

INDIAN RIVER COUNTY, FLORIDA

M E M O R A N D U M

To: Board of County Commissioners

Through: John Titkanich, Jr., County Administrator

Prepared By: Brian Freeman, AICP; MPO Staff Director

Date: January 13, 2025

Subject: Resolution of Support for Closing the Old Dixie Highway Railroad Crossing

It is requested that the information presented herein be given formal consideration by the Board of County Commissioners at its regular meeting of January 28, 2025.

DESCRIPTION, CONDITIONS, AND ANALYSIS

On behalf of Indian River County, the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) is undertaking a Project Development and Environmental (PD&E) Study to widen CR 510 to four lanes from 58th Avenue to east of US 1. This section of CR 510 also includes a Florida East Coast (FEC) railroad crossing. A separate project will widen CR 510 to four lanes from CR 512 to 58th Avenue. Construction of the first phase of that project (CR 512 to 87th Street) is scheduled to begin by summer 2025.

It is FEC policy to require the closing of an existing railroad crossing in exchange for adding lanes at another crossing. FDOT has proposed closing the Old Dixie Highway crossing as compensation for the widening of CR 510 at the FEC crossing. The Old Dixie Highway crossing is located south of Woodmere Road in Sebastian. In the vicinity of the FEC crossing, Old Dixie Highway is a narrow road (approximately 10-12 feet in width) with two-way traffic on limited right-of-way. MPO staff has coordinated with the Sheriff's Office and the Emergency Services Department, and both agencies support closing the Old Dixie Highway railroad crossing because of the narrow condition of the road.

At its August 15, 2023 meeting, the Board considered the proposed closing of the Old Dixie Highway crossing and provided its conceptual approval (excerpt from meeting minutes are provided as Attachment #2). At this time, FDOT is requesting a formal resolution of support (see Attachment #1), which will be included with the application to permanently close the railroad crossing in exchange for the CR 510 improvements.

FUNDING

At this time, no funding is necessary for this item.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that the Board of County Commissioners approve the Resolution of Support for Closing the Old Dixie Highway railroad crossing as compensation for the CR 510 improvements.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Resolution
2. Excerpt from minutes of August 15, 2023 BCC meeting
3. Location map