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LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate

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House

Floor: 3/AD/2R

04/23/2019 12:08 PM

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Senator Lee moved the following:

1           **Senate Substitute for Amendment (979880) (with title**  
2 **amendment)**

3  
4           Delete lines 133 - 268

5 and insert:

6           (k) Protection or enhancement of primary springs protection  
7 zones and farmland preservation areas designated within local  
8 comprehensive plans adopted under chapter 163.

9           (2) The program is composed of all of the following  
10 corridors:

11           (a) Southwest-Central Florida Connector, extending from



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12 Collier County to Polk County.

13 (b) Suncoast Connector, extending from Citrus County to  
14 Jefferson County.

15 (c) Northern Turnpike Connector, extending from the  
16 northern terminus of the Florida Turnpike northwest to the  
17 Suncoast Parkway.

18 (3) (a) Projects undertaken in the corridors identified in  
19 subsection (2) are tolled facilities and approved turnpike  
20 projects that are part of the turnpike system, and are  
21 considered as Strategic Intermodal System facilities.

22 (b) During the project development phase, the department  
23 shall identify opportunities to accommodate or colocate multiple  
24 types of infrastructure-addressing issues, such as those  
25 identified in subsection (1), within or adjacent to the  
26 corridors.

27 (c)1. During the project development phase, the department  
28 shall utilize an inclusive, consensus-building mechanism for  
29 each proposed multi-use corridor identified in subsection (2).  
30 For each multi-use corridor identified in subsection (2), the  
31 department shall convene a corridor task force composed of  
32 appropriate representatives of:

33 a. The Department of Environmental Protection;

34 b. The Department of Economic Opportunity;

35 c. The Department of Education;

36 d. The Department of Health;

37 e. The Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission;

38 f. The Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services;

39 g. The local water management district or districts;

40 h. A local government official from each local government



41 within a proposed corridor;

42 i. Metropolitan planning organizations;

43 j. Regional planning councils; and

44 k. Other appropriate conservation or community not-for-  
45 profit organizations as determined by the department.

46 2. The secretary of the department shall appoint the  
47 members of the respective corridor task forces by August 1,  
48 2019.

49 3. Each corridor task force shall coordinate with the  
50 department on pertinent aspects of corridor analysis, including  
51 accommodation or colocation of multiple types of infrastructure,  
52 addressing issues such as those identified in subsection (1),  
53 within or adjacent to the corridor.

54 4. Each corridor task force shall evaluate the need for,  
55 and the economic and environmental impacts of, hurricane  
56 evacuation impacts of, and land use impacts of, the related  
57 corridor as identified in subsection (2).

58 5. Each corridor task force shall hold a public meeting in  
59 accordance with chapter 286 in each local government  
60 jurisdiction in which a project within an identified corridor is  
61 being considered.

62 6. To the maximum extent feasible, the department shall  
63 adhere to the recommendations of the task force created for each  
64 corridor in the design of the multiple modes of transportation  
65 and multiple types of infrastructure associated with the  
66 corridor. The task force for each corridor may consider and  
67 recommend innovative concepts to combine right-of-way  
68 acquisition with the acquisition of lands or easements to  
69 facilitate environmental mitigation or ecosystem, wildlife



70 habitat, or water quality protection or restoration. The  
71 department, in consultation with the Department of Environmental  
72 Protection, may incorporate those features into each corridor  
73 during the project development phase.

74 7. The Southwest-Central Florida Connector corridor task  
75 force shall:

76 a. Address the impacts of the construction of a project  
77 within the corridor on panther and other critical wildlife  
78 habitat and evaluate in its final report the need for  
79 acquisition of lands for state conservation or as mitigation for  
80 project construction; and

81 b. Evaluate wildlife crossing design features to protect  
82 panther and other critical wildlife habitat corridor  
83 connections.

84 8. The Suncoast Connector corridor task force and the  
85 Northern Turnpike Connector corridor task force shall evaluate  
86 design features and the need for acquisition of state  
87 conservation lands that mitigate the impact of project  
88 construction within the respective corridors on:

89 a. The water quality and quantity of springs, rivers, and  
90 aquifer recharge areas;

91 b. Agricultural land uses; and

92 c. Wildlife habitat.

93 9. Each corridor task force shall issue its evaluations in  
94 a final report that must be submitted to the Governor, the  
95 President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of  
96 Representatives by October 1, 2020.

97 10. The department shall provide affected local governments  
98 with a copy of the applicable task force report and project



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99 alignments. Not later than December 31, 2023, a local government  
100 that has an interchange within its jurisdiction shall review the  
101 applicable task force report and its local comprehensive plan as  
102 adopted under chapter 163. The local government review must  
103 include consideration of whether the area in and around the  
104 interchange contains appropriate land uses and natural resource  
105 protections and whether the comprehensive plan should be amended  
106 to provide such appropriate uses and protections.

107 (4) (a) Project construction in any corridor identified in  
108 subsection (2) is not eligible for funding until submission of  
109 the final report of the corridor task force for that corridor  
110 required in subsection (3) and completion of 30 percent of the  
111 design phase of any project within a corridor identified in  
112 subsection (2), except for project phases that are under  
113 construction or for which project alignment has been determined.

114 (b) Subject to the economic and environmental feasibility  
115 statement requirements of s. 338.223, projects may be funded  
116 through turnpike revenue bonds or right-of-way and bridge  
117 construction bonds or financing by the Florida Department of  
118 Transportation Financing Corporation; by advances from the State  
119 Transportation Trust Fund; with funds obtained through the  
120 creation of public-private partnerships; or any combination  
121 thereof. The department also may accept donations of land for  
122 use as transportation rights-of-way or to secure or use  
123 transportation rights-of-way for such projects in accordance  
124 with s. 337.25. To the extent legally available, any toll  
125 revenues from the turnpike system not required for payment of  
126 principal, interest, reserves, or other required deposits for  
127 bonds; costs of operations and maintenance; other contractual



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128 obligations; or system improvement project costs must be used to  
129 repay advances received from the State Transportation Trust  
130 Fund.

131 (c)1. Projects undertaken under this section are subject to  
132 the department's delegated responsibilities under s. 334.044(34)  
133 for environmental review, consultation, or other action required  
134 under any federal environmental law applicable to review or  
135 approval of such projects. For projects that do not receive  
136 federal aid or projects that do not require federal action, the  
137 department must perform a project evaluation that considers the  
138 following:

- 139 a. Project purpose and need;
- 140 b. An alternatives analysis;
- 141 c. Existing conditions of the project area and potential  
142 impacts or enhancements the project may have on social,  
143 economic, cultural, natural, and connectivity issues and  
144 resources;
- 145 d. Anticipated permits identified during the project  
146 development and environmental study;
- 147 e. Opportunities for stakeholder and regulatory agency  
148 coordination; and
- 149 f. Public and agency comments and coordination.

150 2. At a minimum, for projects constructed under this  
151 section, decisions on matters such as corridor configuration,  
152 project alignment, and interchange locations must be determined  
153 in accordance with applicable department rules, policies, and  
154 procedures.

155 3. To the greatest extent practical, corridor  
156 configuration, project alignment, and interchange locations



157 shall be designed so that project rights-of-way are not located  
158 within conservation lands acquired under the Florida  
159 Preservation 2000 Act as established in s. 259.101, and the  
160 Florida Forever program as established in s. 259.105.

161  
162 ===== T I T L E A M E N D M E N T =====

163 And the title is amended as follows:

164 Delete lines 32 - 47

165 and insert:

166 Legislature by a specified date; requiring the  
167 department to provide affected local governments with  
168 a copy of the applicable task force report and project  
169 alignments; requiring a local government that has an  
170 interchange within its jurisdiction to review the  
171 applicable task force report and its local  
172 comprehensive plan by a specified date; providing  
173 requirements for the local government review;  
174 providing specified requirements that must be met  
175 before project construction in any identified corridor  
176 is eligible for funding; providing exceptions to such  
177 requirements; authorizing sources of funding for the  
178 projects; authorizing the department to accept certain  
179 donations of land for the projects; requiring that  
180 certain toll revenues from the turnpike system be used  
181 to repay advances received from the State  
182 Transportation Trust Fund; providing requirements for  
183 the department relating to certain delegated  
184 responsibilities; requiring the department to perform  
185 a specified project evaluation on certain projects;



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186 requiring that certain decisions on projects be  
187 determined in accordance with applicable department  
188 rules, policies, and procedures; providing design  
189 requirements for corridor configuration, project  
190 alignment, and interchange locations; authorizing the