Richard Stephens -
Partner / Principal Scientist
S&S Environmental
Consultants, LLC

Bonita Estero Rail Trail (BERT)- Environmental Investigation Update

July 21, 2026 - Phase I ESA for the Bonita Estero Rail Trail (BERT) Lee and Collier Counties, Florida

September 18, 2026 - Phase II ESA for the Bonita Estero Rail -Trail (BERT) Lee and Collier Counties, Florida

- 180 soil samples from 60 locations
- 69 soil samples from 23 locations in the Village of Estero



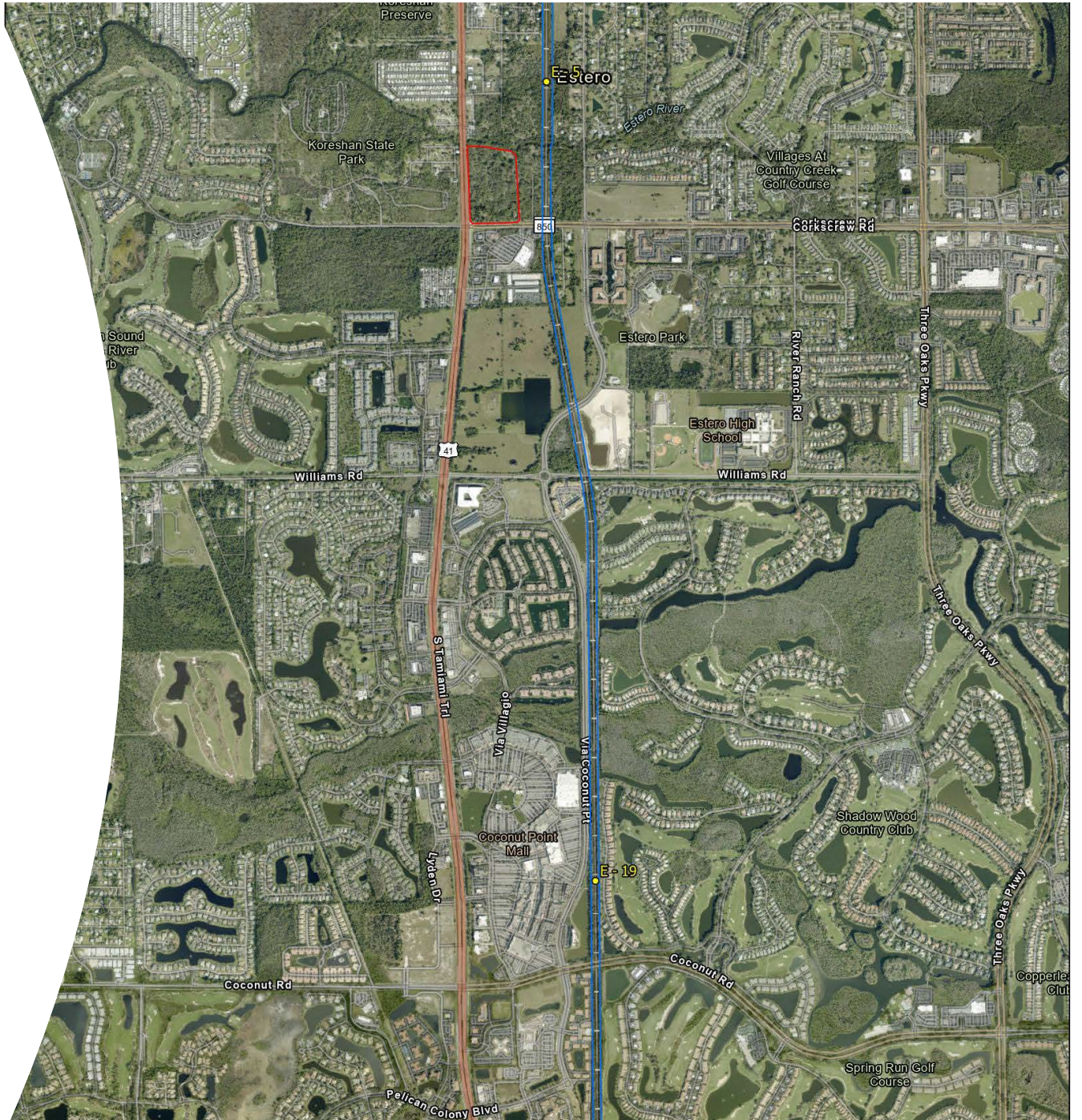
Soil samples were analyzed for Arsenic, Lead, PAHs, and Total Recoverable Petroleum Hydrocarbons (TRPHs)

Sample results were compared for the FDEP Soil Cleanup Target Levels (SCTLs: 62-777 F.A.C).

- Residential Direct Exposure
- Industrial / Commercial Direct Exposure
- Alternative SCTLs for Recreation Use will be developed

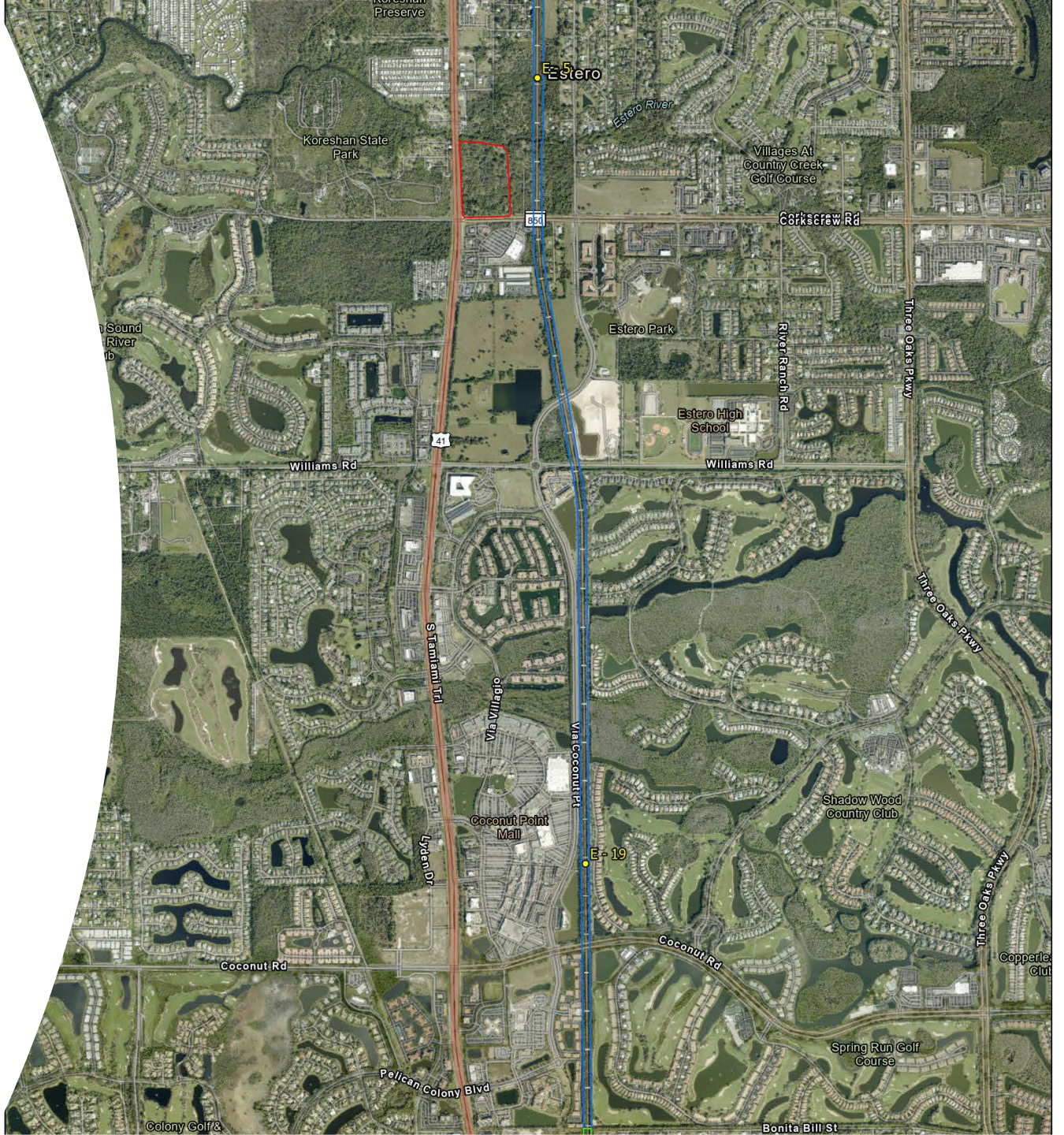
Results:

- No exceedances for Lead and TRPHs
- Two locations exhibited exceedances for Arsenic and PAHs - Supplemental Sampling



October 6 – 9, 2026 – Supplemental Soil Assessment

- Supplemental Soil assessment at 2 locations
  - Sample step outs
  - Boundary samples
- Background Soils



October 15, 2026 – Capping and Soil Management Plan

- Engineering Controls:
  - Asphalt/Concrete Cap (Trail Tread)
  - Clean Soil Cap (Shoulders/Flanks)
  - Fencing
- Institutional Controls



Next Steps

- Submit Data to FDEP and UF (ongoing) for the development of the appropriate ASCTLs.
- Additional sampling (if required by FDEP/UF for development of the ASCTLs)
- Further development of the Soil Capping and Soil Management Plan

Thank You

