

OPENING-CLOSURE PROGRAM

The Crossing Opening-Closure Program promotes the FRO Strategic Focus of building a well-connected, reliable and safe multimodal network. The program accomplishes this by identifying hazardous public highway-rail grade crossing locations, and by identifying redundant and unnecessary public highway-rail grade crossings for potential roadway closure. The Office uses the following multi-step process to implement a successful OCP program.

START

Party Submits Application.

FDOT reviews and determines the viability of the application.

EACH CLOSURE:



Saves
Lives



Eliminates
Incidents

TOTAL PUBLIC AT-GRADE CROSSINGS

3,565

**as of 2025*

FDOT Seeks Response. Seeks response to application by affected parties (example: if city/county submits opening, FDOT will ask railroad to state their position).

SOP Executed. If opening/closing meets FAC criteria and is agreeable to all parties, FDOT will draft Stipulation of Parties. Execution of Stipulation of Parties (SOP) serves as Final Order and permit to open or close crossing.

The Final Order. Executed by the FDOT Secretary. This Final Order may overrule the Administrative Law Judge's Recommended Order.

FDOT reviews application. Ensures that all necessary information is provided and the crossing is a public, at-grade crossing.

FDOT Conducts Fact-Finding.

Public input is sought depending on circumstances, FDOT may facilitate negotiation to resolve differences.

Conduct Administrative Hearing. If affected party(ies) or FDOT opposes Stipulation, FDOT will issue a Notice of Intent to permit or deny the opening or closing of the subject crossing. A Recommended Order will be issued by the Administrative Law Judge.



For additional information, please visit:
www.fdot.gov/rail/programs/opening-closure



Contact us for information about the process or to submit applications.
ocp@dot.state.fl.us

END