

SR 29 Glades County Roadway Improvements (449149-1)



Project Description

The SR 29 Roadway Improvements project in Glades County is crucial for freight movement through Southwest Florida. SR 29 is a key corridor in the Strategic Intermodal System and acts as a regional freight corridor. This section of SR 29 has overtopped multiple times in the last two decades including after Hurricane Irma in 2017 and again in the summer of 2021, causing the road to be closed. The project will improve resiliency by resolving flooding issues and eliminate the road closures from overtopping. The project will reconstruct a 3.3 mile stretch of the existing roadway by raising the profile and constructing new pavement. Two existing bridges will be replaced to provide more waterflow capacity, improved wildlife connectivity and reduce long term maintenance costs. This project also includes the resurfacing of 6.6 miles (9.9 miles total) of SR 29 and providing safety enhancements including rumble stripes. This area of Southwest Florida has several agricultural communities which depend on SR 29 for freight movement for their success including the nearby town of Labelle, FL.

The project is located within a rural area with an abundance of native Florida wildlife species including the endangered Florida Panther. Wildlife crossing shelves will be added underneath both of new bridges to better facilitate wildlife connectivity. The proposed bridge replacement at Chaparral Slough lines up with a recently acquired wildlife corridor conservation easement obtained by Florida Forever. These improvements will create a safer corridor for both the motorists and wildlife alike.

Project Highlights and Benefits

The roadway improvement project will address the current critical issues along SR 29 to eliminate roadway closures due to flooding in the area. The project proposes to:

- ❖ Replace and construct two new bridges
- ❖ Raise the roadway profile (3.3 miles) to improve resiliency
- ❖ Increase wildlife connectivity with wildlife crossing shelves and wildlife fencing
- ❖ Resurface the remaining 6.6 miles including safety enhancements

- ❖ **Grant Type:**
Rural Surface Transportation Grant Program
- ❖ **Project Type:**
Rural
- ❖ **Applicant/Project Sponsor:**
FDOT District 1
- ❖ **Grant Request:**
\$25,000,000
- ❖ **Total Project Cost:**
\$37,000,000
- ❖ **Project Location**
Glades County, FL
- ❖ **Was a Federal Discretionary Grant Application for this project submitted previously?**
Yes



7/11/2023



Project Location

