



SR710 /Beeline Highway from Northlake Blvd to SR-708/Blue Heron Blvd

Financial Project IDs: 419251-1-52-01, 419251-1-52-02, and 419251-1-52-03

Federal Aid Project ID: D421-077-B

Contract No.: T4477 County: Palm Beach

Contract Duration: 1805 Calendar Days

Contract Amount: \$149,437,390.38

Start Date: March 17, 2024

FL2835 4022536-1006 Royal Palm Beach, PB County, FL Widening of SR710 and Northlake; 628096F, Auburndale Subdivision; SX-960.47

**CSX Track Panel and Rail Replacement Logistics at Northlake Boulevard Crossing
Local Stakeholder Input Meeting Summary**

Tuesday – June 24, 2025 @ 10:00am

INTRODUCTIONS

- a. CEI Team acknowledged elected officials, the attendee list is included after the meeting summary. Please review to ensure appropriate titles. *The meeting was announced and recorded for project records and to ensure clarity on details of items discussed. Meeting transcript distributed with general summary:*

[Recap: FL2835: Royal Palm Beach, PB County, FL Widening of SR710 and Northlake;628096F, Auburndale Subdivision; SX-960.47 FIN 419251-1-52-01 - Track Panel and Rail Replacement Logistics at Northlake Boulevard Crossing - Local Stakeholder Input Update Tuesday, June 24](#)

- b. Meeting housekeeping – please note raised hand in the virtual space or include questions/comments in the teams chat. Once we go through general information, everyone will have the opportunity to have all questions and suggestions addressed.

OVERVIEW OF RAIL CROSSING AT NORTHLAKE BOULEVARD FOR NEW ATTENDEES

- a. Maintenance Agreement in place between CSX and Palm Beach County. While this is a Palm Beach County Road and agreement, it is included within the limits of the active FDOT construction project, with work effort contemplated and included for the roadway improvements, which is why FDOT is taking the lead on this coordination.
- b. Signalization work is necessary for FDOT construction project phase shifts. The next traffic control phase will shift Eastbound Northlake Boulevard traffic towards the median to create an outside shoulder work zone for drainage and road-building activities. Additional signalization work is being coordinated for traffic shifts to occur later, however this work can be accomplished without prolonged full closures of the roadway.
- c. Conditions of track cited by CSX, rail replacement work targeted to align with signalization work planned for this summer with seasonal traffic at lowest volumes along with schools on summer break.

Regarding CSX work, we can confirm the following information:

- A CSX closure is necessary to fully replace the crossing due to cited rail safety concerns by CSX.
- This will be a full closure of the Eastbound and Westbound lanes at the crossing on Northlake Boulevard.
- The duration is expected to be 8 days. Once closed, the crossing will not re-open until work is completed.
- Closure to commence on a Friday evening.
- Emergency Access both EB/WB will be maintained using the SE Beeline Highway to Westbound Northlake Boulevard Ramp under 24/7 law enforcement control.
- CSX is confirming the date, with a current focus on the third Friday in July.

- Three Week's advance notice will be provided to the public.
- Detour route options and enhancements (signal timing adjustments, geometry analysis, signage, etc.) are being assessed with PBCTE, Municipalities and FDOT's Smart Workzone Consultant.
- CSX advises the start date will be confirmed this week.

REVIEW OF DETOUR OPTIONS

- a. Please see the attached maps developed by FDOT's Smart Workzone Consultant, in conjunction with PBCTE for discussion. *The two primary routes were discussed at length, how to optimize the signalization to maximize throughput, strategic placement of PCMS (variable message signs) along the corridors, assessment of geometric conditions, utilization of regional messaging (I-95, Florida's Turnpike), eliminating lane closures and impactful work during the closure period to assist in mobility and emergency response (permits, active construction, maintenance work, etc. on the corridors, which are primarily Palm Beach County facilities until the southern connections), coordination of signals in the system, connection of remote signals via modem installs to allow PBCTE to assess and adjust timings in real time. Additional coordination requested for Indian Trails Improvement District, Loxahatchee Groves and Royal Palm Beach to ensure accessibility from secondary roads onto the primary routes. Speed enforcement and general heightened law enforcement presence discussed. Detour route plans are being finalized, including emergency access use of the ramp. Once complete, the plans will be shared for comment, and reviewed for device implementation. FDOT and PBC will review options for best delivery of resources between available avenues of implementation. FWC and WPB Grassy Waters access will be accommodated with the finalized closure plan.*

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS FROM ATTENDEES

- a. Please utilize either the chat to enter questions and comments or raise virtual hand. CEI will moderate until all items have been addressed. *Please review transcript. FDOT encouraged and plans to maximize construction project work effort during the closure to better minimize future impacts. All attendees encouraged to continue to provide accurate information to media, and public inquiries. A notification flyer has been developed that will be distributed as soon as CSX confirms the closure date. This will be distributed by all available means, posted on social media, municipal distribution lists, etc., with door-to-door delivery planned for corridor businesses. Generally noted the coordination and cooperation between agencies as these plans continue to be defined.*

SCHEDULE AND NEXT STEPS

- a. Emergency Management Access – Plan being finalized for use of the SR 710 / Beeline Highway Access Ramp to Westbound Northlake Boulevard for 24/7 use. *CEI/project team will share with emergency services within the week.*
- b. Hurricane Plan Criteria – 72-hour advance go/no go criteria confirmed with CSX. Additional plan details being developed for contingencies during rail replacement operations for evacuation orders. *Means and methods, and how long it would take CSX to open the eastbound lanes being verified by CEI.*
- c. Public Outreach – will be coordinated through FDOT and the active construction project team. All inquiries encouraged to be sent to team for follow-up, and encourage this group to please work to dispel incorrect information as encountered in conversations with stakeholders. *Palm Beach County and Municipal liaisons identified for further coordination.*

ACTION ITEMS

- a. CEI and Stakeholder Team:
 - i. Review SR 710 / Beeline Highway Access Ramp to Westbound Northlake Boulevard to determine work needed for emergency access, including median crossovers on both roadways. *Ongoing, CEI will share within the week.*
 - ii. Coordinate with Palm Beach County and Smart Workzone Consultant to assess detour routes and signalized intersections along routes, determine signalization and geometry improvements. *Ongoing. PBCTE installing modems for*

- connection to signals not currently in system, develop signal timing plan.*
- iii. Coordinate with FDOT Construction Project Engineer of Record to finalize detour traffic control plan. **Finalizing, CEI will share within the week.**
- iv. Develop community outreach materials, coordinate closely with municipalities, project distribution list, NCNC and other stakeholders as schedule is finalized. Three week's notice will be minimum notification threshold. **Flyer developed, being vetted for distribution once dates finalized.**
- v. Continue close coordination with emergency services on overall schedule, access details, coordinate law enforcement needs with all agencies. **Ongoing.**

b. CSXT/STV Team:

- i. Confirm rail joint to occur between Eastbound/Westbound Northlake Boulevard crossing and SR 710 / Beeline Highway Access Ramp to Westbound Northlake Boulevard, allowing use of the ramp for emergency services. **Confirmed.**
- ii. Confirm availability of Dynamic Stabilizer to potentially reduce closure of the Eastbound/Westbound Northlake Boulevard. **Not available.**
- iii. Confirm date in July for Friday closure based on availability of resources and overall schedule. **Pending confirmation by 6/27.**

ADJOURNMENT – Summary will be distributed to all attendees, along with a link to the transcript. Additional update and coordination meetings will be scheduled over the next few weeks as details and plan finalized. We appreciate your involvement in this process.

Participants (82– Direct, additional conferenced)

Elected Officials

Palm Beach County Mayor Maria Marino
 Palm Beach County Commissioner Gregg Weiss
 Village of Royal Palm Beach Mayor Jeff Hmara
 City of West Palm Beach Commissioner Joe Peduzzi
 Jon Carter, Chief of Staff to Palm Beach County Vice Mayor Sara Baxter
 Niels Heimeriks, Chief of Staff to Palm Beach County Commissioner Weiss
 Jana Panarites, Assistant Chief of Staff to Palm Beach County Commissioner Weiss
 Melissa Santoro, Assistant Chief of Staff to Palm Beach County Mayor Marino
 Sandrea Bhoorasingh, Assistant Chief of Staff to Palm Beach County Mayor Marino
 Malcolm Sommons II, Assistant Chief of Staff to Palm Beach County Commissioner Powell
 Theresa Lawrence, Assistant Chief of Staff to Palm Beach County Commissioner Powell

Palm Beach County Staff

Todd J Bonlarron, Acting County Administrator
 Patrick Rutter, Assistant County Administrator
 David Ricks, County Engineer
 Joanne M. Keller, Assistant County Engineer
 Motasem Al-Turk, Director, Traffic Division
 Melissa Ackert, Assistant Director, Traffic Division
 Giri Jeedigunta, Signal Timing Consultant – Traffic Division
 Graciela M'Causland, Construction Project Manager
 Lady Hereford, Manager – Public Information Services
 Lisa De La Rionda, Director, Public Affairs Department
 John Jamason, Deputy Director, Public Affairs Department
 Heather Shirm, Director, Strategic Communications
 Jillian Rhein, Manager, Digital Marketing & Communications
 Kenny Rampersad - PBC Engineering & Public Works
 Chief William Rowley, Palm Beach County Fire Rescue Battalion 1
 Chief Amanda Vomero, Palm Beach County Fire Rescue Battalion 2
 Captain Dieter A Josef - Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office District 3
 Sergeant Steven Langevin, Palm Beach Sheriff's Office District 5
 Lieutenant Darla Sauers, Palm Beach Sheriff's Office, Executive Officer, Districts 15, 17, 18

Mackenzie Sauers, PBSC, Assistant
Jill Gregory, Executive Assistant to the Fire Chief, Palm Beach County Fire Rescue
Sherry Moser, Executive Assistant to Acting County Administrator Bonlarron
Ana Silva, Executive Assistant to Assistant County Administrator Rutter

Palm Beach Gardens Staff

Ron Ferris, City Manager
Todd Engle, City Engineer
David Reyes, Community Services Administrator/Dir. of Emergency Management
Giles Rhoads, Operations Director of Engineering
Keith Bryer, Fire Chief
James Ippolito, Deputy Fire Chief
David Markle, Administrative Chief - Operations
Dominick Pape, Chief of Police
Casey Mitchell, General Manager, Sandhill Crane Golf Club

West Palm Beach Staff

Armando Fana, Assistant City Administrator
Kevin Volbrecht, Director of Engineering Services
Veronica Altuve, Traffic Engineer
Cristine Perdomo, Traffic Engineer
Dianna Matty, Fire Chief, West Palm Beach Fire Department
Brian Walker, Division Chief of Special Operations, West Palm Beach Fire Department
Anthony Spatara, Assistant Chief of Police, West Palm Beach Police Department

Other Municipal Attendees

Thomas Reinart, Regional Director – South Region, Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission
Chris March – Village Engineer, Village of Royal Palm Beach
Burgess Hanson, Executive Director, Indian Trails Improvement District
Jay Foy, District Engineer, Indian Trails Improvement District
Richard Gallant, Director of Public Works, Town of Loxahatchee Groves
Francine L. Ramaglia, Town Manager, Town of Loxahatchee Groves
Caryn Gardner-Young, Community Standards Director, Town of Loxahatchee Groves
Mary McNicholas, Geoffrey B. Sluggett & Associates, Inc., Town of Loxahatchee Groves - Government Relations
Geoff Sluggett, Geoffrey B. Sluggett & Associates, Inc., Town of Loxahatchee Groves - Government Relations
Kenneth Cassel, District Manager, Seminole Improvement District
Brian Ruscher, Deputy Director of Multimodal Development, Palm Beach TPA
Tricia Barr, Simmons and White, Senior Traffic Engineer

FDOT Staff

Matt Carlock, D4 Construction Engineer
Ed Caballero, Palm Beach Operations Engineer
Joe Marzi, Palm Beach Operations Construction Engineer
James Hughes, D4 Design Project Manager
Irj Tajdar, FDOT D4 Office Modal Development Rail coordinator -CSX
Maria James, FDOT D4 Office Modal Development Rail coordinator – crossings and closures
Mark Cooper, FDOT D4 Office Modal Development Consultant
Daniel Tesso, FDOT D4 Office Modal Development Rail

Project Team

CEI – Mel Pollock - Senior Project Engineer, Pat Kennedy, Chris Jones – Project Administrators, Dawn Steele -
CSS, Rebecca Chulhan - Engineer Intern, Silvana Ojeda - Community Outreach, Caroline Byrd – Summer Intern
Shelby Coke/Allison Glunt, FDOT Smart Workzone Consultant
Hugo Gutierrez, Engineer of Record HDR
Robert Hideck, Traffic Control Plan Engineer of Record, Hardesty and Hanover
Claudia Mendez, Asphalt Group, Contractor's Construction Project Manager