



## PUBLIC HEARING SUMMARY

In Person: June 26, 2025; 5 – 6 p.m. Open house, 6 p.m. Formal presentation and comment at Covenant Mennonite Fellowship, 5420 Ashton Road, Sarasota, FL 34233

Virtual: June 26, 2025; 6 p.m. Formal presentation and comment

Attendees: In Person: 35 Citizens  
Virtual: 30 Citizens and 1 Public Official

Public Officials: Paula Wiggins (Sarasota County)

Staff in attendance: FDOT District One  
Steven Andrews, Jeffrey James, Jimmy Vilce, Adam Rose, Emily Barnett, Cynthia Sykes, Jesse Moss, Patricia Pichette, Karina Della Sera, Tori Hardeman, Anfernee West, Alfonso Gonzalez-Tirado  
Consultant Staff  
Cris Schooley, Michael Garau, Sabrina Viteri, Kathryn O'Brien, Jordan Leep, Hannah Smith, Erin Swider, Nicole Selly, Patrick Griffin, Catherine Winter, Brittany Seymour-Baker, Dakota Muskat, Tina Allen

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### Summary

FDOT conducted a hybrid public hearing to provide interested persons with information on the preferred alternative selected by FDOT, and to allow the public the opportunity to comment. The hearing was held on June 26, 2025, at Covenant Mennonite Fellowship, 5420 Ashton Road, Sarasota, FL 34233 and the formal hearing portion was live streamed online through GoToWebinar. The in-person venue was chosen because of the capacity of the facility and proximity to the corridor. The facility was easily accessible with ample parking, met all Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) requirements, and was located less than one mile from public transit. Meeting materials were posted to the project webpage ([swflroads.com/project/444634-1](https://swflroads.com/project/444634-1)) on June 19, 2025.

The Public Hearing was advertised in the following manner:

- Email to Elected Officials – Distributed on May 27, 2025
- Email to Appointed Officials – Distributed on May 27, 2025
- Email to Interested Parties – Distributed on June 2, 2025
- Email to ETAT Members – Distributed on May 29, 2025
- Newsletter to Property Owners – Mailed on May 30, 2025
- Florida Administrative Register – Published on June 16, 2025

- FDOT Public Notice Website – Published on June 5, 2025
- Legal Advertisements – Published in Sarasota Herald-Tribune on June 8, 2025, and June 19, 2025
- Press Release – Distributed on June 19, 2025 and June 25, 2025

As attendees entered the hearing, they were provided with a handout and the project team explained the comment process. At the in-person event, an open house was held from 5 – 6 p.m. Members of the study team were available to answer questions and discuss the project during this time. A separate table for noise and right-of-way information was available to the public.

The following project-related information was on display:

- |                                               |                                      |
|-----------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| • Roll plots of Preferred Alternative Concept | • Crash History                      |
| • Project location map                        | • Schedule and Funding               |
| • Proposed Alternatives                       | • Evaluation Matrix                  |
| • Welcome and Thank you Boards                | • Comment Board                      |
| • Typical Sections                            | • Title VI                           |
| • Section 4(f)                                | • Statutes                           |
| • Floodplains                                 | • Key Considerations                 |
|                                               | • Transportation Development Process |

At 6 p.m. the formal portion of the hearing began for both the in-person and online attendees. A project presentation was played, and the public had the opportunity to provide verbal comments. Seven (7) attendees provided verbal testimony at the in-person event and zero (0) attendees provided verbal comment through the online event.

In addition to the verbal comments, other comments were submitted either by email, website, or by mail. In-person hearing attendees were also able to leave written comments. Four (4) comment forms were received at the in-person hearing and fifty-eight (58) were received during the 13-day comment period following the meeting, ending July 9, 2025. From the comment forms, please see below a list of Frequently Asked Questions about the project.

## **SCHEDULE**

### **What is the schedule for the project? When will construction start?**

FDOT anticipates completion of this PD&E study by late 2025. At this time, FDOT's Tentative Five-Year Work Program includes funding for Design in fiscal year 2026, but Right-Of-Way and Construction phases are not currently funded. So we don't have a timeline for construction.



## **NOISE**

### **How do you identify who gets a noise wall and who doesn't?**

Noise-sensitive sites along the project corridor were evaluated for traffic noise levels that approach or exceed Noise Abatement Criteria established by the Federal Highway Administration. Based on the analyses, one receptor is predicted to experience highway traffic noise levels that approach, meet, or exceed the Noise Abatement Criteria in the future with the proposed project improvements. However, a noise barrier is not a viable noise abatement measure for the impacted receptor since the minimum feasibility requirements cannot be achieved.

## **ROUNDABOUTS**

### **Why are you proposing roundabouts?**

Roundabouts have been shown to have safety and operational benefits. Roundabouts remove right angle conflicts, which lessens the speed and severity of crashes at these types of intersections. Operationally, approaching drivers only have to yield to traffic already in the roundabout, which means less time waiting at red lights.

## **OTHER**

### **How will this project effect flooding, water quality, and the environment?**

Only minor impacts are anticipated with the Preferred Alternative as shown on the Evaluation Matrix. The FDOT conducted detailed surveys and reports on these effects, which are available on the project website.