

Florida Department of Transportation

Lane Elimination





FDOT D6 Lane Elimination Review and Approval Process

- ▶ Developed to assure consistency in FDOT D6's handling of the Lane Elimination Review and Approval Process:
 - ▶ 1. Initial Meeting
 - ▶ 2. Interim Meeting and Concept Report
 - ▶ 3. Formal Application



FDOT D6 Lane Elimination Review and Approval Process

- ▶ Lane Elimination Process promotes use of non-automobile modes and contributes to more livable environments
- ▶ Local government and developers typically request the elimination of through lanes on State Roads so that the recovered right-of-way can be converted to:
 - ▶ bicycle lanes
 - ▶ wider sidewalks
 - ▶ landscaping
 - ▶ on-street parking
- ▶ Applicant:
 - ▶ The City, County, MPO, TPO, and/or private entity proposing the lane elimination study



FDOT D6 Lane Elimination Review and Approval Process

- ▶ Desired characteristics:
 - ▶ Consistent, predictable & repeatable
 - ▶ Multimodal
 - ▶ Includes a review checklist or review form
 - ▶ Requires public involvement
 - ▶ Requires a funding assessment
 - ▶ Includes a review schedule or timeline
 - ▶ Addresses diversion and impacts on diversion routes
 - ▶ Considers freight routes and accommodation of freight activity

Initial Meeting Checklist

BASIC INFORMATION ABOUT THE PROPOSED PROJECT

- Project Location
- Project Limits
- Project Length
- Project Purpose
- Jurisdiction(s) in Which the Project is Located
- Proposed Change in Lane Configuration
- Project Schedule
- Conceptual plan (including transitions to and from the lane elimination section)
- Existing and long-range future AADT (the latter based on historical growth and/or the regional travel demand model)
- Consistency of the proposed project with the applicable Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP), Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), Transit Development Plan (TDP), comprehensive plan, and any applicable master plans, visions, and Complete Streets initiatives
- Status of the roadway as an Evacuation Route, freight route, and/or part of the Strategic Intermodal System (SIS)
- Status of the roadway as a major transit corridor per the LRTP or TDP
- Proposed use(s) for the right-of-way after lanes are eliminated (e.g., widened sidewalks, bicycle lanes, landscaping, on-street parking, and/or transit lanes)
- Existing right-of-way width and any proposed changes to the right-of-way width
- Anticipated change (if any) in jurisdictional responsibility for ownership or maintenance of the roadway
- Anticipated changes (if any) in functional classification and access management classification
- Anticipated changes (if any) in posted speed limits
- Need for design variations or design exceptions to support the lane elimination project
- Plan for obtaining input and review from businesses, residents, and other stakeholders
- Plan for receiving endorsement from elected officials
- Ideas for funding sources
- Potential implementation strategy and partner commitments

Methodology Checklist

- Conceptual design plans (including proposed typical sections) that meet FDOT design standards for all transportation modes
- Need for any design variations or exceptions
- Size of impact area
- Near- and long-range traffic forecasts with and without the proposed project (with changes in travel patterns clearly shown)
- Near- and long-range level of service (LOS) and queuing analyses for intersections and segments in the impact area under the build and no-build scenarios
 - LOS analyses may be daily or peak hour analyses at the District Review Team's discretion.
 - The District Review Team and the Applicant should agree on an analysis methodology.
- Mitigation to address significant and adverse LOS impacts on State roads and the regional transportation system resulting from the lane elimination
- Crash data summary and analysis, which may include identification of high-crash locations (by crash type) and locations on FDOT's 5% lists (i.e., the lists of the 5% of segments and intersections with the highest number of crashes) and/or estimation of the potential increase or decrease in crashes using Crash Modification Factors (CMFs) from the Highway Safety Manual, CMFs from the Federal Highway Administration CMF website, or other appropriate methodologies
- Impact on pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure (e.g., sidewalks, bicycle lanes, and multi-use paths) and connectivity
- Impact on transit routes and/or transit stop locations (including appropriateness of turn radii and lane widths)
- Impact on trucks and designated truck routes (including appropriateness of turn radii and lane widths and possible relocation of designated truck routes)
- Impact on evacuation routes and emergency response
- Conceptual funding plan (including cost estimates and funding sources)
- Conceptual implementation plan (including an implementation schedule and a list of the commitments that the applicant will make in support of the lane elimination project)
- Existing posted speed and desired posted speed after the lane elimination
- The need to add, remove, or modify traffic signals
- Impacts on school crossing locations and/or midblock pedestrian crossing locations
- Impact on parking supply
- Case-specific special considerations to be determined (e.g., railroad crossing improvements)



Application Checklist

- Formal letter describing the lane elimination request and requesting approval of the lane elimination request
- Documentation of project approval by the appropriate city, county, and/or regional bodies (e.g., a commission or board resolution)
- Documentation that public involvement activities were noticed and occurred
- Summary of concerns and supportive comments that were voiced at public meeting(s) or provided through written communication to the Applicant, along with discussion of how any concerns were addressed
- Final Concept Report
- Final funding plan (as applicable)
- Final implementation plan (as applicable)
- Documentation of Access Management Committee approval (as applicable)



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Step 1: Initial Meeting

- ▶ Preliminary Negotiations
 - ▶ Lane Elimination Review and Approval Process is **initiated when the applicant submit their request**
 - ▶ If the District believes the Lane Elimination is worth pursuing, the District representative will **provide the Lane Elimination Guide to applicant**
 - ▶ Applicant to prepare a **Preliminary Project Information Package** for the first District Review
 - ▶ Lane Elimination Review and Approval Process will **move forward to review** those **Preliminary Project Information**
 - ▶ The following items should always be considered for preparing the Preliminary Project Information Package, where appropriate and applicable



Step 1: Initial Meeting

- ▶ Preliminary Information Package:
 - ▶ Basic Project Information
 - ▶ RCI (Roadway Characteristics Inventory) Information
 - ▶ ROW (Right-of-Way) Information
 - ▶ Impacts
 - ▶ Regional Transportation System
 - ▶ Community
 - ▶ Plans



Step 1: Initial Meeting

- ▶ Reviews by **District Review Team:**
- ▶ District Review Team (Scoping Committee recommended)
- ▶ Identify any fatal flaws
- ▶ Reviewers prepares list of elements for applicant to move to the Interim Meeting
- ▶ Notice to CO that District has been contacted about a Lane Elimination Proposal



Step 1: Initial Meeting

- ▶ The Lane Elimination Process could be proposed as a part of other corridors study conducted by Internal FDOT
- ▶ FDOT Internal Lane Elimination Application:
 - ▶ Lane Repurposing Corridor Study
 - ▶ BRT Corridor Study
 - ▶ Greenway Study
- ▶ Lane Elimination Proposal submitted to Scoping Committee
- ▶ Scoping Committee indicates leader/applicant for the Lane Elimination Application



Step 2: Interim Meeting & Draft Concept Report

- ▶ Technical Analysis prepared to show technical feasibility
- ▶ Technical Analysis Package:
 - ▶ Traffic forecasts
 - ▶ Existing and future roadway capacity
 - ▶ Existing and future delay, queue and posted speed
 - ▶ Short-term and long-term person throughput
 - ▶ Short-term and long-term truck movement (if applicable)
 - ▶ Short-term and long-term LOS
 - ▶ Short-term and long-term traffic impacts on adjacent roadway (LOS)



Step 2: Interim Meeting & Draft Concept Report

- ▶ Draft Concept Report by Applicant
 - ▶ Design
 - ▶ Technical analysis (Traffic Operations and impacts)
 - ▶ Crash Analysis
 - ▶ Transit Service Assessment
 - ▶ Impact Discussion
 - ▶ Area/Zone
 - ▶ Conceptual Plans



Step 2: Interim Meeting & Draft Concept Report

- ▶ Consolidated Review Comments by District Review Team
- ▶ Applicant submits the draft concept report
- ▶ District Review Team to review and provide comments
- ▶ District staff and applicant jointly determine if further analysis is needed
 - ▶ Applicant should resolve outstanding comments and concerns
- ▶ District will send notice to Central office that a draft concept report for a proposed lane elimination project has been received and reviewed by the District
- ▶ Notice should indicate whether the draft concept report is **feasible for the capacity, operations, and safety perspective**
- ▶ If the draft concept report proves the project's feasibility, it will be noted that the District should recommend the project to move forward to the final step – Formal Application



Step 3: Formal Application

- Preparation of Final Concept Report by Applicant
- Final Concept Report Package:
 - Formal letter requesting the lane elimination
 - Documentation
 - Comments
 - Final submittals



Step 3: Formal Application

- ▶ Approval of Final Concept Report
 - ▶ Applicant submits formal application package
 - ▶ District reviews supporting document
 - ▶ Central Office notified
 - ▶ Central Office approves/denies
 - ▶ Applicant notified of approval/denial
 - ▶ Lane Elimination Review and Approval Process is completed

Process Summary

