

Get Involved Today!

We invite you to get involved! The public plays an important role in the project development and decision-making process of this study. Opportunities for you to provide your input will be available throughout the study by means of submitting comments or attending the public hearing. There are multiple ways to get involved - call, write, or email us. Details on how to provide your input and attend the public hearing are included in this newsletter. You can also invite us to speak at one of your own meetings.

Non-Discrimination

Public participation is solicited without regard to race, color, national origin, age, sex, religion, disability, or family status. Persons who require special accommodations under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) or persons who require translation service (free of charge) should contact **Roger Roscoe**, Title VI Coordinator, at **Roger.Roscoe@dot.state.fl.us**, by telephone at **(813) 975-6411** or toll-free at **1 (800) 226-7220**, or by written correspondence at least (7) days prior to the hearing to the Florida Department of Transportation, District Seven, 11201 N. McKinley Drive, MS 7-500, Tampa, FL 33612.

Comuniquese Con Nosotros

Si usted tiene preguntas o comentarios, o si simplemente desea más información sobre este proyecto, por favor ponerse en contacto con el señor **Manuel Flores** al teléfono **(813) 975-4248** o al correo electrónico: **manuel.flores@dot.state.fl.us**.

Project Schedule

Study Began	February 2020
Data Collection	Completed August 2022 (Project delayed)
Preparation of Documents	Ongoing
Public Hearing	February 28, 2023
PD&E Study Approval	2nd Quarter of 2023

Project Funding

FDOT Five Year Adopted Work Program Fiscal Year 2022/2023 to Fiscal Year 2026/2027.

Segment 1 - Pinellas	Fiscal Year(s)
Design	2022/2023
Right of Way Acquisition	Not Currently Funded
Construction	Not Currently Funded
Segments 2 & 3 - Bay & Hillsborough	Fiscal Year(s)
Design	Not Currently Funded
Right of Way Acquisition	Not Currently Funded
Construction	Not Currently Funded

For more information on this study, visit our project website: [www.fdotd7studies.com/projects/gandy-4th-to-westshore/](http://www.fdotd7studies.com/projects/gandy-4th-to-westshore/)



US 92/SR 600/Gandy Boulevard  
Project Development & Environment (PD&E) Study  
From 4th Street to West Shore Boulevard

Pinellas and Hillsborough Counties | WPI Segment No.: 441250-1

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE | PROJECT NEWSLETTER #2: FEBRUARY 2023

HEARING DATE  
**February 28, 2023**  
5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.  
Formal presentation 6:30 p.m.

In-person Session  
Location  
Pinellas Park Performing Arts Center  
4951 78th Ave N.  
Pinellas Park, FL 33781

Registration to  
Virtual Session  
[www.fdotd7studies.com/projects/gandy-4th-to-westshore](http://www.fdotd7studies.com/projects/gandy-4th-to-westshore)

JOIN THE  
CONVERSATION  
about the  
Gandy Blvd PD&E Study

We want your comments and suggestions throughout the study.

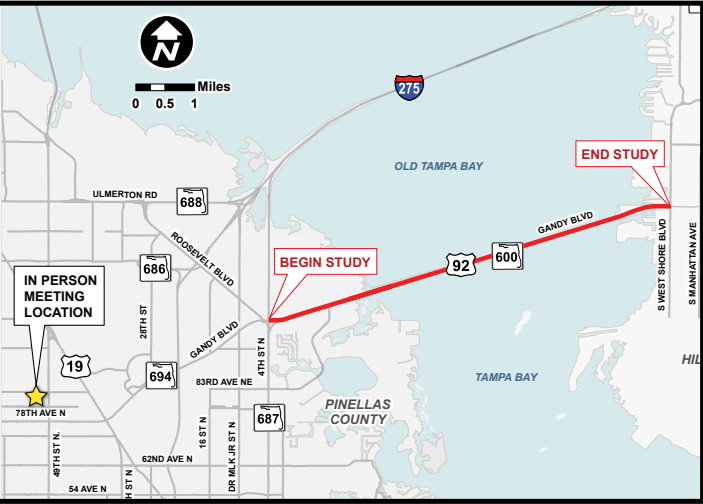
HAVE  
QUESTIONS?  
We're here to help.  
Give us a call, send us an email, or let us come speak to your group:

Craig Fox, P.E.  
FDOT Project Manager  
FDOT—District Seven  
11201 N. McKinley Dr.  
Tampa, FL 33612  
[Craig.Fox@dot.state.fl.us](mailto:Craig.Fox@dot.state.fl.us)  
(813) 975-6082  
(800) 226-7220

— Or —  
Media Inquiries  
Kris Carson  
Public Information Officer  
FDOT- District Seven  
11201 N. McKinley Dr.  
Tampa, FL 33612  
[Kristen.Carson@dot.state.fl.us](mailto:Kristen.Carson@dot.state.fl.us)  
(813) 975-6202  
(800) 226-7220

Dear Property Owner and/or Interested Citizen:

You are invited to attend and participate in the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) District Seven public hearing for the Project Development & Environment (PD&E) Study, WPI Segment No. 441250-1, for the proposed improvements to US 92/SR 600/Gandy Boulevard, hereinafter referred to as Gandy Boulevard, from 4th Street to West Shore Boulevard in Pinellas and Hillsborough Counties, a distance of approximately 7 miles. The proposed improvements are intended to reduce traffic congestion and improve bicycle and pedestrian accommodations.



This public hearing is being conducted both in-person and virtually to present information to and receive public input from interested persons regarding the proposed improvements to Gandy Boulevard. Citizens who choose to attend the virtual hearing session must do so through a computer, tablet or smartphone via GoToWebinar. **Virtual attendees must register online** at

the project website: [www.fdotd7studies.com/projects/gandy-4th-to-westshore/](http://www.fdotd7studies.com/projects/gandy-4th-to-westshore/). Additional information related to the public hearing is included in the newsletter insert.

This public hearing will be conducted in accordance with all federal, state, and local requirements. This newsletter also serves as notice to property owners (pursuant to Florida Statutes 339.155) that all or a portion of their property is within a minimum of 300 feet of the centerline of the alignment; however, this does not mean that all properties would be directly affected.

Maps, drawings, and other project information will be available at the in-person hearing session and for review online starting on February 25, 2023 at [www.fdotd7studies.com/projects/gandy-4th-to-westshore/](http://www.fdotd7studies.com/projects/gandy-4th-to-westshore/). Draft PD&E reports will be available for public review from February 7, 2023 to March 10, 2023, on the project website and at the following locations:

- **Jan Kaminis Platt Regional Library**, 3910 S. Manhattan Ave., Tampa, FL 33611  
Mon. - Wed.: 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.; Thurs. - Sat.: 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- **North Community Library**, 861 70th Ave. N., St. Petersburg, FL 33702  
Mon., Wed., Fri., Sat.: 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Tues., Thurs.: 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.
- **Florida Department of Transportation, District Seven**: 11201 N. McKinley Drive, Tampa, FL 33612  
Mon. - Fri.: 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The environmental review, consultation, and other actions required by applicable Federal environmental laws for this project are being, or have been, carried out by FDOT pursuant to 23 U.S.C. § 327 and a Memorandum of Understanding dated May 26, 2022, and executed by the Federal Highway Administration and FDOT.

FDOT welcomes and appreciates everyone's participation. If you have questions about the project or the scheduled hearing, please contact Craig Fox, P.E., FDOT Project Manager at (813) 975-6082 or (800) 226-7220 or visit our project website at [www.fdotd7studies.com/projects/gandy-4th-to-westshore/](http://www.fdotd7studies.com/projects/gandy-4th-to-westshore/).

Sincerely,

**Kirk Bogen, P.E.**  
Environmental Management Engineer

### What is a PD&E Study?

The PD&E Study is a comprehensive study that evaluates social, economic, and environmental effects associated with the proposed transportation improvements so that the FDOT can reach a decision on the type, location, and conceptual design to meet the project’s proposed purpose and need. Engaging the public by sharing and receiving information is a key component of this process and is required by the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).

### Study Purpose

The purpose of this project is to reduce traffic congestion and improve bicycle and pedestrian accommodations on Gandy Boulevard.

### Project Description

The proposed action is to reduce traffic congestion and improve bicycle and pedestrian accommodations by reconstructing Gandy Boulevard to provide an elevated controlled access 4-lane to 6-lane roadway mainline separated from local traffic with frontage roads and multi-use trails on both sides of the corridor for bicyclists and pedestrians. The proposed action will also widen the existing westbound Gandy bridge to accommodate a third travel lane and construct a new bridge to provide a wider structure for three travel lanes and a multi-use trail.

### Existing Conditions

Gandy Boulevard is currently a four-lane divided facility through the study limits and is classified by the FDOT as an urban principal arterial. The Gandy Boulevard PD&E Study was further divided into three segments for the purposes of roadway capacity and pedestrian analysis. The segment from 4th Street to the west end of the Gandy Bridge operates at a deficient level of service (LOS) in both the existing year 2020 and design year 2050. The segment from the east end of the Gandy bridges to West Shore Boulevard is forecasted to have a deficient LOS in the design year 2050. Limited on-street bicycle accomodations and multi-use trail are present within the study area.

### Traffic & Crash Data

Crash data along Gandy Boulevard within the project limits was obtained from the FDOT crash records database for the 5-year period 2015 through 2019 within Pinellas and Hillsborough Counties. A total of 738 crashes were reported, including 283 intersection-related, 334 rear-end type, and 8 pedestrian and bicycle related crashes. This segment of Gandy Boulevard has an intersection crash rate greater than the statewide average for similar facilities. Annual average daily traffic (AADT) ranged from 36,500 vehicles per day (VPD) to 47,000 VPD in 2020; by design year 2050, AADTs are expected to range from 57,500 VPD to 69,500 VPD within the study limits. If no improvements are made, this section of Gandy Boulevard is expected to operate at LOS F by 2050. The proposed improvements in this study include widening the roadway for capacity improvements to reduce traffic congestion along Gandy Boulevard within the project limits.

### Evaluation Matrix

An evaluation matrix comparing the No-Build and Build alternatives is shown to the right. This matrix compares preliminary cost estimates (right-of-way acquisition, wetland mitigation, engineering and construction), as well as natural, physical, and social environmental factors.

Evaluation Criteria	No-Build Alternative	Preferred Alternative
Estimated Project Impacts		
Potential Relocations		
Number of residential relocations	0	0
Number of business relocations	0	3
Potential Environmental Effects		
Archaeological/Historical sites (eligible)	0	3
Public parks, recreation areas, or wildlife refuges	0	4
Wetlands (acres)	0	6.71
Other Surface Waters (acres)	0	1.11
Potential for Federal and/or State Listed Species	None	Medium
Noise-impacted receptors <sup>1</sup>	0	159
Contamination sites (medium/high)	0/0	5/1
Right-of-Way Needs		
Right-of-way to be acquired for roadway (acres)	0	11.54
Right-of-way to be acquired for stormwater facilities (acres)	0	1.30
Total Right-of-way needs (acres)	0	12.84
Estimated Total Project Costs (2022 Costs)		
Construction Cost		
Design	\$0	\$59.86 M
Right-of-way for roadway widening <sup>2</sup>	\$0	\$41.35 M
Right-of-way for stormwater ponds <sup>2</sup>	\$0	\$0.59 M
Wetlands mitigation	\$0	\$1.25 M
Construction Engineering & Inspection	\$0	\$59.86 M
Construction cost for roadway, bridges, and ponds <sup>3</sup>	\$0	\$598.57 M
Preliminary Total Cost (\$) (2022 Costs)	\$0	\$761.48 M

1. Number of impacted noise sensitive sites based on the Noise Study Report.
2. Right-of-way cost estimates were prepared in September 2022.
3. Construction costs were prepared using the FDOT LRE system in 2022.

### Right of Way Acquisition Procedure

We understand that when a transportation project proposes the acquisition of private property, you may have questions and concerns. To better educate and inform you about the Right of Way acquisition process and your rights, the FDOT has created real estate acquisition and relocation brochures.

These brochures and other education materials will be available at the public hearing along with representatives from the FDOT’s Right of Way acquisition and relocations department. Copies of the brochures may also be found on our website at: [www.fdot.gov/rightofway/documents.shtm](http://www.fdot.gov/rightofway/documents.shtm).

We are interested in hearing your concerns and answering your questions. Please feel free to speak with the FDOT’s Project Manager or a District Seven Right of Way Office representative at your convenience either at the hearing or by phone at (813) 975-6495.



### Instructions for Attending the Public Hearing

Interested persons can attend the public hearing either in-person or virtually. The same materials will be presented for the in-person and virtual formats.

Pre-registration is **required** for the virtual format. Registration is available online at the project website [www.fdot7studies.com/projects/gandy-4th-to-westshore/](http://www.fdot7studies.com/projects/gandy-4th-to-westshore/) or from your mobile device, scan the QR code to the right.

If you have any questions or issues registering, please contact Craig Fox, P.E., the FDOT Project Manager at (813) 975-6082.



#### To attend the Public Hearing In-Person

In-Person Public Hearing Session will be held at:

Pinellas Park Performing Arts Center  
4951 78th Avenue North  
Pinellas Park, FL 33781

5:30 p.m. Open House

6:30 p.m. Formal Portion/Comment Period

1. Upon arrival, please sign-in. If you wish to make a formal public comment, please fill out a speaker card and give it to a project team member. You will be called during the formal portion in the order in which the cards are received.

2. During the Open House period starting at 5:30 p.m., a repeating informational presentation will be shown and project displays will be available for review. Team members will be on-site to assist with questions and/or concerns.

3. At 6:30 p.m. the formal public hearing portion will begin.

4. Those who filled out a speaker card will be called upon to make a formal comment.

5. At the conclusion of the formal portion of the hearing and the public comment, the open house will resume until 7:30 p.m.

#### To attend the Virtual Public Hearing Session

The Virtual Public Hearing Session will be held through:

GoToWebinar  
5:30 p.m. Open House

6:30 p.m. Formal Portion/Comment Period

Persons registered for the Virtual Public Hearing can attend online using GoToWebinar.

1. Virtual online attendees should use the sign-in link emailed to them after registering.

2. During the Open House period, starting at 5:30 p.m., attendees will be able to view materials online and ask questions to FDOT staff through the GoTo chat box. Team members will be available virtually to assist with questions and/or concerns.

3. At 6:30 p.m. the formal public hearing portion will begin and will be broadcast from the in-person event to those attending virtually.

4. After in-person formal comments have been made, virtual online attendees who pre-registered to make a formal comment will be called upon. After the pre-registered comments have been made, other virutal attendees may use the Raise Hand function of the webinar to be called upon if they choose to make a formal public comment.

5. At the conclusion of the formal portion of the hearing and the public comment period, the open house will resume until 7:30 p.m.

#### There are many ways to provide comments:

- Submit your comments through the project website on the “Send Us Your Comments” page.
- Make a verbal statement during the public comment period after the formal portion (see above for in-person and virtual options on how to submit a speaker request).
- Make a verbal statement directly to the court reporter in a one-on-one setting for those attending the in-person session.
- Complete a comment form and drop it in the comment box in-person, or mail the comment form to the address listed on the back. Please postmark by March 10, 2023.

Persons wanting to submit written statements or other exhibits, in place of, or in addition to oral statements, may do so at the hearing or by mailing them to FDOT District Seven Attn.: Kirk Bogen, P.E., Environmental Management Engineer, 11201 N. McKinley Drive MS 7-500, Tampa, FL 33612, or provide them on the “Send Us Your Comments” page on the project website at [www.fdotd7studies.com/projects/gandy-4th-to-westshore/](http://www.fdotd7studies.com/projects/gandy-4th-to-westshore/).

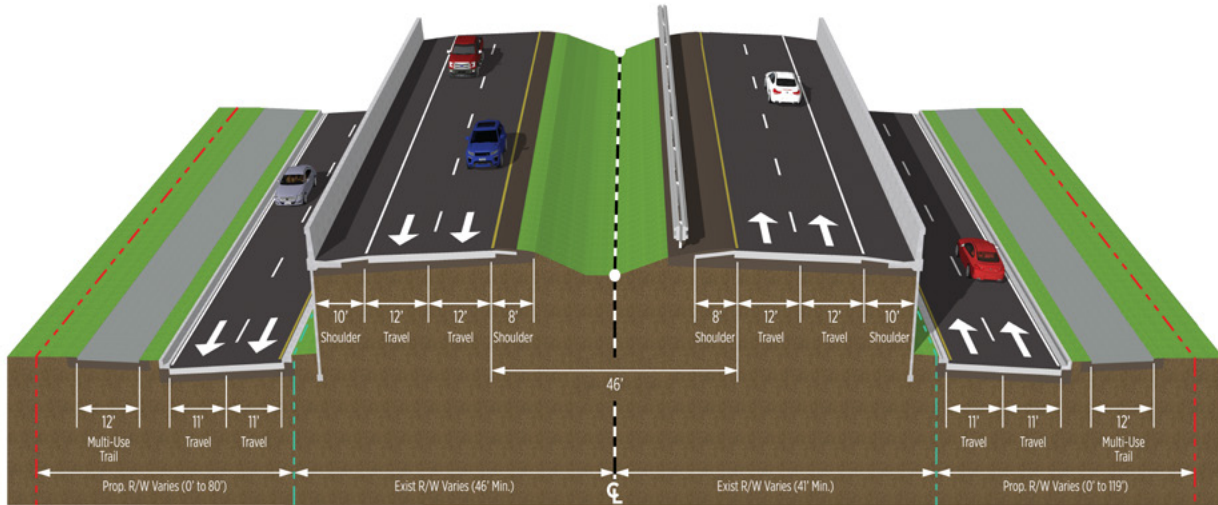
All comments postmarked on or before March 10, 2023 will become part of the official public hearing record.



# Preferred Typical Sections

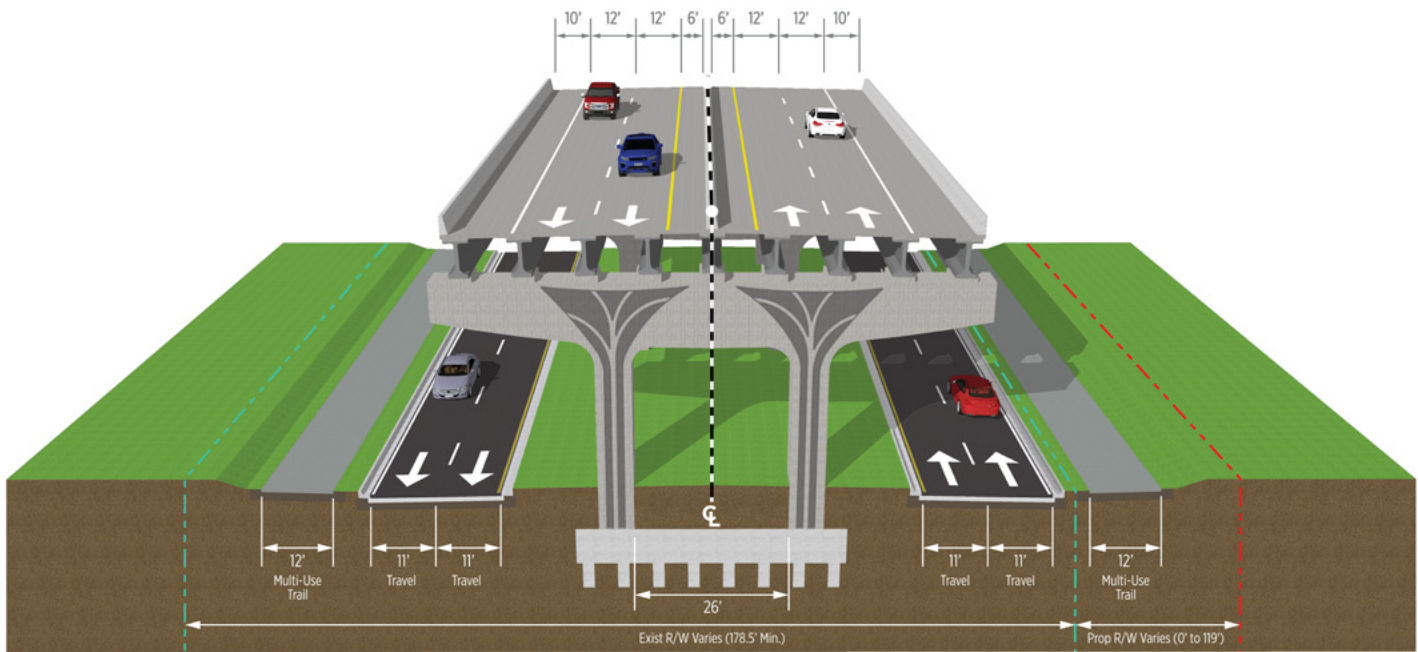
## Typical Section 1

4th St. to Brighton Bay Blvd.; San Martin Blvd. to East of San Fernando Dr.



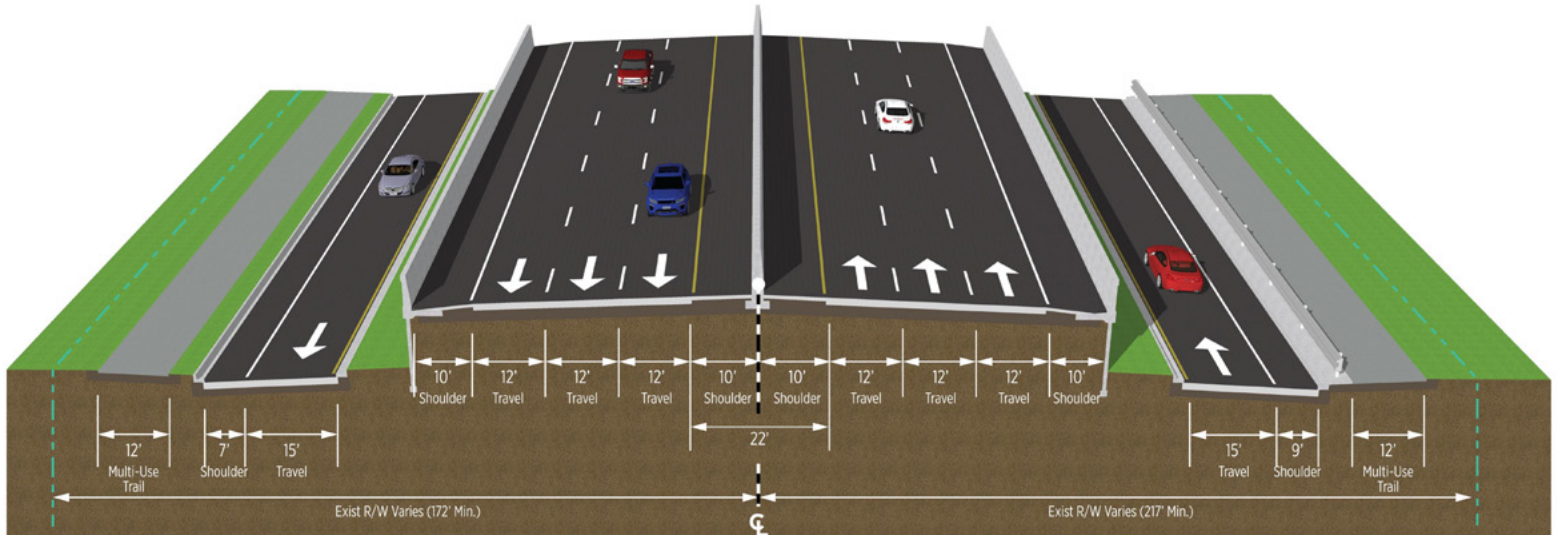
## Typical Section 2

Brighton Bay Blvd. to San Martin Blvd.

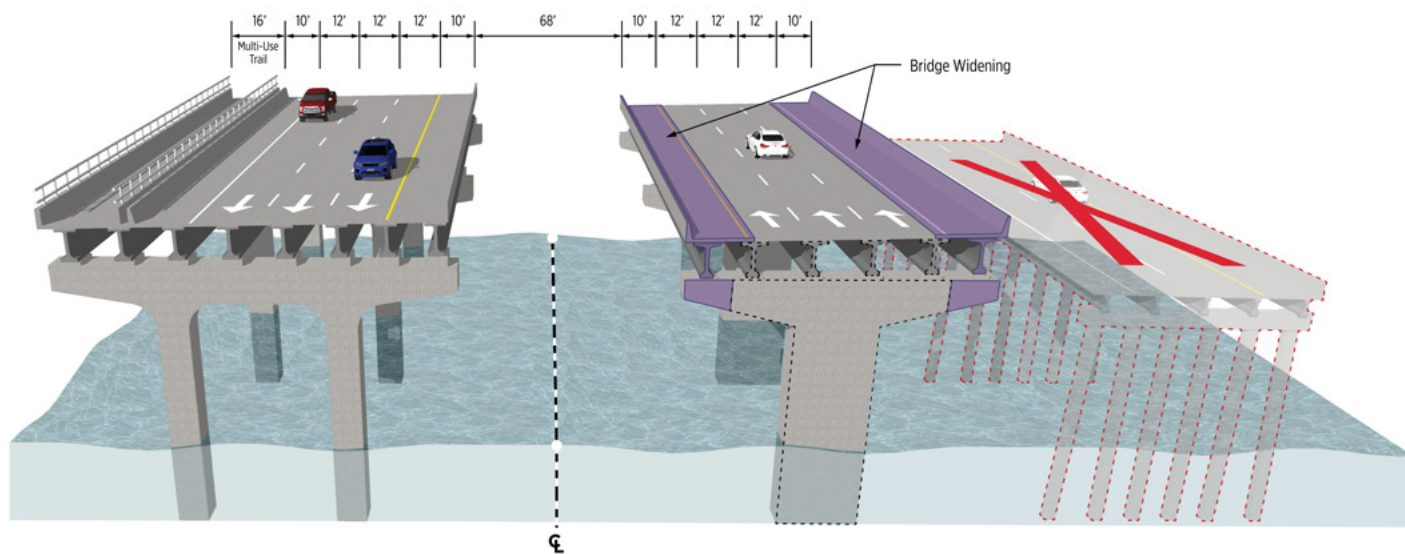


## Typical Section 3

East of San Fernando Dr. to West End of Gandy Bridges



## Typical Section 4 Bridges over Old Tampa Bay



## Typical Section 5 East End of Gandy bridges to West Shore Blvd.

