




Figure 1
First Tier or “Fatal Flaw” Evaluation

	EXISTING 2-LANE UNDIVIDED ROADWAY	3-LANE ROADWAY WITH CONTINUOUS CENTER TURN LANE	5-LANE ROADWAY WITH CONTINUOUS CENTER TURN LANE	4-LANE DIVIDED HIGHWAY WITH CONCRETE MEDIAN	4-LANE DIVIDED HIGHWAY WITH WIDE GRASSY MEDIAN
					
Does alternative serve existing traffic? ¹	NO	NO	YES	YES	YES
Does alternative serve future traffic? ^{1,2}	NO	NO	YES	YES	YES
Is alternative consistent with MnDOT’s Access Management Manual? ³	NO	NO	NO	YES	YES
Is alternative consistent with MnDOT’s goal for Interregional Corridors? ⁴	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES
Does alternative address the risk of head-on collisions? ⁵	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES
Continue to study?	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES

¹ The capacity of a roadway is the volume of traffic that can be accommodated before the speed and flow of traffic breaks down. Many factors influence a roadway’s capacity, including the number of lanes and the number of interruptions or improvements to the traffic flow (e.g., signalized intersections, number of access points, turn lanes, bypass lanes). The following table compares existing daily traffic volumes between Greenway and Karmel with the capacity of each roadway alternative:

Existing Traffic	2-Lane Divided	3-Lane	5-Lane	4-Lane Divided
13,900 to 19,400	12,000 to 16,000	17,000	32,600	30,000 to 36,000

Source: MnDOT, Florida DOT

² Preliminary analysis regarding future traffic volumes suggest that a 4-lane, divided roadway would meet long-term capacity needs.

³ Continuous center turning lanes allow vehicles to turn anywhere in the corridor, which is inconsistent with MnDOT’s Access Management Manual for Interregional Corridors.

⁴ The primary goal for Interregional Corridors is to enhance the economic vitality of the state by providing safe and timely and efficient movement of goods and people.

⁵ Center turn lanes would not prevent vehicles traveling at high speeds from entering a lane of oncoming traffic. Concrete medians would not provide sufficient protection from this occurrence.