

## Notice of Meeting/Workshop Hearing

### **OTHER AGENCIES AND ORGANIZATIONS**

#### **HNTB**

The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT), District One, is holding a public workshop for the State Road (SR) 758 at Beach Road Intersection Improvements Project Development and Environment (PD&E) study in Siesta Key, Sarasota County, FL. Financial Project ID Number: 434491-1-52-01. FDOT invites all members of the public to attend.

**DATE AND TIME:** Tuesday, March 10, 2015, 5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

**PLACE:** St. Boniface Episcopal Church, 5615 Midnight Pass Road, Sarasota, Florida

**GENERAL SUBJECT MATTER TO BE CONSIDERED:** The workshop is an informal open house where people are welcome to review project displays, view an automated presentation and provide comments to project team members in a one-on-one setting. SR 758 at Beach Road is a signalized “T”-intersection with pedestrian crosswalks across the north and west legs of the intersection. The study will evaluate alternatives to improve multi-modal accessibility at the intersection while maintaining existing vehicular capacity. The department has sent notices to all property owners, business owners and condominium/homeowner associations located near the intersection study limits and others expressing interest in the study.

The workshop is developed in compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and related statutes. FDOT solicits public participation without regard to race, color, national origin, age, sex, religion, disability or family status.

People who require special accommodations under the Americans with Disabilities Act or people who require translation services (free of charge) should contact Aaron Kaster at (863)519-2495 or [aaron.kaster@dot.state.fl.us](mailto:aaron.kaster@dot.state.fl.us) at least seven days prior to the workshop. If you are hearing or speech impaired, please contact the Florida Department of Transportation using the Florida Relay Service, 1(800)955-8771 (TDD) or 1(800)955-8770 (Voice).

For more information about the project, please contact Mr. Kaster at the above phone number or email address.

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Map by Nicole Thompson

**SIESTA KEY BRIDGES**

1. 4701-4717 Higel Avenue
2. 531 Givens St.
3. 4832 Primrose Path
4. 526 Treasure Boat Way
5. 340 Treasure Boat Way
6. 5383 Calle Florida
7. 5514 Azure Way
8. 5547 Contento Drive (approximate addresses)

parts of eight bridges on Siesta Key at their Feb. 18 meeting.

The Siesta Key bridges remediation project falls under the capital improvements program. The project will evaluate and repair deteriorated concrete on seawalls and approaches to the bridges.

Thai Tran, transportation manager for the county, said some signs of deterioration were found during a scheduled maintenance inspection, and that the seawalls beneath the bridges and some of the approach ramps leading up to the bridge showed wear.

"We saw some already happening—we'll fix them to make sure there's no more," he said.

Tran doesn't predict any road closures during the repairs, only intermittent lane closings. The contract is for 120 days, and he expects the repairs to begin in March. However, the county doesn't have specifics yet on the construction schedule or which bridge will be first.

"We'll be notifying nearby residents," Tran said. "We'll let people know ahead of time."

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**FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

**SR 758 at Beach Road Intersection Improvements Public Workshop**

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The workshop is an informal open house where people are welcome to review project displays, view an automated presentation and provide comments to project team members in a one-on-one setting. Written statements or exhibits submitted at the workshop, emailed, or mailed and postmarked by March 20, 2015 will become a part of the official project record.

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recent legislation prior to August of 2015, the ACOE project could be further delayed. The ACOE are currently in discussion with the State of Florida DEP to determine if the plan meets the environmental requirements prior to the permit application.

SKA has worked for more than 66 years on behalf of all who love Siesta Key and the Sarasota environment surrounding us. Our Sarasota Bay is listed within the "Waters of the U.S." as a significant estuarine environment.

We invite you to join in our good work on this and many other civic issues. ★

damage to property on Ocean Drive and Sand Dollar Lane. The pole was split when the driver ran into it. Florida Power and Light (FPL) promptly installed a new pole the next morning. Only one problem. The damaged pole was left behind

standing. Member Emily, President of SKA, has contacted FPL twice without success and continues to pursue its removal. At the time of press, 55 days following the accident, the damaged pole has yet to be removed. ★

## nts



(left to right), Stacey Monroe, Francisco Tovar, Morgan Johnson, Ansley Saba and Sam Monroe.

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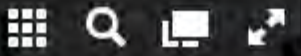


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## FDOT holds public workshop on potential Siesta Key roundabout

by: **Jessica Salmond** Staff Writer

The Florida Department of Transportation held a public open house last night about the potential changes to the Midnight Pass, Beach Road intersection, and the reaction the representatives received was solid: no roundabout, please.

FDOT has made similar presentations at two Siesta Key Association meetings in February and November. The information at last night's meeting was the same as before. FDOT is considering three options: leaving the intersection the same, removing the free-flowing right turns and signaling all turns, and putting in a roundabout. No official decision has been made.

At the workshop, which was held at St. Boniface Episcopal Church, FDOT handed out a fact sheet about roundabouts to dispel some myths that are associated with the alternative intersections and had renderings for people to view.

However, residents of Siesta Key are skeptical about the effectiveness of a roundabout at this particular intersection because of the amount of pedestrian traffic.

Donna Grantham, a Siesta Cove resident, said she generally likes roundabouts, but one at this location would be inappropriate. Pedestrians wouldn't have a clear, safe crosswalk, and the majority of traffic flows north to south.

"I think it would be hard (for vehicles) to get into the circle," she said, referring to the cars trying to move from Midnight Pass.

Grantham said she thought a better and less expensive solution would be to increase signage at the intersection as it currently is, so pedestrians are more visible and drivers are more aware. The roundabout would clog up traffic, rather than let it flow better, she said.

"It's a lot of expense for not gaining a lot of flow or pedestrian safety," Grantham said.