fastest-growing markets with 30 locations throughout the state and more opening soon.
- We've made healthy living accessible to shoppers for nearly two decades by offering affordable, fresh, natural and organic products - **ninety percent** of our more than 19,000 healthy products are natural or organic! Plus, you'll find thousands of gluten-free, plant-based, grass-fed, non-GMO, raw items, Paleo, and keto-friendly items.
- Rooted in our farmers market heritage, Sprouts is known for pioneering a unique grocery model that's **good for you, good for your family and good for the planet**. Sprouts' welcoming store layout features bountiful displays of fresh produce, fresh meat and seafood, a full-service deli, dairy, eggs, frozen foods, bulk foods, vitamins and supplements, baked goods, craft beer and wine, and sushi.
- Our commitment to helping others in our community extends beyond our stores. We support **local nonprofit and educational institutions** that share our goal of improved health, nutrition and wellbeing.
- In 2019, Sprouts supported more than 950 community events through volunteering and in-kind donations, reaching more than 2 million neighbors in our communities. Our stores and distribution centers donated **27 million pounds** of food to those in need, which is equivalent to 23 million meals, reducing the impact of hunger in our communities and our company's environmental footprint.



Remember to download our app for additional savings, recipes, and our digital weekly ad.





Rock Springs Road Study & West Orange Trail Extension Study

# People of Wekiwa Springs – Community Presentation

December 6, 2022



# Presentation Agenda

1. Overview of Studies
  - Public Engagement
2. West Orange Trail Recommended Alternatives
3. Rock Springs Road Recommended Alternatives
4. Survey Feedback & Next Steps

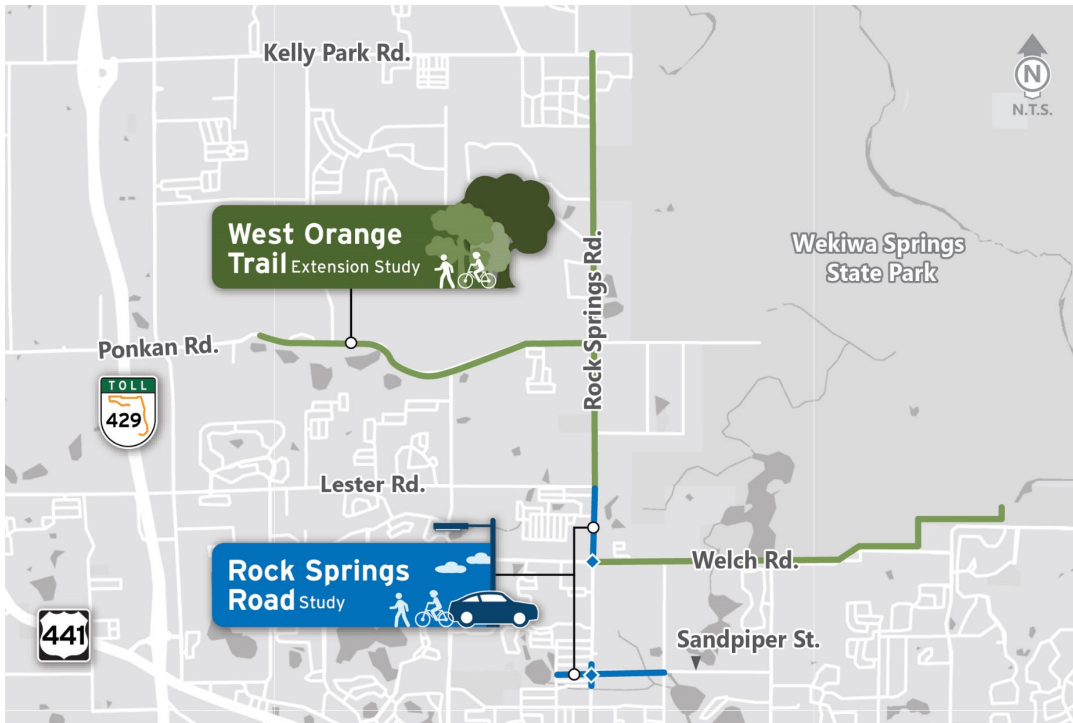
**Rock Springs  
Road** Study



**West Orange  
Trail** Extension Study



# Study Overview



We are here!



# Public Engagement



## Community Meeting #1

- Live virtual meeting to present study alternatives
- Included a supplemental virtual meeting room on study site through February



## Community Meeting #2

- To share study recommendations for public input
- Hybrid meeting (in person and virtual)



June – July 2021

January 27, 2022

January – February 2022

September 22, 2022

September – October 2022

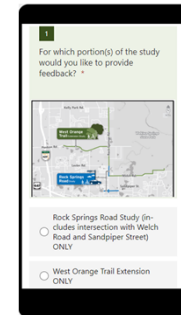
### Kickoff Survey

- Survey responses received: 627
- To gather initial input about the needs of the corridor



### Survey #2

- Survey responses received: 628
- To gather feedback from the community on the alternatives considered



### Survey #3

- Survey responses received: 275
- To gather feedback from the community on the study recommendations

# West Orange Trail Extension Study

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Proposed Updates



# Project Purpose and Need

The purpose of this study is to:

- Extend West Orange Trail from existing northern end at Lester Road to proposed Wekiva Trail at Kelly Park Road
- Provide connection to the Wekiwa Springs State Park Entrance and Seminole County's Wekiva River Blueway Trails
- Provide connection to Wolf Lake Elementary, Wolf Lake Middle, and Apopka City-Athletic Complex








ORANGE COUNTY  
**TRAILS MASTER PLAN**  
May 2021

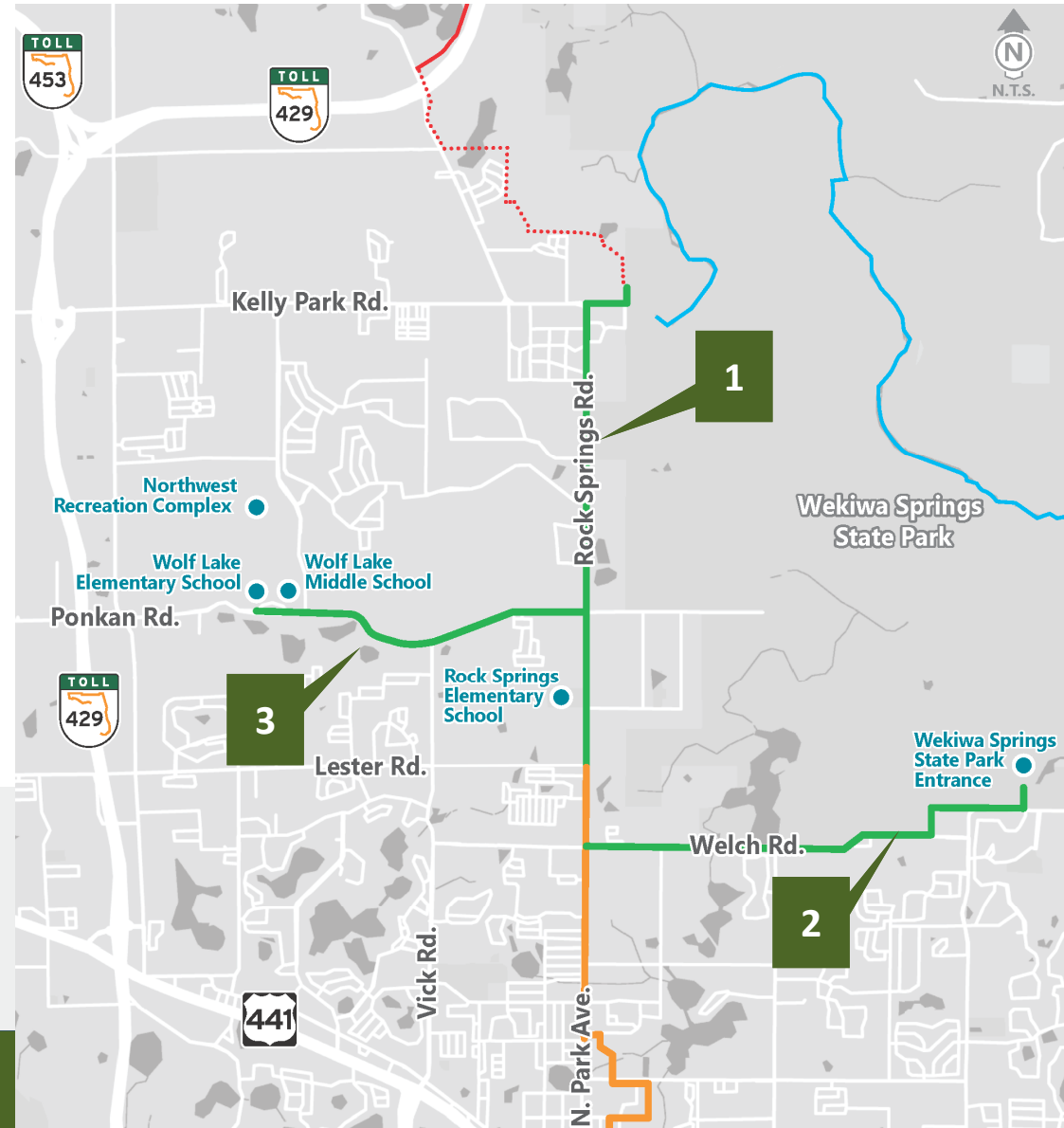




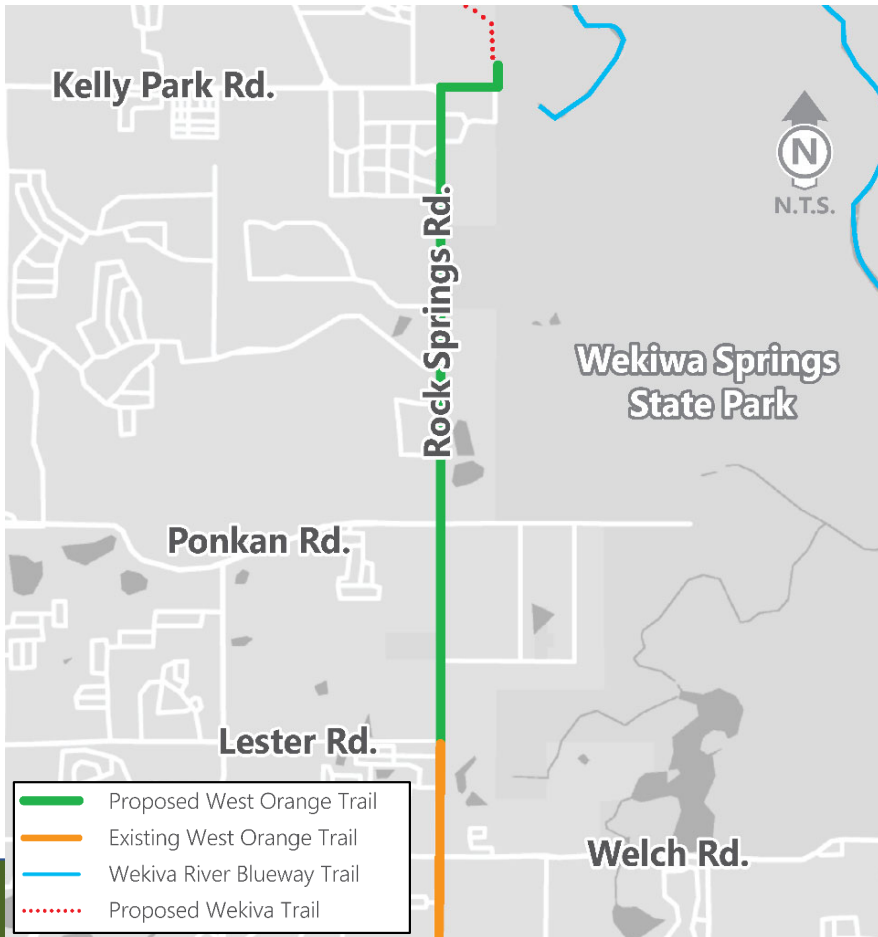
# Overview of Recommended Trail Routes

1. Rock Springs Road from Lester Road to Kelly Park Road
2. Welch Road and Wekiwa Springs Road from Rock Springs Road to the Wekiwa Springs State Park entrance
3. Ponkan Road from Rock Springs Road to the Wolf Lake Elementary and Middle Schools

-  Proposed West Orange Trail
-  Existing West Orange Trail
-  Wekiva River Blueway Trail
-  Proposed Wekiva Trail
-  Existing Wekiva Trail



# West Orange Trail Extension

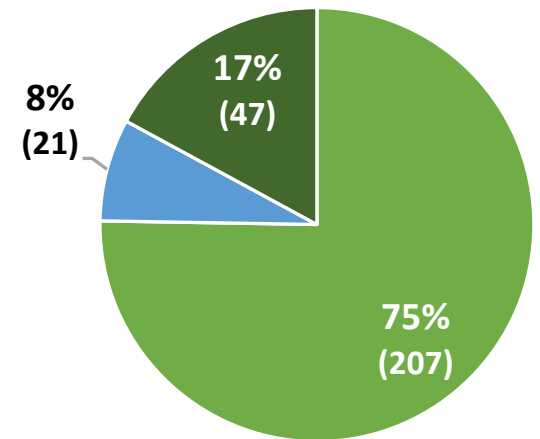


## Recommended trail extension alignment

- East side of Rock Springs Road from Lester Road to proposed Wekiva Trail (at Kelly Park Road)

## Public Survey Results

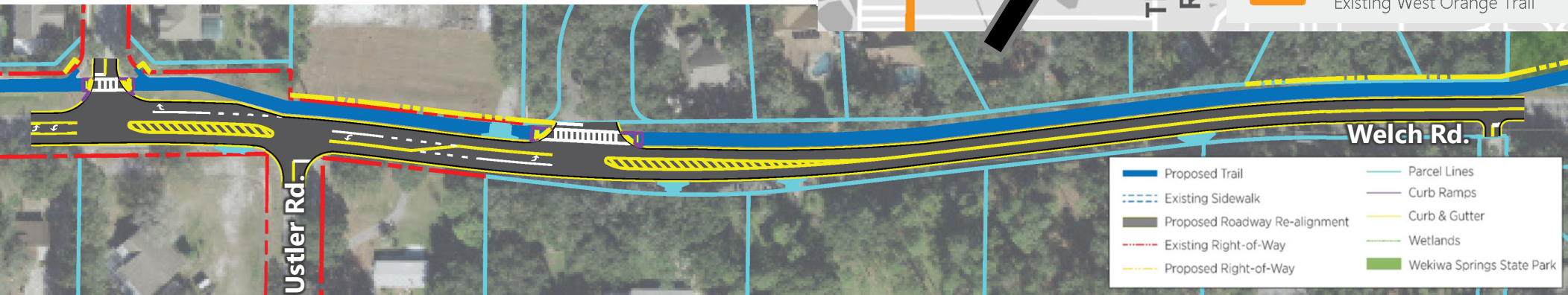
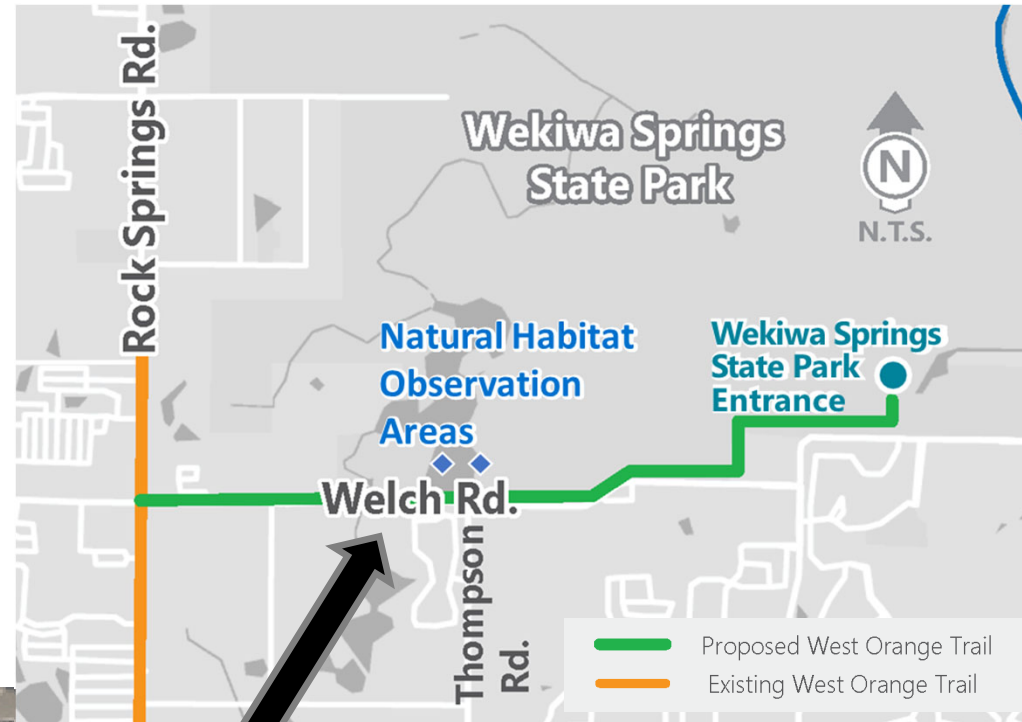
- I support the recommended trail alignment
- I'd like to recommend a different trail alignment
- I do not support the recommended trail alignment



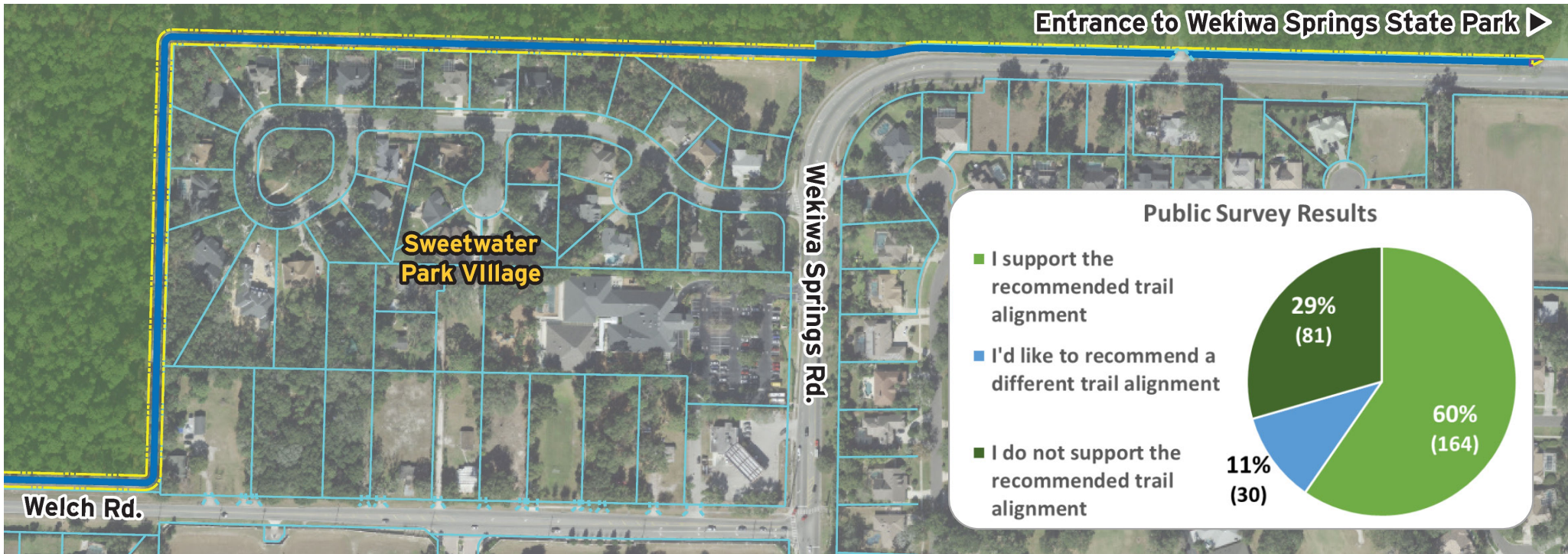
# Welch Road Trail Spur

Recommended trail spur alignment

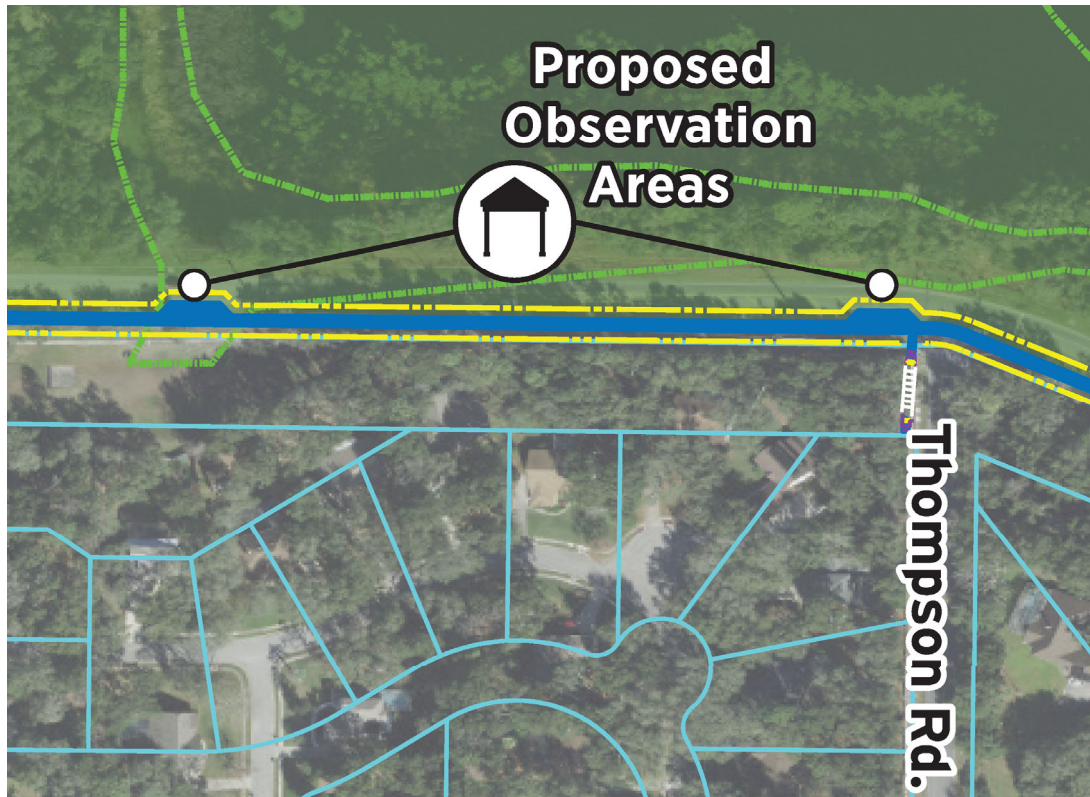
- Requires realignment of portion of Welch Road east of Ustler Road
- Runs behind Sweetwater Park Village along State Park Boundary
- Potential natural habitat observation areas



# Welch Road Trail Spur



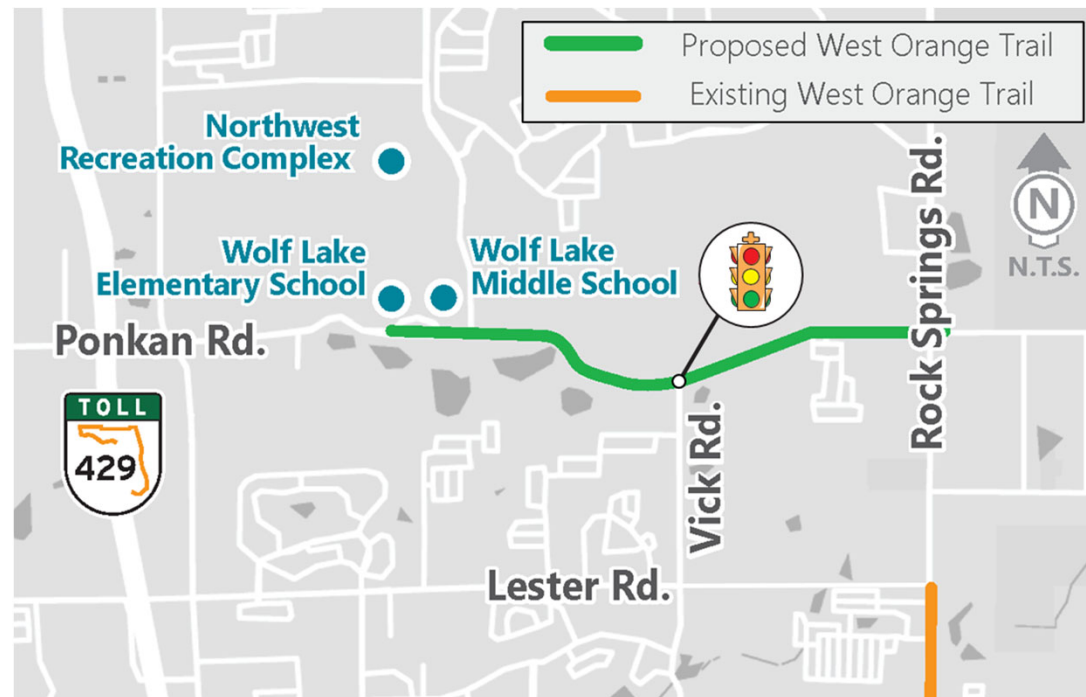
# Welch Road Trail Natural Habitat Observation Areas



# Ponkan Road Trail Spur

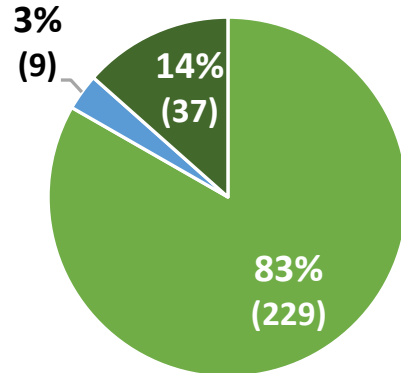
## Recommended trail spur alignment

- South side of Ponkan Road from Rock Springs Road to Vick Road
- Protected cross-walk at Vick Road signal
- North side of Ponkan Road from Vick Road to Wolf Lake schools



## Public Survey Results

- I support the recommended trail alignment
- I'd like to recommend a different trail alignment
- I do not support the recommended trail alignment





# Anticipated Impacts



## Environmental

- Threatened and Endangered Species
  - 12 protected wildlife species have the potential to occupy habitats within or adjacent to the proposed trails on Ponkan Road and Welch Road
    - 3 out of 12 species may be affected, but not adversely affected
  - Low potential for impacts to listed species along Rock Springs Road
- Wetlands
  - Low potential for impacts to wetlands along Rock Springs Road and Ponkan Road
  - Two wetland areas located along Welch Road
- Contamination Sites
  - 39 sites are found adjacent to the three trail alignments
  - Proposed trails are not likely to impact any of the listed sites



## Community

- The proposed trails will introduce additional recreational facilities adjacent to residential communities and are anticipated to enhance the community



# Anticipated Impacts



## Right-of-way

- 2.5 acres of right-of-way impact on Rock Springs Road
  - 0.5 acres of right-of-way required within Park easement along Rock Springs Road (to be provided by Wekiwa Springs State Park)
- 5.8 acres of right-of-way impact on Welch Road
  - 2.7 acres of right-of-way required within Park easement along Welch Road (to be provided by Wekiwa Springs State Park)
- 2.1 acres of right-of-way impact on Ponkan Road



## Drainage

- Moderate potential for impacts to drainage systems
  - Anticipated impacts to 3 elongated ponds along Welch Road
  - Anticipated impacts to three cross drains along Welch Road and on Rock Springs Road
  - Anticipated impacts to swales along Welch Road
- Necessary adjustments will be determined in design to provide adequate stormwater system



## Estimated Construction Cost

- Rock Springs Road from Lester Road to Kelly Park Road - \$5.0 million
- Welch Road from Rock Springs Road to Wekiwa Springs State Park - \$5.2 million
- Ponkan Road from Rock Springs Road to Wolf Lake Elementary and Middle Schools - \$5.5 million



# Rock Springs Road Study

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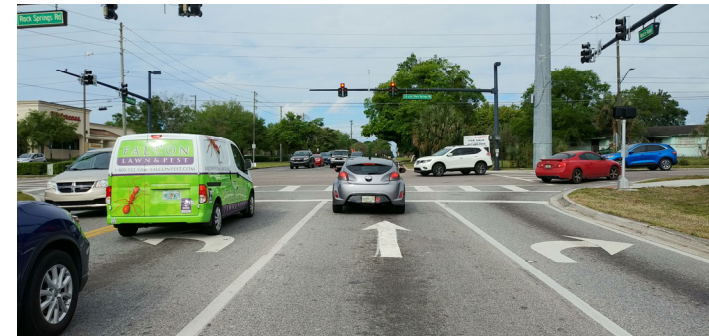
Proposed Updates

# Project Purpose and Need



The purpose of this study is to:

- Establish a safe and efficient access management plan for the study corridor
  - Existing five-lane typical section results in several conflict points throughout the study segment
- Determine intersection improvements for Rock Springs Road and Welch Road to reduce significant intersection delays
- Evaluate the realignment and signalization at the Sandpiper Street and Park Avenue intersection
- Evaluate the need for sidewalks along Sandpiper Street from Lake Avenue to Ustler Road



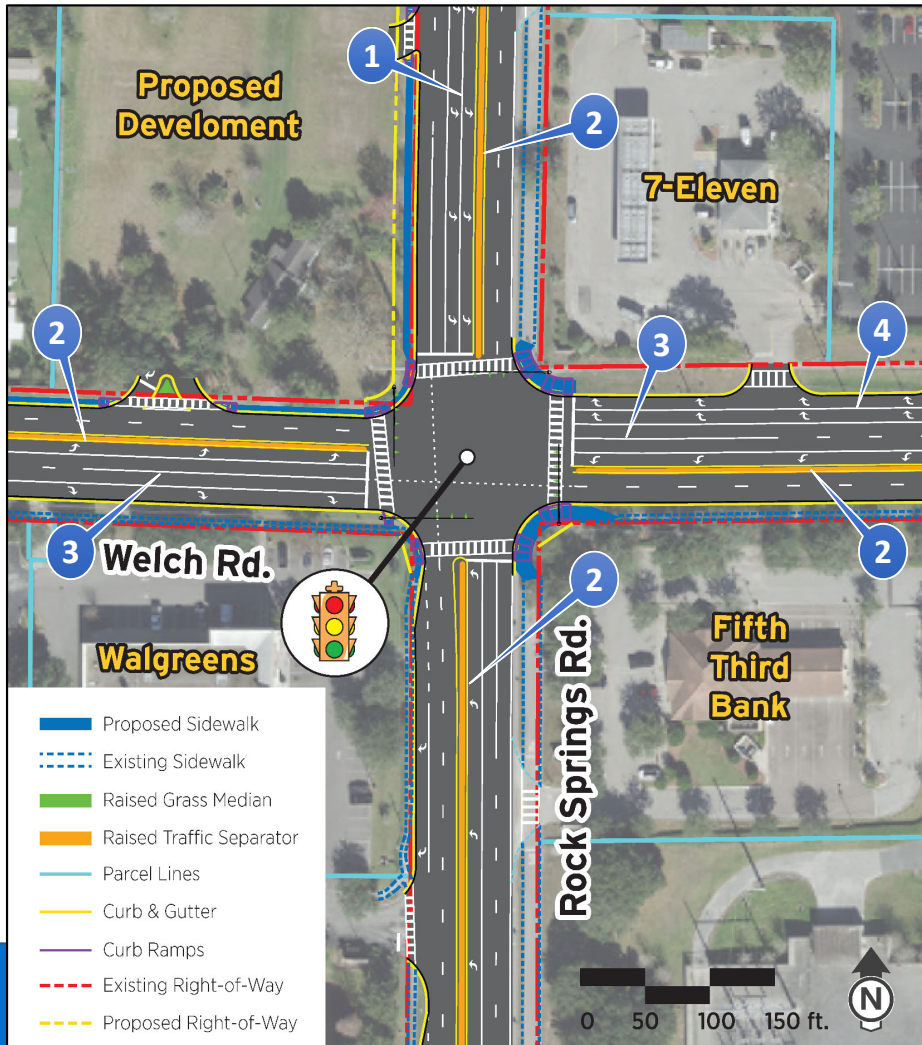
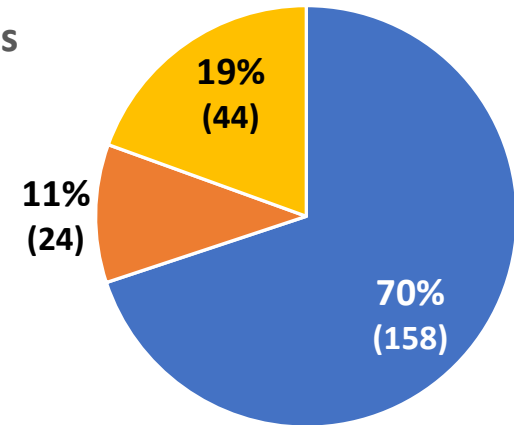
# Welch Road Intersection Recommendations



1. Dual southbound left turn lanes
2. Add traffic separators
3. Provide thru lanes for both eastbound and westbound
4. Dual westbound dedicated right turn lanes

## Public Survey Results

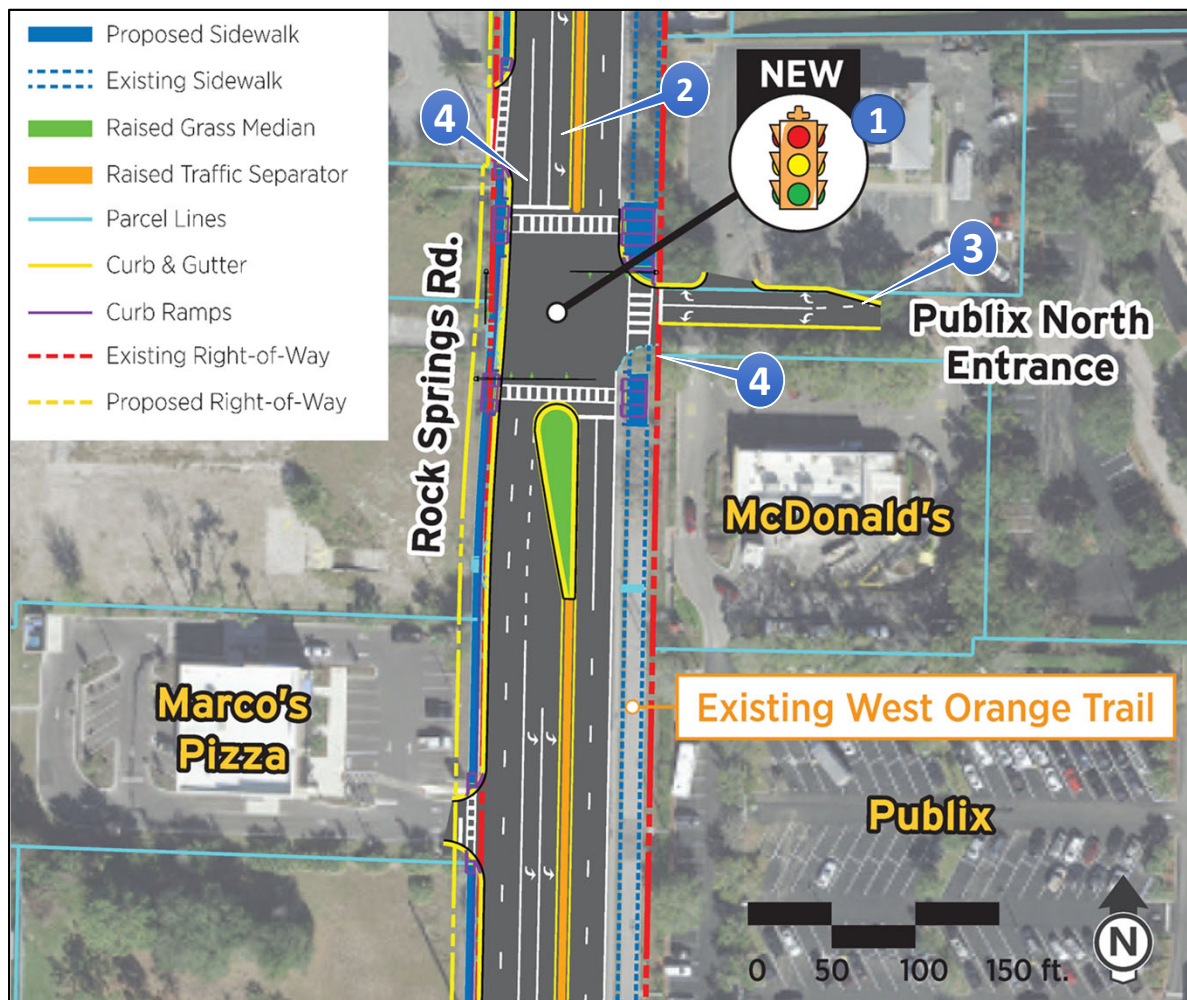
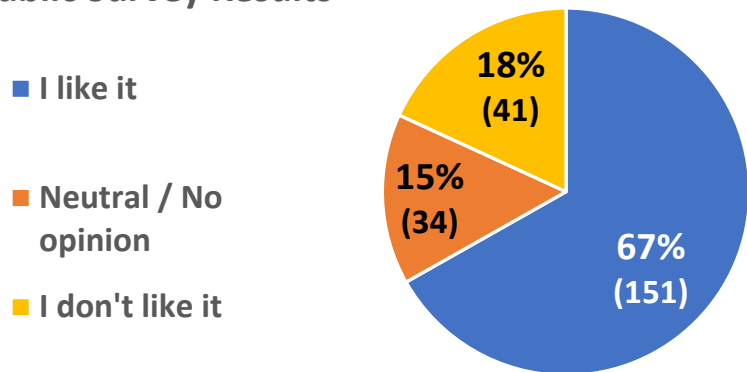
- I like it
- Neutral / No opinion
- I don't like it



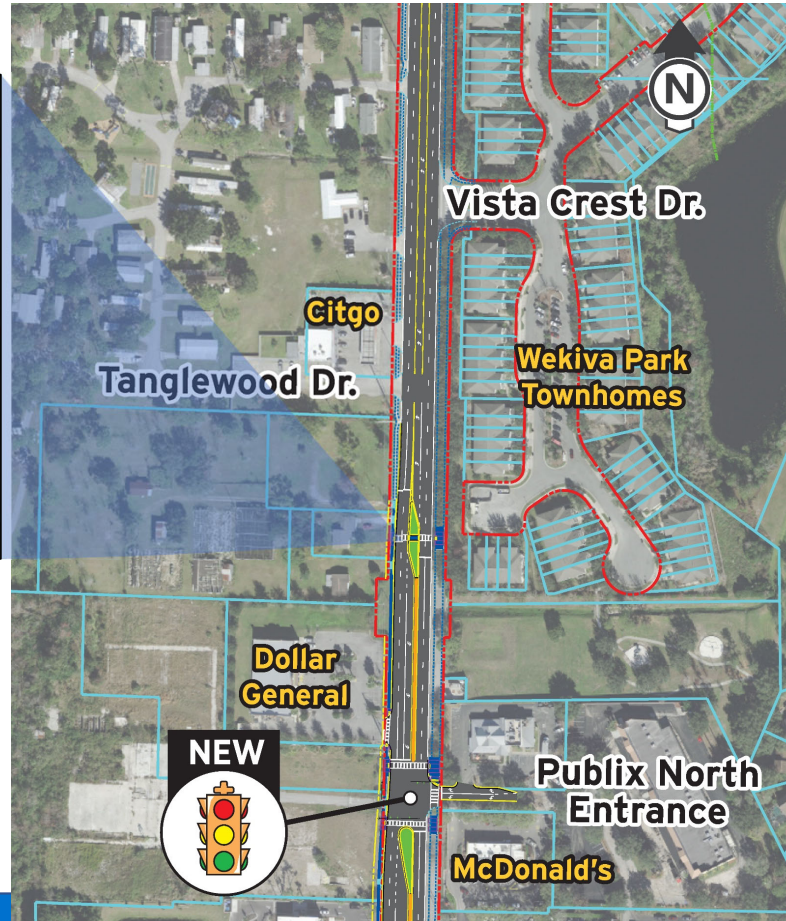
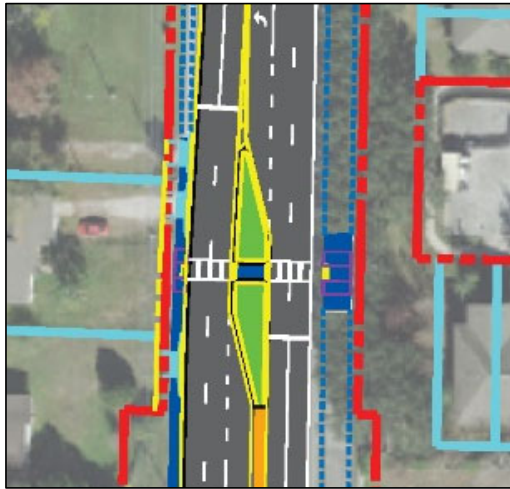
# Recommended Signal at Publix North Entrance Intersection

1. New signalized intersection
2. Dedicated southbound left turn lane with raised traffic separator
3. Westbound right and left turn lanes
4. New pedestrian crosswalks

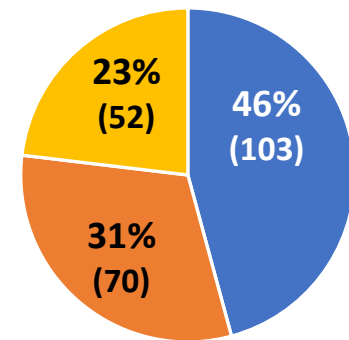
## Public Survey Results



# Mid-block Crosswalk South of Tanglewood Drive



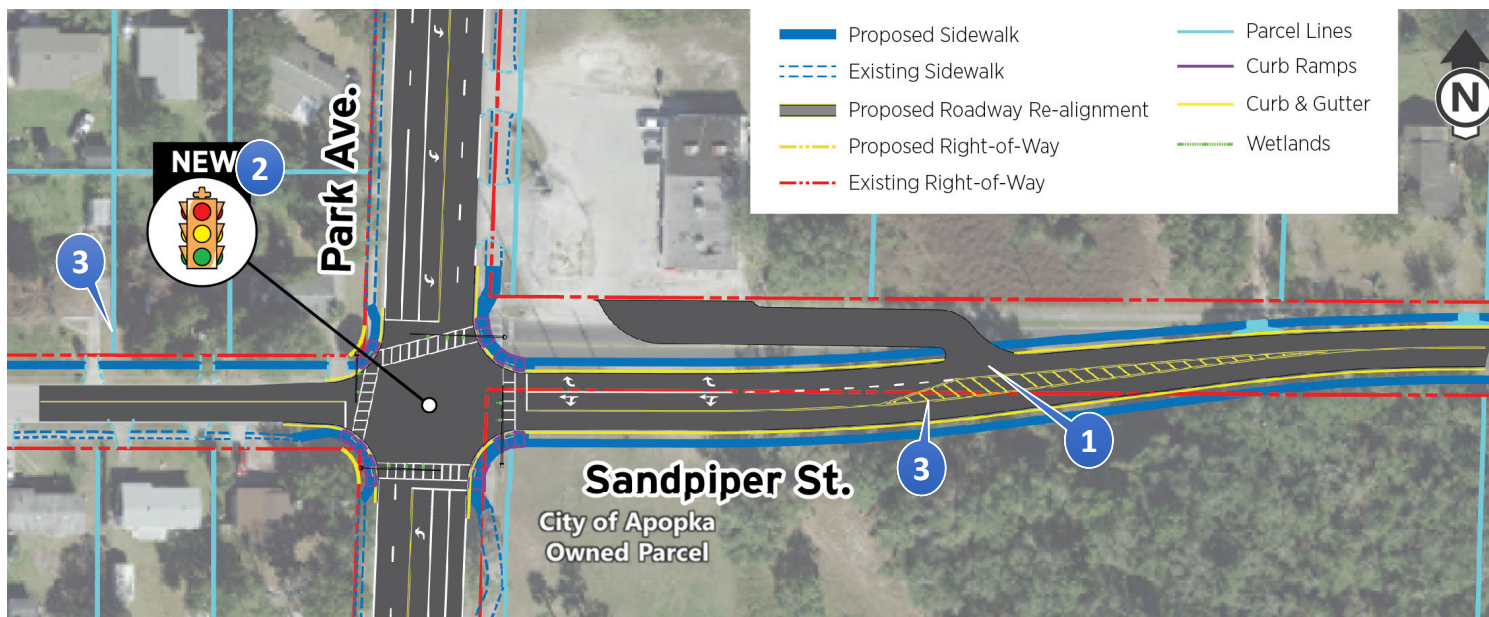
## Public Survey Results



■ I like it ■ Neutral / No opinion ■ I don't like it

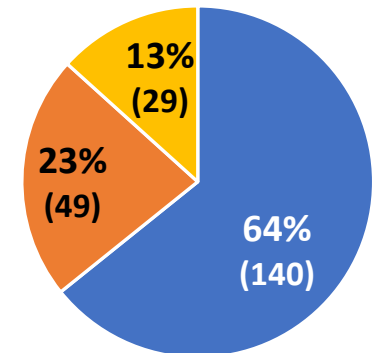
- Respondents concerned for pedestrian safety

# Sandpiper Street at Park Avenue



1. Realign Sandpiper Street
2. Signalize intersection
3. Construct new sidewalk

## Public Survey Results

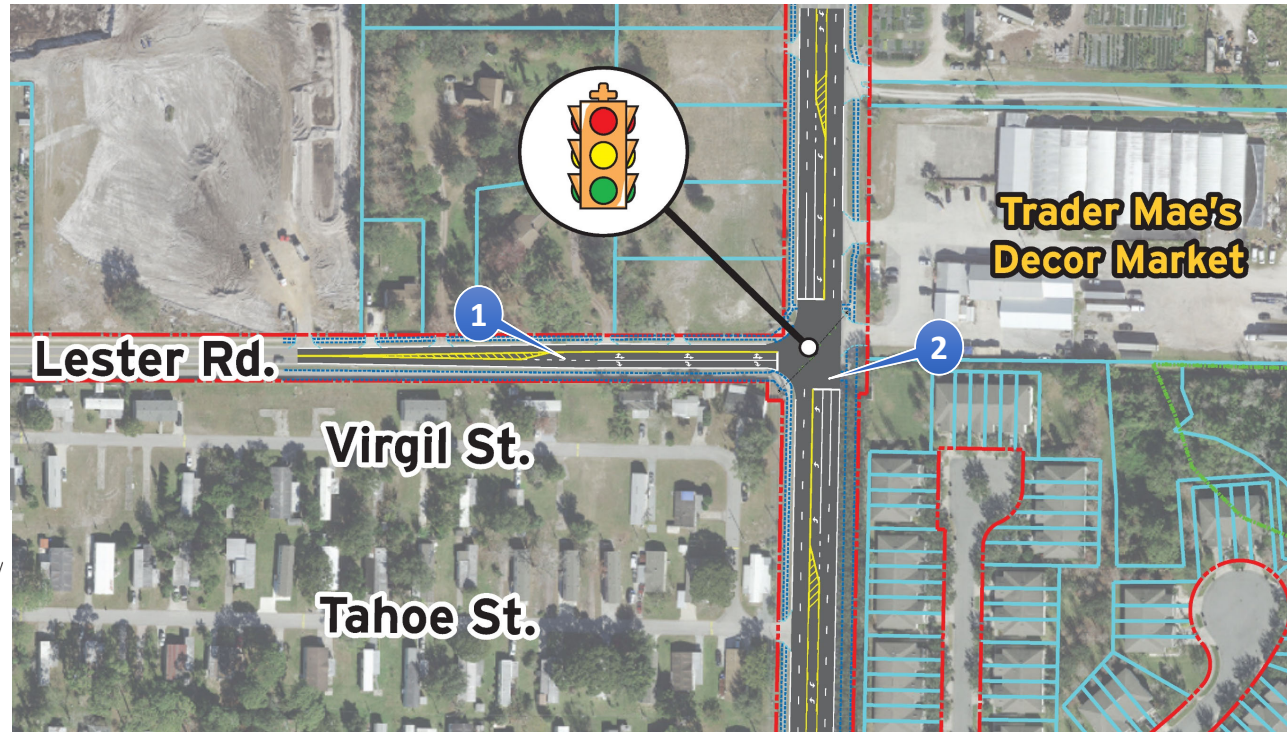


- I like it
- Neutral / No opinion
- I don't like it

# Lester Road Intersection Recommendations



1. Extended turn lane storage
2. Updated intersection striping



- |  |                          |  |                       |
|--|--------------------------|--|-----------------------|
|  | Proposed Sidewalk        |  | Existing Right-of-Way |
|  | Existing Sidewalk        |  | Proposed Right-of-Way |
|  | Raised Grass Median      |  | Parcel Lines          |
|  | Raised Traffic Separator |  | Curb Ramps            |
|  |                          |  | Curb & Gutter         |
|  |                          |  | Wetlands              |

\*see Sandpiper Street at Park Avenue Improvements board for additional concept

# Anticipated Impacts



## Environmental

- Overall low potential for environmental impacts



## Community

- The recommended updates are anticipated to enhance the community



## Right of way

- Approximately .56 acres anticipated for improvements
- Portion of right of way needed is planned for donation from coming development in northwest corner of Welch Road intersection



## Drainage

- The existing ponds receiving runoff from the project area have additional capacity. Therefore, no additional pond sites are needed



## Estimated Construction Cost

- Rock Springs Road - \$6.5 million
- Sandpiper Street – \$1.6 million



# Sandpiper Street Sidewalk Improvements



← from Lake Avenue to Park Avenue | from Park Avenue to Ustler Road →



— Proposed Sidewalk

- - - Existing Sidewalk

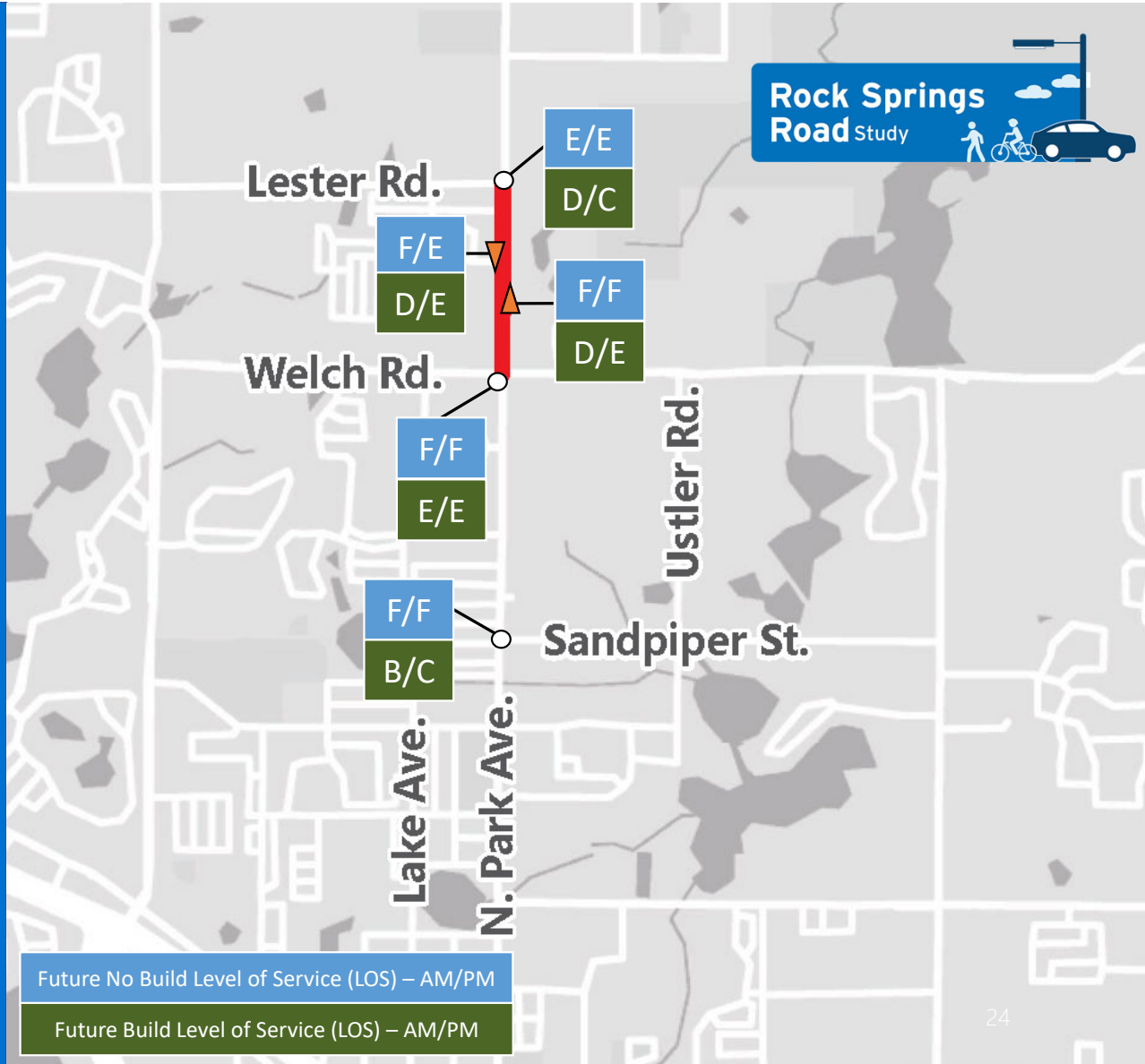
— Parcel Lines

- - - Existing Right-of-Way

# Future Traffic Projections

## Year 2045 – No Build VS Build Recommended Updates:

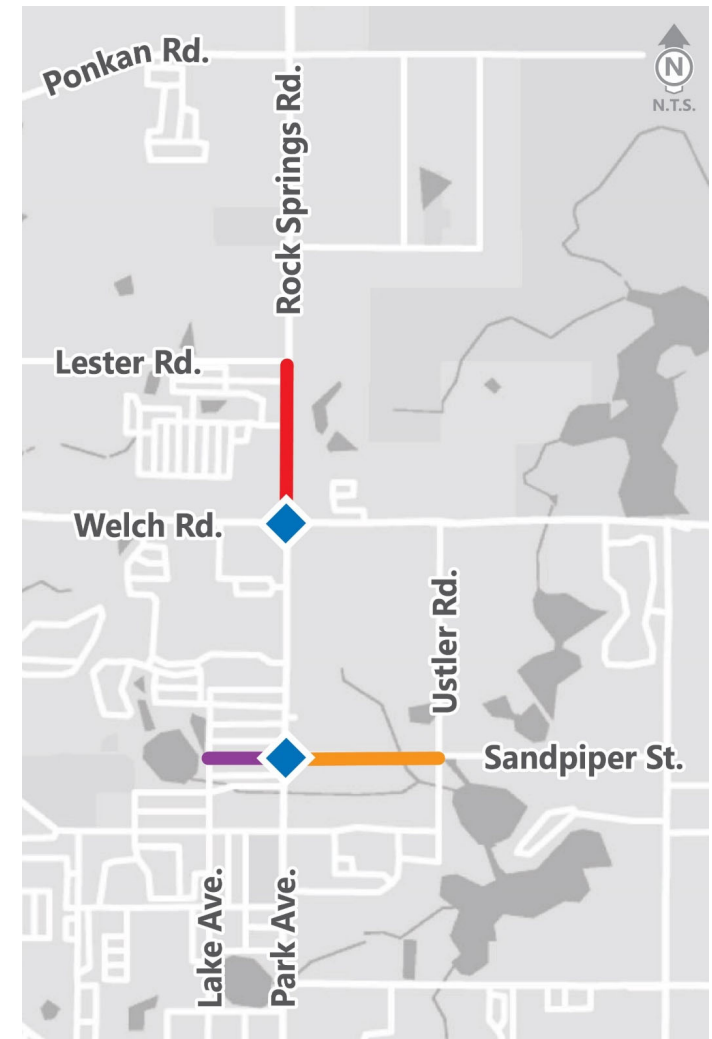
- All operations within Target LOS E in 2045 Build conditions
- Reduced overall delay at Welch Road intersection by 74% AM and 72% PM
- Welch Road intersection operates at acceptable levels



# Additional Comments on Recommendations

## Survey #3 Results

- Questions about access changes
- Desire for speed management along corridor and lower speed limits
- Concerns for pedestrian safety
  - Desire for additional safety elements for driveways and roadways
- Desire for bike lanes throughout the study area
- Requests for improved safety at trail crossings
- Additional comments about the proposed West Orange Trail and potential impacts to wildlife/Wekiwa Springs State Park



# Study Schedule



Schedule Activity	2021					2022						Icon Legend	
	Mar-Apr	May-Jun	Jul-Aug	Sep-Oct	Nov-Dec	Jan-Feb	Mar-Apr	May-Jun	Jul-Aug	Sep-Oct	Oct-Dec		
Existing and Future Conditions Assessment	■												■ Activity Duration
Define and Select Alternatives				■								★ 1 Public Meeting #1	
Recommended Improvements Refinement and Documentation										■		★ 2 Public Meeting #2	
Public Engagement	■ ◆ 1				■ ◆ 1 2				■ ◆ 2 3			● 1 Online Survey	
												● 2 Online Alternatives Feedback Survey	
												● 3 Online Recommended Improvements Feedback Survey	
												◆ Wekiwa Springs State Park Coordination Meetings	

→ We are here!



[MetroPlanOrlando.org/RockSprings](https://MetroPlanOrlando.org/RockSprings)

**THANK YOU**

Taylor Laurent, PE, AICP

MetroPlan Orlando

Manager of Transportation Planning

(407) 481-5672 Ext. 306

[TLaurent@metroplanorlando.org](mailto:TLaurent@metroplanorlando.org)

