



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

ATLANTIC ISLES AT WEST OF STATE ROAD (SR) A1A (BRIDGE NO. 874218) PROJECT DEVELOPMENT AND ENVIRONMENT (PD&E) STUDY IN THE CITY OF SUNNY ISLES BEACH, MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA

FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT NUMBER: 430029-2

EFFICIENT TRANSPORTATION DECISION MAKING (ETDM) NUMBER: 14413

NEWSLETTER #3 - PUBLIC HEARING - SPRING 2024



OVERVIEW

The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT), District Six, is conducting a Project Development and Environment (PD&E) Study for the Atlantic Isle Lagoon (Bridge No. 874218). The project limits extend the full length of Atlantic Avenue between the intersections with Atlantic Isles.



PURPOSE AND NEED & PROJECT GOALS

The purpose of the project is to address the structural and functional deficiencies of the existing bridge in order to provide a safe and functional route for the surrounding community and traveling public. The project goals are to minimize environmental impacts, minimize effects to significant cultural resources, enhance safety, and improve mobility.



BRIDGE DEFICIENCIES & PROJECT AREA

The most recent bridge inspection performed on September 29, 2023, reported that the bridge has a health index of 60.39, sufficiency rating of 40.9, and is functionally obsolete. The bridge health index measures the overall condition of a bridge, with 0 being the worst and 100 for the best possible health. A health index below 85 generally indicates that repairs are needed, although it doesn't mean the bridge is unsafe.

A sufficiency rating is a tool that is used to help determine whether a bridge with structural deficiencies should be repaired or just replaced. Bridges with a sufficiency rating of less than 50 are eligible for federal funding for replacement. Since this bridge has a sufficiency rating of 40.9, it is eligible for federal funding.

Functionally obsolete means that a bridge does not meet current design standards.

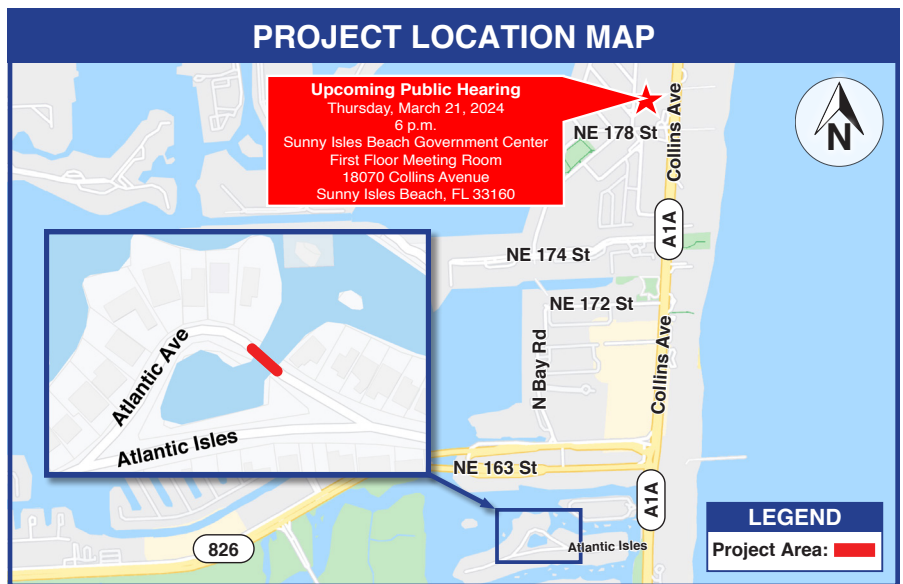


SCHEDULE

The study is anticipated to be complete in Summer 2024. The Design phase begins once the study is complete and funding is available.

It is anticipated construction could begin as early as 2025 or 2026.

Construction is currently funded for 2028.



STAY INFORMED

For more information please contact Community Outreach Specialist Monica Diaz at (305) 640-8122 or via email at monica@iscprgroup.com.

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UPCOMING PUBLIC HEARING

The hearing will be held on March 21, 2024 starting at 6 p.m. FDOT is offering two ways to participate in the hearing. Interested persons may join virtually from a computer, tablet, or cell phone, or they may participate in person.

Attend in Person:

Sunny Isles Beach Government Center
First Floor Meeting Room
18070 Collins Avenue
Sunny Isles, FL 33160

Attend Virtually:

Register online at: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/4331197740550899806>
Participants can also call in (audio only) by dialing (562) 247-8422; access code: 905-880-793

The purpose of this public hearing is to share information with the public about the proposed improvements; conceptual design; alternatives considered; and the potential beneficial and adverse social, economic, and environmental impacts to the community. The public hearing also serves as an official forum for members of the public to express their opinions or concerns regarding the project.

PD&E Documents are available for public review at the following locations:

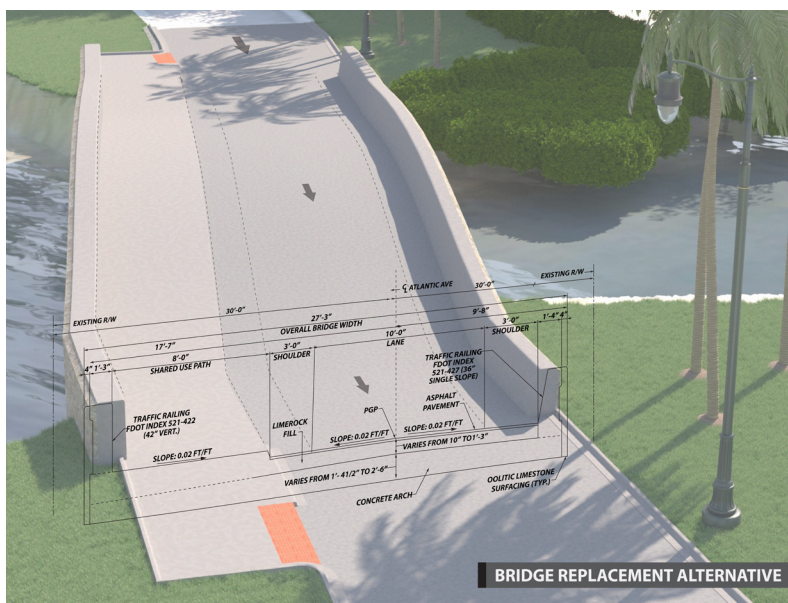
City of Sunny Isles Beach Government Center — 18070 Collins Ave, Sunny Isles Beach, FL 33160
Project Website: www.southfroads.com/atlanticislesbridge

PROJECT STATUS

The PD&E study began in 2019. Throughout the study the Project Team has conducted alternatives analysis with input from the public, affected parties, and agencies. Alternatives were developed and evaluated based on the ability of each to meet the project's Purpose and Need. A screening methodology was used to identify viable alternatives. Qualitative and quantitative criteria were established to evaluate each viable alternative's impacts to the natural, social, cultural, and physical environment, as well as costs and constructibility. The Preferred Alternative was selected based on input from the agencies and stakeholders and the results of the alternatives analysis. Public involvement meetings have taken place throughout this process. Information on each public involvement meeting is provided in the project website at: <https://www.fdotmiamidade.com/atlanticislesbridge>.

PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE

The Preferred Alternative consists of replacing the entire bridge to address existing structural and functional deficiencies, enhance operations, and remove load restrictions. The existing bridge would be demolished, and the new bridge would be constructed at the same location to minimize overall environmental impacts. The replacement alternative would maintain the 10-ft-wide one-way travel lane as it occurs today, but to bring the bridge up to the current design criteria, 3-ft-wide shoulders and concrete railings would be added. In addition, a raised, 8-ft-wide shared use path has been added to separate bicyclists and pedestrians from motorized traffic. The planters would not remain as they do not meet current safety criteria. The major disadvantage to this alternative is that the historical bridge is gone. The new bridge facade would mimic the existing historical bridge to the greatest extent possible. The City of Sunny Isles Beach and its Historical Preservation Board will provide input on the new bridge's aesthetics during the Design Phase.



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 FHWA and FDOT. FDOT encourages public participation without regard to race, color, national origin, age, sex, religion, disability or family status.



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