



NEWSLETTER NO. 10 MAY 2021

VENETIAN CAUSEWAY PD&E STUDY

FM NO. 422713-2-22-01

EFFICIENT TRANSPORTATION DECISION MAKING NO. (ETDM): 12756



CONTACT INFORMATION:

Dat Huynh, P.E.

District Planning and Environmental Administrator
Florida Department of Transportation – District Six

Adam Leigh Cann Building
1000 NW 111 Avenue, Room 6111A
Miami, Florida 33172

Phone: (305) 470-5201; Fax: (305) 470-5205

E-Mail: dat.huynh@dot.state.fl.us

www.fdotmiamidade.com/VenetianBridgeStudy

This newsletter is dedicated to project public outreach activities for the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) District Six Project Development & Environmental (PD&E) Study to examine the potential rehabilitation or replacement of the twelve existing bridges that comprise the Venetian Causeway.

Purpose and Need

The purpose of the proposed project is to address identified structural and functional deficiencies of the twelve existing bridges (ten low-level fixed spans and two movable bascules), through potential alternatives such as no-build, replacement or rehabilitation.

Class of Action Determination

In October 2016, the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) agreed the Venetian Causeway project is eligible to proceed under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). In November 2016, the FHWA approved an Environmental Assessment (EA) Class of Action for the project.

National Environmental Policy Act NEPA Assignment – Effective 12/14/2016

Pursuant to 23 United States Code (U.S.C) 327, the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) has assumed Federal Highway Administration's (FHWA) responsibilities under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) for highway projects on the State Highway System (SHS) and Local Agency Program (LAP) projects off the SHS. In general, FDOT's assumption includes all highway and roadway projects in Florida whose sources of federal funding comes from FHWA or which constitute a federal action through FHWA. This includes responsibilities for environmental review, interagency consultation and other regulatory compliance-related actions pertaining to the review or approval of NEPA projects. Therefore, whereas FHWA was previously identified as the Lead Federal Agency, this function is now served by FDOT with approval authority resting in the Office of Environmental Management (OEM).

Project Status

The Project Development and Environmental (PD&E) study began in 2014 and is working toward completion in 2021. 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 the viable alternatives for additional study. After further study, the viable alternatives were evaluated to compare and contrast the performance of each in meeting the established evaluation criteria, and to quantify its impacts to the natural, social, cultural, and physical environment. Numerical ratings for specific and relevant qualitative and quantifiable criteria included a direct comparison of each of the alternatives such that the Preferred Alternative could be identified. Several public involvement meetings have taken place throughout this process. Information on each of public involvement meetings is provided in the project website at <http://fdotmiamidade.com/venetianbridgestudy>.

Cooperating Agencies

The Venetian Causeway PD&E Study is being conducted by the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) in conjunction with Miami-Dade County (MDC) Department of Transportation and Public Works (DTPW). The study is performed in cooperation with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) and the United States Coast Guard (USCG).

Upcoming Meeting

Public Hearing

May 2021						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

Date: Tuesday, May 11, 2021
Time: 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.
Meeting Type: Hybrid Meeting (virtual and in-person)
In-Person Location: Miami Beach Botanical Garden, 2000 Convention Center Drive, Miami Beach, Florida 33139

To attend the Virtual Public Hearing online:

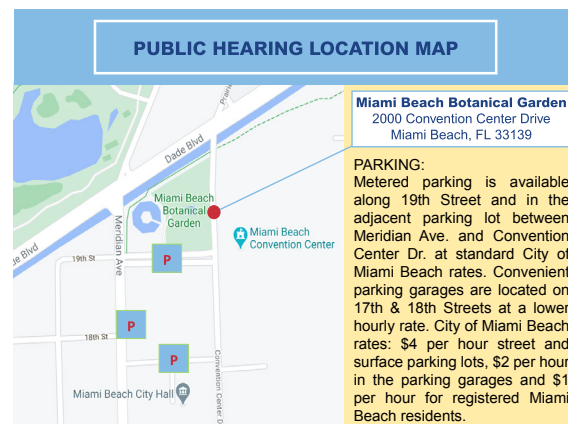
Join the meeting from your computer, tablet, or smartphone by visiting this link:

<https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/338192325>

Participants can also dial in using their phone:

+1 (646) 749-3122, Access Code: 338-192-325

The purpose of this public hearing is to share information with the general public about the proposed improvement; its conceptual design; all alternatives under study; and the potential beneficial and adverse social, economic, and environmental impacts upon the community. The public hearing also serves as an official forum providing an opportunity for members of the public to express their opinions regarding the project.



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

- **Miami Beach Regional Library:**
 - Address: 227 22nd Street, Miami Beach, Florida 33139
 - Telephone: 305.535.4219
 - Hours of Operations: Monday – Thursday 9:30 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.; Friday – Sunday 9:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.
- **Culmer/Overtown Branch Library:**
 - Address: 350 NW 13th Street, Miami, Florida 33136
 - Telephone: 305.579.5322
 - Hours of Operations: Monday – Thursday 9:30 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.; Friday & Saturdays 9:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.
- **FDOT District 6 Office and On the Project Website:**
 - Address: 1000 NW 111th Avenue, Miami, Florida 33172
 - Telephone: 800-435-2368
 - Hours of Operations: Monday – Friday 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
- **Online:** www.fdotmiamidade.com/VenetianBridgeStudy

Preferred Alternative

Fixed Bridge Alternative 7 - Arched Beams



Movable Bridge Alternative M4 - Double Leaf Bascule Bridge



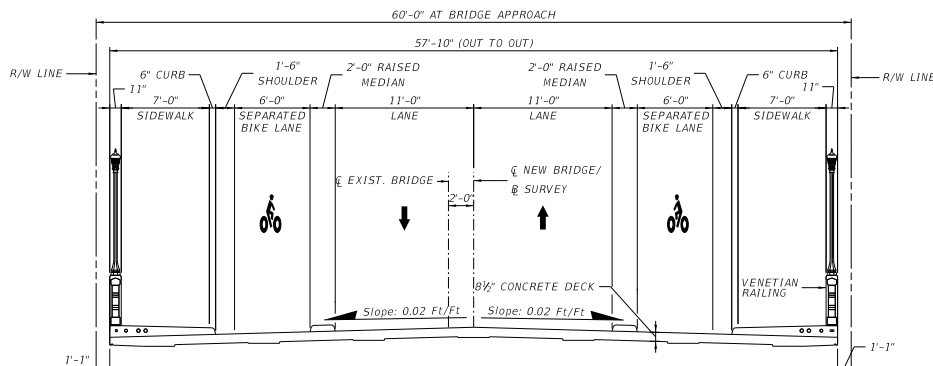
Typical Sections

A two-lane undivided roadway typical section was developed for the project. This typical section consists of one 11ft. lane in each direction separated by a double yellow line at the center of the roadway, 7 ft. bicycle lanes, curb and gutter with 8 ft. sidewalks on each side and the Venetian Railing.



Alternate Typical Section – Separated Bike Lane

This alternate typical section is only feasible if Miami-Dade County’s Department of Transportation and Public Works implements separated bike lanes on the roadway portions of the causeway.



BRIDGE TYPICAL SECTION - SEPARATED BIKE LANE ALTERNATIVE
(FIXED BRIDGES 2-9, 11 AND 12)

COVID-19 Guidelines

The Public Hearing will employ a hybrid format that combines in-person and virtual meeting attendance due to COVID-19 guidelines. The in-person meeting venue will be large enough to maintain social distancing and accommodate attendees, staff, and law enforcement personnel as they interact with the meeting materials and each other. The virtual meeting feature will have telephone dial-in and virtual GoToMeeting capabilities in order to accommodate individual preferences and needs. The venue requires all attendees to wear a face mask. Public comments and questions can be provided before, during and up to 10 days after the meeting on May 21, 2021. The public hearing will be recorded and made as part of the public record. The meeting will be available via:

- Meeting Call-In Number: **+1 (646) 749-3122, Access Code: 338-192-325**
- Virtual GoToMeeting link: <https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/338192325>.

Non-Discrimination Laws And Regulations

Public participation is solicited without regard to race, color, national origin, age, sex, religion, disability or family status. Persons who require special accommodations under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) or persons who require translation services (free of charge) should contact Mr. Nicholas Danu, P.E., at 305-470-5219 or in writing at the Florida Department of Transportation, District Six, 1000 NW 111 Avenue, Room 6111-A, Miami, Florida 33172 or by e-mail at nicholas.danu@dot.state.fl.us at least seven days prior to the meeting.

Para Pregunta En Español

Si usted tiene preguntas o comentarios o si simplemente desea más información sobre este proyecto, favor de ponerse en contacto con la Señora Tasha Cunningham, al teléfono (305) 335-8466 o por correo electrónico a tasha@thebrandadvocates.com.

For More Information On The Venetian Causeway PD&E Study please contact:

Dat Huynh, P.E.
District Planning and Environmental Administrator
Florida Department of Transportation – District Six
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1000 NW 111 Avenue, Room 6111
Miami, Florida 33172
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You can also find information about the project online by visiting <http://fdotmiamidade.com/venetianbridgestudy>