

Krome Avenue Improvements

Services Provided:

NEPA Documentation & Environmental Studies

Client: FDOT District 6 / Marlin Engineering

Location: Miami-Dade County, FL

DESCRIPTION OF WORK:

The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) is proposing improvements to Krome Avenue between Kendall Avenue and Tamiami Trail to address safety concerns and traffic demands. The improvements will result in an expansion of the roadway from its current two-lane design to a four-lane divided roadway to meet current safety and design standards.

CECOS was contracted to prepare and acquire the environmental permits for this project. The land cover in the project area is predominantly undeveloped and includes wetlands, agriculture and industrial land uses. The project involved acquisition of right of way and impacts to approximately 54 acres of wetlands, which required compensatory mitigation. The habitat in the project area supports several state-listed threatened and endangered species including the Eastern indigo snake, Florida panther, West Indian manatee, wood stork, and several other species.

The permitting effort required a SFWMD Environmental



Resource Permit, a SFWMD Right-of-Way Occupancy permit, and a USACE Dredge and Fill permit. As part of the permitting process, CECOS was responsible for delineating and mapping the wetland jurisdictional boundaries using a submeter GPS unit in conjunction with Geographic Information Systems (GIS) analysis and aerial photo-interpretation. CECOS was responsible for preparing the permit applications, responding to any Requests for Additional Information (RAIs), identifying mitigation options, calculating mitigation credits through UMAM and WATER assessment methods, conducting a wood stork functional assessment to define wood stork mitigation credits, and conducting agency coordination.

This project is located approximately one mile from Everglades National Park (ENP). The Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan (CERP) Seepage Management Project and the USACE Modified Water Deliveries Project are aimed at improving water flows into the ENP. Both projects are located in close proximity to the project and CECOS took the lead role in coordinating several meetings involving state and federal agencies to address CERP-related concerns. These meetings ensured that any new developments in CERP or other projects were incorporated into the project plans as early as possible.

