

WELCOME

Project Development and Environment (PD&E) Study Public Information Meeting



July 31st, 2025

Contract Number: C24-3985-PW

WEST 98 COLLECTOR ROAD

Project Development and Environment (PD&E) Study
Public Information Meeting



**WEST 98
COLLECTOR**
Okaloosa County

July 31st, 2025

Contract Number: C24-3985-PW



Introduction

During this meeting we will:

Present information on the County's proposed improvements for an east – west roadway corridor aimed to improve safety and enhance operations being developed in coordination with Eglin Air Force Base and Hurlburt Field.

Submit Comments in Multiple Ways:



Online at

www.myokaloosa.com/west98collectorroad



Written and submitted
in-person



Email to

West98@myokaloosa.com

All written comments received by **August 14, 2025**, will become part of the public meeting record.



Meeting Agenda

1. Explain the West 98 Collector Road Project and PD&E Study



2. Introduce the proposed alternatives

- 1 Alternative 1 – Urban
- 2 Alternative 2 – Rural

3. Obtain the community's feedback





Title VI Compliance

This public meeting was advertised and is being conducted in accordance with state and federal requirements, including Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

Public participation is solicited without regard to race, color, national origin, age, sex, religion, disability, or family status.

Persons wishing to express any concerns about Title VI may do so by contacting:

Jane Evans
Okaloosa County Title VI Coordinator
1250 N. Eglin Parkway, Ste 102
Shalimar, Florida 32579
850-651-7521
jevans@myokaloosa.com



Public Notice



**Florida Administrative
Register**



www.myokaloosa.com/west98collector



NW Florida Daily News



**Elected & Appointed
Officials**



**Property Owners &
Tenants**



Businesses



NEPA

National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)

NEPA requirements help ensure that environmental information is made available to the public during the decision-making process and prior to actions being taken. The premise of NEPA is that the quality of federal decisions will be enhanced if proponents provide information to the public and involve the public in the planning process.

This PD&E Study is being developed to provide information to and obtain input from concerned citizens, agencies, private groups (residential and business), and governmental entities. The overall goal of this public information meeting is to help ensure that the study reflects the values and needs of the communities it is designed to benefit.



PD&E Study Process

We are here





Project Purpose

1

To provide an alternative route option for military access and local traffic

2

To support mobility and safety

3

Establish a utility corridor for potential utility relocations in the event U.S 98 becomes widened to six-lanes

4

Evaluate a connection to a potential west gate project on Hurlburt Field

U.S. 98 is a Strategic Intermodal System (SIS) route in the panhandle of Florida from Pensacola to Panama City.



Project Need

U.S. 98 is forced to function like a collector road because there is no parallel facility to collect the local streets. Thus, there is a need for a new collector road parallel to U.S. 98 to serve an alternate route option for local traffic and military access in the unincorporated Florosa Community.

This PD&E Study will evaluate:

3.25-mile Roadway

**From Solar Street to
Green Drive**

2-mile Utility Corridor

**Between Green Drive and the Santa
Rosa County Line**



Safety & Traffic

U.S. 98 is the only east-west route in the area impacting the entire community. This work to expand the Eglin range easement and relocate the utility corridor should reap huge dividends for the military and our surrounding communities.

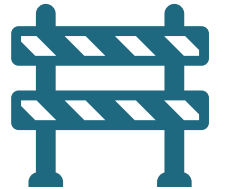
Better emergency response with more access options



Creation of new route options during times of congestion and traffic incidents



Further network support when U.S. 98 is widened in the future





Societal and Economic Considerations

Currently, residents in the unincorporated Florosa community do not have access to an alternate east-west collector road and must use U.S. 98 for most local trips, including **travel to schools, retail shops, and places of employment.**

**A collector road
will provide
residents with an
alternative to
using U.S. 98**





Previous Considerations

The following alternatives to the West 98 Collector Road Project were previously considered:

- **Adjusting the school speed limit**
- **Adjusting school times and parent drop-offs**
- **Installing multi-use paths**
- **Adding traffic signals**
- **Extending the Cody Interchange on-ramp to Solar Street**

These improvements could help, but no combination or inclusion of all, are able to achieve significant safety and travel speed improvements needed for U.S. 98.



Proposed Improvements

Legend

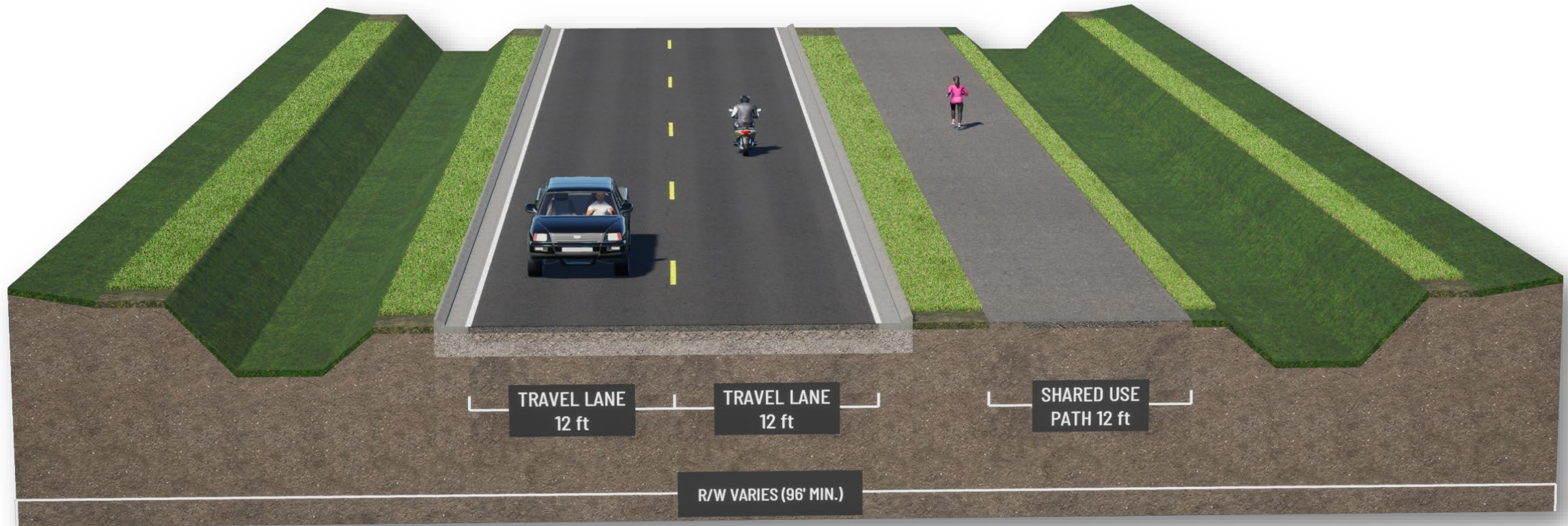
- Project Limits Roadway
- Project Limits Utility Corridor
- Potential West Gate Corridor





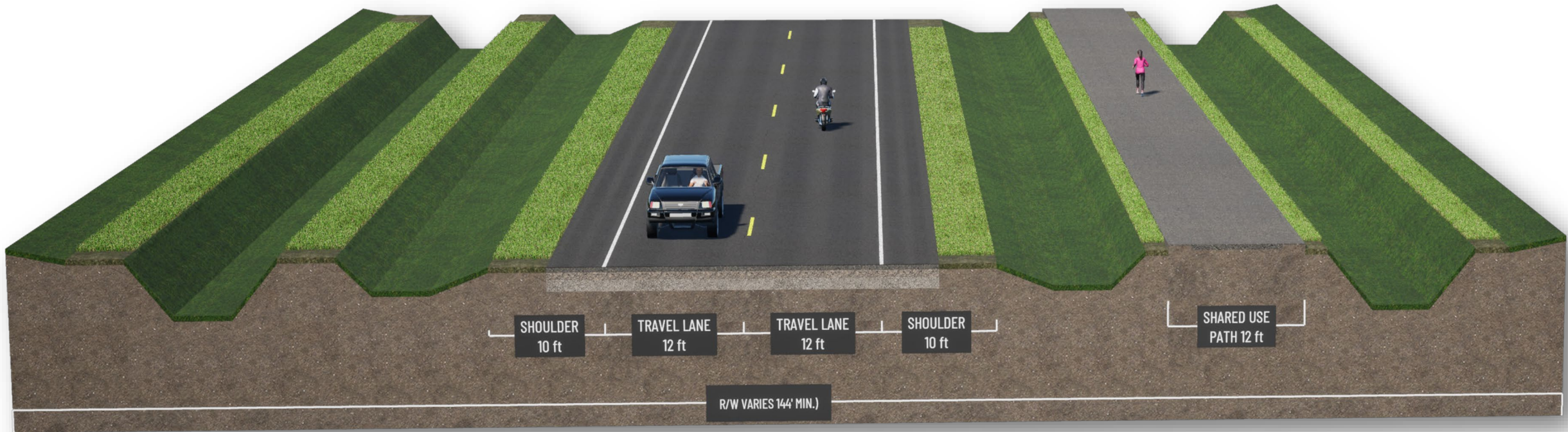


Alternative 1 – Urban Typical Section



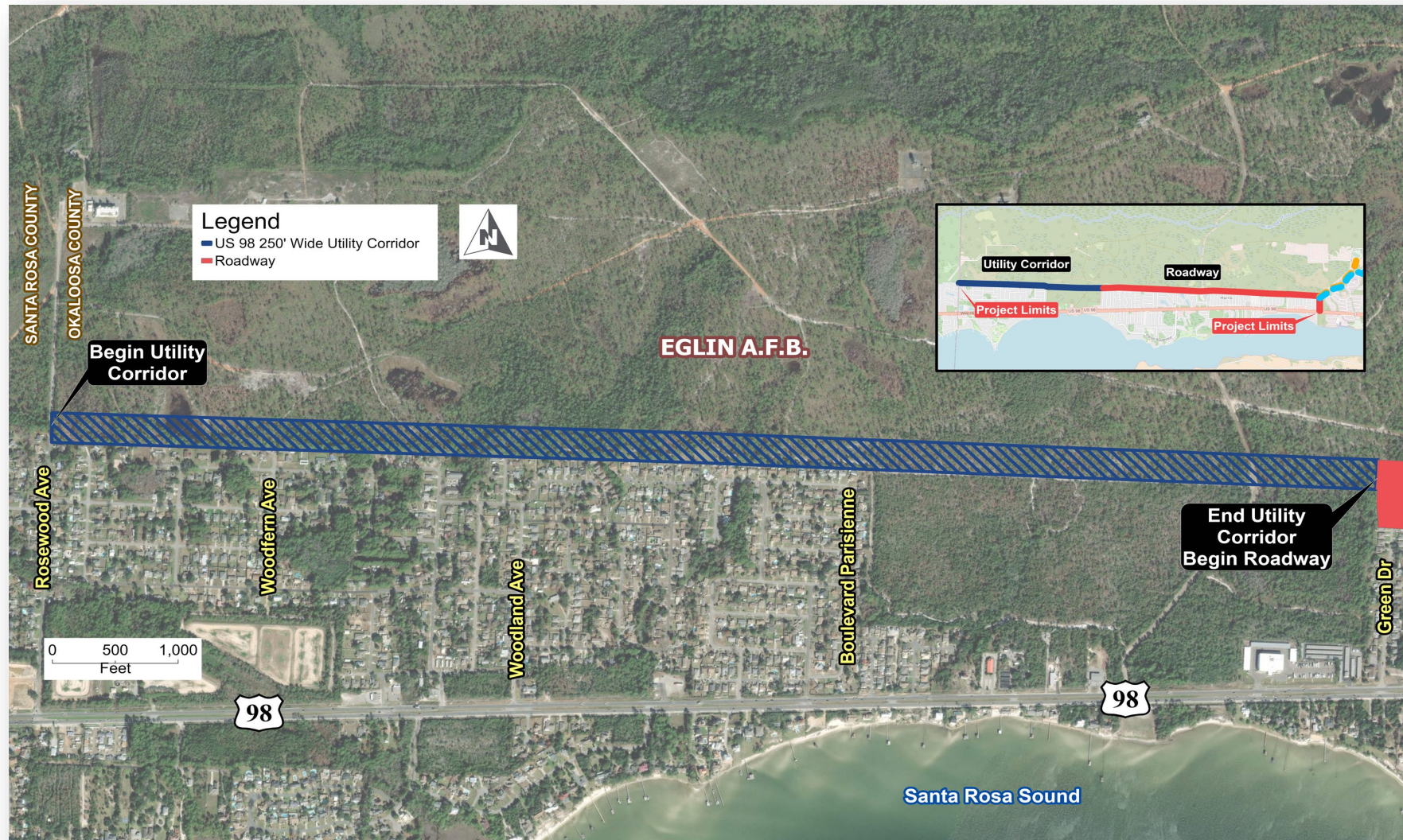


Alternative 2 – Rural Typical Section



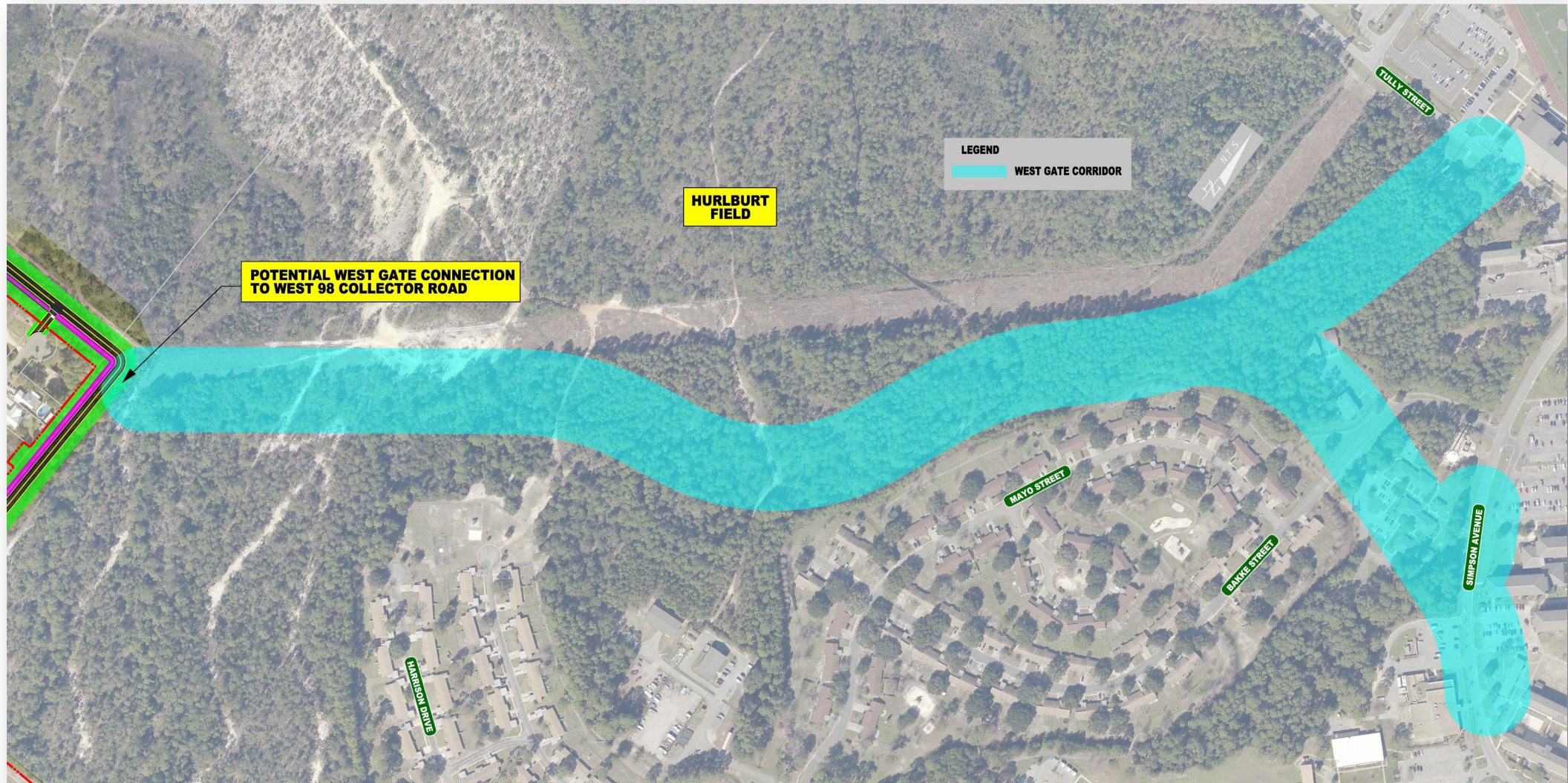


2.0-mile Utility Corridor







Potential West Gate Connection





Schedule and Next Steps

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT ACTIVITY MILESTONES	2025		2026
	Jul-Sep	Oct-Dec	Jan-Mar
PUBLIC MEETING			
PUBLIC HEARING			

Public Meeting 

Public Hearing 





Stay Involved

Your input is an important part of this project. There are multiple ways for you to participate.



Online at
www.myokaloosa.com/west98collectorroad



Written and submitted
in-person

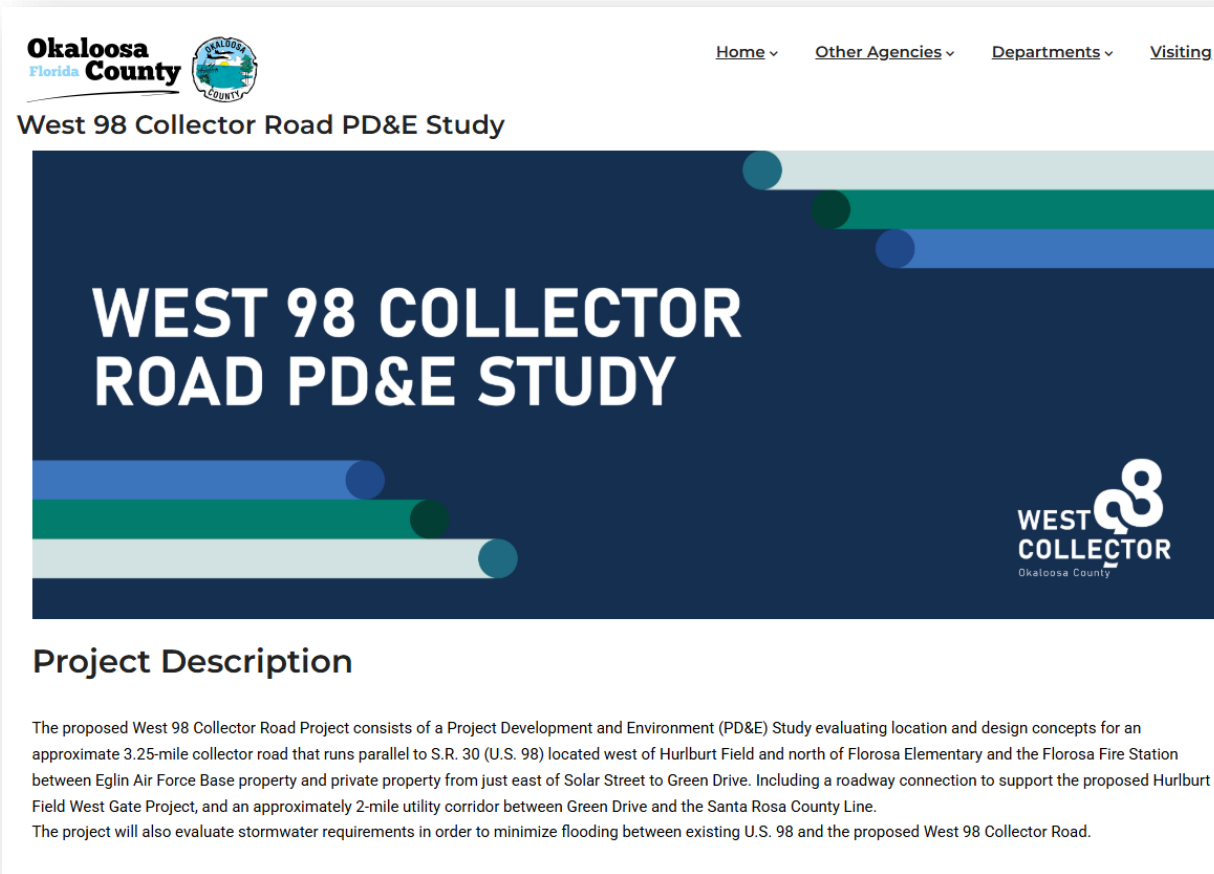


Email to
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How to Learn More



www.myokaloosa.com/west98collectorroad

Scan the QR Code with your phone



Meeting materials displayed at the public meeting are posted on the project website.

THANK YOU

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WEST 8
COLLECTOR
Okaloosa County

July 31st, 2025

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