

RON DESANTIS GOVERNOR 719 South Woodland Boulevard DeLand, Florida 32720 JARED W. PERDUE, P.E. SECRETARY

January 9, 2023

Subject:

Virtual and In-Person Public Hearing

State Road (S.R.) 401 Bridge Replacement

Project Development & Environment (PD&E) Study

Brevard County

Financial Project Identification (FPID) No.: 444787-1

Efficient Transportation Decision Making (ETDM) No. 14397

Dear Property Owner:

The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) invites you to a public hearing regarding the State Road (S.R.) 401 Bridge Replacement PD&E Study on Tuesday, January 31, 2023 (Virtual), and Wednesday, February 1, 2023 (In-Person), at 5:30 p.m.

The purpose of this study is to evaluate the three existing S.R. 401 bridges over the Canaveral Barge Canal and develop and analyze alternatives for replacement of the bridges while minimizing potential impacts to the natural and human environments. More details are available in the attached project handout. The hearing is being conducted as part of the PD&E Study to give interested persons an opportunity to express their views concerning the location, conceptual design, and social, economic, and environmental effects of the proposed improvements.

The Department is offering multiple ways for the community to participate in the hearing. All participants, regardless of which platform they choose, will receive the same information.

- Virtual Option: Interested persons may join from a computer, tablet, or mobile device on Tuesday, January 31, 2023, at 5:30 p.m. For this option, advance registration is required by visiting https://bit.ly/sr401hearing. Once registered, participants will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the hearing online. Please use Chrome or Microsoft Edge as your internet browser to register and attend. The virtual hearing will open at 5:30 p.m. as an open house to allow participants to view the hearing materials prior to the presentation. The presentation will begin promptly at 6:00 p.m., followed by a formal public comment period. If joining online, please allow adequate time to log in to view the presentation in its entirety.
- Phone Option (Listen Only): Participants may listen to the hearing on Tuesday, January 31, 2023, at 5:30 p.m. by dialing 562-247-8422 and entering the passcode 748-375-195 when prompted.
- In-Person Option: Participants may attend in person by going to Canaveral Port Authority, 445 Challenger Road, Cape Canaveral, FL 32920 on Wednesday, February 1, 2023, at 5:30 p.m. A map of the hearing location is included on the attached newspaper ad. The in-person hearing location will open the doors at 5:30 p.m. to allow participants to view the hearing materials prior to the presentation. The presentation will begin promptly at 6:00 p.m., followed by a formal

public comment period. If attending in person, please remember to follow all safety and sanitation guidelines. If you are feeling unwell, please consider attending the hearing virtually or by phone.

All hearing materials, including the presentation, will be available on the project website at www.cflroads.com/project/444787-1 prior to the hearing. In addition, a hard copy of the draft project documents will be available for public review from Tuesday, January 10, 2023, to Saturday, February 11, 2023, at the Cape Canaveral Public Library, 201 Polk Avenue, Cape Canaveral, FL 32920 from 12:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Monday, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Tuesday through Thursday, or 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Saturday.

FDOT is sending notices to all property owners and tenants located within at least 300 feet on either side of the proposed alignment and to other public officials, regulatory agencies, organizations, and individuals interested in the project. The hearing will give participants an opportunity to provide input during the formal public comment period. While comments about the project are accepted at any time, persons wishing to submit written statements, in place of or in addition to oral statements, may do so at the hearing or by sending them to the FDOT Project Manager at the contact information provided below. All statements postmarked on or before Saturday, February 11, 2023, will be included in the public hearing record.

Public participation is solicited without regard to race, color, national origin, age, sex, religion, disability, or family status. Persons wishing to express their concerns relative to FDOT compliance with Title VI may do so by contacting Melissa McKinney, FDOT District Five Title VI Coordinator, at Melissa.McKinney@dot.state.fl.us.

Persons who require special accommodations under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) or persons who require translation services (free of charge) should contact David Graeber at 386-943-5392 or David.Graeber@dot.state.fl.us at least seven (7) days prior to the hearing. If you are hearing or speech impaired, please contact us by using the Florida Relay Service, 1-800-955-8771 (TDD) or 1-800-955-8770 (Voice).

The environmental review, consultation, and other actions required by applicable federal environmental laws for this project are being, or have been, carried out by FDOT pursuant to 23 U.S.C. §327 and a Memorandum of Understanding dated May 26, 2022, and executed by the Federal Highway Administration and FDOT.

If you have any questions or comments about the project or the scheduled public hearing, please contact me by phone at 386-943-5392, by email at David.Graeber@dot.state.fl.us, or U.S. mail at Florida Department of Transportation, 719 S. Woodland Boulevard, MS 501, DeLand, Florida 32720.

Sincerely,

David Graeber

FDOT Project Manager

Attachments: S.R. 401 Bridge Replacement PD&E Study Project Information Handout S.R. 401 Bridge Replacement Newspaper Ad with Public Hearing Location Map



S.R. 401 Bridge Replacement PD&E Study

from S.R. 528 to north of the Canaveral Barge Canal

Brevard County

Financial Project Identification (FPID) No.: 444787-1



Project Description

The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) is conducting a Project Development and Environment (PD&E) study to evaluate improvements to the State Road (S.R.) 401 bridges from S.R. 528 to north of the Canaveral Barge Canal.

The purpose of this study is to develop and analyze alternatives for improving the bridges to address access, future mobility, congestion, and safety needs. S.R. 401 provides a vital connection to Port Canaveral's operations including major cruise and cargo terminals. The S.R. 401 bridges also serve as the primary access to U.S. Space Force Station, Naval Ordinance Test Unit, U.S. Coast Guard facilities, and Space Florida operations.

Four alternatives were considered for the S.R. 401 Bridges:

- No Build (assumes no improvements would be made)
- High-Level Fixed Bridge
- Mid-Level Lift Bridge
- Mid-Level Bascule Bridge (Drawbridge)

Existing physical, natural, social, and environmental features within the study limits were surveyed in detail and taken into consideration during the PD&E study. Following the preliminary analysis, the Department identified and refined the preferred alternative, the High-Level Fixed Bridge.

Project Status and Estimated Costs*

PD&E Study:

Ongoing: Completion 2023

\$ 2 Million

Design:

Begin Spring 2023, Completion 2024

\$ 2 Million

Right of Way:

Unfunded

Construction:

Unfunded

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*subject to change

Contact:

David Graeber FDOT Project Manager 386-943-5392 David.Graeber@dot.state.fl.us

S.R. 401 Bridge Replacement PD&E Study

from S.R. 528 to north of the Canaveral Barge Canal Financial Project Identification (FPID) No.: 444787-1

PD&E Study Alternatives

No Build Alternative

The no build alternative assumes that no improvements would be made to the three existing parallel bascule bridges (drawbridges) on S.R. 401. One of the existing bridges is for northbound traffic, and two bridges for southbound traffic. Each bridge provides:

- 12-foot-wide travel lanes
- Minimum 2-foot-wide shoulders
- 25-foot vertical clearance over the Canaveral Barge Canal
- 90-foot horizontal clearance (distance between the bridge fenders)

S.R. 401 Bridge Build Alternatives

The build alternatives analyzed during the PD&E study would provide two bridges with three 12-foot-wide travel lanes in each direction and 5 to 10-foot wide inside and outside shoulders. The horizontal clearance for the build alternative bridges is 90 feet. The build alternatives included a Fixed Bridge Alternative, a Lift Bridge Alternative, and a Bascule Bridge (Drawbridge) Alternative.

S.R. 401 Bridge Preferred Alternative Evaluation

Environmental considerations and possible impacts associated with the project are important elements of the study. In addition to engineering and traffic considerations, the study team evaluated the potential physical, natural and social project effects of the build alternatives and coordinated with local project stakeholders to determine the preferred alternative for this project.

Based on our evaluation, the High-Level Fixed Bridge Alternative, illustrated to the right, will address access, future mobility, congestion, and safety needs of the area, and result in the least physical, natural and social effects. The preferred alternative meets the project purpose and need while minimizing potential impacts to the natural and human environments. Features of the preferred alternative include:

- Two high-level fixed bridges
- 65-foot vertical clearance
- 6% maximum roadway grade





at 5:30 p.m. Where:

Virtually on GoTo Webinar

February 1, 2023

- By phone at 562-247-8422 with passcode 748-375-195
- In person at Canaveral Port Authority 445 Challenger Road Cape Canaveral, FL 32920

Financial Project Identification (FPID) No. 444787-1

State Road (S.R.) 401 Bridge Replacement Project Development & Environment (PD&E) Study, Brevard County

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For more information or to submit written statements, in place of or in addition to crat statements, please contact FDOT Project Manager David Graeber at 386-943-5392, by email at David Graeber @dot.state.fl.us, or U.S. mail at Florida Department of Transportation, 719 S. Woodland Boulevard, MS 501, Det.and, Florida 32720. All statements postmarked on or before Saturday, February 11, 2023, will be included in the public hearing record.

