



SANTA ROSA COUNTY DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

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TO: Board of County Commissioners

FROM: Shawn Ward, AICP, Long Range Planning Manager

THROUGH: Beckie Cato, AICP, Planning Director

SUBJECT: Letter of support to FDOT for the design, funding and implementation of a landscaping plan for the S.R. 8 (I-10) Widening Project at the Avalon Boulevard (S.R. 281) Interchange.

DATE: July 1, 2016

DISCUSSION

Discussion of enclosed letter of request to the Florida Department of Transportation asking that a landscaping plan be designed, funded and implemented for the S.R. 8 (I-10) Widening Project at the Avalon Boulevard (S.R. 281) Interchange.

BACKGROUND

The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) started work in August 2015 to widen S.R. 8 (I-10) from four to six travel lanes from the Escambia Bay Bridge to east of S.R. 281 (Avalon Boulevard). The project also includes construction of a new overpass at Avalon Boulevard and widening the I-10 on-and off-ramps. In addition, crews will construct new curb and gutter, sidewalks, and stormwater retention ponds, install new highway lighting and improve drainage. The entire project is slated for completion in summer 2017.

The week of June 13, 2016, the contractor started removing and clearing the trees surrounding the Avalon Boulevard Interchange. County staff contacted FDOT requesting a copy of the landscaping plan for the widening project only to learn that nothing was programmed in the FDOT Work Program. FDOT intends to sod the entire area. FDOT has previously allocated landscape funding for the Interstate 10 Widening Project in Escambia County and other capacity projects completed throughout the District.

Next Steps

Upon approval by the board, the enclosed letter will be forward to the Chairman for signature and submitted to the Florida Department of Transportation for consideration.



SANTA ROSA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Administrative Offices | 6495 Caroline Street, Suite M | Milton, Florida 32570-4592

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July 14, 2016

Mr. James Barfield, P.E.
FDOT District 3 Secretary
Highway 90 East
Chipley, FL 32428

RE: S.R. 8 (I-10) and S.R. 281 (Avalon Blvd) Landscaping Plan

Dear Mr. Barfield:

Santa Rosa County requests that the Florida Department of Transportation design, fund and implement a landscaping plan for the S.R. 8 (I-10) Widening Project at the Avalon Boulevard (S.R. 281) Interchange.

S.R. 8 (I-10) / Avalon Boulevard (S.R. 281) Interchange is the primary gateway for thousands entering Santa Rosa County each day.

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Questions may be directed to Shawn Ward, AICP, Long Range Planning Manager, at 850-981-7082 or Shawnw@santarosa.fl.gov.

Sincerely,

Lane Lynchard
Board of County Commissioners Chairman

Interstate 10 - Avalon Blvd Interchange



1 inch = 500 feet

Disclaimer:
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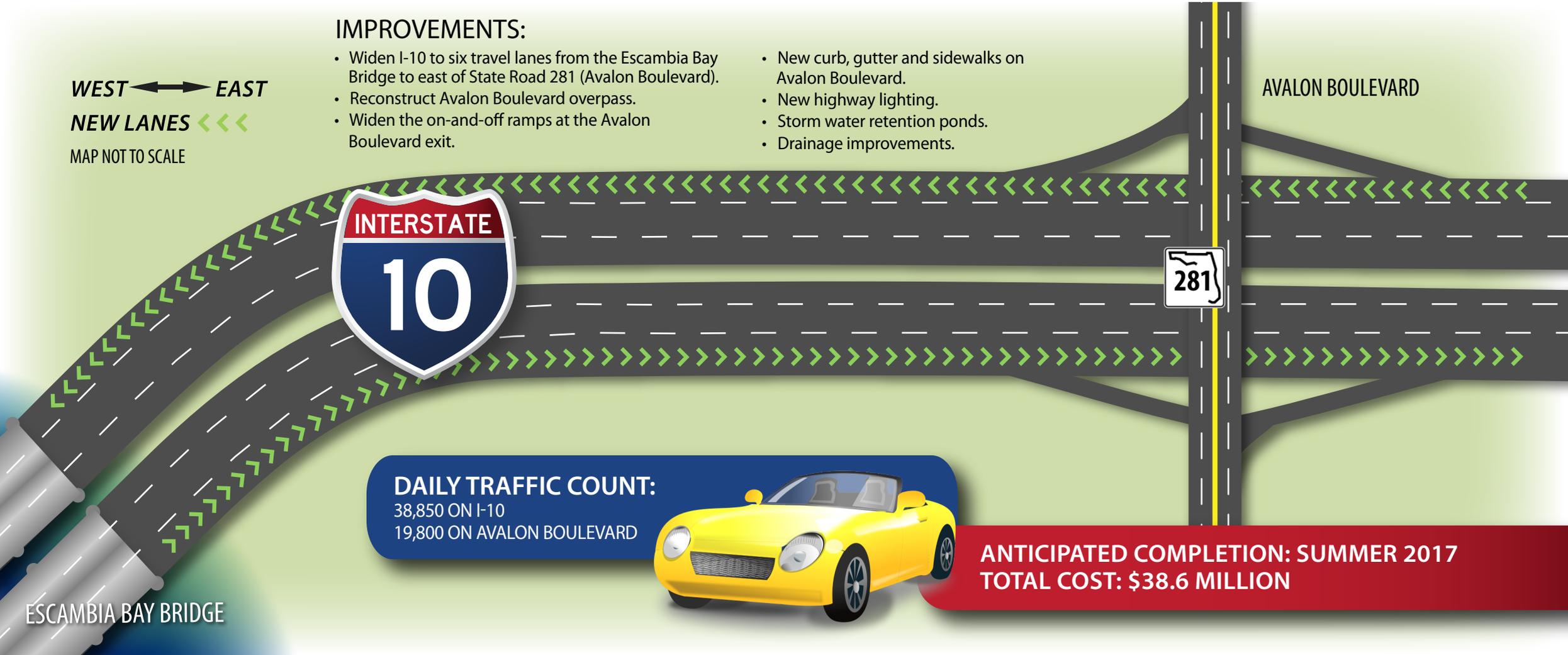
I-10 WIDENING PROJECT

ESCAMBIA BAY BRIDGE TO EAST OF AVALON BOULEVARD

WEST ← → EAST
NEW LANES <<<<
MAP NOT TO SCALE

IMPROVEMENTS:

- Widen I-10 to six travel lanes from the Escambia Bay Bridge to east of State Road 281 (Avalon Boulevard).
- Reconstruct Avalon Boulevard overpass.
- Widen the on-and-off ramps at the Avalon Boulevard exit.
- New curb, gutter and sidewalks on Avalon Boulevard.
- New highway lighting.
- Storm water retention ponds.
- Drainage improvements.



AVALON BOULEVARD

DAILY TRAFFIC COUNT:
 38,850 ON I-10
 19,800 ON AVALON BOULEVARD



ANTICIPATED COMPLETION: SUMMER 2017
TOTAL COST: \$38.6 MILLION

ESCAMBIA BAY BRIDGE