



SR A1A NORTH BRIDGE OVER ICWW

From US 1 to approximately 2000 feet east of Existing Bridge

St. Lucie County, Florida

Project Development and Environment (PD&E) Study

Financial Project ID 429936-2-22-01

ETDM# 14052



AUGUST, 2015

NEWSLETTER

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The SRA1A North Causeway Bridge is a moveable bridge constructed in 1963. The bridge is located in St. Lucie County and crosses over the Intracoastal Waterway (ICWW) connecting the barrier island to the mainland in the City of Fort Pierce.

The March 2014 bridge inspection showed the bridge was structurally deficient and must be replaced for the following reasons:

- The overall fitness of the bridge scored only slightly above an “unsatisfactory” rating
- The corrosive condition of the bridge deck received a “poor” rating

A previous study conducted in July 2011 recommended replacing only the deck as the most practical and cost effective solution. However, the existing bridge is expected to deteriorate further as it operates beyond its original 50-year service life. Coupled with the corrosive environment continuing to degrade the bridge, if not replaced, it will require further costly repairs.

While the existing bridge meets the United States Coast Guard's (USCG) 21-foot vertical clearance requirement at 24.9 feet, it does not meet their 125-foot horizontal clearance — with only 90 feet clearance between the fenders.

Recently the bridge's operational characteristics were also analyzed and found to be of concern. With more than one third of the daily bridge openings taking place during peak hour/peak volume traffic times, the bridge openings are interrupting vehicular flows over the bridge.

OBJECTIVES

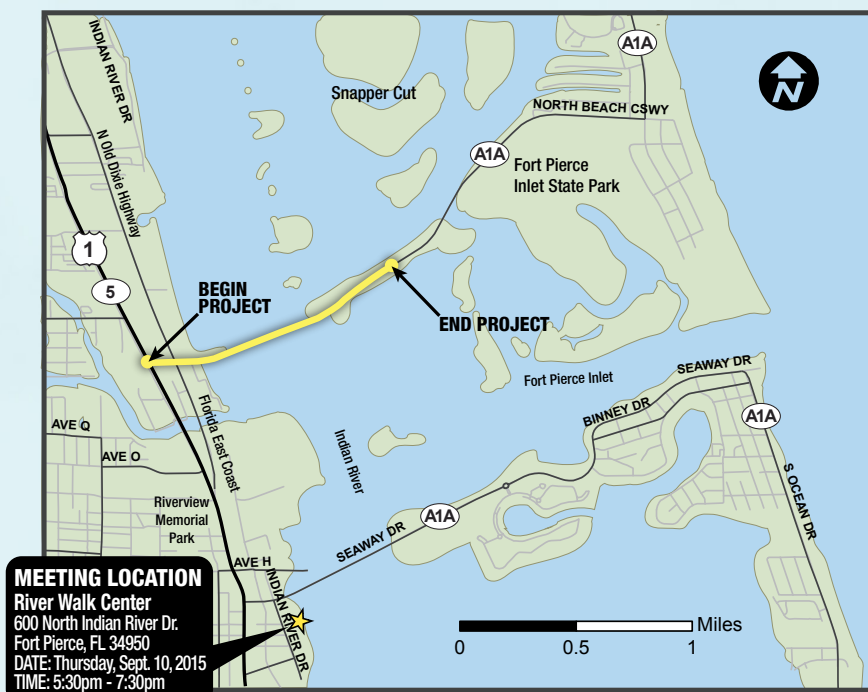
This PD&E Study will evaluate the environmental and engineering aspects of the proposed improvements to the SR A1A North Causeway Bridge. All elements of this study will comply with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). Public involvement activities throughout the study will determine the Locally Preferred Alternative.

The alternatives currently being evaluated address the structural and functional deficiencies of the existing bascule (draw-bridge or moveable) bridge, improve traffic operation, and improve bicycle and pedestrian safety.

The alternatives include:

- Rehabilitation of the existing bridge
- Evaluation of bridge replacement alternatives
 - Low-level bascule bridge, 24.9 feet vertical clearance
 - Mid-level bascule, 35 feet vertical clearance
 - High level, fixed bridge, 65 or 86 feet vertical clearance
 - Elevating SR A1A over the FEC railroad and Old Dixie Highway

Project Location Map and Meeting Location



MEETING LOCATION
River Walk Center
600 North Indian River Dr.
Fort Pierce, FL 34950
DATE: Thursday, Sept. 10, 2015
TIME: 5:30pm - 7:30pm



The Alternatives Public Meeting scheduled for Thursday, **September 10, 2015** will begin as an open house at 5:30 p.m. with a formal presentation at 6:00 p.m. In the event that severe weather or other unforeseen conditions cause the meeting to be postponed, it will be held on the alternate date of September 16, 2015 at the same time and place. Members of the public may submit written comments at the meeting or by contacting Mr. Donovan Pessoa, P.E., Consultant Project Manager (*contact information below*). He may also be contacted by persons with disabilities who require special accommodations under the Americans with Disabilities Act or persons who require translation services (free of charge) at least seven (7) days prior to the Alternatives Public Meeting.



ACTIVITY	2014	2015	2016	2017
Begin Study		★		
Public Kick-off Meeting		★		
Public Input				
Develop Build Alternatives				
Alternatives Public Meeting		★		
Public Hearing No-Build and Build Alternative Presented			★	
Study Complete/Location Design Concept Acceptance				★
Public Involvement				

600 North Indian River Drive
Fort Pierce, FL 34950