



Florida Department of Transportation

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Memorandum to: Philip Stein, FTE Environmental Administrator

cc: Teresa Price, PE, Project Manager, FTE (Atkins)
Cristina Schoonard, Noise Analyst, Atkins

From: Douglas Zang, AICP, Senior Environmental Scientist, FTE (Atkins) *DZ*

Subject: Traffic Noise Memorandum, FPID 443956-1 Atlantic Boulevard Interchange,
Sawgrass Expressway (SR 869) MP 7.5 to 8.9

Date: June 8, 2021

The purpose of this memorandum is to document the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) policy on traffic noise on the subject project.

FDOT, Florida's Turnpike Enterprise (FTE) is proposing improvements to State Road (SR) 869 (Sawgrass Expressway) at the Atlantic Boulevard Interchange, in Broward County, Florida. The original intention of this design-phase project was to improve traffic operations at the Atlantic Boulevard interchange and to widen the mainline of the Sawgrass Expressway from six (6) to ten travel lanes. That concept was consistent with the Project Development and Environment (PD&E) study for this project (FPID 435763-1 to widen the Sawgrass from Sunrise Boulevard to US 441/SR 7). The proposed addition of travel lanes to the highway mainline classified the project as a "Type I" project under Section 18.1.3.1 of Part 2, Chapter 18 of the PD&E Manual.

The scope of the project was changed during the design process, such that the highway mainline would be reconstructed and paved to accommodate ten travel lanes in the future but be striped in the interim to continue the use of six (6) mainline travel lanes within the project limits. The project limits were also shortened to only cover the Sawgrass Expressway mainline between MP 7.5 and MP 8.9.

Existing noise barriers in the study limits constructed between 2003 and 2007 would remain in place under this project. These barriers include:

- A noise barrier south of Atlantic Boulevard serving the Devon, Trent, and Sanibel communities ranging from 10 to 15-feet high, near the edge of the Right-of-Way (ROW);
- A noise barrier south of Atlantic Boulevard serving a portion of the West Glen community, 14-foot high, near the edge of the ROW; and

- A noise barrier north of Atlantic Boulevard serving the Vizcaya community, 18-feet high, near the edge of the ROW.

As the current project design maintains the existing six (6) lane cross section and would not increase roadway capacity, the project no longer qualifies as a Type I noise project, meaning no noise analysis is required under FDOT policy. This memorandum should therefore not be considered a Noise Study Report (NSR) or Noise Study Report Addendum (NSRA).

Future design projects on the Sawgrass Expressway north and south of the Atlantic Boulevard interchange (FPID 435461-1, Widen Sawgrass Expressway from Atlantic Boulevard to Sample Road, and FPID 437155-6, Widen Sawgrass Expressway from Oakland Park Boulevard to Commercial Boulevard) will tie into the current project limits with a 10-lane cross-section. At that time, it is expected that the mainline of the Sawgrass Expressway within the limits of the current project (MP 7.5 to 8.9) would be re-striped to 10 travel lanes. As a result, an NSRA will need to be performed to assess the effects of the increased roadway capacity on traffic noise affecting sensitive receptors between MP 7.5 and 8.9. If noise abatement (e.g, walls) is determined to be feasible and reasonable at that time, FTE will include the noise walls in the design plans.