## Project Location Map



## Scope of Work

The Belleair Road (County Road 464) Multimodal Improvement Project includes the addition of raised medians to slow traffic, dedicated left turn lanes to reduce traffic back-ups and rear-end collisions, and a trail connection from the Duke Energy Trail to Eagle Lake Park and the City of Largo's trail system. A feasibility study was completed in 2019 by HNTB which included transportation needs and upcoming drainage projects. As part of the current design phase, Fiscal Years 2023 to 2025, we are refining the proposed alternatives with the community and cities of Clearwater and Largo for a best fit for this corridor while increasing the safety of all modes of travel. Pinellas County asks to for the construction phase to be considered for the Multimodal priority Project list to be eligile for state and federal funding recources. Construction will be Fiscal Years 2026 to 2028.

## Project Location

Belleair Road is an east/west roadway from South Fort Harrison Ave/Clearwater Largo Road North to US 19 in Pinellas County. The road is somewhat a dividing line between the City of Largo to the south and City of Clearwater to the north. The Belleair Road right-of-way is owned and maintained by Pinellas County.

This project for Belleair Road is the two miles from Keene Road (County Road 1) to US 19. It is a two-lane undivided roadway with sidewalks on both sides of the road with a speed limit of 35mph. There are three signals within the project, Keene Road, Belcher Road and US 19 frontage roads. US 19 is elevated with at grade frontage roads and ramps. The two closest US 19 interchanges are Whitney Road to the south and Seville Blvd to the north. Therefore, Belleair Road has additional traffic due to its access to US 19.


The Duke Energy Trail runs north/south within the Duke Energy Corridor north of Belleair Road and then along the north side of Belleair Road between the corridor and US 19. The only trail crossing of Belleair Road is at US 19. Trail parking is available on the north side of Belleair Road. Trail users from the communities to the west and south cross Belleair Road between traffic gaps to avoid additional travel to US 19 and back just to cross the road.

Although the roadway volumes are high, it leads directily to a highway interchange, and the right-of-way is 100 -feet in width, the mature trees located from Havana Drive to the Pinellas

Trail have constrainded the roadway to remain only one-lane in each direction. The trees are within the clear zone of the roadway and guardrail has been installed on both sides of the road. A photo of the mature trees is on the cover of this application.

Pinellas County completed an intersection improvement project at Belleair Road and Belcher Road in 2018. Additional turn lanes where added and an 8 -foot wide sidewalk on the north side of the road approximately 550 feet west and 480 feet east of Belcher Road.

## Feasibility Study

The 2019 multimodal feasiblity study suggests replacing the remaining sidewalk on the northside of Belleair Road with a wide multiuse path and connecting to the Belcher Road intersection project where possible. Medians between the two travel lanes will slow traffic by narrowing the asphalt path and providing areas for pedestrian refuge areas for mid-block crosswalks. All mid-block crossings would have Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacons in key locations. Dedicated left-turn lanes will reduce the traffic back-ups and rear-end collisions.


## Forward Pinellas

Forward Pinellas identified Belleair Road, from US 19 to Belcher Road, as a segment warranted for further study to provide information on trends and conditions of the County's multimodal transportation system including crash locations, duration of congestion, transit quality of service, and other considerations. Additionally, Belleair Road from Keene Road to US 19, is identified as a Policy Constrained Road due to environmentally sensitive areas (old growth trees) along the corridor, in the Pinellas County Comprehensive Plan.

## Ability of the Project to Meet the Goals of the Program

With an increasing population of both residents and tourists within Pinellas County and more specifically, the Mid County area, the need for safe multimodal options has become a top priority. Additionally, Pinellas County has been making strides in developing local and regional trails that can be enjoyed by residents and visitors alike. These trails not only provide another transportation mode choice, but they promote recreation, improved health, sense of place, and community connectivity. These corridor improvements will directly support the existing and proposed land-use that benefit from transit-supported mix-use growth. The following are goals with this multimodal project:

- Increased safety for pedestrians, bicyclists, and motorists
- Improved transit accessibility
- Improved local mobility for non-motorized modes of transportation
- Local and regional trail connectivity
- Improved non-motorized accessibility to local destinations
- Neighborhood connectivity and community cohesiveness
- Economic value via increased patronage for nearby businesses
- Improved corridor aesthetics


## Improve Safety

The need for corridor improvements to preserve safety for users can be demonstrated through both observations and data trends. Currently, pedestrian and bicyclists using the Duke Energy Trail routinely cross at unmarked midblock locations to access the south sidewalk. This movement is unprotected, leaving the patrons exposed to vehicular traffic. The two-lane roadway with no side street turn lanes creates traffic backups, particularly in the peak hour. The queuing of traffic and the waiting to turn from a travel lane increases rear-end crashes.

## Enhance Equitable Outcomes

A one-mile screening indicates a population density of 3,899 people per square mile with a $17 \%$ minority population. The per capita income is just over $\$ 35,000$, and $24 \%$ of the population is considered low income. The population is half male and half female, and the predominant age is 18 to 65 years. Over $70 \%$ of the housing is owner occupied, whereas nearly $30 \%$ is renter occupied. The home quality varies throughout the corridor, but the economic home value generally increases in the west part of the corridor as compared to the eastern part.

## Improve Mobility

The goal of the project is to develop feasible context-sensitive solutions to improve corridor safety, operational efficiency, and multimodal mobility as well as identify other corridor wide needs that may be included for development of the project into the capital improvement program (CIP). The project will look at the needs of pedestrians, bicyclists, motorists, and transit riders. Connections to transit will be enhanced to PSTA Route 62 on Belcher from

Tyrone Square Mall to The Shoppes of Boot Ranch and to PSTA Route 19 on US 19 from Largo Transit Center to Tarpon Springs.

## Foster Economic Growth

The corridor and shared use path connections are intended to improve mobility and regional accessibility which will benefit the local neighborhoods, service workers, as well as the public. Furthermore, the corridor improvements are intended to improve economic vitality and assist in connecting the adjacent communities.

## Protect the Environment

The major environmently factors for the Belleair Multimodal Improvement Project are the mature trees lining the roadway and the stormwater treatment and water quality. The sidewalk, trail and roadway design will include their protection.

## Improve Resiliency

Pinellas County has a department dedicated to sustainability and resiliency to maximize our resources efficiently while ensuring long-term solutions are implemented to address economic,
 environmental, and social challenges.

## Countywide Significance of the Project

Opportunities exist to provide both local and regional connectivity that would close a shared use path gap from the Duke Energy Trailhead located west of US 19 to Eagle Lake Park located along Keene Road, Clearwater. With a direct connection to US 19, Belleair Road is not only used by the adjacent neighborhoods and school, but other drivers use it daily to get to other areas in the County.

## Project Readiness

This project is in the Fiscal Years 2023 through 2028 Pinellas County Capital Improvement Plan for $\$ 15,700,000$.

Project Coordination and Support
Public Works Construction Management will manage the project through construction.









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> BELLEAIR ROAD

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lanes, curb and shoulder are mirrored at eastern leg


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## Belleair Road Multimodal Improvement Project

Project Limits from Keene Road to US 19

## Existing 100-foot right-of-way




