



# U.S. 98 Public Hearing

## Project Development & Environment Study

from Portside Drive in Santa Rosa County to Mary Esther Boulevard in Okaloosa County

Financial Project IDs:  
220426-2-22-01  
220196-2-22-01



The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) is conducting a public hearing regarding the Project Development and Environment (PD&E) Study to provide interested persons the opportunity to review the analysis findings and to receive input on the Recommended Alternative and safety improvements.

The project extends from Portside Drive in Santa Rosa County to Mary Esther Boulevard in Okaloosa County, 24.5 miles. This study is evaluating roadway safety, access management features, the efficiency of intersection operations, and bicycle and pedestrian facilities along the corridor. Access management changes along U.S. 98 include modifying, closing, and creating new median openings. The project includes an evaluation of environmental impacts and anticipated *de minimis* finding (minimal impact) under Section 4(f) of the U.S. Department of Transportation Act. The hearing will begin in an open house format at 5:30 p.m. CST, with a formal presentation at 6:30 p.m., followed by a public comment period.

The intent of this study is to identify alternatives and evaluate the potential environmental, engineering and social impacts. The study also assesses access management modifications, intersection operation efficiency, pedestrian and bicycle safety improvements, and potential interchanges on U. S. 98 at S.R. 87 and S.R. 399. The results of the study will provide FDOT the information necessary to make a decision on the conceptual design of the roadway widening project.

On September 20 & 22, 2016 a Kickoff meeting was held to introduce the study area and receive public input. The feedback received from the public helped the study team to develop roadway widening alternatives and potential intersection improvements.

On October 24 & 26, 2017 an Alternatives meeting was held to present alternatives for the roadway widening between Portside Drive and Mary Esther, the Navarre area, and the City of Mary Esther. Attendees were able to review the alternatives, ask questions, and offer comments.

**The study has investigated the following:**

- Widening the existing facility throughout the project limits.
- Improving the efficiency of intersection operations.
- Improving safety with access management features.
- Providing interchanges at S.R. 87 and S.R. 399.
- Providing sidewalk and bicycle enhancements.

**Agenda**

Open Forum	5:30 - 6:30 p.m.
Public Hearing- Formal presentation followed by a public comment period.	6:30 p.m.

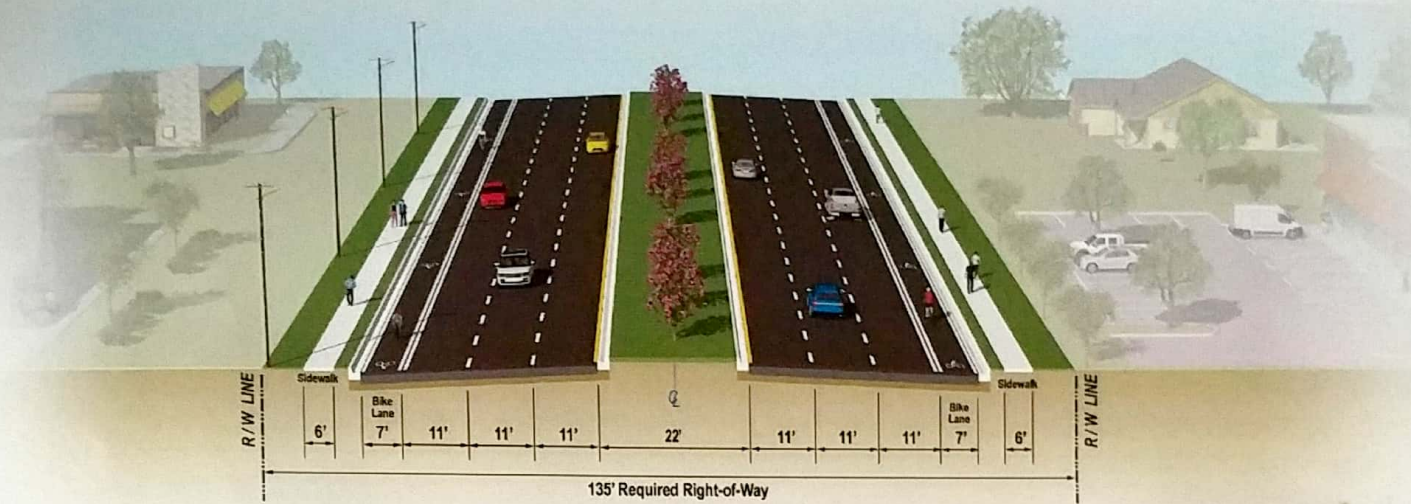
The environmental review, consultation, and other actions required by applicable federal environmental laws for this project are being, or have been, carried-out by FDOT pursuant to 23 U.S.C. § 327 and a Memorandum of Understanding dated December 14, 2016, and executed by FHWA and FDOT.

## Recommended Alternatives

The PD&E Study has evaluated a number of "Build" and "No-Build" alternatives. Based on the engineering, economic, social, cultural, and environmental aspects, as well as public input received throughout the study, Recommended Alternatives have been identified for Portside Drive to the Mary Esther City Limits, the Navarre area, and the City of Mary Esther.

### Portside Drive to Mary Esther City Limits

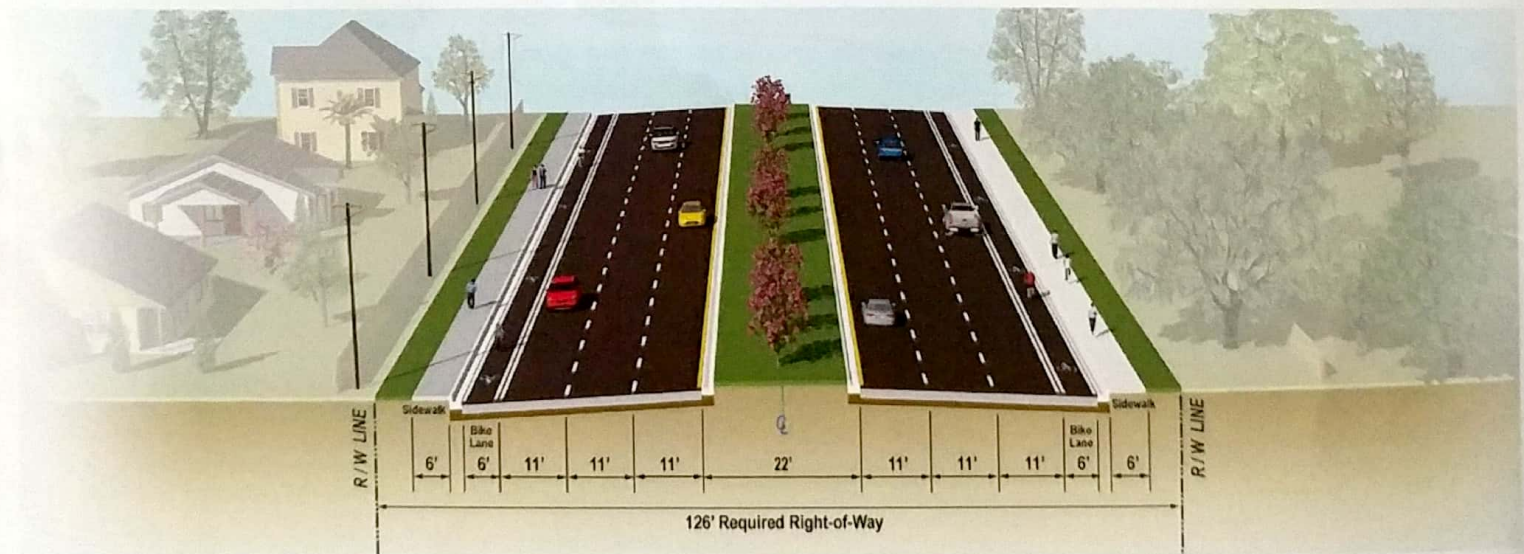
This Recommended Alternative utilizes a standard urban typical section with a design speed of 45 miles per hour (mph) that generally follows the existing U.S. 98 alignment. At the S.R. 87 and S.R. 399 overpass locations, local traffic will be accommodated with a signalized intersection at S.R. 87 and a non-signalized roundabout at S.R. 399.



- Three, 11-foot travel lanes
- 7-foot buffered bicycle lanes
- 6-foot sidewalk
- Curb and gutter
- 22-foot raised grassed median
- 45 mph design speed

### City of Mary Esther

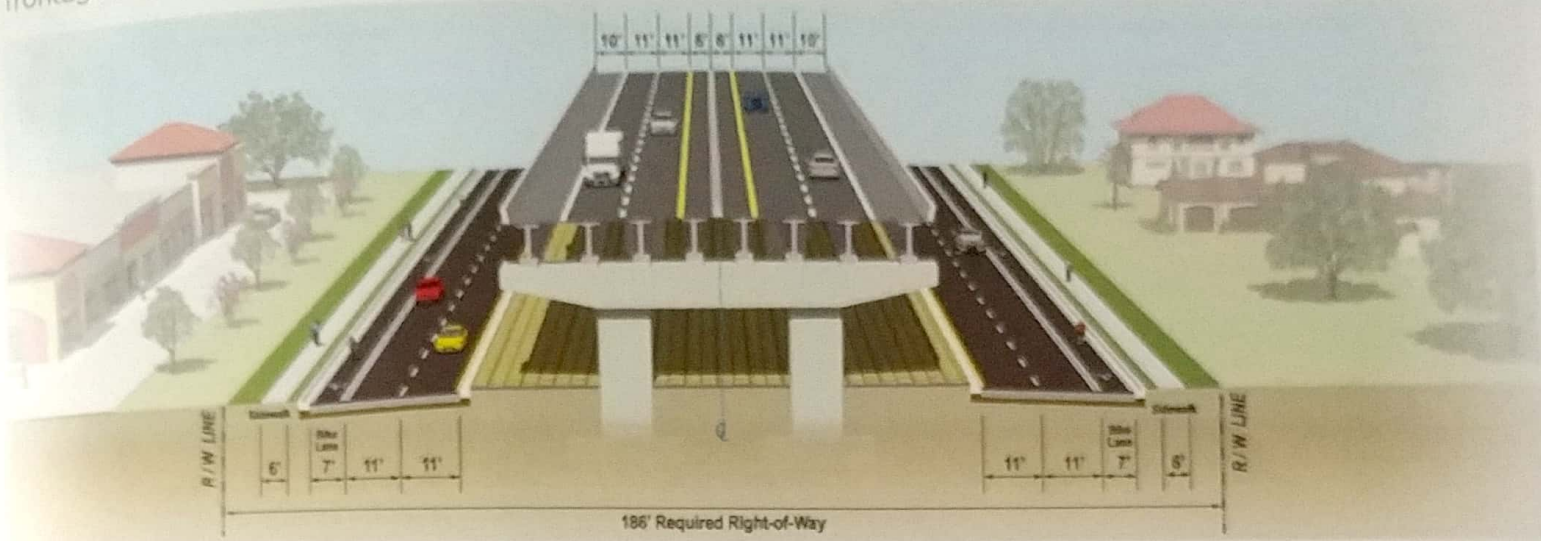
The Recommended Alternative is the 126-foot typical section on a best fit alignment with a design speed of 45 mph. This alternative has substantially less right-of-way impacts, fewer social impacts, and less right-of-way cost. This Alternative impacts Oak Tree Nature Park and a *de minimis* finding (minimal impact) is being pursued.



- Three, 11-foot travel lanes
- 6-foot buffered bicycle lanes
- 6-foot sidewalk
- Curb and gutter
- 22-foot raised grassed median
- 45 mph design speed

## Navarre Area

The Recommended Alternative features an elevated U.S. 98, with interchanges at S.R. 87 and S.R. 399 and a frontage road system to provide access to adjacent properties.



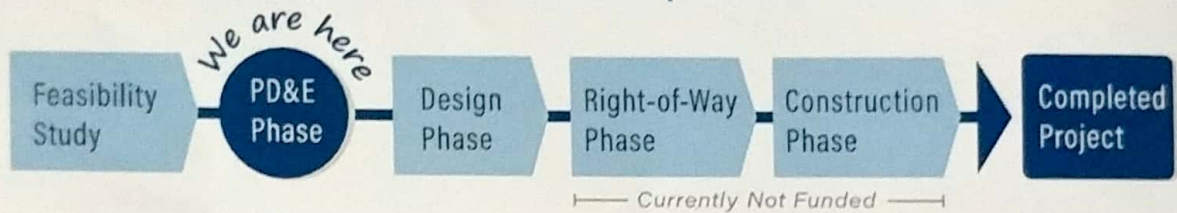
- Four elevated lanes
- Four at-grade lanes
- Roundabout at S.R. 399
- Signalized Intersection at S.R. 87
- 7-foot buffered bicycle lanes
- 6-foot sidewalk



## Project Schedule



## Transportation Development Process



This project is anticipated to be divided into six design / construction segments, four in Santa Rosa County and two in Okaloosa County, see table below for more detailed information.

Phase	Portside Drive to Bergren Rd	Bergren Road to Ramble Bay Lane	Ramble Bay Lane to Ortega Street	Ortega Street to Okaloosa County Line	Santa Rosa County Line to Fallen Waters Dr	Fallen Waters Drive to Mary Esther Blvd
PD&E Study	Underway					
Design	2023	Unfunded	Unfunded	2022	2021	2021
Right-of-way	Unfunded					
Construction	Unfunded					

### Provide Your Comments

Your comments are important. You may submit your comments in one of the following ways:

- Complete a comment form and drop it in the comment box at the hearing, or mail to *Sherry Alaghemand, PE, FDOT Project Manager, 1074 Highway 90 East, Chipley, FL 32428.*
- Email comments to *Sherry.Alaghemand@dot.state.fl.us*
- Complete a speaker card available at the sign-in table and make an oral comment at the microphone during the formal portion of the hearing.
- Make an oral statement directly to the court reporter prior to the formal portion of the hearing.

All comments must be postmarked by **January 25, 2019** to be included as part of the public hearing record.

### FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT:

**Sherry Alaghemand, PE**  
 Project Manager  
 FDOT - District Three  
 1074 Hwy 90, Chipley, Florida 32428  
 Toll-free: 888-638-0250, ext. 1510  
 Sherry.Alaghemand@dot.state.fl.us

**Ian Satter**  
 Public Information Director  
 FDOT - District Three  
 1074 Hwy 90, Chipley, Florida 32428  
 Toll-free: 888-638-0250 ext. 1205  
 Ian.Satter@dot.state.fl.us

[www.nwflroads.com](http://www.nwflroads.com)  
[Facebook.com/MyFDOTNWFL](https://www.facebook.com/MyFDOTNWFL)  
[@MyFDOT\\_NWFL](https://twitter.com/MyFDOT_NWFL)

This meeting is being held without regard to race, color, national origin, age, sex, religion, disability, or family status. For questions or concerns, contact Alicia Bringer, District Three Title VI Coordinator, (888) 638-0250, extension 1502 or via email at [alicia.bringer@dot.state.fl.us](mailto:alicia.bringer@dot.state.fl.us).



## COMMENT FORM

Public Hearing

State Road (S.R.) 30 (U.S. 98)

**Project Development & Environment (PD&E) Study**

Financial Project Identification Numbers: 220426-2-22-01 & 220196-2-22-01

Navarre Conference Center  
8700 Navarre Parkway, Navarre

January 15, 2019

Please provide your comments below. If more space is needed, please use an additional sheet of paper. You may place your comments in the "Comment Box" provided at the meeting, or mail to FDOT Project Manager, Sherry Alaghemand, P.E., at the address listed on the back of this form, by January 25, 2019. E-mailed comments should be submitted to [Sherry.Alaghemand@dot.state.fl.us](mailto:Sherry.Alaghemand@dot.state.fl.us).

Name:

---

Address:

---

City, State, Zip:

---

Phone Number:

---

Email:

---

COMMENTS:

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

Comments received by January 25, 2019 will become part of the official meeting record.