

ANNA MARIA ISLAND BRIDGE
PD&E STUDY
Financial Project ID: 424436-1-21-01

WELCOME

Public Information Workshop

APRIL 3, 2008



Welcome to the first public information workshop concerning the Florida Department of Transportation study of the possible replacement of the Anna Maria Island Bridge.

WHY WE ARE HERE

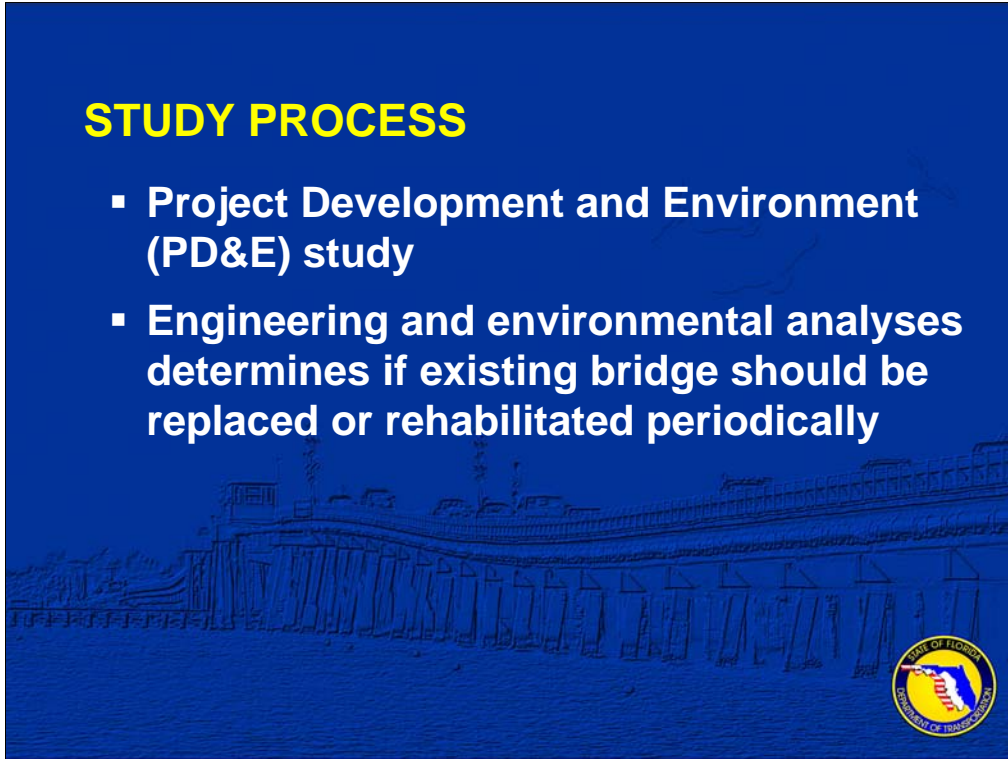
- ✓ Introduce study process
- ✓ Determine important issues as study progresses



We are here today to introduce you to the study process FDOT will follow and more importantly determine the issues that are important to you as we progress through the study of the Anna Maria Island Bridge.

STUDY PROCESS

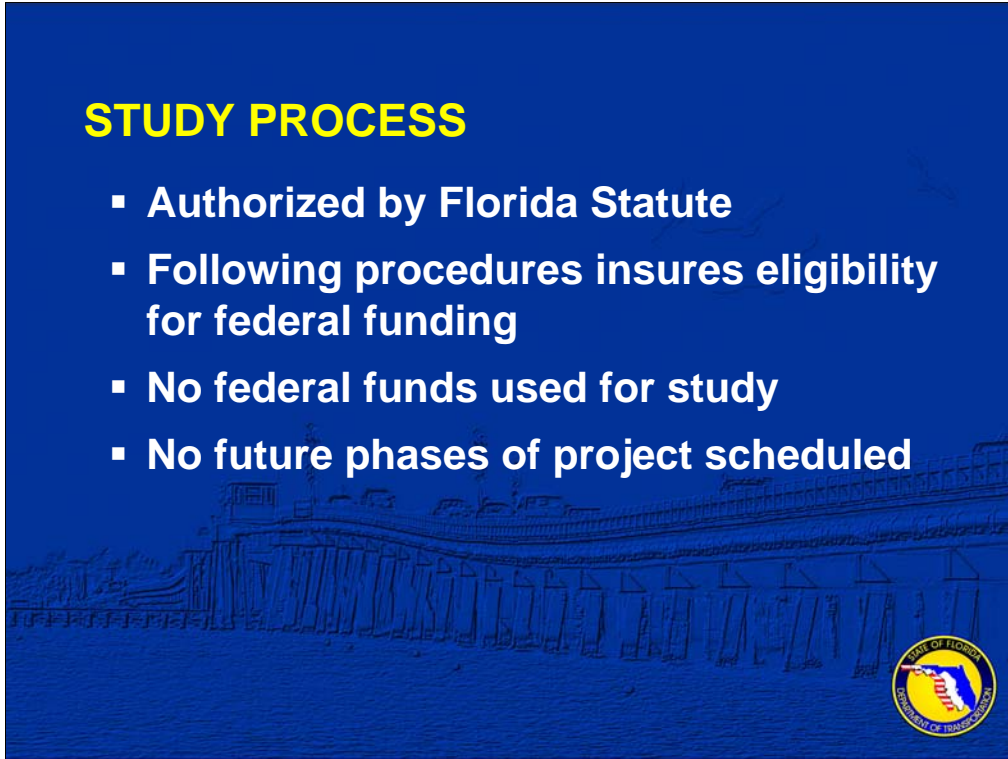
- Project Development and Environment (PD&E) study
- Engineering and environmental analyses determines if existing bridge should be replaced or rehabilitated periodically



First, let's describe the study process. It is formally called a Project Development and Environment or PD&E study. A PD&E study is a combination of engineering and environmental analyses, which will assist the department in the determination of whether the existing bridge should be replaced or continue to be rehabilitated periodically.

STUDY PROCESS

- Authorized by Florida Statute
- Following procedures insures eligibility for federal funding
- No federal funds used for study
- No future phases of project scheduled



The PD&E study process was authorized by Florida Statute to comply with requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, other related federal and state laws, rules and regulations. Following all procedures set forth in the 1969 act will insure that a road or bridge improvement project will be eligible for federal funding. Although there are no federal funds used for this study, and there are no future phases of the project scheduled, the study will follow the federal process in case federal funding is desired in the future.

STUDY PROCESS

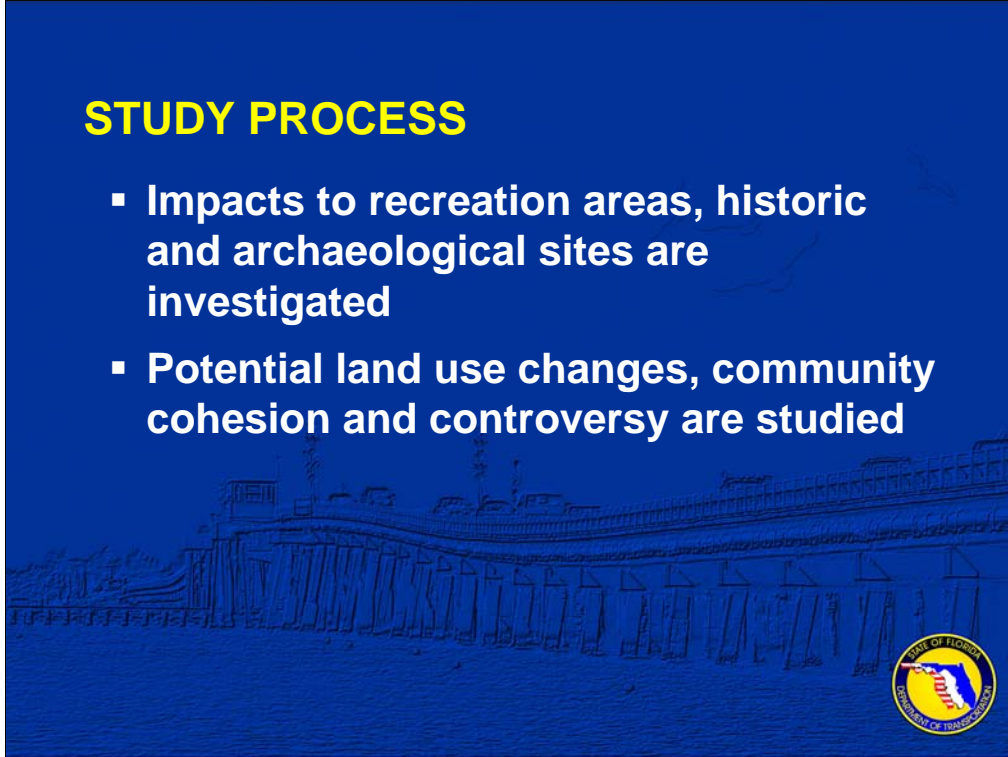
- Develop various alternatives
- Preliminary analysis of social, cultural, natural and physical environments
- Evaluates possible impacts to wetlands, water quality, threatened and endangered species, noise sensitive sites, air quality and hazardous materials



During the study process, the FDOT develops various engineering alternatives. A preliminary analysis of the social, cultural, natural and physical environments surrounding the roadway is conducted. The study evaluates possible impacts to wetlands, water quality, threatened and endangered species, noise sensitive sites, air quality, and hazardous materials.

STUDY PROCESS

- Impacts to recreation areas, historic and archaeological sites are investigated
- Potential land use changes, community cohesion and controversy are studied



Impacts to recreation areas and historic and archaeological sites are investigated. Potential changes in land use, community cohesion and controversy are also studied.



Following the development of engineering alternatives and the review of environmental impacts, an alternatives public workshop is held.



FDOT reviews public comments received from the workshop.

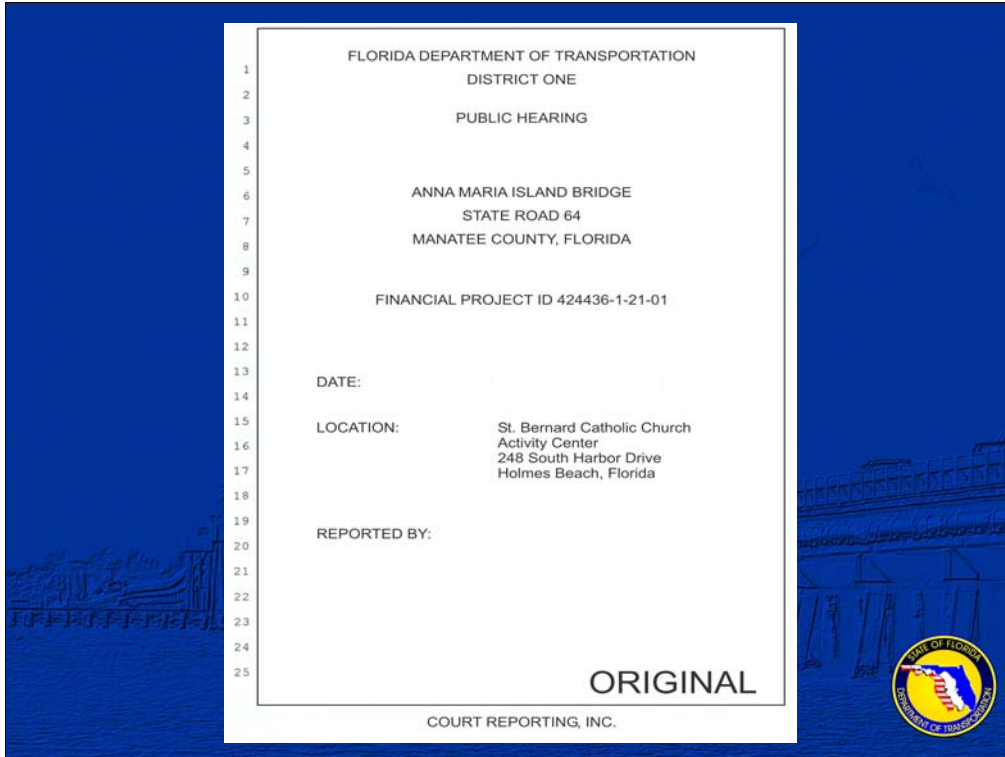
STUDY PROCESS

- Develop viable alternative(s)
- No-build alternative
- Thorough assessment of the various impacts is conducted
- Viable alternatives presented

Findings from the engineering and environmental analyses are used to develop viable alternatives including the no build alternative. Following development of the alternatives, a thorough assessment of the various potential environmental impacts is conducted. The viable alternatives are presented at a formal public hearing when public comments are solicited.



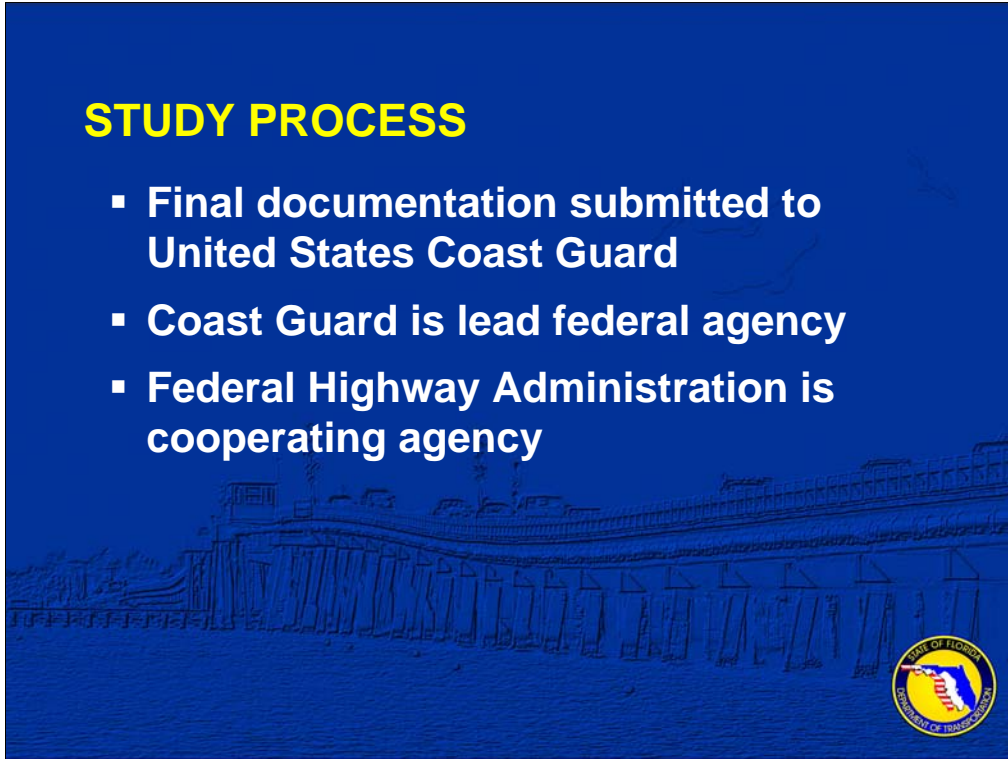
Public comments are transcribed by a court reporter.



The transcription is combined with written comments received and a complete public hearing transcript document is produced.

STUDY PROCESS

- Final documentation submitted to United States Coast Guard
- Coast Guard is lead federal agency
- Federal Highway Administration is cooperating agency



Following the completion of study reports, final documentation is submitted to the United States Coast Guard for approval. Coast Guard is the lead federal agency for this study. The Federal Highway Administration will be a cooperating agency. The project would then be eligible to advance to the design, right-of-way acquisition and construction phases as they are scheduled.



The Anna Maria Island Bridge was built in 1957. The two-lane low-level bridge is constructed with concrete beam fixed spans. It has a drawbridge over the Intracoastal Waterway channel with a minimum vertical navigational clearance of 17.5 feet above mean high water when the bridge is closed. The existing bridge does not meet current standards with regard to lack of shoulders, up-to-date barrier walls, and pedestrian and bicycle amenities.

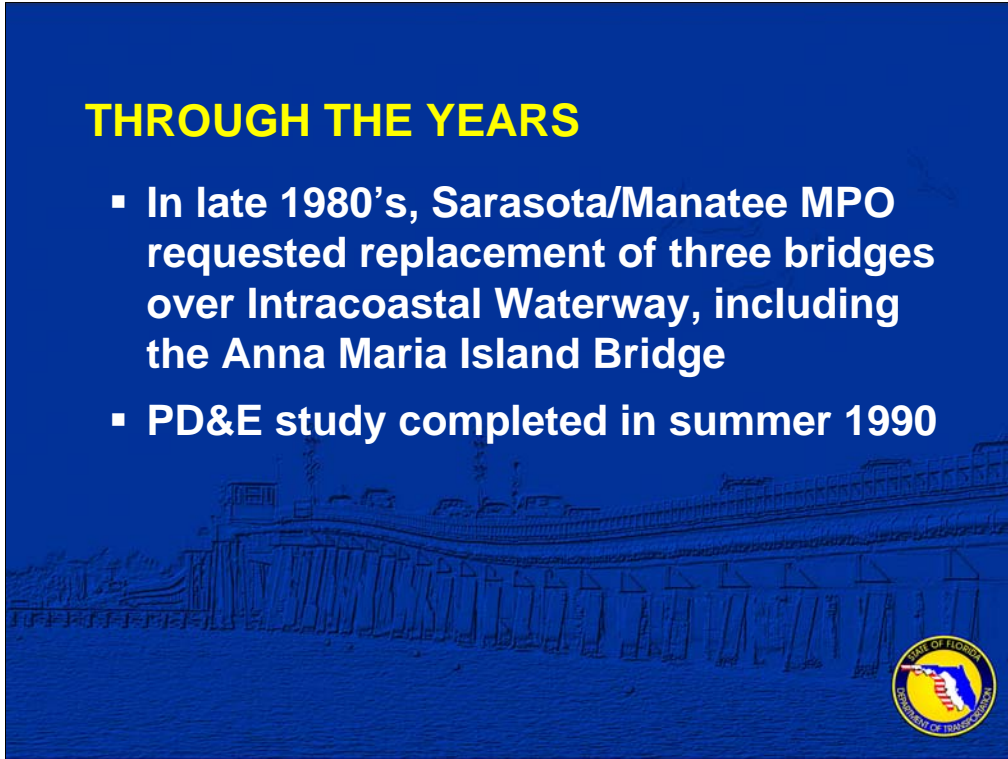
THROUGH THE YEARS

- Significant repairs in 1978, 1984 and 1999
- In 2002, completed comprehensive study of the bridge which led to ongoing rehabilitation project
- Visit www.amibridgerehab.com
- Audrey Clarke present

Through the years, three significant repair projects have been completed on the bridge, in 1978, 1984, and 1999. In 2002, FDOT completed a comprehensive study of the structural, mechanical and electrical components of the moveable portion of the bridge, and the structural components of the fixed portion. The results of the study led to the ongoing \$9 million rehabilitation of the bridge, which is intended to extend its service life from 10 to 15 years. FDOT invites you to visit the Internet web site www.amibridgerehab.com for more information about the rehabilitation project. Also, Audrey Clarke, Public Information Officer for the rehab project, is present today to answers your questions about that project.

THROUGH THE YEARS

- In late 1980's, Sarasota/Manatee MPO requested replacement of three bridges over Intracoastal Waterway, including the Anna Maria Island Bridge
- PD&E study completed in summer 1990

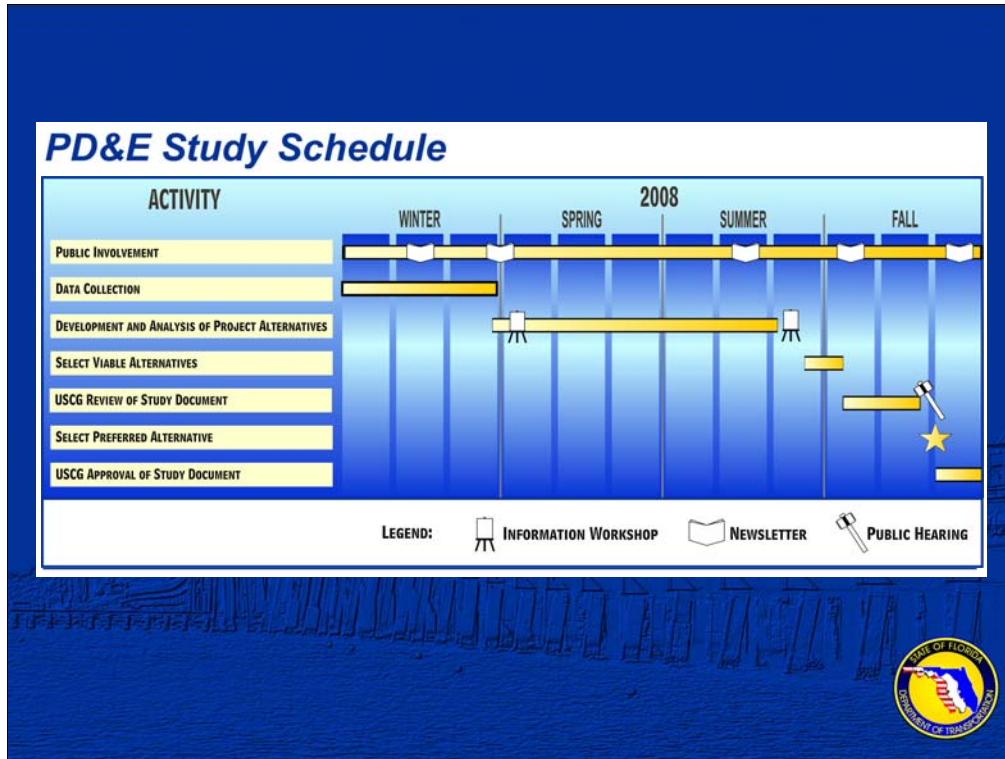


In the late 1980's, the Sarasota/Manatee Metropolitan Planning Organization requested that the department replace three deteriorating bridges over the Intracoastal Waterway, including the Anna Maria Island Bridge. As a result, a PD&E study was completed in the summer of 1990.

CURRENT STUDY



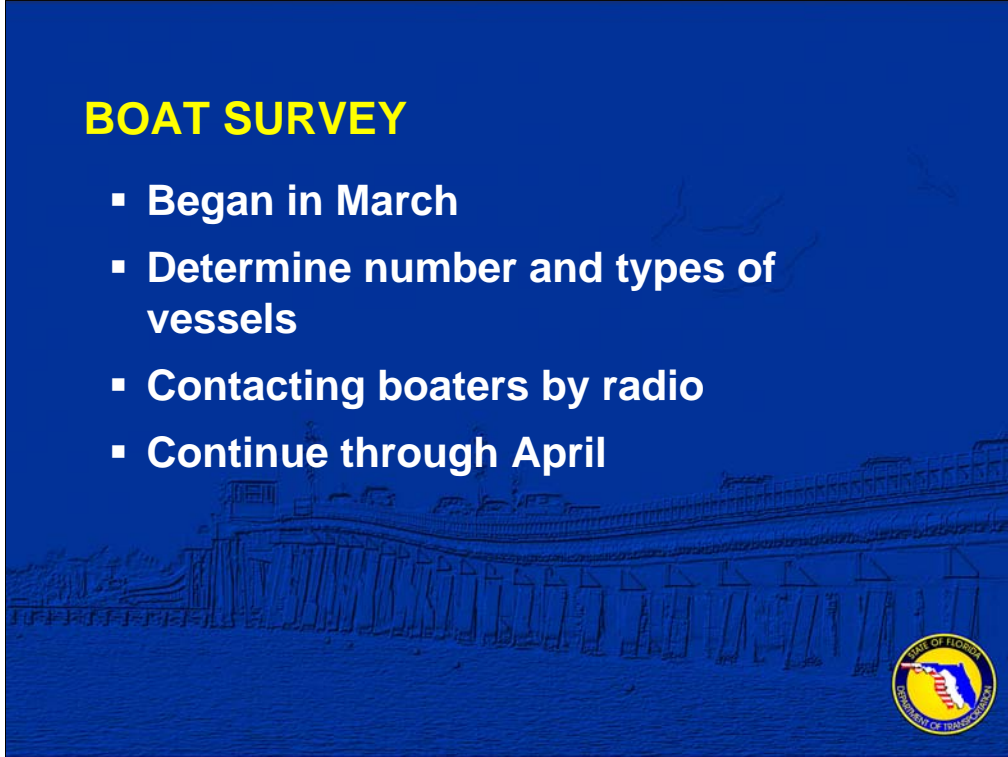
In the fall of 2007, FDOT committed to conducting a new engineering and environmental study to determine the long term future of the bridge. Manatee County commissioners have pledged their support of a bridge replacement. The new study includes the segment of State Road 64 beginning at State Road 789 and continuing east almost 2 miles to the entrance of the Perico Bay Club.



The current study began in January and is anticipated to take at least one year to complete. It will conclude with a determination of whether the bridge will be replaced and, if so, the type of structure that would be built.

BOAT SURVEY

- **Began in March**
- **Determine number and types of vessels**
- **Contacting boaters by radio**
- **Continue through April**



An important tool that we use to assist us in determining the alternatives to be studied is a boat survey. The department began a survey in March to determine the number and types of vessels that pass under the bridge. The bridge tenders are contacting boat captains by radio as they pass through the channel to determine their mast heights. Also, the tenders are using an electronic device to measure masts that are not reported by the boat captain. The survey will continue through this month since some of the highest numbers of bridge openings typically occur in April.

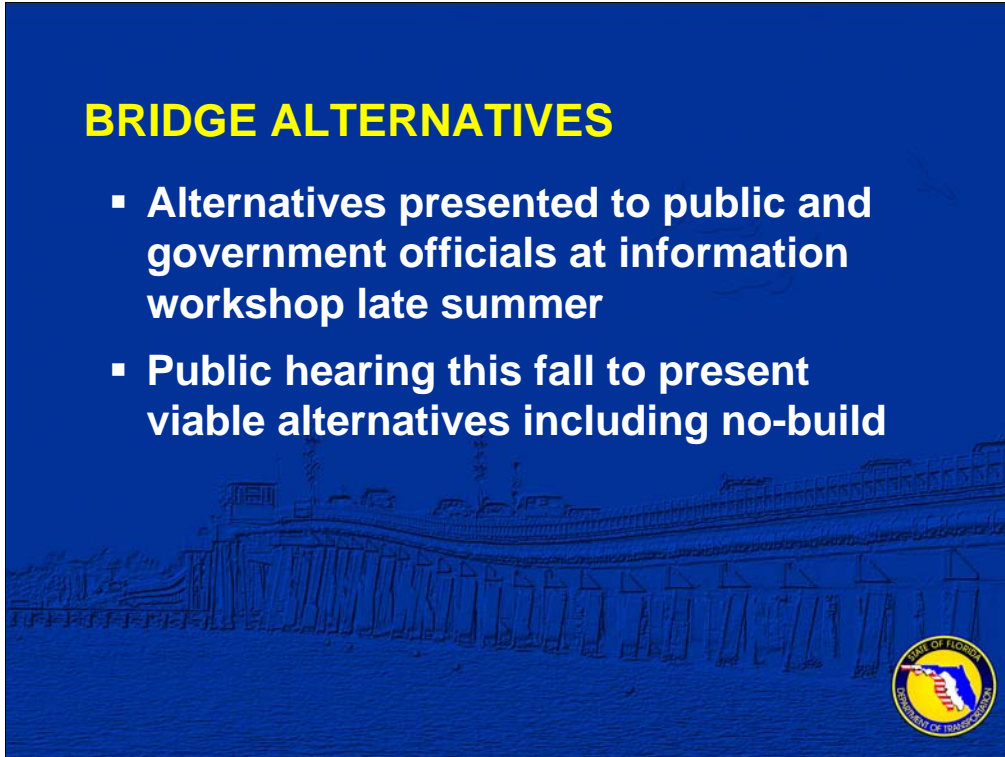
BRIDGE ALTERNATIVES

- **Two-lane alternatives**
- **State Road 64, within study limits, classified as constrained roadway**
- **Low-level, mid-level drawbridges and high-level fixed bridge designs**
- **No-build alternative**

An analysis of various two-lane replacement alternatives will occur. Only two-lane alternatives will be studied because State Road 64 within the study limits has been classified as a constrained roadway by the Sarasota/Manatee Metropolitan Planning Organization. Low-level drawbridge, mid-level drawbridge and high level fixed bridge designs will be analyzed. As with all FDOT studies, the no-build alternative will be analyzed to determine if it is feasible. The no-build alternative would involve continuing maintenance and rehabilitation of the bridge.

BRIDGE ALTERNATIVES

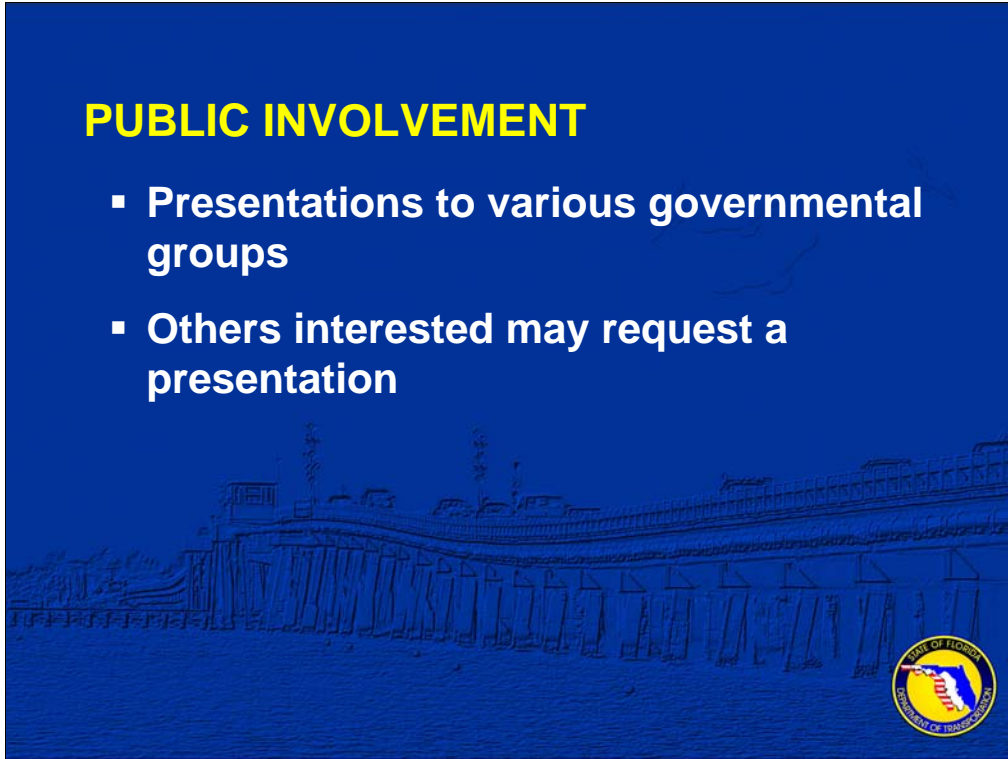
- **Alternatives presented to public and government officials at information workshop late summer**
- **Public hearing this fall to present viable alternatives including no-build**



Alternatives will be presented to the public and government officials at an information workshop tentatively scheduled for late this summer. A formal public hearing will be scheduled this fall to present the viable alternatives including the no build alternative.

PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

- **Presentations to various governmental groups**
- **Others interested may request a presentation**



These two public meetings will not be the only opportunities to obtain your comments. Throughout the study process, presentations will be given to various governmental groups. Interested groups or organizations may also request a presentation.

NEWSLETTER, WEB SITE AND CONTACT

- Mailed to over 5,500 addresses
- www.annamariaislandbridge.com
- Chris Piazza, P.E.
(863) 519-2293
chris.piazza@dot.state.fl.us

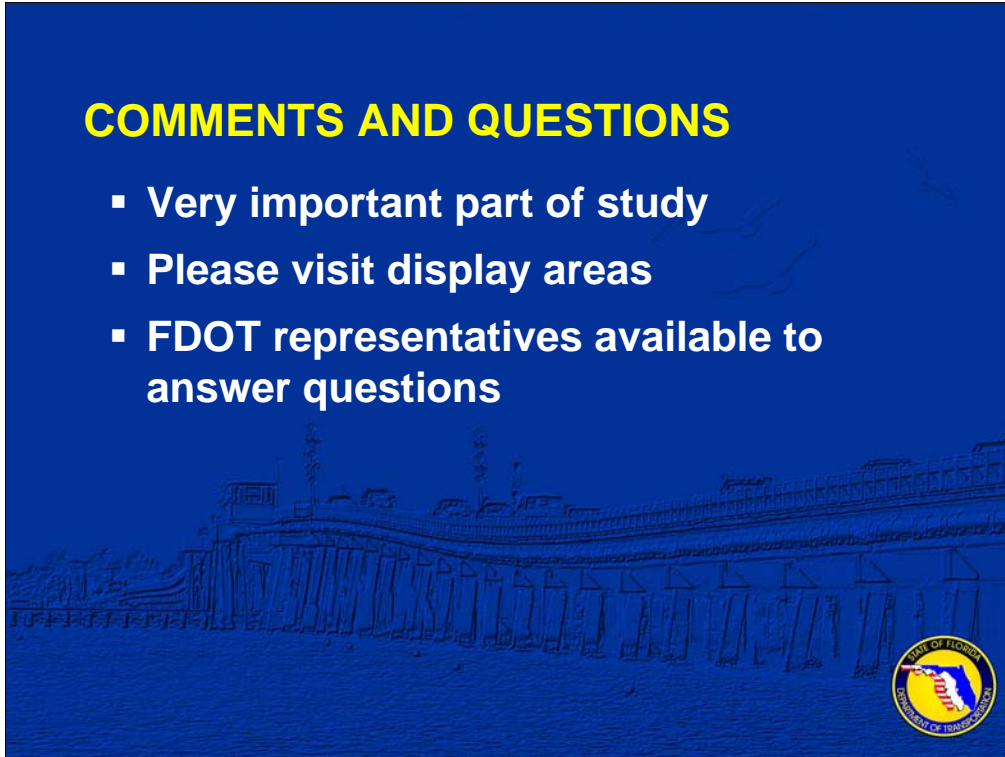
Florida Department of Transportation
P.O. Box 1249
Bartow, FL 33831



A newsletter was mailed to an extensive list of over 5,500 addresses on Anna Maria Island and along State Road 64 as far east as Palma Sola Boulevard. A study web site www.annamariaislandbridge.com is also available and will be updated frequently. FDOT welcomes comments at any time by mail, telephone or e-mail. Chris Piazza, P.E., is the FDOT project manager. He can be reached at (863) 519-2293, chris.piazza@dot.state.fl.us, or P.O. Box 1249, Bartow, Florida 33831.

COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS

- Very important part of study
- Please visit display areas
- FDOT representatives available to answer questions



The Department believes that your comments are a very important part of this study. If there are specific issues that you want to have addressed, please let us know. Before you leave this workshop, please visit one of the display areas located around the room. Each area has an aerial photograph of the current bridge and its approaches. FDOT engineers and representatives are available at each station to answer questions about the study process and the bridge. If your questions can't be answered this evening, we will add them to a database so that they will be addressed when an answer is available.



Scribes with laptop computers will be waiting to document your questions and comments about the bridge and the study.



If you don't wish to speak to one of the scribes, please complete a comment form today and place it in a comment box or take home a comment form, complete it and mail the form by April 14, 2008. Mail your comments to Chris Piazza at the address listed at the bottom of the form.

The screenshot shows a web page for the Anna Maria Island Bridge PD&E Study. At the top, there is a header with the project name and a navigation menu. The main content area contains a 'Contact Us' section with contact information for Mr. Chris Piazza, P.E. Below this is a form for submitting comments, with fields for Name, Address, City, State, Zip Code, and Comments. The page also features a logo for the State of Florida Department of Transportation.

Anna Maria Island Bridge PD&E Study

HOME PROJECT OVERVIEW PD&E STUDY PROJECT INFORMATION PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT PROJECT SCHEDULE LINKS CONTACT US

Contact Us

We urge you to participate in this study and invite your comments and questions. If you would like to add a name and/or an address to receive future mailings, please contact:

Mr. Chris Piazza, P.E.
FDOT, District Environmental Management Office
P.O. Box 1249
Bartow, Florida 33831
1-800-292-FDOT (3368)
E-mail: chris.piazza@dot.state.fl.us

OR

Use the comment form below to submit a comment or receive future mailings. Thank you for your interest in the Anna Maria Island Bridge PD&E Study.

Name

Address

City

State

Zip Code

Comments

Clear Submit

Also, you can access the study web site at www.annamariaislandbridge.com to submit comments

**Anna Maria Island Bridge
Project Development and Environment Study
Survey
April 2008**



Financial Project ID No. 424436-1-21-01

www.annamariaislandbridge.com

The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) is conducting an engineering and environmental study, called a Project Development & Environment (PD&E) study, regarding the future of the Anna Maria Island Bridge on State Road 64 in Manatee County, Florida. To ensure that FDOT understands your concerns early in the study, please complete the following survey (one per household, please). Providing information through this survey does not represent your endorsement of the project. We would like your input as we begin this important bridge study!

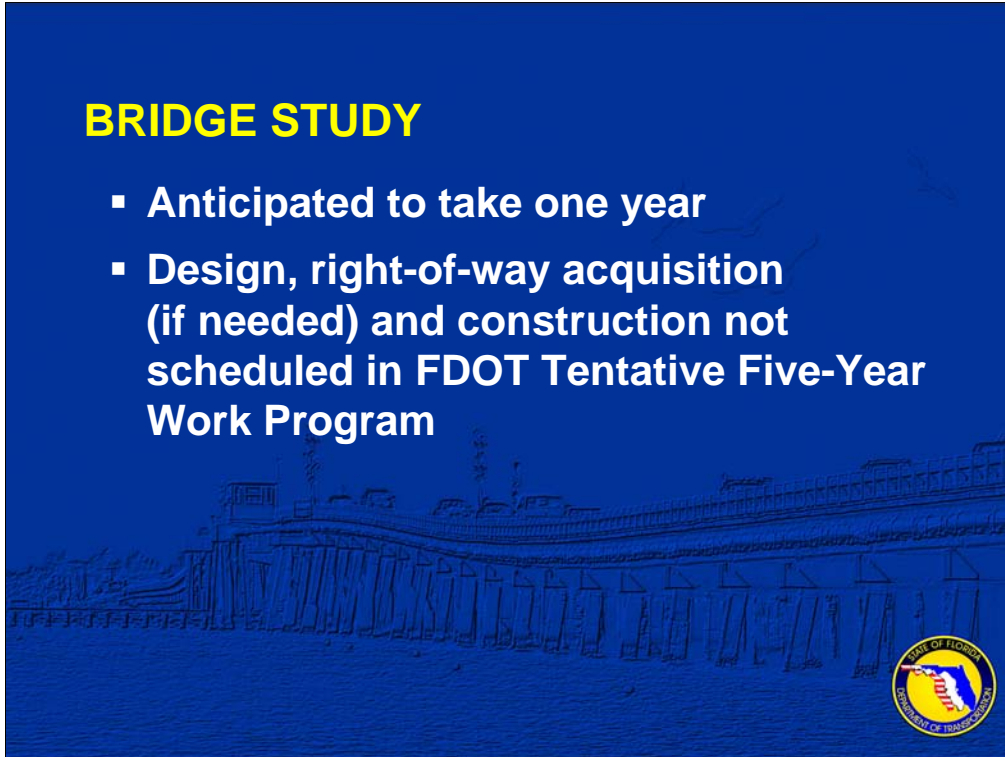
PLEASE PRINT

From the list below, select three of your major concerns regarding the Anna Maria Island Bridge.		
<input type="checkbox"/> Roadway traffic	<input type="checkbox"/> Navigation	<input type="checkbox"/> Crime
<input type="checkbox"/> Traffic noise	<input type="checkbox"/> Aesthetics	<input type="checkbox"/> Construction schedule/noise
<input type="checkbox"/> Roadway safety	<input type="checkbox"/> Landscaping	<input type="checkbox"/> Opportunities for input on the project
<input type="checkbox"/> Access to/from property	<input type="checkbox"/> Historic preservation	<input type="checkbox"/> Access to mainland
<input type="checkbox"/> Hurricane /emergency evacuation	<input type="checkbox"/> Affect on the environment	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Please specify) _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Bridge types	<input type="checkbox"/> Bicycle lanes and sidewalks	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Bridge safety	<input type="checkbox"/> Recreational features	_____
<p>How often do you use the Anna Maria Island Bridge? <input type="checkbox"/> Never <input type="checkbox"/> Once a day <input type="checkbox"/> Twice a day <input type="checkbox"/> Three or more</p> <p>Comments:</p>		

Finally, a couple of weeks ago, FDOT mailed several thousand surveys to persons on our mailing list. If you have completed the survey, please place it in one of the comment boxes. If you haven't completed the survey or did not receive one, please pick up a copy and take a few minutes to do so today. Your answers will be added to our data base of information and will assist the department in determining the viable alternatives that will be carried forward during the study.

BRIDGE STUDY

- Anticipated to take one year
- Design, right-of-way acquisition (if needed) and construction not scheduled in FDOT Tentative Five-Year Work Program



As we mentioned, this engineering and environmental study of the bridge is anticipated to take at least one year. The design, right-of-way acquisition (if needed) and construction phases for the replacement of the Anna Maria Island Bridge are not scheduled in the FDOT Tentative Five-Year Work Program, which includes the period through mid-2013.



ANNA MARIA ISLAND BRIDGE
PD&E STUDY
Financial Project ID: 424436-1-21-01

Thank You for Attending

APRIL 3, 2008



The Florida Department of Transportation thanks you for attending this first Public Information Workshop on the study of the possible replacement of the Anna Maria Island Bridge.