

U.S. Department of
Homeland Security

United States
Coast Guard



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16591/3886
March 14, 2011

PUBLIC NOTICE (8-11)

Subject: AVAILABILITY OF ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT FOR THE PROPOSED REPLACEMENT OF THE CSXT RAILROAD BRIDGE ACROSS THE SOUTH FORK OF THE NEW RIVER, MILE 2.8, AT FORT LAUDERDALE, BROWARD COUNTY, FLORIDA.

The United States Coast Guard (USCG), as the lead federal agency for the proposed project announces availability of the Draft Environmental Assessment (EA) for replacement of the CSXT Railroad Bridge across the South Fork of the New River, mile 2.8, located in Fort Lauderdale, Broward County Florida. The USCG solicits comments as part of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process.

PROJECT BACKGROUND: FDOT is proposing to replace the historic CSXT Railroad Bridge. A determination of adverse effect has been made for this historic bridge, and the USCG has initiated consultation with the SHPO as part of the Section 106 process. A survey of the proposed project area identified two eligible resources within the area of potential effect: the New River CSXT Railroad Rolling Lift Bridge and the Seaboard Air Line Railroad line. State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) concurs that the replacement alternative is most feasible and that the removal of the New River CSXT Railroad Rolling Lift Bridge constitutes an adverse effect on the Seaboard Air Line Railroad line. The removal of the existing lift bridge drastically changes the setting and feeling of the railroad line. To minimize the adverse effect on the National Register-eligible resource, SHPO recommended that the replacement bridge maintain consistency with regards to the type (rolling lift) of the current bridge to minimize the adverse effect.

The EA includes a description of the alternatives considered, concerning the disposition of the CSXT Railroad Bridge. Included in the alternatives were: a no build alternative, a rehabilitation alternative, and five build alternatives (bascule, rolling lift and vertical lift replacement bridges, a tunnel alternative and a high-level fixed bridge alternative). The recommended preferred alternative is the build alternative which involves the replacement of the existing Scherzer Rolling Lift Bridge with one the three moveable bridge build alternatives. The proposed replacement bridge will be built approximately 35 ft to the west of the existing bridge. The railroad traffic will be maintained on the existing bridge during construction of and until completion of the proposed replacement bridge.

Based upon the Draft EA the Coast Guard has tentatively determined that the proposed action will not have a significant impact on the environment for the purposes of NEPA. It is anticipated a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) will be prepared as the final environmental document for the proposed action, pending comments received from this EA review process.

SOLICITATION OF COMMENTS: Interested parties are requested to express their views in writing on the Draft EA and the proposed replacement of the CSXT Railroad Bridge, giving sufficient detail to establish a clear understanding of their reasons for support of or opposition to the proposed work. Comments will be received at the office of: Commander (dpb), 7th Coast Guard District, Brickell Plaza Federal Building, 909 SE 1st Avenue, Miami, Florida 33131-3050 through April 14, 2011. Comments may also be expressed to Miss Evelyn Smart by telephone at (305) 415-6989 or by e-mail at Evelyn.Smart@uscg.mil. Your comments will be made part of the case record.

A copy of the Draft EA is available electronically for your review on the New River CSX Railroad website at <http://www.RailroadBridgeOverNewRiver.com>. A print copy of the Draft EA may be viewed at the following locations:

Commander (dpb)
Seventh Coast Guard District
909 SE 1st Avenue – Suite 432
Miami, Florida 33131
Hours: Between 8am to 4pm Mon thru Fri
excluding major holidays

FDOT District Four Office
3400 West Commercial Boulevard
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33309
Hours: Between 8a.m. to 5pm Mon thru Fri
excluding major holidays

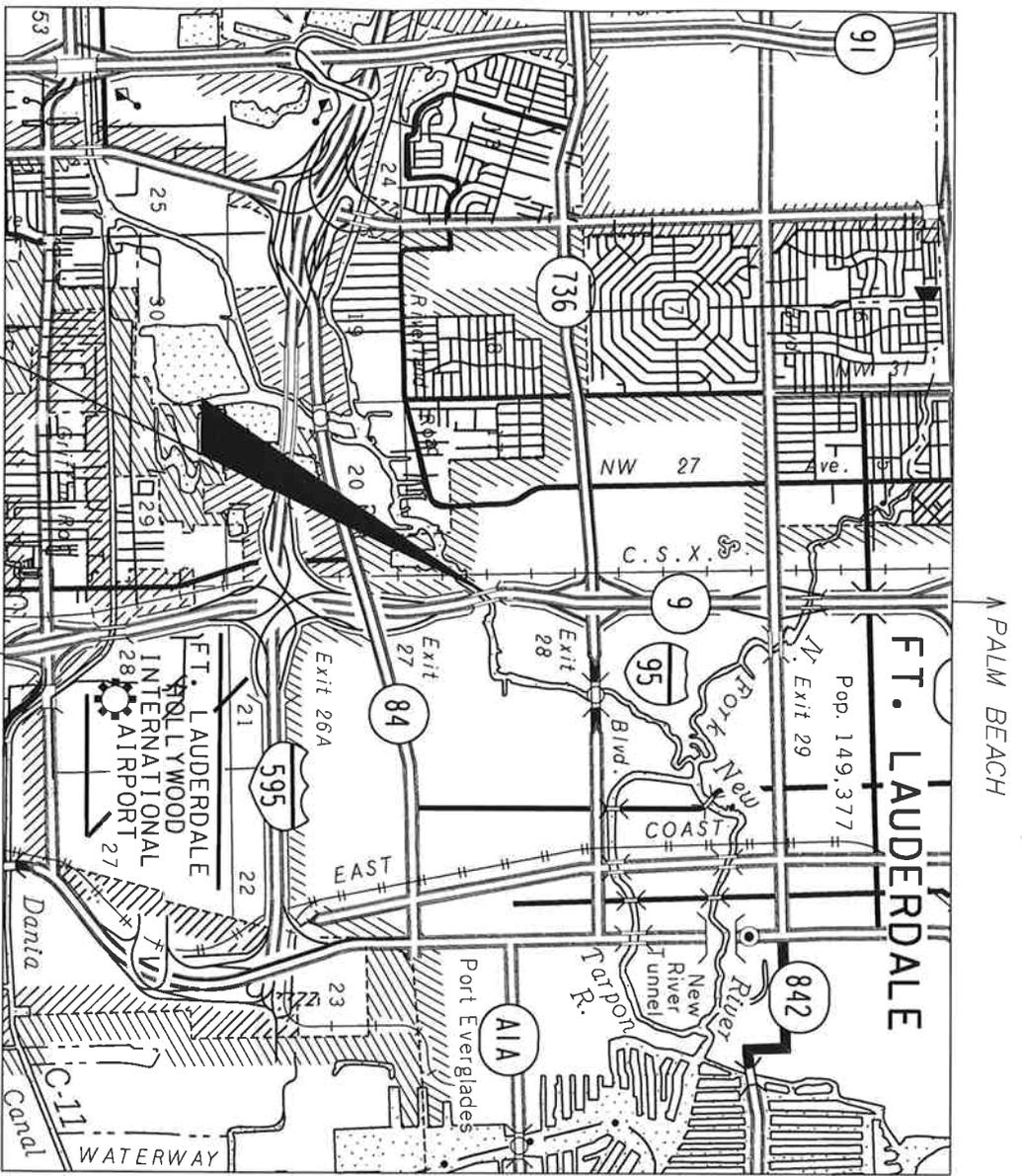
Riverland Branch Library
2710 West Davie Boulevard
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33312
Hours: Between 12 Noon to 8:00 p.m. on Monday and Thursday, and 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Saturday, excluding major holidays

It is requested that this information be brought to the attention of any person having an interest in this who may not have received a copy of this public notice.

FOR THE DISTRICT COMMANDER



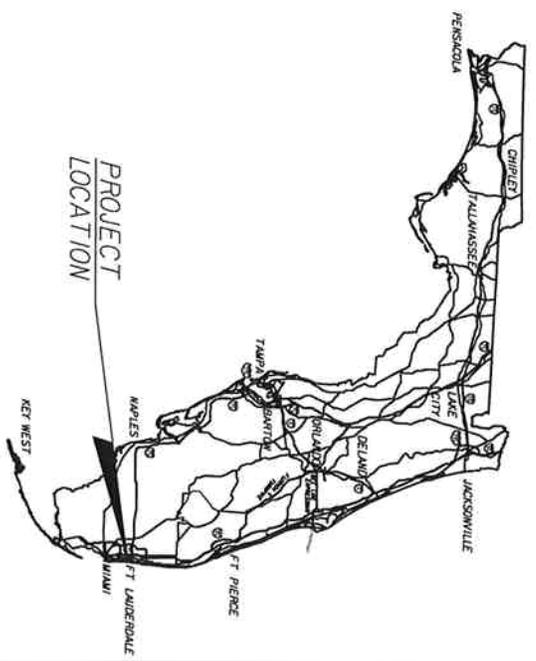
Evelyn Smart
Environmental Protection Specialist
Seventh Coast Guard District
By direction of the District Commander



PROJECT
LOCATION

MIAMI

PALM BEACH



PROJECT
LOCATION

1" = 1 Mile



PROJECT LOCATION MAP
SFRCSX RAILROAD BRIDGE
OVER SOUTH FORK NEW RIVER

CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE
BROWARD COUNTY, FLORIDA

APPLICATION BY
FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
DISTRICT FOUR

CONSULTANT: JACOBS ENGINEERING GROUP

SHEET 1 OF 1

MARCH 4, 2011