

Right of Way Acquisition and Relocation

The FDOT has developed a Right-of-Way (ROW) and Relocation Program in accordance with Florida Statutes, Section 339.09, and the Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Act of 1970. Brochures describing the FDOT's relocation assistance and ROW acquisition program will be available during the hearing. The brochures are entitled:

- Residential Relocation: Under the Florida Relocation Assistance Program
- Relocation Assistance: Businesses, Farms, and Non-Profit Organizations
- Relocation Assistance Program: Personal Property Moves
- The Real Estate Acquisition Process

FDOT ROW representatives will be available to answer questions at the hearing or you may contact the FDOT ROW staff via phone at: (888) 638-0250.

What Happens Next

The PD&E Study for the segment of Crawfordville Highway from East Ivan Road to the Leon County Line is scheduled to be complete this spring. Final Design will continue until winter of 2015. Construction is unfunded at this time.

Contact

For More Information Contact:

April Williams, P.E.
FDOT Project Manager

Project Development Engineer

Phone: Toll-free (888) 638-0250, ext. 1625

Email: april.williams@dot.state.fl.us

Ian Satter

District Three Public Information Director

Phone: Toll-free (888) 638-0250, ext. 1205

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The Florida Department of Transportation complies with various non-discrimination laws and regulations, including Title VI and Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended. This hearing is being held to give all interested persons the right to understand the project and comment on their concerns to the FDOT. Public participation is solicited without regard to race, color, national origin, age, sex, religion, disability, or family status. Persons wishing to express concerns about Title VI and/or Title VIII may do so by contacting John Smith, Florida Department of Transportation District Three Title VI Coordinator, at 1074 Highway 90, Chipley, Florida 32428, Toll-free at (888) 638-0250, ext. 1520, or via email at john.smith@dot.state.fl.us. You may also contact Jacqueline Paramore, Florida Department of Transportation State Title VI Coordinator, Equal Opportunity Office, at 605 Suwannee Street, MS 65, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0450, (850) 414-4753, or via email at jacqueline.paramore@dot.state.fl.us.

Draft study documents will be available for public review at the hearing and during regular business hours from January 29 through March 6, 2015 at the following locations:

Wakulla County Library

4330 Crawfordville Highway
Crawfordville, Florida
(850) 926-7415

Tuesday: 9 a.m. – 8 p.m.
Wednesday: 9 a.m. – 6 p.m.
Thursday: 9 a.m. – 8 p.m.
Friday: 9 a.m. – 6 p.m.
Saturday: 9 a.m. – 1 p.m.
Sunday/Monday: CLOSED

Wakulla County Administration Building

3093 Crawfordville Highway
Crawfordville, Florida
(850) 926-0919

Monday – Friday: 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.
Saturday/Sunday: CLOSED



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State Road (S.R.) 61 / S.R. 369 (U.S. 319), Crawfordville Highway



Project Development & Environment (PD&E) Reevaluation

February 2015

from S.R. 30 (U.S. 98) to the Leon County Line, Wakulla County
Financial Project Identification Number (FPID): 220496-2-22-01

Reevaluation Public Hearing Scheduled

The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) in coordination with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) is conducting a public hearing to provide the public with an opportunity to express their views on the location, conceptual design, and social, economic and environmental effects of the proposed improvements.

In addition, FDOT is specifically requesting your comments on the proposed impacts to the Edward Ball Wakulla Springs State Park. The original PD&E study, conducted in 1996, evaluated alternatives for widening approximately 16 miles of the existing Crawfordville Highway from State Road (S.R.) 30 (U.S. 98) to the Leon County line in Wakulla County.

Since 1996 some portions of this project have been reevaluated. This Public Hearing will briefly address the status of the overall study corridor, but will provide more detailed information about proposed improvements to the section of Crawfordville Highway from East Ivan Road to the Leon County Line.

Funding is currently available to advance this 4.6 mile long segment to final design and to acquire right-of-way.

During the informal portion of the hearing, FDOT representatives are available to discuss the project, answer questions, and receive your comments.

Conceptual plans, reports, and other supporting materials are available for your review. A court reporter is also available to receive your comments. FDOT will make a formal presentation at 7 p.m., followed by public comments.

Share Your Comments

Those wishing to comment may do so in one of the following ways:

- Complete a "Speaker Card", available at the sign-in table and make an oral statement at the microphone during the formal portion of the hearing.
- Make an oral statement to the court reporter during the informal portion of the hearing.
- Email your comments to April Williams, P.E., Project Manager april.williams@dot.state.fl.us
- Complete a comment form (or compose a letter) and drop it in the comment box provided, or mail your written comments to the address below:
April Williams, P.E.
FDOT Project Manager
1074 Highway 90
Chipley, Florida 32428

All comments must be postmarked no later than Monday, March 6, 2015, to become part of the official hearing record.

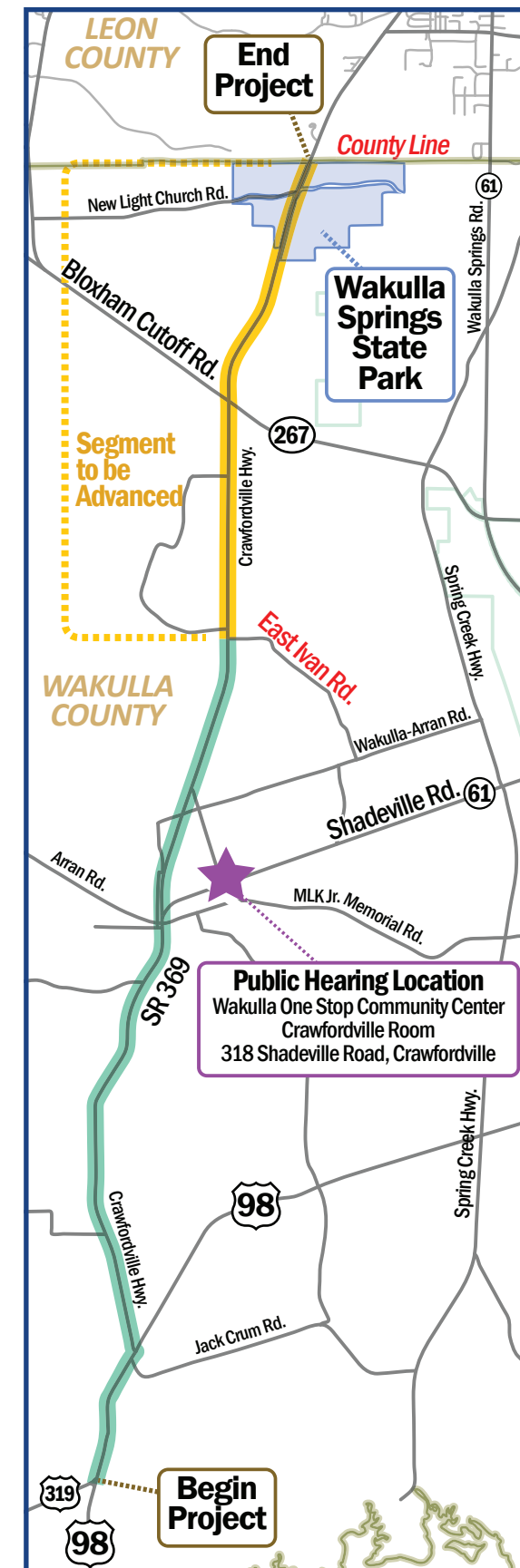
Agenda

Date: Thursday, February 19, 2015

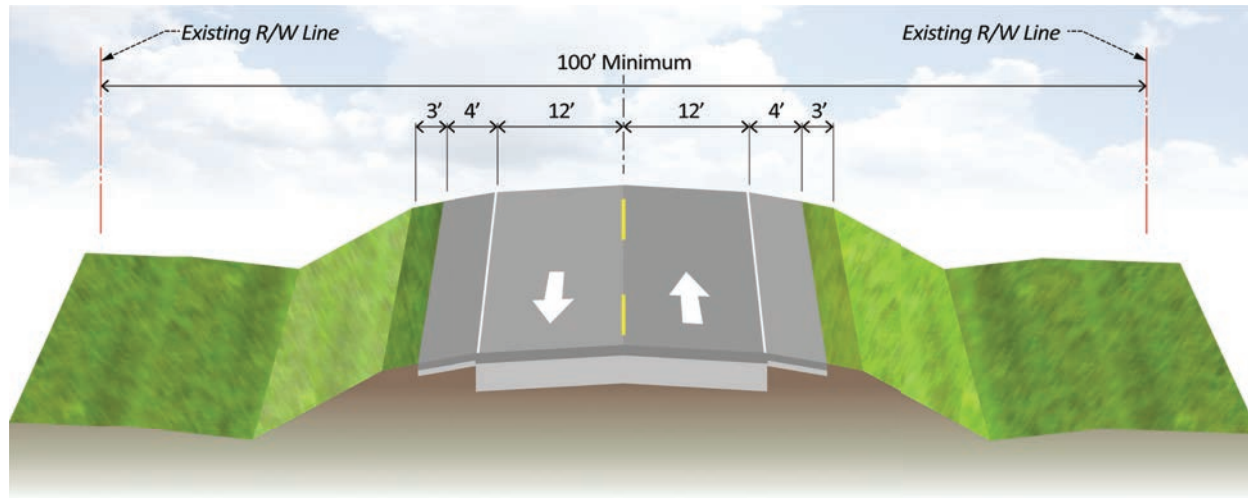
Time: 6:30 p.m. EST: Informal Open House

7 p.m. EST: Formal Presentation & Public Comments

Place: Wakulla One Stop Community Center
Crawfordville Room
318 Shadeville Road
Crawfordville, Florida 32327



Existing Roadway Crawfordville Highway, between East Ivan Road and the Leon County Line is currently a two (2)-lane, undivided, rural roadway with 12-foot travel lanes and four (4)-foot outside paved shoulders in most areas. The existing right-of-way is approximately 100-feet wide. The posted speed limit is 55 mph. The existing typical section is shown below.



Need for Improvement

The proposed improvements to Crawfordville Highway are needed to:

- Improve mobility and traffic circulation
- Relieve traffic congestion
- Improve pedestrian and bicycle connectivity

No-Build Alternative

The No-Build Alternative would consist of routine maintenance only. No major widening or other major improvements would be constructed. The No-Build Alternative is considered to be a “viable alternative” for the duration of the study.

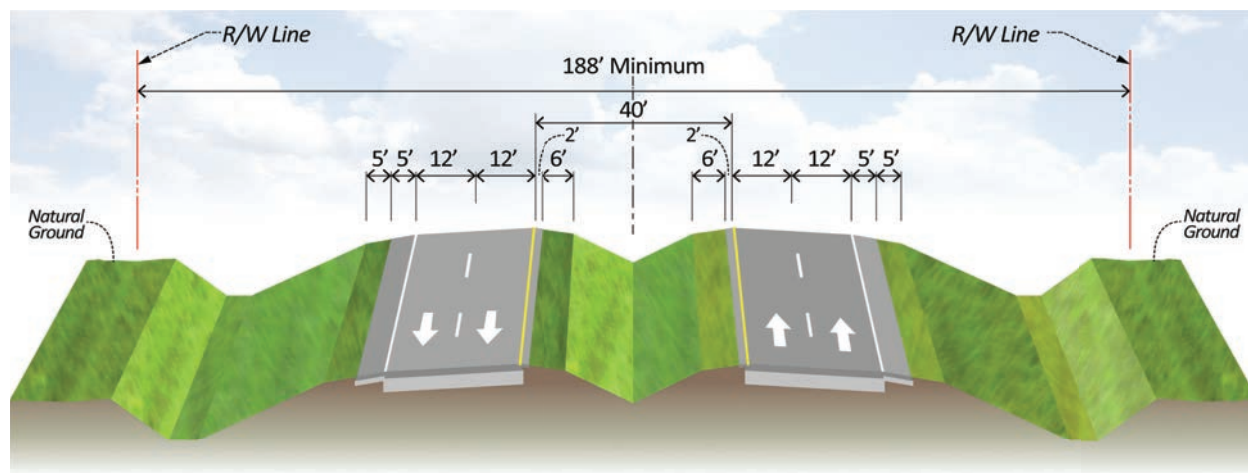
Evaluation of Alternatives

The proposed Build Alternative was evaluated and compared to the No-Build Alternative. Key factors considered included:

- Community input
- Impacts to adjacent property
- Impacts to historic structures and recreational lands
- Impacts to wildlife and habitat, and wetlands
- Construction impacts and costs
- The need for bicycle lanes and sidewalks
- The need for safe and efficient transportation

Proposed Improvements: Recommended Build Alternative

The Recommended Alternative for this section of Crawfordville Highway is a four-lane, divided, rural roadway with two 12-foot travel lanes and five (5)-foot paved outside shoulders in each direction. The proposed right-of-way will be a minimum of 188-feet. The proposed posted speed limit is 55 mph. The proposed typical section is shown below.



Project Impacts

The Recommended Alternative will meet future traffic and safety needs and have minimal impacts on the community and environment. Approximately 160 acres of additional right-of-way will be acquired for the proposed roadway widening and construction of storm water facilities. Other unavoidable impacts include:

- Approximately 1.5 acres of wetlands will be impacted.
- 47.9 acres of Edward Ball Wakulla Springs Park property will be impacted.
- Potential relocation of 15 residences and eight (8) businesses.
- Temporary air and noise impacts will occur during construction.
- Minor impacts to a historic site, eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places, are unavoidable.

Impacts to the Edward Ball Wakulla Springs State Park Property

Since the original PD&E study, the State Park bought a 1000 acre parcel of land, known as the River Sinks parcel, located within the project limits.

This area provides recreational opportunities including hiking, bicycling, and scuba diving. This park property is protected by Section 4(f) of the US Transportation Act of 1966.

Accordingly, mitigation to offset the unavoidable impacts to 47.9 acres of park property is required. The proposed project will not directly impact the existing River Sinks Trail or the facilities at Emerald Sink.

Access to all recreational areas will be maintained; however, the entrance road to the River Sinks Trail will be realigned. To offset these impacts, the following mitigation is proposed.

Wakulla Springs State Park Proposed Mitigation:

- Disturbed land, not paved or used for stormwater ponds, will be planted with native plants.
- Improvements will be made to the River Sinks Trail parking area, or the parking area for the trail will be relocated further east off of CJ Spears Road.
- Improved signage to direct visitors to the parking area will be installed.
- A gate will be installed at the parking lot entrance.
- The storm water ponds will not be fenced.

Please provide your comments concerning the proposed State Park impacts and proposed mitigation.

