

Combee Road (State Road 659) PD&E Study from US 98 to North Crystal Lake Drive

Financial Project ID No.: 440274-1-22-01



October 2021

PUBLIC HEARING IS NOVEMBER 18, 2021

The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT), District One, invites you to the Combee Road (SR 659) public hearing on Thursday, November 18, 2021. For your convenience, FDOT is providing three ways to participate:

- 1. Virtual Option:** Attend virtually beginning at 6:00 p.m. from a computer, tablet, or mobile device. You can register in advance at www.fdot.cc/CombeeRdPDE. Once registered attendees will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the hearing online. Please note, Internet Explorer cannot be used to register or attend this webinar.
- 2. In-Person Option:** Attend in-person at **Somos Church, 3125 US Highway 98 S., Lakeland, Florida**. The in-person open house will begin at 5:00 p.m. and the presentation and testimony portion will begin at 6:00 p.m. Somos Church is accessible by transit through the CitrusConnection Green Line. Attendees who are not feeling well should not attend the in-person hearing.
- 3. Website:** View the materials online at swfroads.com/sr659/us98toncrystallakedr/.

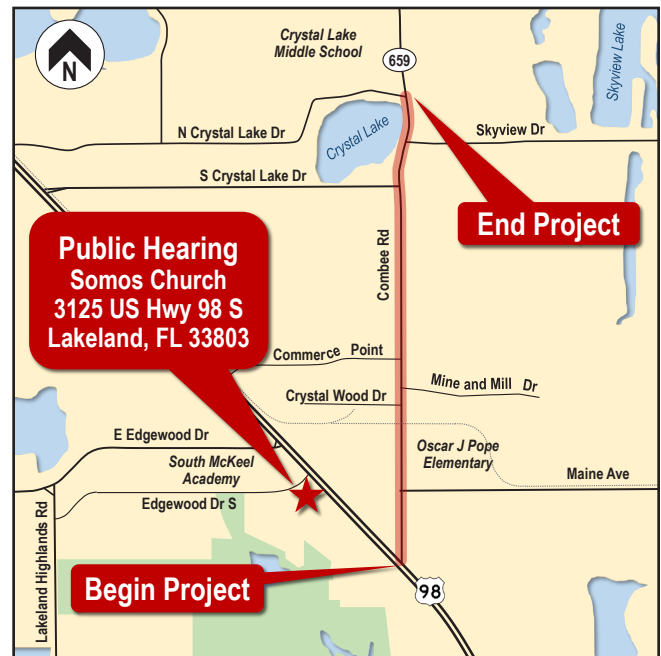
All hearing materials, including the project video, will be available online by November 11, 2021. You do not have to attend a live event in order to submit a comment. Comments can be submitted at the live hearing, through the website, or through the contact information provided on the other side of this notification.

PROJECT OVERVIEW

In August 2018, FDOT held a kickoff meeting to introduce the Project Development & Environment (PD&E) study process. In March 2019 and November 2020, FDOT held alternatives public meetings to present proposed improvement alternatives. Based on comments from the public and feedback from project staff, FDOT recommends reconstructing Combee Road with a 13-foot-wide two-way left turn lane, one 12-foot-wide travel lane in each direction, and an 8-ft wide sidewalk on both sides. Roundabouts are proposed at the intersections of Maine Avenue and Skyview Drive. The proposed improvements would require FDOT to acquire right-of-way to accommodate intersection improvements at US 98, Maine Avenue, Commerce Point Drive, and Skyview Drive. No residential or business relocations are proposed. Near the intersections of US 98, Maine Avenue, Commerce Point Drive, Industrial Park Drive, South Crystal Lake Drive, and Skyview Drive, existing access to properties along Combee Road would change due to the addition of a median. These medians are necessary for improving safety.

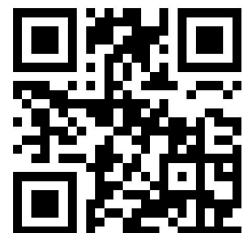
FDOT is proposing to use the existing pond within Crystal Lake Park for stormwater needs. This pond may need to be expanded but no permanent impacts to the existing boardwalk or boat ramp are proposed. As part of the project development process and in accordance with Section 4(f) of the Department of Transportation Act of 1966, FDOT is seeking comments concerning the effects of the project on park activities, features, and attributes.

The no-build alternative, where no improvements other than routine maintenance are made to Combee Road through 2045, will remain viable throughout the remainder of this study.



Register to Attend Virtually

Scan the QR Code shown here to register, and you will receive a confirmation email containing information about how to join the public hearing online.



This hearing gives interested people the opportunity to express their views about the proposed improvements along Combee Road. Written statements or exhibits submitted at the hearing, emailed, or mailed and postmarked by December 2, 2021 will become part of the official hearing transcript.



Florida Department of Transportation
Attention: Patrick Bateman, P.E.
MS 1-40
P.O. Box 1249
Bartow, FL 33831

CONTACT US

We encourage you to participate in the Combee Road public hearing. If you have questions or comments regarding the project, please contact FDOT Project Representative, Patrick Bateman, P.E.



Patrick Bateman, P.E.
MS 1-40
Florida Department of Transportation
P.O. Box 1249 Bartow, FL 33831



Direct: 863-519-2792



Email: Patrick.Bateman@dot.state.fl.us

MORE INFORMATION

Project documents will be available for public viewing from October 28, 2021 to December 2, 2021 at the following locations:

1. Project website:
swflroads.com/sr659/us98toncrystallakedr
2. City of Lakeland City Hall, 228 S Massachusetts Avenue, Lakeland, FL 33801
3. FDOT District One Headquarters, 801 North Broadway Avenue, Bartow, FL 33830

This hearing 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 who require translation services (free of charge) should contact Cynthia Sykes, District One Title VI Coordinator, at (863) 519-2287,

or email at Cynthia.Sykes@dot.state.fl.us at least seven days prior to the public hearing.

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 the Federal Highway Administration and FDOT.