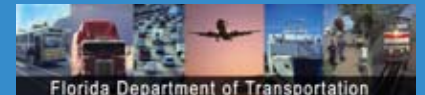


FDOT Rail Traffic Evaluation Public Stakeholder Workshop

FDOT Rail Traffic Evaluation
July 2008



Welcome to the FDOT Rail Traffic Evaluation Public Stakeholder Workshop!

The following is the format for today's workshop:

- A 5-minute looping presentation is available for viewing. It will provide an overview of the FDOT Rail Traffic Evaluation scope of work.

- Review materials are on display at 4 stations in the room covering the topics in the scope of work for the Rail Traffic Evaluation. The 4 stations are:
 - Stakeholder Outreach
 - Grade Crossing and Traffic Evaluation
 - Rail Relocation and Reconfiguration Options
 - Passenger Rail and Transit Options

- Feel free to discuss any questions with project staff circulating throughout the room
- Written public comments will be taken by filling out and returning a comment form at the sign-in table

Grade Crossing and Traffic Evaluation

■ Establish Existing Conditions (2008)

- Traffic volumes
- Signal timing
- Grade crossing protection
- Roadway geometry
- Freight traffic
- Pedestrian flows

■ Project Future Conditions (2030)

- Traffic volumes
- Pedestrian flows
- Low, medium and high traffic scenarios
- Freight scenarios
 - with freight relocation
 - without freight relocation

■ Identify Appropriate Strategies Available to Improve Projected Conditions

- Freight rail infrastructure improvements
- Roadway operational changes (geometrics, travel patterns, multi-laning management systems)
- Safety improvement opportunities (warning systems, grade separation, crossing consolidations or closings, roadway medians, four quadrant gates, quiet zones, channelized pedestrian crossings, wide/raised medians, wayside horns and video enforcement of crossings)
- Traffic improvements (train prediction systems with variable message signs, crossing consolidation, roadway signage, LED light signage, preemption of traffic signals, traffic signalization)
- Multimodal improvements (bike/pedestrian gates, sidewalks, under/over passes, sight distances, crossing widths, ADA compliance, public transit headways /routing changes)
- Other ideas

Stakeholder Outreach— How to Get Involved

- FDOT is just initiating this study and would like to involve as many people as possible in the study

- **Join our Mailing List**

- By signing in today, your name will be added to our list – please be sure to add all your correct contact information (address, e-mail)

- **Give us Your Comments**

- Fill out a comment sheet and return at the sign-in table

- **Establish a Dialogue**

- Project staff are circulating through the room – we want to hear your ideas and answer any questions about what the study will cover.

- **Stay Informed**

- Contact:
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Rail Relocation and Reconfiguration Options

- Establish the full range of freight rail options
 - Underutilized or abandoned rail rights-of-way
 - Shared right-of-way with utility corridors
 - Shared or adjacent right-of-way to existing or planned roadways
 - New corridors
 - Other ideas



- Identify the potential challenges and conceptual costs of each option
- Identify the potential impacts of each option
- Investigate strategies for minimizing the impacts of freight rail traffic through Polk County

Passenger Rail and Transit Options

- Identify the needs and opportunities to provide a public transportation connection from Polk County to either/both the Metropolitan areas of Orlando and Tampa
- Identify if there are fixed guideway (rail), Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) or other transit options that should be examined
- Assess the physical and operational feasibility
- Estimate the number of people who would potentially ride each option
- Calculate how much each option would cost