PUBLIC HEARING
Tuesday, June 28, 2016
Bradford County Fairgrounds, Building 12300 N. Temple Avenue
Starke, FL 32091

AGENDA
4:30 - 6:30 Open House | View Displays | Discuss Project with FDOT Staff
6:30 Presentation followed by Public Comments

Welcome

FDOT remains committed to working with all project stakeholders.
No final decisions will be made until we hear your comments.

There are many ways to provide comments:
1) State your comments/ask questions during tonight’s comment period;
2) Complete a comment form and drop it in the comment box provided; or
3) Mail, call, or email comments by July 8, 2016, to:

Stephen Browning, P.E., Project Manager
Florida Department of Transportation
1109 South Marion Avenue, MS 2007
Lake City, FL 32025-5874

(386) 961-7455
(800) 749-2967
stephen.browning@dot.state.fl.us

Follow us on Facebook, Twitter, and YouTube or the project website, at:
www.facebook.com/FLDOT
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Public participation is solicited without regard to race, color, national origin, age, sex, religion, disability or family status.

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Project Schedule:
PD&E Study: Underway
Design: Upon selection of the preferred alternative
Right-of-Way: Fiscal Year 2018
Construction: Fiscal Year 2020

Project Costs (In Millions):

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<tr>
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<th>SR 100 Existing</th>
<th>No-Build</th>
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<td>Engineering</td>
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<tr>
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Financial Management Number: 436558-1

Public Hearing
From US 301 to East of CSX Railroad

Welcome

The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) is conducting a Project Development and Environment (PD&E) Study to evaluate the feasibility for constructing a railroad overpass in Starke. A PD&E Study is the process that helps FDOT determine the location and design features of a proposed transportation improvement. During the PD&E Study, design options are developed and evaluated with regard to social, economic, and environmental concerns. Safety needs and public input are also important elements of this study.

In April 2015, the first public meeting was held to present alternatives for the proposed transportation improvement. Following that meeting, concepts were revised and re-presented to the public at a meeting on August 17, 2015. Comments from that meeting were evaluated and further revisions were made. A third public meeting was held on January 4, 2016 where further information was presented on the alternatives including utilizing information from previous meetings to determine the most viable option for Starke. Based on public input received at those meetings, the Department is recommending construction of a railroad overpass at the State Road 100 location; the railroad crossings at South Street and Adkins Street will be closed as part of this project. The purpose of the public hearing is to provide information on the study’s findings, discuss the recommended alternative and once again receive your input.

About the Project

The City of Starke is currently divided by the CSX railroad that runs parallel to US 301. There are approximately 29 trains per day that utilize the tracks and this number is expected to grow. This results in longer wait times throughout the day for emergency vehicles and other motorists. Although there are numerous locations to cross the tracks, there are no raised crossings over the railroad in Starke. An overpass would improve emergency response times and allow traffic to flow more freely. The goal of the study is to identify a preferred alternative which could be either a suitable location for an overpass within Starke or the No Build Option.
The recommended alternative is located in downtown Starke. The proposed railroad overpass would be located on SR 100 from approximately Adams Street to South Street. The majority of the bridge would be open underneath and would allow various activities. One-way frontage roads would be provided on both the north and south side of the bridge to allow for access to Thompson and Church streets. The historic City Plan and timeless architectural features created the opportunity to tie urban features found within downtown to the proposed roadway improvements.

From an aesthetic perspective, the new overpass would add a major visual impact to the corridor and downtown area by emphasizing and highlighting aesthetic treatments to the existing walls, barrier rails, beams and piers. Planning consistency was considered.

Looking around Starke, a lot of the railroad features are still intact and again show the history of Starke, including the old rail depot.