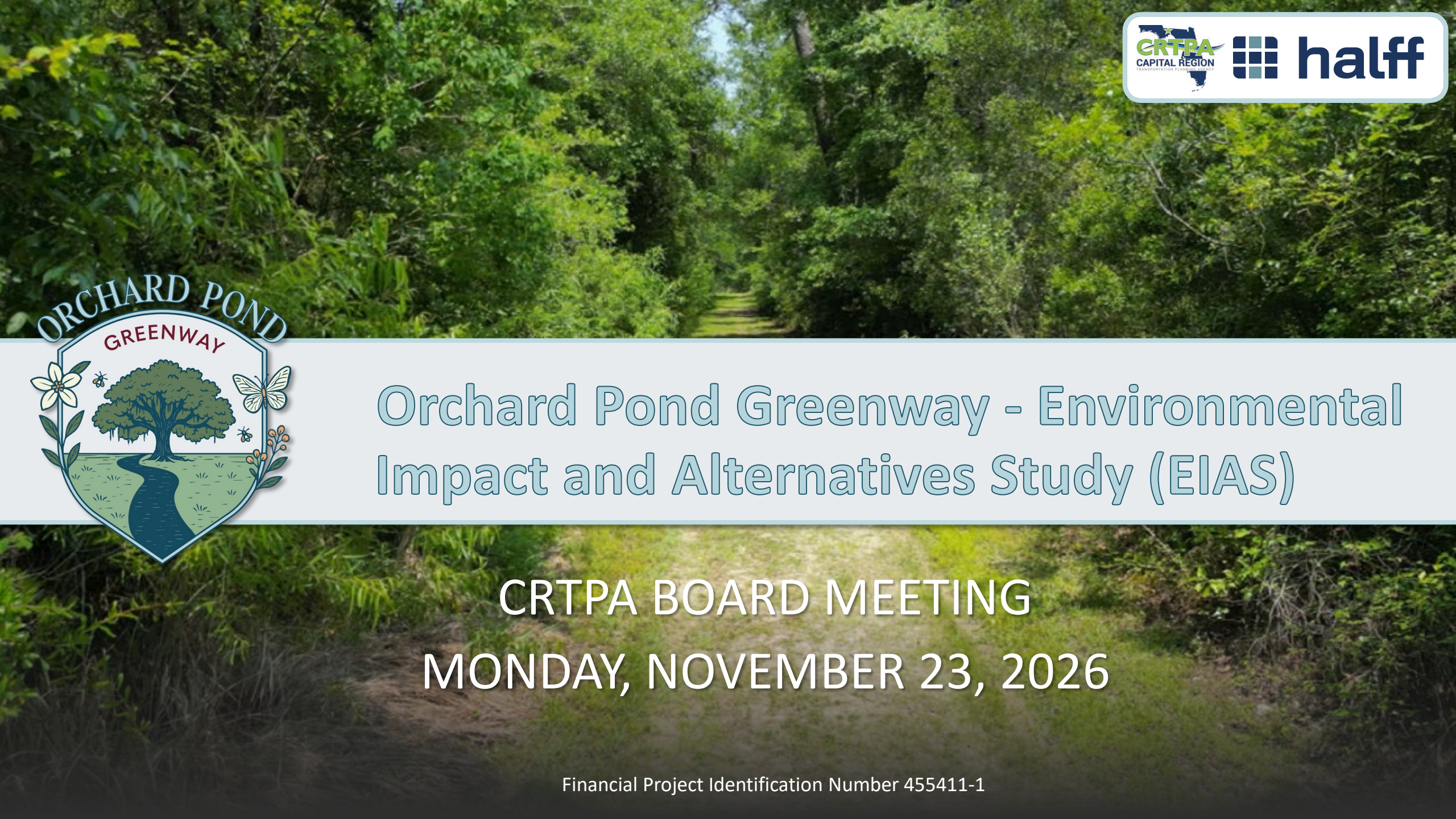


Orchard Pond Greenway - Environmental Impact and Alternatives Study (EIAS)

CRTPA BOARD MEETING

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 23, 2026

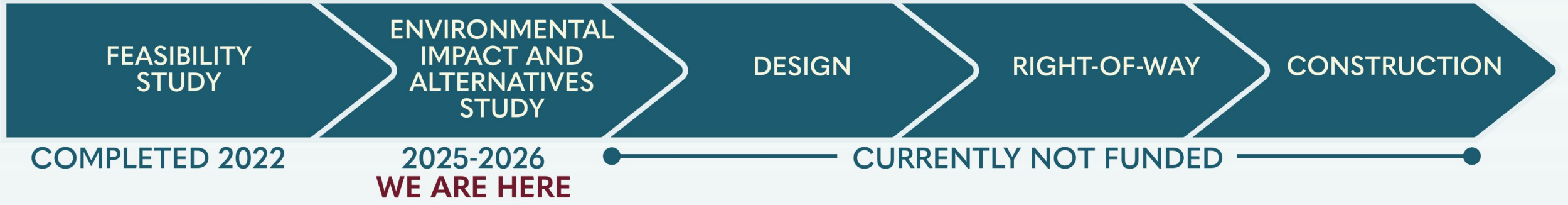
Financial Project Identification Number 455411-1

Project Development and Process Schedule

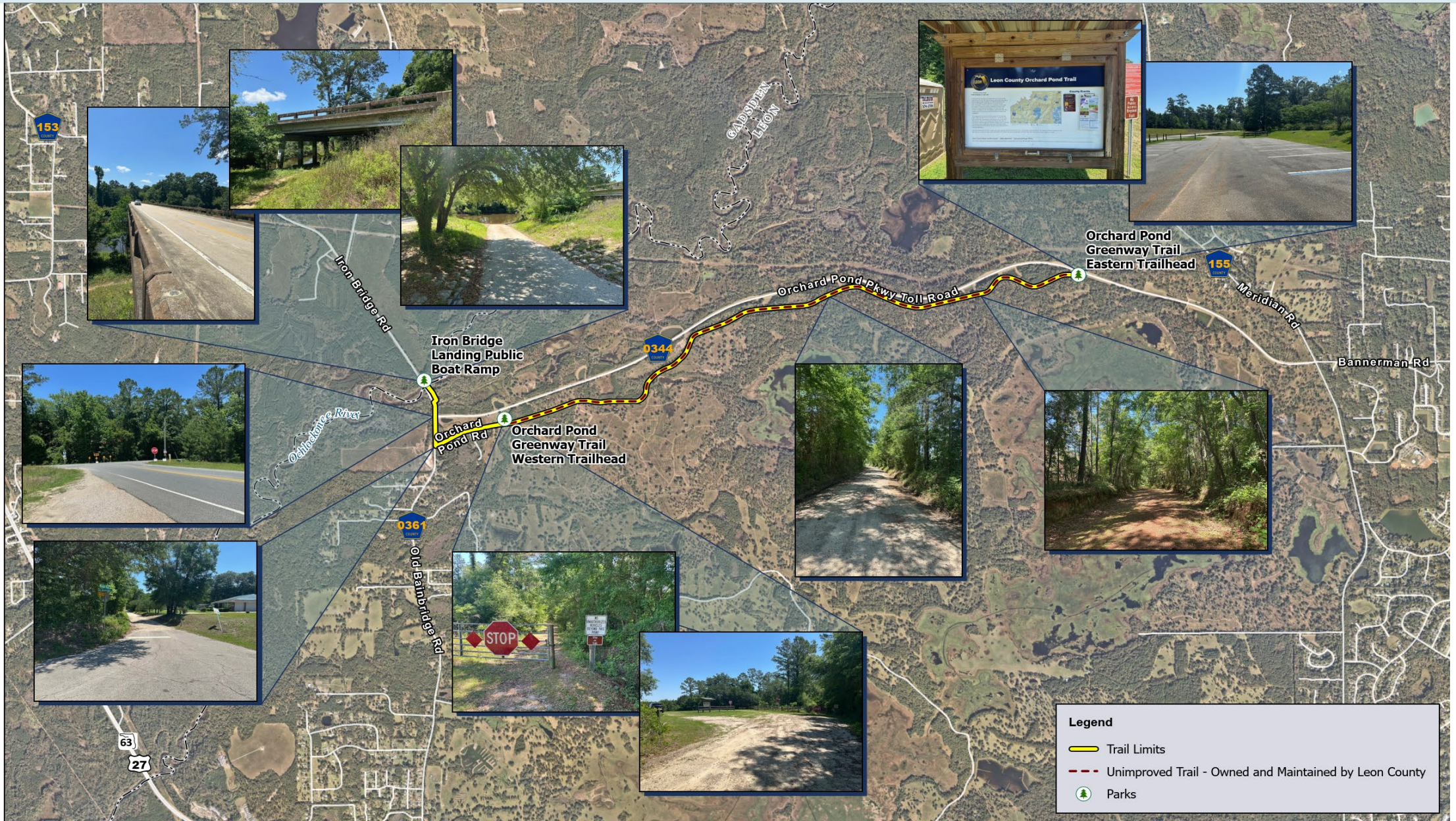
PROJECT SCHEDULE



TRANSPORTATION DEVELOPMENT PROCESS



Project Location Map



Regional Trails Map



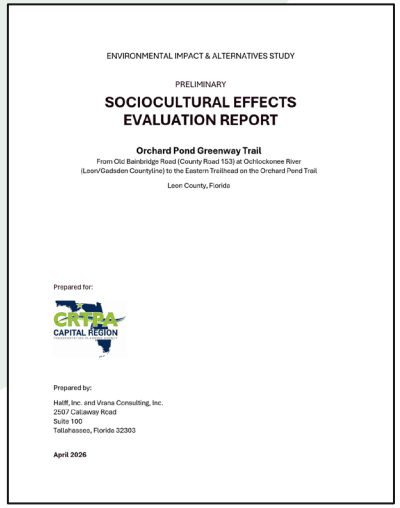
halff | 2255 Killearn Center Boulevard, Suite 200, Tallahassee, Florida 32309, 850-224-4400 | N W E S | Regional Connectivity | 0 2,000 4,000 SCALE IN FEET | CRTPA Orchard Pond Greenway Trail

Purpose and Need/Project Goals

The project aims to extend the Tallahassee-to-Havana Trail and strengthen regional trail connections throughout the Capital Region. It is needed to improve pedestrian and cyclist safety, increase recreational opportunities, expand multimodal transportation options, and maintain equestrian access between trailheads.



Environmental Impacts


ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT & ALTERNATIVES STUDY

PRELIMINARY

SOCIOCULTURAL EFFECTS EVALUATION REPORT

Orchard Pond Greenway Trail

From Old Bainbridge Road (County Road 153) at Ochlockonee River (Leon/Gadsden County line) to the Eastern Trailhead on the Orchard Pond Trail

Leon County, Florida

Prepared for:

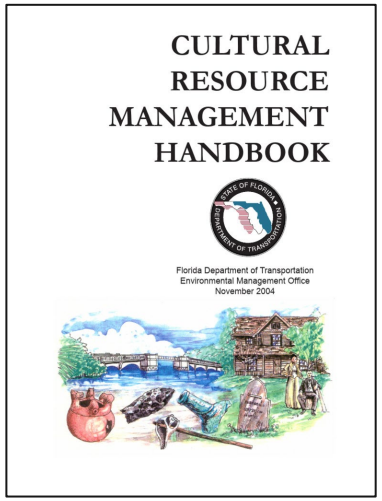
Prepared by:

Halff, Inc. and Vrana Consulting, Inc.
2507 Callaway Road
Suite 100
Tallahassee, Florida 32303

April 2026

Sociocultural Effects

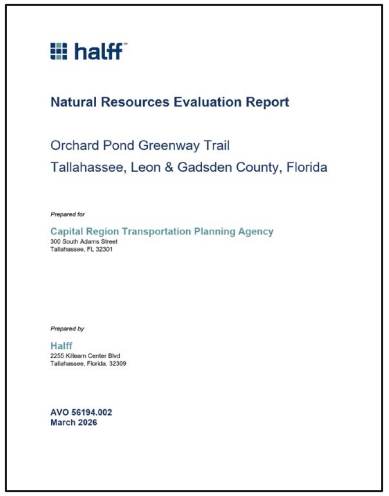
- Community Impacts (i.e., Relocations)


CULTURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT HANDBOOK

Florida Department of Transportation
Environmental Management Office
November 2004

Cultural Resources

- Archaeological and Historic Resources
- Recreational, Section 4(f) sites


halff

Natural Resources Evaluation Report

Orchard Pond Greenway Trail
Tallahassee, Leon & Gadsden County, Florida

Prepared for

Capital Region Transportation Planning Agency
300 South Adams Street
Tallahassee, FL 32301

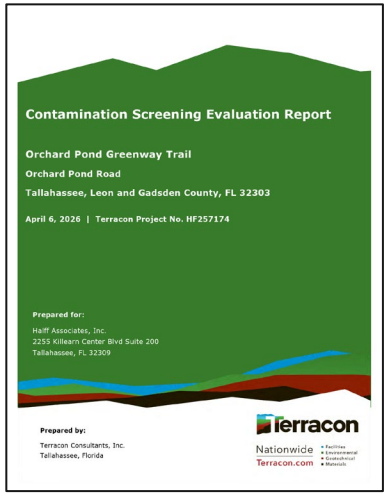
Prepared by

Halff
2255 Killearn Center Blvd
Tallahassee, Florida, 32309

AVO 56194.002
March 2026

Natural Resources

- Wetlands and Other Surface Waters
- Threatened and Endangered Species


Contamination Screening Evaluation Report

Orchard Pond Greenway Trail
Orchard Pond Road
Tallahassee, Leon and Gadsden County, FL 32303

April 6, 2026 | Terracon Project No. HF257174

Prepared for:
Halff Associates, Inc.
2255 Killearn Center Blvd Suite 200
Tallahassee, FL 32309

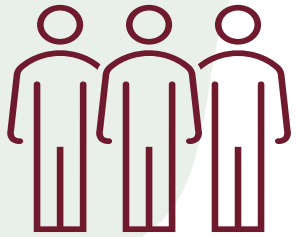
Prepared by:
Terracon Consultants, Inc.
Tallahassee, Florida

Terracon
Nationwide
Terracon.com

Physical Environment

- Contamination

Sociocultural Effects



- No adverse or disproportionate impacts to low-income, minority, or protected population groups.



- No relocations and minimal Right-of-Way acquisition from willing seller.

Cultural Resources

A Cultural Resource Assessment Survey (CRAS) was prepared to identify and locate any historic properties and archaeological sites within the Area of Potential Effect (APE). Recorded resources include:

- **2** previously recorded historic linear resources
  Orchard Pond Road (8LE05976) and
  Old Bainbridge Road (8LE06152)

Results:

- No Adverse Effect on resources eligible or potentially eligible for the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP).

FMSF No.	Address/Site Name	Year Built	Style/Type	NRHP Eligibility Recommendation
8LE05976	Orchard Pond Road	ca. 1905	Linear Resource	Eligible (12/11/2012)
8GD02047/ 8LE06152	Old Bainbridge Road	ca. 1853	Linear Resource	Eligible (4/03/2019)
8GD03508/ 8LE07107	Old Bainbridge Road over Ochlockonee River	ca. 1971	Bridge	Ineligible
8LE07108	5826 Orchard Pond Road	ca. 1965	Masonry Vernacular	Ineligible

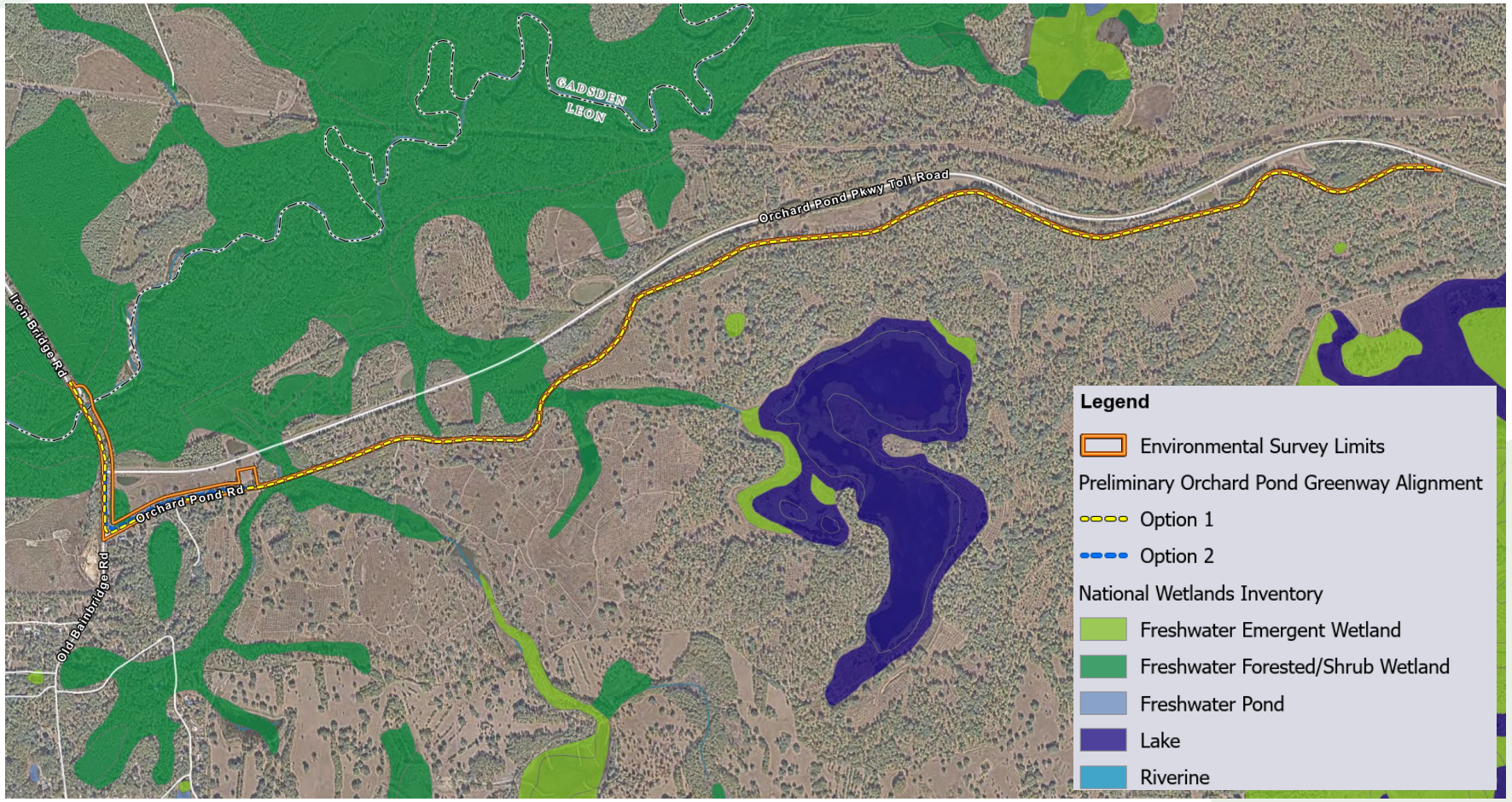
*resources highlighted blue were updated as part of this survey



General stratigraphy in the western APE, facing north.

Natural Resources: Wetlands

- The Natural Resources Evaluation evaluates the alternatives' involvement with:
  - Wetlands
  - Surface waters
  - Protected species and their habitats
- Wetland, surface water, or non-wetland waters (ditches) were identified within the project study area. Avoidance and minimization will be evaluated during design.
- No critical habitat for any species is within the project study area.



Natural Resources: Protected Species

Federally Listed	State Listed
American Alligator	Florida Pine Snake
Eastern Indigo Snake	Striped Newt
Wood Stork	Gopher Tortoise
Red Cockaded Woodpecker	Barbour's Map Turtle
Ochlockonee Moccasinshell	Southeastern American Kestrel
Oval Pigtoe	Little Blue Herson
Purple Bankclimber	Tricolored Heron
Shinyrayed Pocketbook	Florida Black Bear
	Gopher Frog

Other Protected Species and Habitat	
Tricolored Bat	Bald Eagle
Alligator Snapping Turtle	
Florida Black Bear	

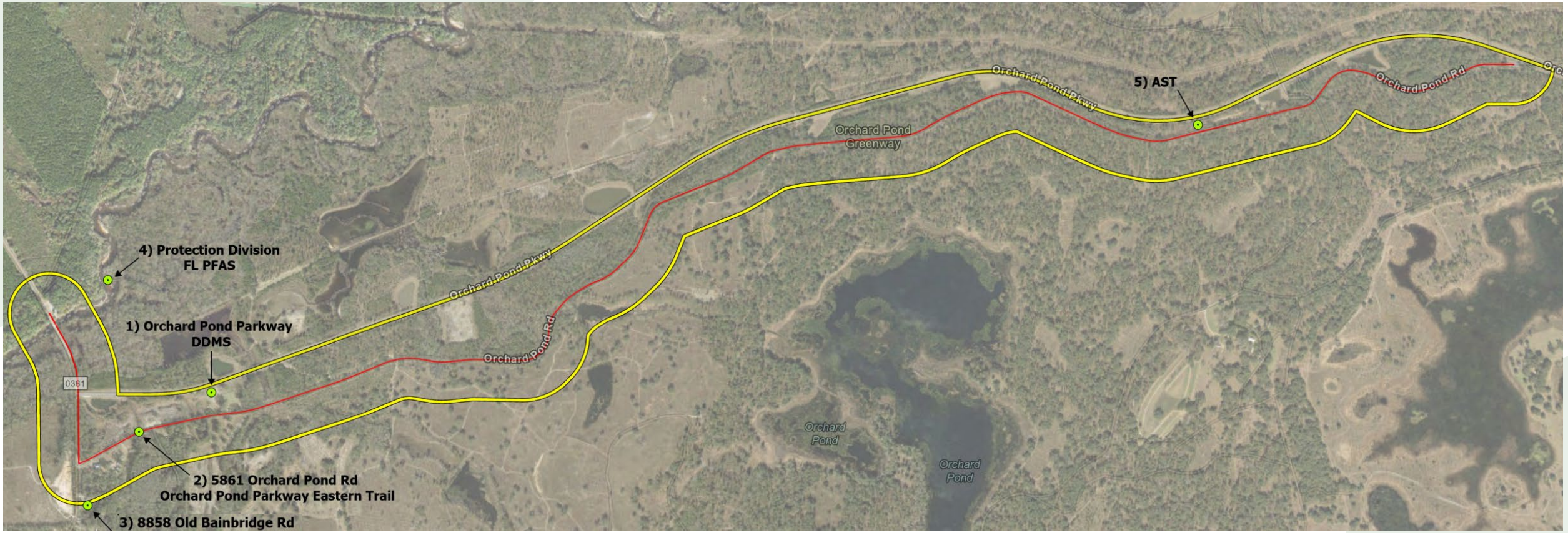






- Natural resource reviews were conducted to identify federal and state protected species occurring or potentially occurring within the project study area.
- Overall, the Project Site contains some suitable habitat for several listed species known to occur in Gadsden and Leon County, though, the proposed project is not expected to impact these species.

Physical Environment: Contamination



Between Existing Trailheads

Project Location



Between Existing Trailheads – 3.6 miles



Existing Typical Section



Typical Section



ORCHARD POND
GREENWAY

Typical Section in Constrained Areas



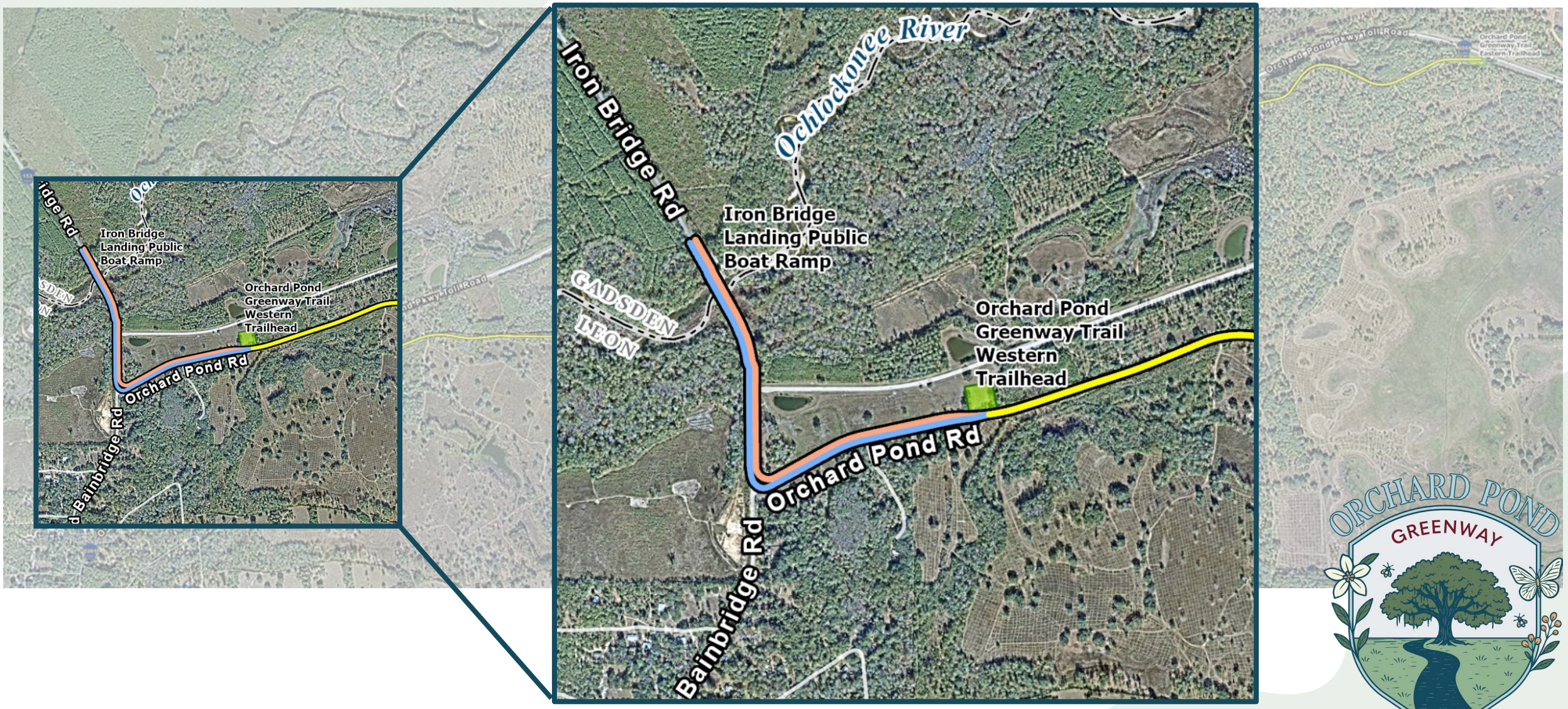
ORCHARD POND GREENWAY

Trail Alignment Alternatives

Trail Alignment Alternatives

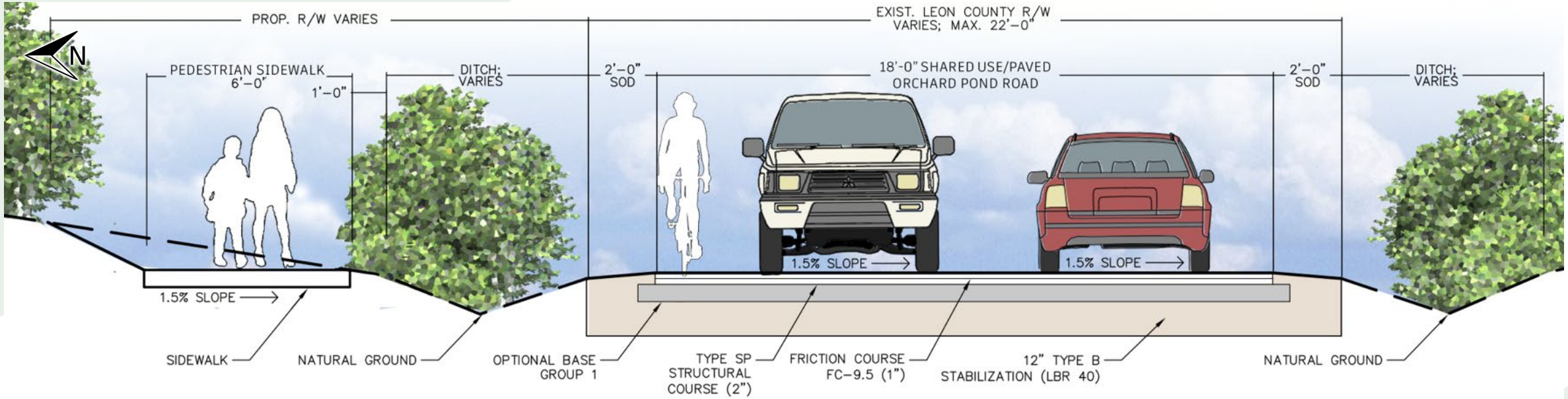


Trail Alternative Alignments

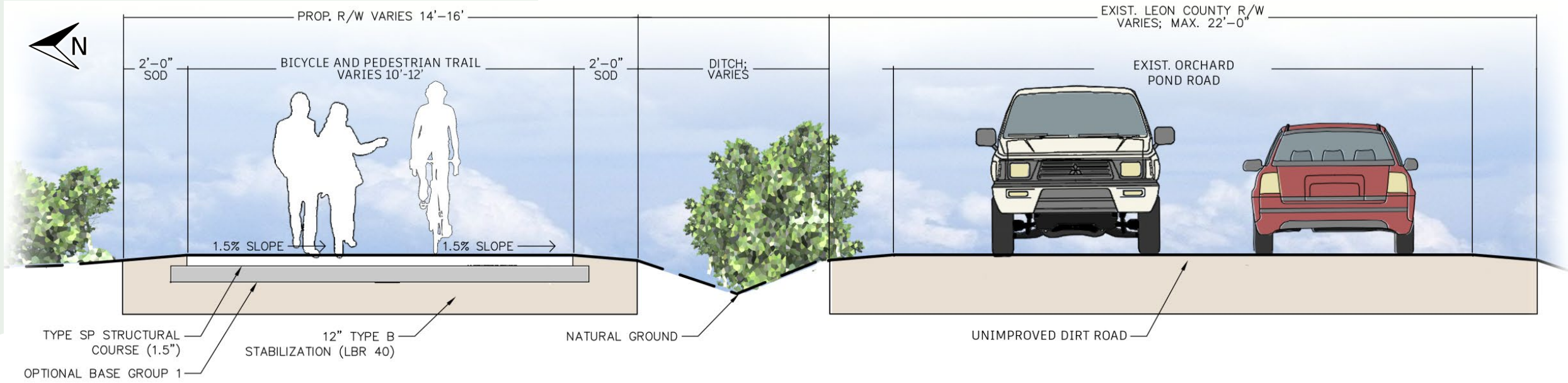


ORCHARD POND GREENWAY

Trail Alignment Alternative A



Trail Alignment Alternative B

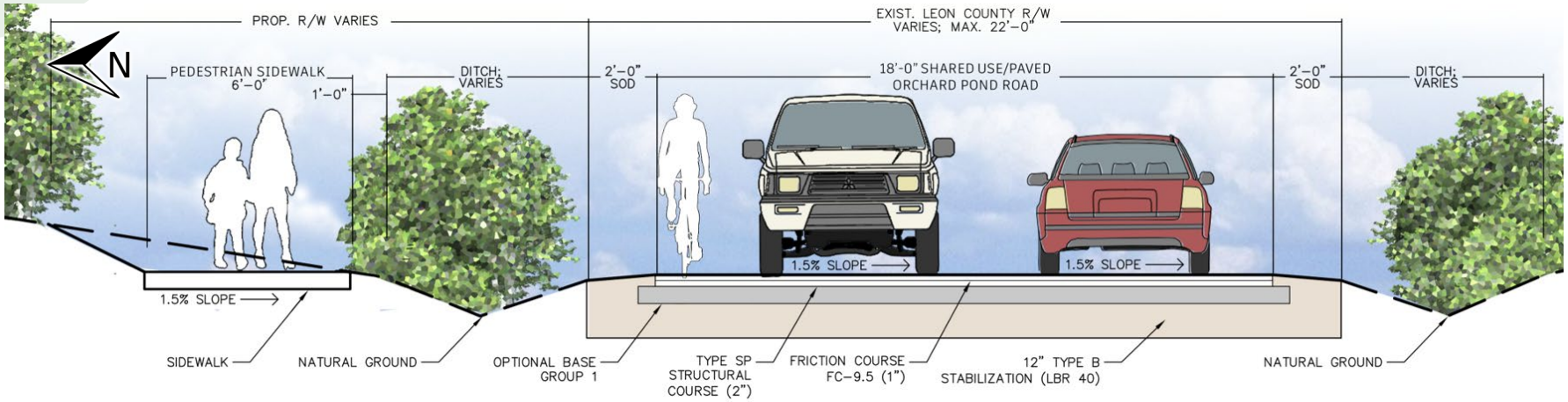


ORCHARD POND GREENWAY

Alignment Comparison

Alt A:

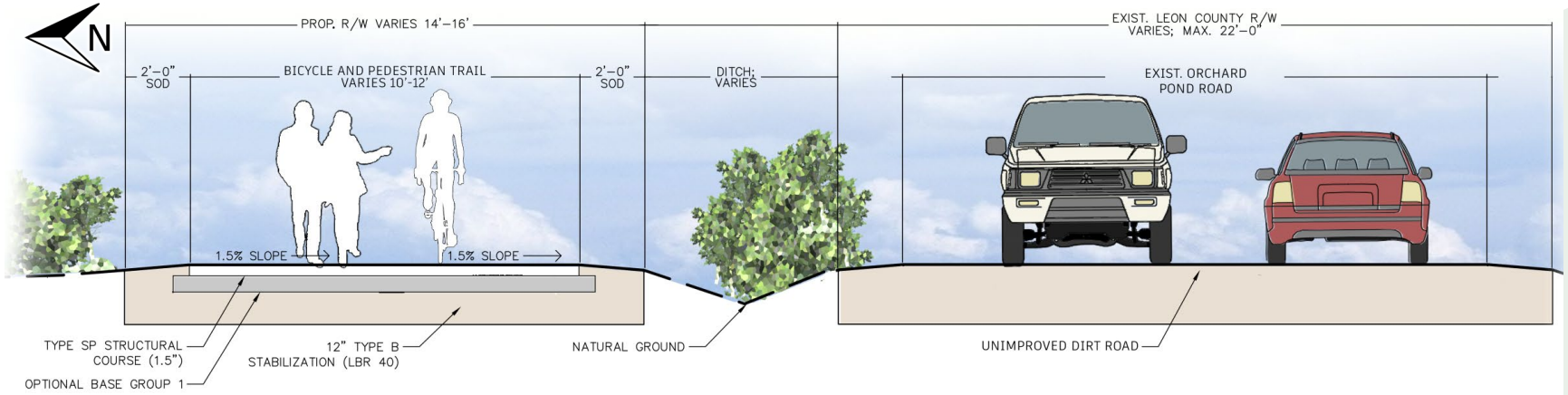
- ROW- 0.88 acres
  - 6’ sidewalk
- Shared use/paved road



Alt B:

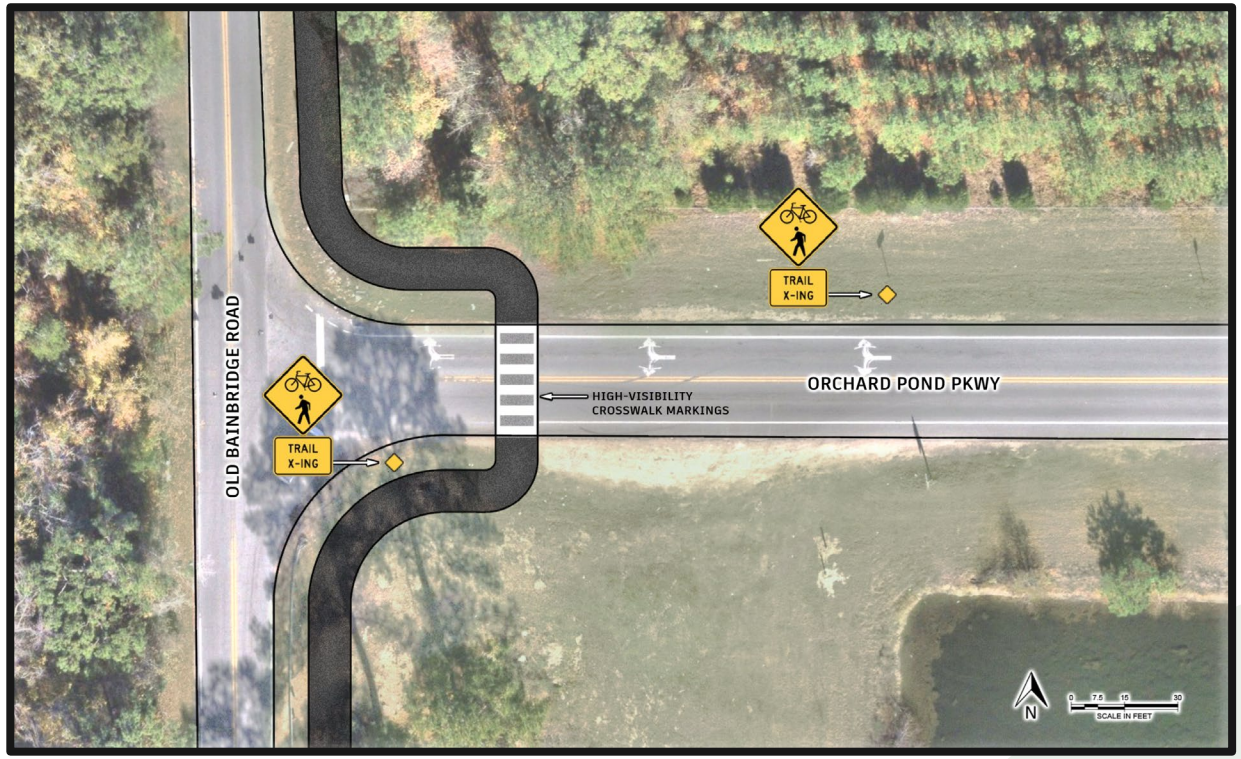
Recommended Alternative

- ROW- 1.84 acres
  - 10-12’ trail
- Unimproved vehicular road



ORCHARD POND PARKWAY CROSSING OPTIONS





Crossing locations shown are preliminary.
Final trail crossing location will be determined during subsequent design phase.

Orchard Pond Parkway to Bridge

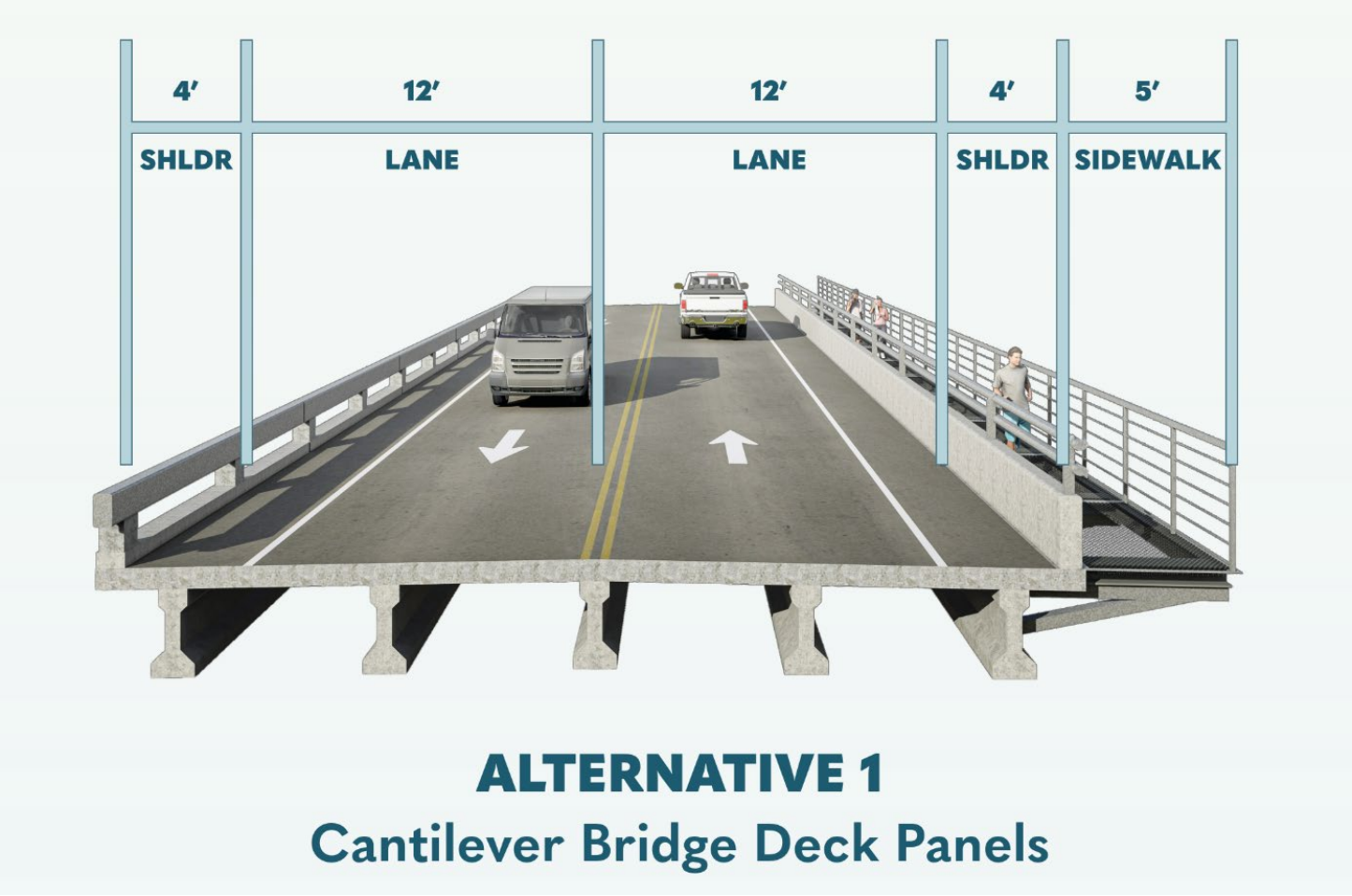


Ochlockonee River Crossing

Existing Ochlockonee River Bridge

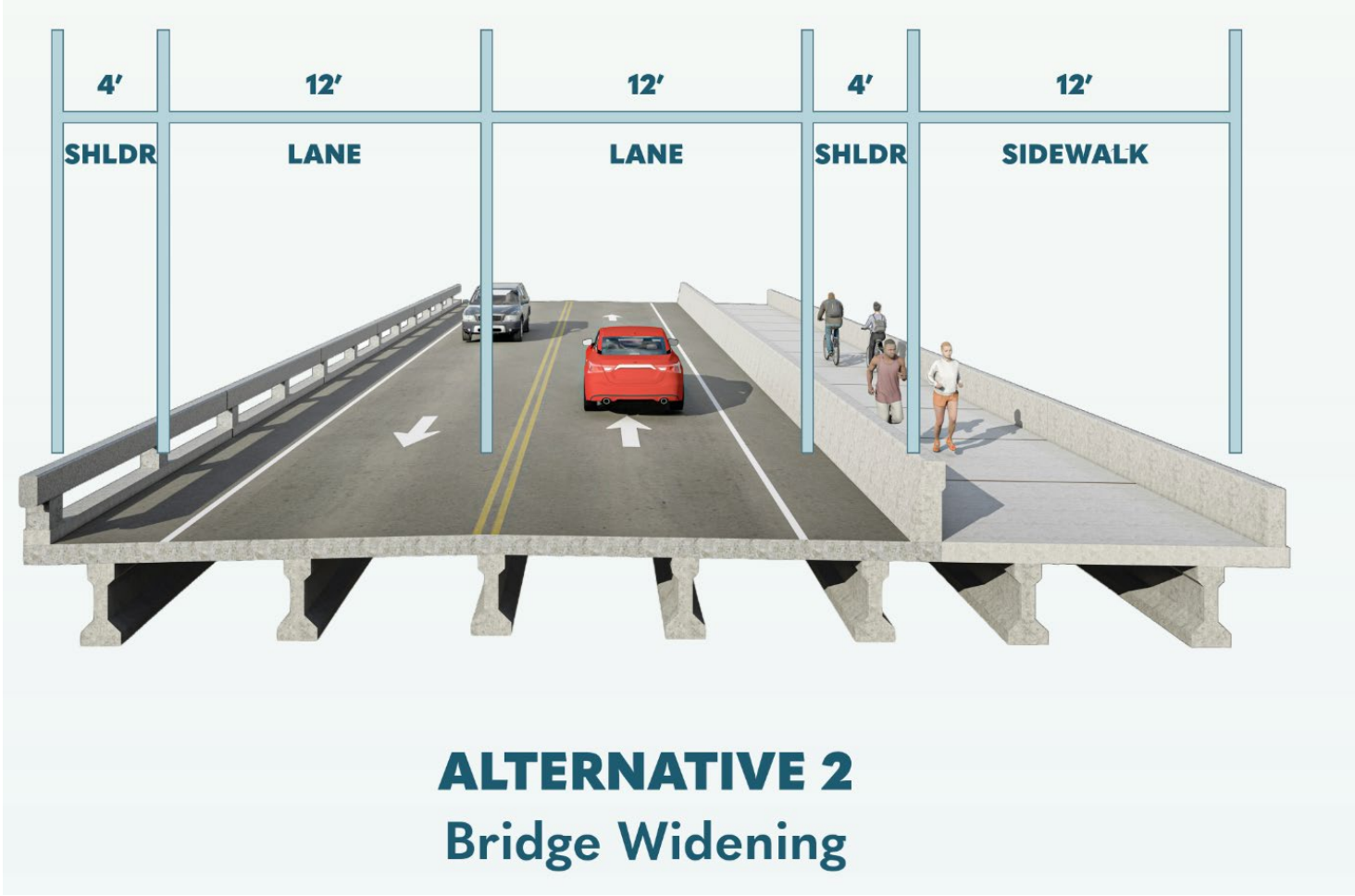


Alternative 1 – Cantilevered Deck Panels



Estimated Construction Cost **$0.75 million**

Alternative 2 – Bridge Widening



Estimated Construction Cost **$2.92 million**

Alternative 3 – Separate Trail Bridge



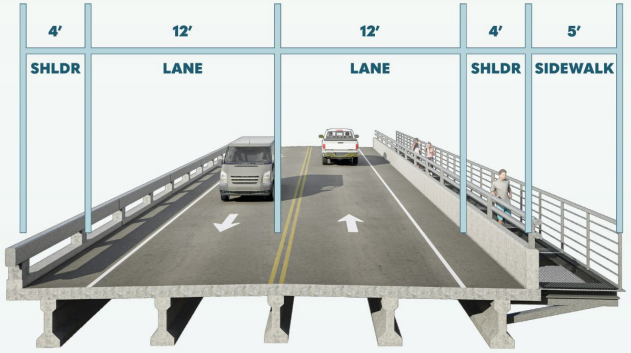
ALTERNATIVE 3
Separate Multi-Use Trail Bridge



Estimated Construction
Cost **$4.30 million**

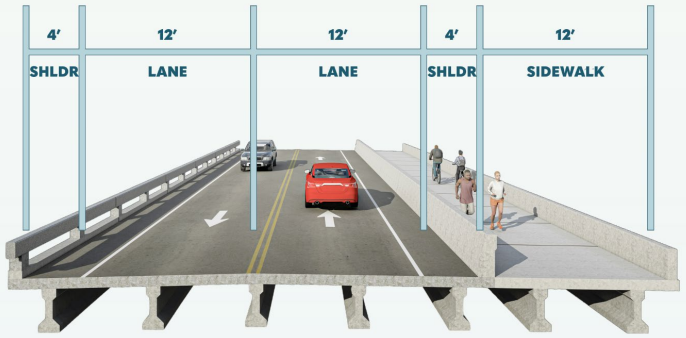
Ochlockonee River – Trail Crossing Alternatives

RECOMMENDED ALTERNATIVE



ALTERNATIVE 1
Cantilever Bridge Deck Panels

Estimated Construction Cost **$0.75 million**



ALTERNATIVE 2
Bridge Widening

Estimated Construction Cost **$2.92 million**



ALTERNATIVE 3
Separate Multi-Use Trail Bridge

Estimated Construction Cost **$4.30 million**

ORCHARD POND GREENWAY

Evaluation Matrix

PROJECT IMPACTS

PROJECT GOALS	No-Build	Alternative A	Alternative B (Recommended)
Improve Pedestrian and Bicyclist Safety	No	Yes	Yes
Expand and Connect Regional Trail Networks	No	Yes	Yes
Increase Recreational Opportunities	No	Yes	Yes
Meets SUN Trail Requirements	No	No	Yes
Maintain Equestrian Accommodations Between Trailheads	No	Yes	Yes
SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC EFFECTS			
Number of Business Relocations	0	0	0
Number of Residential Relocations	0	0	0
Number of Affected Parcels	0	1	1
Additional Right-of-Way Needed	0	0.88 Acres	1.84 Acres
CULTURAL RESOURCES EFFECTS			
Number of Archaeological/Historic Sites	0	2	2
Number of Section 4(f) Sites	0	1	1
NATURAL RESOURCES EFFECTS			
Wetland Impact Area	0	0.10 Acres	0.16 Acres
Protected Species within Study Area	0	0	0
PHYSICAL RESOURCE EFFECTS			
Number of Potential Contamination Sites	0	0	0
PERMITTING			
Permitting Difficulty (Low/Medium/High)	None	Low	Low
COST ESTIMATE ($ MILLIONS)			
Engineering (Plans and Permitting)	$0.00	$0.84	$0.67
Construction*	$0.00	$7.03	$5.58
Construction Engineering and Inspection (CEI)	$0.00	$0.70	$0.56
Right-of-Way Acquisition	$0.00	$0.03	$0.06
Total Cost Estimate	**$0.00**	**$7.80 - $9.50**	**$6.20 - $7.60**

* Includes Cantilevered Bridge Alternative

*All Build Options Include Cantilevered Bridge Deck Panel Alternative

ORCHARD POND GREENWAY

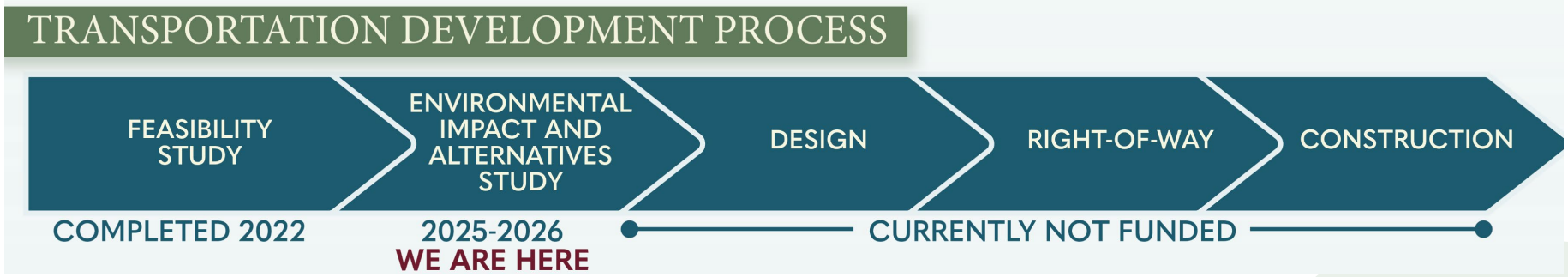
Community Engagement

- Online Survey (100+ responses)
- Stakeholder Meetings
  - Property Owners
  - Trail User Groups
  - Board Members
- Public Alternatives Meeting – June 4, 2026, at Lake Jackson Community Center
- Public Meeting (Recommended Alternative) – November 9, 2026, at Lake Jackson Community Center
- Deliverables: Comments and Coordination Report (Includes all public engagement activities, notifications, comments, responses, attendance, and exhibits)



Next Steps

- CRTPA Board Approval – November 23, 2026
- Submit NEPA documentation to FDOT (Type 1 CE Checklist) including the following:
  - Preliminary Engineering Report
  - Bridge Technical Memorandum
  - Drainage Report
  - Contamination Screening Evaluation Report (CSER)
  - Natural Resources Evaluation (NRE)
  - Sociocultural Effects Evaluation (SCEE)
  - Section 4(f) Exemption documentation
  - Traffic Technical Memorandum
  - Cultural Resources Assessment Survey (CRAS)
  - Comments and Coordination Report
- CRTPA to apply for SUN Trail Design Funding





THANK YOU

Financial Project Identification Number 455411-1