



**PUBLIC HEARING – APRIL 30, 2024**

The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT), District One, invites you to the public hearing for the DeSoto Bridge Replacement PD&E study on Tuesday, April 30, 2024.

This hearing is being conducted to present the preferred alternative and all analysis to date, as well as to give interested persons an opportunity to express their views concerning the location, conceptual design, and social, economic, and environmental effects of the proposed improvements.

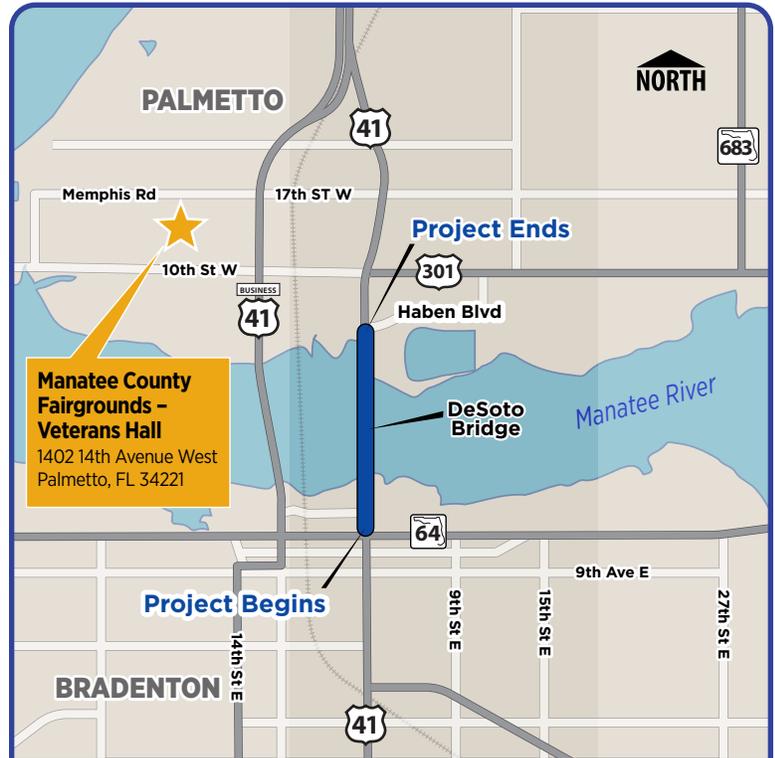
You can participate live online or in-person. The information presented in either format will be the same, and all attendees will have the opportunity to comment.

**ABOUT THE PROJECT**

FDOT, District One, began a PD&E study in late 2022 to evaluate two alternatives along a 1.3 mile segment of US 41 from SR 64 (Manatee Avenue East) to Haben Boulevard in Manatee County, including the DeSoto Bridge.

The purpose of the PD&E Study is to evaluate an in-kind replacement of the bridge. The existing bridge was constructed in 1957 and is experiencing corrosive deterioration and does not accommodate multi-modal travel. The existing bridge provides 40 feet of vertical clearance over the river and has four lanes, with two in each direction.

The new bridge will be similar in length and profile to the existing one. It will include wide inside and outside shoulders and a 12-foot barrier separated shared use path on both sides of the bridge to accommodate bicyclists and pedestrians.



**IN-PERSON OPTION:**

**Tuesday, April 30, 2024**

Manatee County Fairgrounds – Veterans Hall  
 1402 14th Avenue West  
 Palmetto, FL 34221

- Anytime between 5 – 6 p.m. Open house
- 6 p.m. Formal presentation and comment

Displays will be available starting at 5 p.m. to review at your own pace, and the formal presentation will begin at 6 p.m. The project team will be available for discussion.

**LIVE ONLINE OPTION:**

**Tuesday, April 30, 2024**

Register in advance:

<http://tinyurl.com/DeSotoBridge>

- 5:45 p.m. Overview for how to submit a comment
- 6 p.m. Formal presentation and comment

This event will include a livestream of the in-person presentation and the formal comment portion. Please review the materials on the project webpage before attending the virtual event:

[www.swflroads.com/project/442630-1](http://www.swflroads.com/project/442630-1).

Materials will be posted by April 9, 2024.

**SCAN HERE TO REGISTER FOR ONLINE OPTION**



## CONTACT US

FDOT encourages the public to participate in the DeSoto Bridge Replacement PD&E public hearing. If you have questions regarding the hearing, please contact the FDOT Project Manager, Richard “Dick” Combs at:

### **Richard (Dick) Combs**

Project Manager  
Florida Department of Transportation  
801 N. Broadway Ave.  
Bartow, FL 33830  
Phone: (863) 698-3770  
Email: Richard.Combs@dot.state.fl.us

## PROJECT TECHNICAL DOCUMENTS AVAILABLE FOR REVIEW

Project documents will be available for public viewing from Tuesday, April 9, 2024, to Friday, May 10, 2024, at the following locations:

**Project Webpage:** [www.swflroads.com/project/442630-1](http://www.swflroads.com/project/442630-1)



SCAN HERE

### IN-PERSON LOCATIONS:

**Manatee County Library**  
1112 Manatee Avenue West  
Bradenton, FL 34205

**Palmetto Library**  
923 6th Street West  
Palmetto, FL 34221

Copies will also be displayed at the in-person hearing.

FDOT is sending notices to all property owners and businesses within a minimum of 300 feet and interested persons and organizations to provide the opportunity to give comments to FDOT regarding this project. While comments about the project are accepted at any time, please send your comments emailed or postmarked by May 10, 2024, to be included in the official public hearing record.

FDOT solicits public participation without regard to race, color, national origin, age, sex, religion, disability or family status. People who require special accommodations under the Americans with Disabilities Act or who require translation services (free of charge) should contact Cynthia Sykes, District One Title VI Coordinator, at (863) 519-2287, or email at [Cynthia.Sykes@dot.state.fl.us](mailto:Cynthia.Sykes@dot.state.fl.us) at least seven days prior to the public hearing.

The environmental review, consultation, and other actions required by applicable federal environmental laws for this project are being, or have been, carried out by FDOT pursuant to 23 U.S.C. §327 and a Memorandum of Understanding dated May 26, 2022 and executed by the Federal Highway Administration and FDOT.

El Departamento de Transporte de Florida (FDOT) valora su opinión sobre el Proyecto. Si tiene alguna pregunta, comentario o simplemente desea más información, por favor comuníquese con nuestra representante, Karina Della Sera, al (863) 519-2750 o [Karina.DellaSera@dot.state.fl.us](mailto:Karina.DellaSera@dot.state.fl.us).