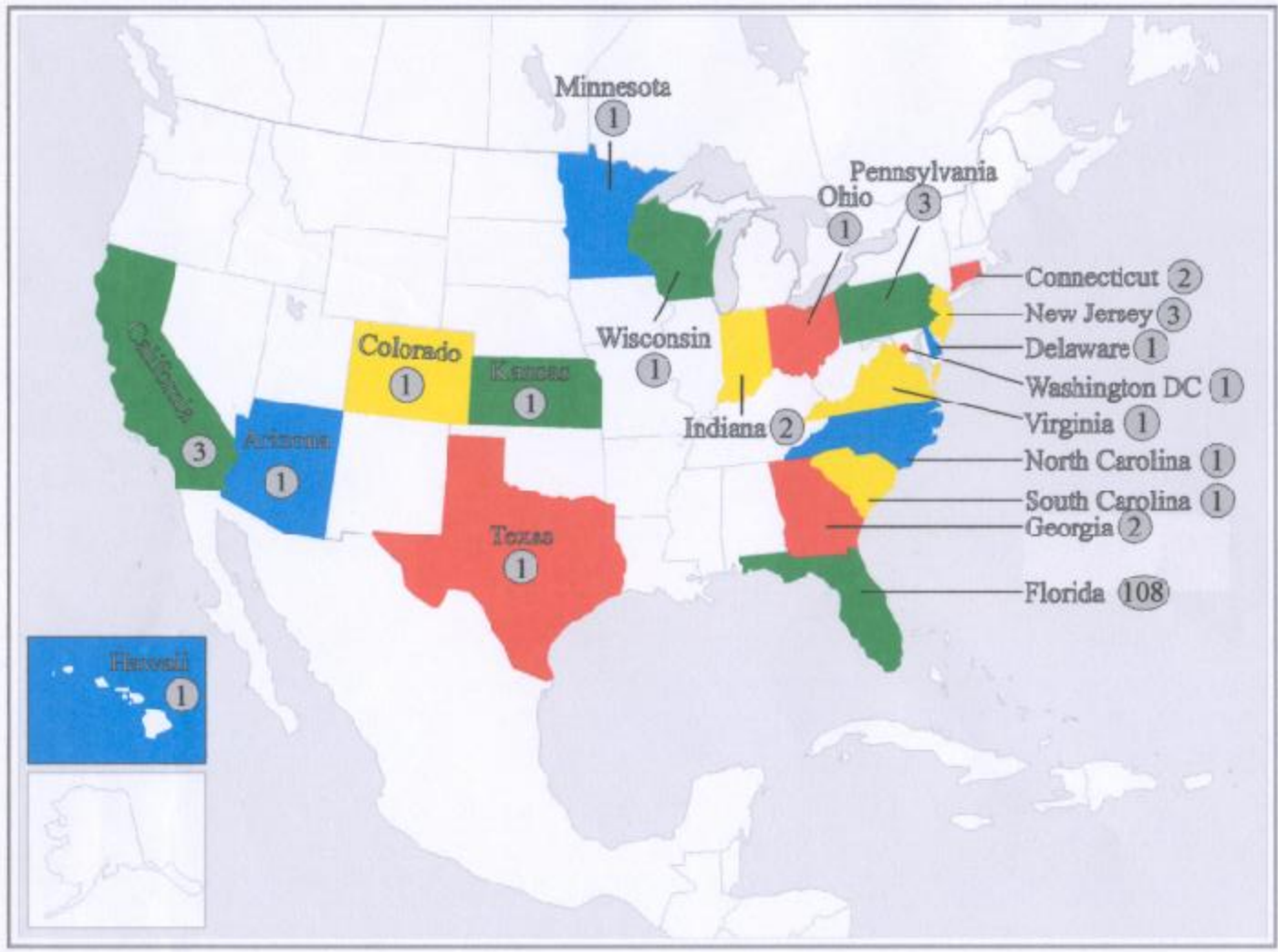


City	Letters of Support
A Cape Canaveral	1
B Chattahoochee	1
C Clermont	1
D Crawfordville	3
E Davie	1
F Havana	2
G Hollywood	1
H Juno Beach	1
I Lake Wales	1
J Monticello	1
K New Port Richey	1
L Niceville	1
M Palm Coast	1
N Pensacola	2
O Port Richey	1
P St. Petersburg	1
Q Tallahassee	82
R Tampa	5
S Tarpon Springs	1

Additionally, there were 24 letters of support sent via the Internet that had no specific associated address.



State	Letters of Support
Arizona	1
California	3
Colorado	1
Connecticut	2
Delaware	1
Florida	108
Georgia	2
Hawaii	1
Indiana	2
Kansas	1
Minnesota	1
New Jersey	3
North Carolina	1
Ohio	1
Pennsylvania	3
South Carolina	1
Texas	1
Virginia	1
Wisconsin	1
Washington DC	1

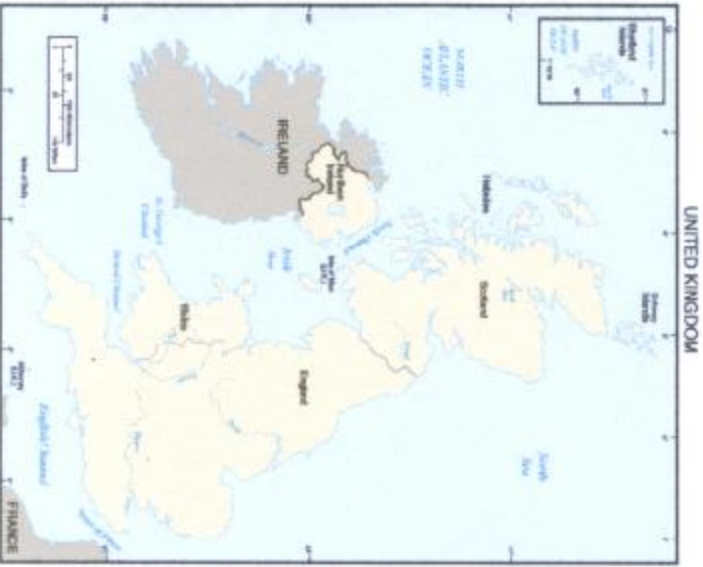
United States of America - 136

USA



One Hundred and Thirty-Six Letters of Support

United Kingdom



Three Letters of Support

Canada



One Letter of Support

The Netherlands



One Letter of Support

514 Dogwood Dr
Havana FL, 32333

Matthew Aresco
Department of Biological Science
Florida State University
Tallahassee, FL 32306-1100

Mr. ~~Barry~~, *Aresco*

My name is Eric Allbritton, I go to Florida High School. I am writing to express my concern over the high wildlife mortality that occurs along the portion of US Highway 27 that crosses northwest Lake Jackson in Leon County, Florida. US Highway 27 is a virtually impassable migration barrier to turtles and other wildlife and the road mortality rate and attempted crossings here of turtles is higher than has been documented anywhere else in the North America. The loss of large numbers of adult turtles to road mortality is not sustainable and can lead to rapid depletion of populations that will ultimately undermine the proper functioning of the entire lake ecosystem.

I strongly support the creation of an ecopassage along the 3000-foot section of U.S. Highway 27 that crosses Lake Jackson. The ecopassage should consist of a series of wildlife underpasses connected by a set of wildlife guidewalls, similar to the system recently constructed at Paynes Prairie (near Gainesville, FL) on US Highway 441. Such a system would divert wildlife away from the travel lanes to safe passages beneath the highway. The ecopassage will not only make the highway safer for wildlife and protect the Lake Jackson ecosystem, but it will improve motorist safety (by reducing vehicle collisions with wildlife) and enhance the aesthetic character and public enjoyment of the area.

I am asking that you use your authority to secure funding for this worthy project. I am counting on you and the Florida Department of Transportation to stop the unnecessary killing of Florida wildlife on US Highway 27 and help the people of Florida preserve Lake Jackson. Thank you for your attention to this important issue.

Sincerely,

Eric W Allbritton



Florida Department of Transportation

1074 Highway 90
Chipley, Florida 32428-0607

JEB BUSH
GOVERNOR

THOMAS F. BARRY, JR.
SECRETARY

Post Office Box 607
Chipley, Florida 32428-0607

TALLHASSEE/LEON COUNTY
PLANNING DEPARTMENT

Mail Hubbard

September 19, 2002

Pl Take charge.

PA 9/25

Mr. Donald O. Alford, President
Friends of Lake Jackson
1849 Miller Landing Road
Tallahassee, Florida 32312

RE: U.S. 27 at Lake Jackson

Dear Mr. Alford:

I have received a copy of your recent letter requesting the Department to consider funding and constructing a permanent wildlife barrier along the subject facility north of Tallahassee. Thank you for the opportunity to provide assistance.

The issues noted in your letter were reviewed, and the following comments are provided for your reference. We suggest the County propose the barrier as a project for potential federal enhancement funding via the Tallahassee-Leon County Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO). The project must be prioritized by the MPO and included in their Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP) in order for the Department to pursue federal funding.

We anticipate the construction cost of the barrier to total approximately \$250,000. However, a second letter received from Mr. Matthew Aresco, FSU Department of Biological Science, indicates the cost of the proposed project could potentially exceed \$3 million. Presently, we are exploring any alternative funding sources that could be applied to this type project.

Thank you for your interest in transportation. If you have any questions concerning this matter, you may contact our office toll-free at 1-888-638-0250, extension 205.

Sincerely,

H. E. Prescott, P.E.
District Secretary

- cc: ~~Mr. Alvarez, Alan~~, County Administrator, Leon County
- Mr. Gene Martin, P.E., District Director of Production, FDOT District 3
- Ms. Regina Battles, P.E., District Environmental Management Engineer, FDOT District 3
- Mr. Tommy Barfield, P.E., District Production Engineer, FDOT District 3
- Ms. Jean Weekley, Urban Planning Office, Midway Operations, FDOT District 3
- Mr. Tommie Speights, District Public Information Director, FDOT District 3
- Mr. Greg Vickery, Administration, FDOT District 3



Florida Department of Transportation

JEB BUSH
GOVERNOR

1074 Highway 90
Chipley, Florida 32428

THOMAS F. BARRY, JR.
SECRETARY

Post Office Box 607
Chipley, Florida 32428-0607

October 22, 2002

Ms. Moya L. Alfonso
4507 South Hesperides Street
Tampa, Florida 33611

RE: U.S. 27 at Lake Jackson

Dear Ms. Alfonso:

I have received a copy of your recent letter, dated October 8, 2002, requesting the Department to consider funding and constructing a permanent wildlife barrier along the subject facility north of Tallahassee. Thank you for the opportunity to provide assistance.

The issues noted in your letter were reviewed, and the following comments are provided for your reference. We suggest the County propose the barrier as a project for potential federal enhancement funding via the Tallahassee-Leon County Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO). The project must be prioritized by the MPO and included in their Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP) in order for the Department to pursue federal funding.

In conclusion, we look forward to partnering with Leon County, Tallahassee-Leon County Metropolitan Planning Organization, FDEP and other interested parties to accomplish a study to recommend the most appropriate design for this endeavor. Presently, we are in the process of developing all the pertinent agreements associated with beginning the study effort. We believe the enhanced relationships produced from this project will prove invaluable as we work together toward providing an efficient transportation system for the citizens of Leon County.

Thank you for your interest in transportation. If you have any questions concerning this matter, you may contact our office toll-free at 1-888-638-0250, extension 205.

Sincerely,

H. E. Prescott, P.E.
for District Secretary

cc: Mr. Parwez Alam, County Administrator, Leon County
Mr. Gene Martin, P.E., District Director of Production, FDOT District 3
Ms. Regina Battles, P.E., District Environmental Management Engineer, FDOT District 3
Mr. Tommy Barfield, P.E., District Production Engineer, FDOT District 3
Ms. Jean Weekley, Urban Planning Office, Midway Operations, FDOT District 3
Mr. Tommie Speights, District Public Information Director, FDOT District 3
Mr. Greg Vickery, Administration, FDOT District 3

Kostrzewa, Jack

From: WBroadieal@aol.com

Sent: Sunday, June 27, 2004 1:12 AM

To: Kostrzewa, Jack

Subject: Turtles

Congratulations on your efforts to create and maintain safe passage for migrating turtles! Your actions are to be commended by all in this country who appreciate nature and take responsibility of stewardship for it. Please keep up the good work! Wanda Alexander

Ms. Davies Biology class
Florida High School
3000 School House Road
Tallahassee, FL. 32306-4420

Matthew Aresco
Department of Biological Science
Florida State University
Tallahassee, Florida 32306-1100

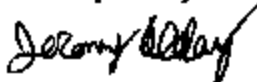
Dear- Matthew

I am concerned for the high mortality rate for turtles and other wildlife in this region of Florida. US highway 27 is virtually impassable to wildlife migration. The loss of turtles and other wildlife is not sustainable and can lead to the rapid depletion of populations, undermining the entire Lake Jackson ecosystem.

A ecopassage would be good along a 3000 foot section of US Highway 27 that crosses Lake Jackson. We will construct a series of guide walls which divert wildlife towards a series of protected underpasses. It would be safe for the wildlife and it will also improve motorists safety and enhance the aesthetic character of the area to automobile tourists and the Tallahassee public

I am asking you to secure funding for this worthy project. I am counting on ya'll and the Department of Transportation to stop the unnecessary slaughter of Florida's wildlife along US Highway 27 in the Tallahassee area.
Thank you for your immediate attention and support for this important ecological issue

Sincerely,
Jeremy Alday



Sincerely,

/s/ H. E. Prescott

H. E. Prescott, P.E.
District Secretary

Handled by:

Greg Vickery

Office of the District Secretary

Toll-free: 1-888-638-0250, extension 529

(850) 638-0250, extension 529

Suncom 767-1529

FAX (850) 638-6159 / Suncom 769-6159

mailto:greg.vickery@dot.state.fl.us

Kostrzewa, Jack

From: greg.vickery@dot.state.fl.us
Sent: Monday, March 24, 2003 10:39 AM
To: mjbright@juno.com
Cc: parvez@mail.co.leon.fl.us; barrettb@talgov.com; kostrzej@talgov.com; edward.prescott@dot.state.fl.us; gene.martin@dot.state.fl.us; regina.battles@dot.state.fl.us; jerry.jenkins@dot.state.fl.us; wehowell@pbsj.com; tommy.barfield@dot.state.fl.us; mary.weekley@dot.state.fl.us; tommie.speights@dot.state.fl.us; Olivia.Youse@dot.state.fl.us
Subject: Support for Lake Jackson Ecopassage
Importance: High

Florida Department of Transportation
District Three Administration Building
Office of the District Secretary
Post Office Box 607
Chipley, Florida 32428-0607

Ms. Jeanne Abright
153 Riverside Drive
Cape Canaveral, Florida 32920

RE: U.S. 27 at Lake Jackson

Dear Ms. Abright:

I have received a copy of your recent letter requesting the Department to consider funding and constructing a permanent wildlife barrier along the subject facility north of Tallahassee. Thank you for the opportunity to provide assistance.

The issues noted in your letter were reviewed, and the following comments are provided for your reference. We suggest the County propose the barrier as a project for potential federal enhancement funding via the Tallahassee-Leon County Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO). The project must be prioritized by the MPO and included in their Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP) in order for the Department to pursue federal funding.

In conclusion, we look forward to partnering with Leon County, Tallahassee-Leon County Metropolitan Planning Organization, FDEP and other interested parties to accomplish a study to recommend the most appropriate design for this endeavor. Presently, we are in the process of developing all the pertinent agreements associated with beginning the study effort. We believe the enhanced relationships produced from this project will prove invaluable as we work together toward providing an efficient transportation system for the citizens of Leon County.

Thank you for your interest in transportation. If you have any questions concerning this matter, you may contact our office toll-free at 1-888-638-0250, extension 205.

Sep. 15, 02

Ms. Davies' Biology Class
Florida High School
3000 School House Road
Tallahassee, FL 32306-4420

Matthew Aresco
Department of Biological Science
Florida State University
Tallahassee, FL 32306-1100

Dear Mr. Aresco:

I am writing to express my concern over the high wildlife mortality that occurs along the portion of US Highway 27 that crosses northwest Lake Jackson in Leon County, Florida. US Highway 27 is a virtually impassable migration barrier to turtles and other wildlife and the road mortality rate and attempted crossings here of turtles is higher than has been documented anywhere else in the North America. The loss of large numbers of adult turtles to road mortality is not sustainable and can lead to rapid depletion of populations that will ultimately undermine the proper functioning of the entire lake ecosystem.

I strongly support the creation of an ecopassage along the 3000-foot section of U.S. Highway 27 that crosses Lake Jackson. The ecopassage should consist of a series of wildlife underpasses connected by a set of wildlife guide walls, similar to the system recently constructed at Paynes Prairie (near Gainesville, FL) on US Highway 441. Such a system would divert wildlife away from the travel lanes to safe passages beneath the highway. The ecopassage will not only make the highway safer for wildlife and protect the Lake Jackson ecosystem, but it will improve motorist safety (by reducing vehicle collisions with wildlife) and enhance the aesthetic character and public enjoyment of the area.

I am asking that you use your authority to secure funding for this worthy project. I am counting on you and the Florida Department of Transportation to stop the unnecessary killing of Florida wildlife on US Highway 27 and help the people of Florida preserve Lake Jackson. Thank you for your attention to this important issue.

Sincerely,


John Allen



Florida Department of Transportation

JEB BUSH
GOVERNOR

1074 Highway 90
Chipley, Florida 32428

THOMAS F. BARRY, JR.
SECRETARY

Post Office Box 607
Chipley, Florida 32428-0607

October 22, 2002

Ms. Donna Allison
4368 Big Pine Road
Tallahassee, Florida 32305

RE: U.S. 27 at Lake Jackson

Dear Ms. Allison:

I have received a copy of your recent letter requesting the Department to consider funding and constructing a permanent wildlife barrier along the subject facility north of Tallahassee. Thank you for the opportunity to provide assistance.

The issues noted in your letter were reviewed, and the following comments are provided for your reference. We suggest the County propose the barrier as a project for potential federal enhancement funding via the Tallahassee-Leon County Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO). The project must be prioritized by the MPO and included in their Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP) in order for the Department to pursue federal funding.

In conclusion, we look forward to partnering with Leon County, Tallahassee-Leon County Metropolitan Planning Organization, FDEP and other interested parties to accomplish a study to recommend the most appropriate design for this endeavor. Presently, we are in the process of developing all the pertinent agreements associated with beginning the study effort. We believe the enhanced relationships produced from this project will prove invaluable as we work together toward providing an efficient transportation system for the citizens of Leon County.

Thank you for your interest in transportation. If you have any questions concerning this matter, you may contact our office toll-free at 1-888-638-0250, extension 205.

Sincerely,

H. E. Prescott, P.E.
District Secretary

cc: Mr. Parwez Alam, County Administrator, Leon County
Mr. Gene Martin, P.E., District Director of Production, FDOT District 3
Ms. Regina Battles, P.E., District Environmental Management Engineer, FDOT District 3
Mr. Tommy Barfield, P.E., District Production Engineer, FDOT District 3
Ms. Jean Weckley, Urban Planning Office, Midway Operations, FDOT District 3
Mr. Tommie Speights, District Public Information Director, FDOT District 3
Mr. Greg Vickery, Administration, FDOT District 3

Kostrzewa, Jack

From: greg.vickery@dot.state.fl.us
Sent: Monday, March 24, 2003 10:42 AM
To: ercoop@bellsouth.net
Cc: parwez@mail.co.leon.fl.us; barrettb@talgov.com; kostrzej@talgov.com;
edward.prescott@dot.state.fl.us; gene.martin@dot.state.fl.us; regina.battles@dot.state.fl.us;
jerry.jenkins@dot.state.fl.us; wehowell@pbsj.com; tommy.barfield@dot.state.fl.us;
mary.weekley@dot.state.fl.us; tommie.speights@dot.state.fl.us; Olivia.Youse@dot.state.fl.us
Subject: Support for Lake Jackson Ecopassage
Importance: High

Florida Department of Transportation
District Three Administration Building
Office of the District Secretary
Post Office Box 607
Chipley, Florida 32428-0607

Mr. Eric Cooper
Internet E-mail Address
ercoop@bellsouth.net

RE: U.S. 27 at Lake Jackson

Dear Mr. Cooper:

I have received a copy of your recent letter requesting the Department to consider funding and constructing a permanent wildlife barrier along the subject facility north of Tallahassee. Thank you for the opportunity to provide assistance.

The issues noted in your letter were reviewed, and the following comments are provided for your reference. We suggest the County propose the barrier as a project for potential federal enhancement funding via the Tallahassee-Leon County Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO). The project must be prioritized by the MPO and included in their Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP) in order for the Department to pursue federal funding.

In conclusion, we look forward to partnering with Leon County, Tallahassee-Leon County Metropolitan Planning Organization, FDEP and other interested parties to accomplish a study to recommend the most appropriate design for this endeavor. Presently, we are in the process of developing all the pertinent agreements associated with beginning the study effort. We believe the enhanced relationships produced from this project will prove invaluable as we work together toward providing an efficient transportation system for the citizens of Leon County.

Thank you for your interest in transportation. If you have any questions concerning this matter, you may contact our office toll-free at 1-888-638-0250, extension 205.

Kelli Cool
11220 Terrace Road NE
Blaine, MN 55434

2/11/03

Florida Dept. of Transportation
C/O Jack Kostrzewa
Lake Ecopassage Project Manager
Tallahassee-Leon County Planning Dept.
City Hall, 300 South Adams Street
Tallahassee, FL 32301

Dear Mr. Kostrzewa,

I am writing this letter in positive support of the construction of a permanent ecopassage along U.S. Hwy. 27 at Lake Jackson. The construction of Highway 27 split Lake Jackson into two segments, making it difficult for wildlife to cross from one segment of the lake to the other. The heavily traveled four lane highway forms a barrier that is impassable to turtles, frogs, snakes, and all of the other wildlife in that area. The highway has negative impacts on the ecology of the lake ecosystem. The area has been documented as having the highest road mortality and turtle crossing attempts ever recorded worldwide.

Please make the ecopassage span the entire lakefront and consist of a set of wildlife underpasses and guidewalls similar to the successful design utilized on Paynes Prairie. That type of system would divert wildlife away from the travel lanes to a safe passage beneath the highway. Construction of the ecopassage will make the highway safer for both human life and wildlife. Construction of the ecopassage would protect the ecosystem of Lake Jackson, and would also improve the aesthetic character and public enjoyment of the area.

I would like to extend my congratulations to the FDOT, elected officials, and to all of the cooperating agencies for their current efforts to diminish the loss of wildlife on Highway 27 at Lake Jackson. I strongly encourage the prompt creation of a permanent ecopassage.

We are counting on you to help the people of Florida protect the environment upon which we all depend, the same environment that depends upon us all.

Thank you for caring,

Sincerely,



Kelli Cool

RECEIVED

03 FEB 19 PM 4: 37

TALLAHASSEE/LEON COUNTY
PLANNING DEPARTMENT



Florida Department of Transportation

JEB BUSH
GOVERNOR

1074 Highway 90
Chipley, Florida 32428

THOMAS F. BARRY, JR.
SECRETARY

Post Office Box 607
Chipley, Florida 32428-0607

Mr. Connor Churchill
The School of Arts and Sciences
3208 Thomasville Road
Tallahassee, Florida 32308

RE: U.S. 27 at Lake Jackson

Dear Mr. Churchill:

I have received a copy of your recent letter requesting the Department to consider funding and constructing a permanent wildlife barrier along the subject facility north of Tallahassee. Thank you for the opportunity to provide assistance.

The issues noted in your letter were reviewed, and the following comments are provided for your reference. We suggest the County propose the barrier as a project for potential federal enhancement funding via the Tallahassee-Leon County Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO). The project must be prioritized by the MPO and included in their Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP) in order for the Department to pursue federal funding.

In conclusion, we look forward to partnering with Leon County, Tallahassee-Leon County Metropolitan Planning Organization, FDEP and other interested parties to accomplish a study to recommend the most appropriate design for this endeavor. Presently, we are in the process of developing all the pertinent agreements associated with beginning the study effort. We believe the enhanced relationships produced from this project will prove invaluable as we work together toward providing an efficient transportation system for the citizens of Leon County.

Thank you for your interest in transportation. If you have any questions concerning this matter, you may contact our office toll-free at 1-888-638-0250, extension 205.

Sincerely,

H. E. Prescott, P.E.
District Secretary

cc: Mr. Parwez Alam, County Administrator, Leon County
Mr. Gene Martin, P.E., District Director of Production, FDOT District 3
Ms. Regina Battles, P.E., District Environmental Management Engineer, FDOT District 3
Mr. Tommy Barfield, P.E., District Production Engineer, FDOT District 3
Ms. Jean Weekley, Urban Planning Office, Midway Operations, FDOT District 3
Mr. Tommie Speights, District Public Information Director, FDOT District 3
Mr. Greg Vickery, Administration, FDOT District 3

H:\CRM\Work\2023\Leon\WILDLIFE BARRIERS-041.doc

Kostrzewa, Jack

From: Lepetichien [perro10@xs4all.nl]
Sent: Friday, July 02, 2004 12:18 PM
To: Winchester, Dan; Kostrzewa, Jack
Subject: "SUPPORT ECOPASSAGES" FOR ANIMALS.

Leon County Board of County Commissioners
Leon County Courthouse
301 South Monroe St.
Fifth Floor
Tallahassee, FL 32301-1853
850-488-9962
Fax: 850-488-1670
danw@mail.co.leon.fl.us

Tallahassee-Leon County Planning Department (MPO)
Mr. Jack Kostrzewa, Acting Director
City Hall
300 South Adams St.
Tallahassee, FL 32301
850-891-8600
Fax: 850-891-8734
KostrzeJ@talgov.com

"SUPPORT ECOPASSAGES" FOR ANIMALS.

IT WILL NOT ONLY SAVE MUCH WILDLIFE, BUT ALSO PROTECT HUMANS BY PREVENTING ACCIDENTS CAUSED BY DRIVERS TRYING TO AVOID RUNNING OVER THE TURTLES ETC. AS WELL AS HELP PEDESTRIANS ON THE HIGHWAY WHO ARE TRYING TO SAVE/RESCUE THESE ANIMALS .

Thanks so much

Le Petit Chien
The Netherlands, (EU)
Perro10@xs4all.nl

Ms. Davies' Biology Class
Florida High School
3000 School House Road
Tallahassee, FL 32306-4420

September 15, 2002

Matthew Aresco
Department of Biological Science
Florida State University
Tallahassee, FL 32306-1100

Dear Mr. Aresco:

I am Ross Caton a student in Ms. Davies Biology class. We having been reading about what has been happening to the turtles in Lake Jackson. So, I am writing to express my concern over the high wildlife mortality that occurs along the portion of US Highway 27 that crosses northwest Lake Jackson in Leon County, Florida. US Highway 27 is a virtually impassable migration barrier to turtles and other wildlife and the road mortality rate and attempted crossings here of turtles is higher than has been documented anywhere else in the North America. The loss of large numbers of adult turtles to road mortality is not sustainable and can lead to rapid depletion of populations that will ultimately undermine the proper functioning of the entire lake ecosystem.

I strongly support the creation of an ecopassage along the 3000-foot section of U.S. Highway 27 that crosses Lake Jackson. The ecopassage should consist of a series of wildlife underpasses connected by a set of wildlife guidewalls, similar to the system recently constructed at Paynes Prairie (near Gainesville, FL) on US Highway 441. Such a system would divert wildlife away from the travel lanes to safe passages beneath the highway. The ecopassage will not only make the highway safer for wildlife and protect the Lake Jackson ecosystem, but it will improve motorist safety (by reducing vehicle collisions with wildlife) and enhance the aesthetic character and public enjoyment of the area.

I am asking that you use your authority to secure funding for this worthy project. I am counting on you and the Florida Department of Transportation to stop the unnecessary killing of Florida wildlife on US Highway 27 and help the people of Florida preserve Lake Jackson. Thank you for your attention to this important issue.

Sincerely,



Ross Caton

Mrs. Davies' Biology Class
Matthew Aresco
Department of Biological Science
Florida State University
Tallahassee, Florida 32306-1100
9/16/02

Dear Mr. Graham,

I am writing to express my concern over the high wildlife mortality that occurs along the portion of US Highway 27 that crosses northwest Lake Jackson in Leon County, Florida. US Highway 27 is a virtually impassable migration barrier to turtles and other wildlife and the road mortality rate and attempted crossings here of turtles is higher than has been documented anywhere else in the North America. The loss of large numbers of adult turtles to road mortality is not sustainable and can lead to rapid depletion of populations that will ultimately undermine the proper functioning of the entire lake ecosystem.

I strongly support the creation of an ecopassage along the 3000-foot section of U.S. Highway 27 that crosses Lake Jackson. The ecopassage should consist of a series of wildlife underpasses connected by a set of wildlife guidewalls, similar to the system recently constructed at Payne's Prairie (near Gainesville, FL) on US Highway 441. Such a system would divert wildlife away from the travel lanes to safe passages beneath the highway. The ecopassage will not only make the highway safer for wildlife and protect the Lake Jackson ecosystem, but it will improve motorist safety (by reducing vehicle collisions with wildlife) and enhance the aesthetic character and public enjoyment of the area.

I am asking that you use your authority to secure funding for this worthy project. I am counting on you and the Florida Department of Transportation to stop the unnecessary killing of Florida wildlife on US Highway 27 and help the people of Florida preserve Lake Jackson. Thank you for your attention to this important issue.

Sincerely,

DJ Carr

concerning this matter, you may contact our office toll-free at 1-888-638-0250, extension 205.

Sincerely,

/s/ H. E. Prescott

H. E. Prescott, P.E.
District Secretary

Handled by:
Greg Vickery
Office of the District Secretary
Toll-free: 1-888-638-0250, extension 529
(850) 638-0250, extension 529
Suncom 767-1529
FAX (850) 638-6159 / Suncom 769-6159
mailto:greg.vickery@dot.state.fl.us

-----Original Message-----

From: crc6599@garnet.acns.fsu.edu
Sent: Saturday, October 5, 2002 1:08 AM
To: tom.barry@dot.state.fl.us
Cc: danw@amil.co.leon.fl.us
Subject: Support for Lake Jackson Ecopassage

I am writing to show my support for the proposed Lake Jackson Ecopassage. I think this idea is a very practical and compassionate solution to the problem of animal deaths on Highway 27. When I read the amount of turtles that have been killed in recent years trying to cross this road I was shocked. I strongly believe that this situation calls for some type of intervention and it seems like building an ecopassage would be the best and most efficient way to prevent animal deaths and any further damage to the lake's ecosystem. Thank you for taking the time to read my letter.

Sincerely,

Chris Cameron

Kostrzewa, Jack

From: greg.vickery@dot.state.fl.us
Sent: Monday, October 07, 2002 4:57 PM
To: crc6599@garnet.acns.fsu.edu
Cc: parwez@mail.co.leon.fl.us; barrettb@talgov.com; kostrzej@talgov.com;
edward.prescott@dot.state.fl.us; gene.martin@dot.state.fl.us; regina.battles@dot.state.fl.us;
jerry.jenkins@dot.state.fl.us; wehowell@pbsj.com; tommy.barfield@dot.state.fl.us;
mary.weekley@dot.state.fl.us; tommie.speights@dot.state.fl.us; Olivia.Youse@dot.state.fl.us
Subject: Support for Lake Jackson Ecopassage
Importance: High

Florida Department of Transportation
District Three Administration Building
Office of the District Secretary
Post Office Box 607
Chipley, Florida 32428-0607

October 7, 2002

Mr. Chris Cameron
Internet E-mail Address
crc6599@garnet.acns.fsu.edu

RE: U.S. 27 at Lake Jackson

Dear Mr. Cameron:

I have received a copy of your recent e-mail, dated October 5, 2002, requesting the Department to consider funding and constructing a permanent wildlife barrier along the subject facility north of Tallahassee. Thank you for the opportunity to provide assistance.

The issues noted in your letter were reviewed, and the following comments are provided for your reference. We suggest the County propose the barrier as a project for potential federal enhancement funding via the Tallahassee-Leon County Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO). The project must be prioritized by the MPO and included in their Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP) in order for the Department to pursue federal funding.

In conclusion, we look forward to partnering with Leon County, Tallahassee-Leon County Metropolitan Planning Organization, FDEP and other interested parties to accomplish a study to recommend the most appropriate design for this endeavor. Presently, we are in the process of developing all the pertinent agreements associated with beginning the study effort. We believe the enhanced relationships produced from this project will prove invaluable as we work together toward providing an efficient transportation system for the citizens of Leon County.

Thank you for your interest in transportation. If you have any questions



Florida Department of Transportation

JEB BUSH
GOVERNOR

1074 Highway 90
Chipley, Florida 32428

THOMAS F. BARRY, JR.
SECRETARY

Post Office Box 607
Chipley, Florida 32428-0607

October 21, 2002

Mr. James R. Buskirk
2500 Rawson Street
Oakland, California 94601

RE: U.S. 27 at Lake Jackson

Dear Mr. Buskirk:

I have received a copy of your recent letter requesting the Department to consider funding and constructing a permanent wildlife barrier along the subject facility north of Tallahassee. Thank you for the opportunity to provide assistance.

The issues noted in your letter were reviewed, and the following comments are provided for your reference. We suggest the County propose the barrier as a project for potential federal enhancement funding via the Tallahassee-Leon County Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO). The project must be prioritized by the MPO and included in their Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP) in order for the Department to pursue federal funding.

In conclusion, we look forward to partnering with Leon County, Tallahassee-Leon County Metropolitan Planning Organization, FDEP and other interested parties to accomplish a study to recommend the most appropriate design for this endeavor. Presently, we are in the process of developing all the pertinent agreements associated with beginning the study effort. We believe the enhanced relationships produced from this project will prove invaluable as we work together toward providing an efficient transportation system for the citizens of Leon County.

Thank you for your interest in transportation. If you have any questions concerning this matter, you may contact our office toll-free at 1-888-638-0250, extension 205.

Sincerely,

H. E. Prescott, P.E. per
District Secretary

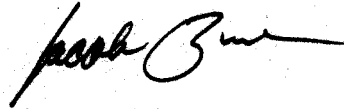
cc: ~~Mr. Parwez Alam, County Administrator, Leon County~~
Mr. Gene Martin, P.E., District Director of Production, FDOT District 3
Ms. Regina Battles, P.E., District Environmental Management Engineer, FDOT District 3
Mr. Tommy Barfield, P.E., District Production Engineer, FDOT District 3
Ms. Jean Weekley, Urban Planning Office, Midway Operations, FDOT District 3
Mr. Tommie Speights, District Public Information Director, FDOT District 3
Mr. Greg Vickery, Administration, FDOT District 3

H:\Office\WARRIOR\WILDLIFE BARRIER-211.doc

also supposed to enhance motorist safety and improve aesthetic character of the area for tourist and so on.

Now here comes the whole reason why I took the time to write and send you this letter. I, along side many others ask sincerely for your support and funding of this much needed and much worthy project. I have also sent out letters to other groups for support. So you're not alone. Now were not asking for a price, it's what ever feels necessary to you. Keep in mind that by helping us your helping the environment. I would like to thank you for acknowledging my letter and hopefully profiling what I have requested.

Sincerely:

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Jacob Brown". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned to the right of the word "Sincerely:".

Jacob Brown

9-15-02

Mathew Aresco
Department of Biological Science
Florida State University
Tallahassee, FL 32306-1106

Dear Mathew Aresco, I have nothing but respect for you and your science team. Your department is of great importance. I am writing you this letter in order to reach an agreement.

I would like to begin this letter by stating the facts. Here's the situation, everyday in estimated 36,500 vehicles travel on Highway 27 through Lake Jackson. Me being one of the drivers have complete experience on the matter. I quite often see creatures such as turtles and snakes pass over the four lane Highway everyday. It is nothing new to see a dead animal on the side of the road. I've even tried crossing 27 once when I was fishing with a friend. I tell you what if the drivers won't stop for me I highly doubt they will stop for a helpless animal. It is impassable to cross Highway 27.

Now I am not an expert on nature and wildlife but it is obvious that animals are killed everyday by crossing 27 and if a certain species rapidly decreases that can cause side affects. Such as the loss of food for another animal, the animals predator. Then that animal could start to die off. I think you understand were I'm getting at.

Now I have nothing but support for the creation of the eco-passage that will consist of a 3000-foot section of U.S. Highway 27. The eco-passage is a plan that consists of the construction of a series of wildlife guide walls which will divert wildlife towards a series of protected underpasses. This passage would divert wildlife underneath 27 instead of crossing 27. That would then protect the creatures. This construction is

Kostrzewa, Jack

From: Broughton, Loyce [LJBrough@email.uncc.edu]
Sent: Friday, July 11, 2003 9:46 AM
To: 'KostrzeJ@talgov.com'
Cc: 'turtles@lakejacksonturtles.org'
Subject: Lake Jackson Ecopassage PD

As a native Floridian, born and raised in Tampa, I wish to express my enthusiastic support for the construction of a permanent ecopassage along U.S. 27 at Lake Jackson. The highway forms an impassable barrier to turtles, frogs, snakes, and other wildlife and negatively impacts the ecology of the lake ecosystem. The area has the highest documented road mortality and attempted crossings of turtles that has ever been recorded worldwide.

The ecopassage should span the entire lakefront and consist of a set of wildlife underpasses and guidewalls similar to the successful design utilized on Paynes Prairie. Such a system will divert wildlife away from the travel lanes to safe passage beneath the highway. The ecopassage will not only make the highway safer for wildlife and protect the Lake Jackson ecosystem, it will improve motorist safety and enhance the aesthetic character and public enjoyment of the area.

I congratulate the Florida Department of Transportation, Leon County, other elected officials, and all cooperating agencies in their current efforts to resolve the effects of U.S. 27 on Lake Jackson and strongly encourage the expeditious creation of a permanent ecopassage.

We are counting on you to help the people of Florida protect the environment upon which we all depend.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Loyce Broughton
10334 Worsley Lane
Charlotte, NC 28269

Ms. Davies' Biology Class
Florida High School
3000 School House Road
Tallahassee, FL 32306-4420

Matthew Aresco
Department of Biological Science
Florida State University
Tallahassee, FL 32306-1100

September 14, 2002

Dear Mr. Aresco,

I am a student in Ms. Davies class at Florida High. I am very concerned about all the turtles and other wildlife that are dying while trying to cross Highway 27. Because of the heavy traffic, Highway 27 is nearly impossible for the animals to safely cross. Studies show the turtles are the most at risk. The fate of the turtles of Lake Jackson is a big concern. The food chain of all the wildlife at the lake would be affected if the turtles continue to be killed while attempting to cross the busy highway.

I'm asking if an ecopassage could be built along a 3000-foot section of Highway 27 that crosses Lake Jackson. You could construct a series of wildlife guide walls that will divert the wildlife towards a series of underpasses. This would be useful because it would divert the wildlife under Highway 27 instead crossing over Highway 27. This will also be helpful to the motorists' safety. The people driving might try to swerve to avoid a turtle and could hit another car. Also if you built the ecopassage it would keep tourist from having to see a bunch of dead animals.

I would like to ask your authority to secure funding for this worthwhile project. I am counting on the authorities and the Department of Transportation to stop this unnecessary slaughter of Florida's wildlife along Highway 27. Thank you for your attention and support for this important ecological issue.

Sincerely,

Joey Bronczek

July 1, 2004

Ms. Patricia Brant
2535 Ivey Oaks Rd.
Cumming, GA 30041

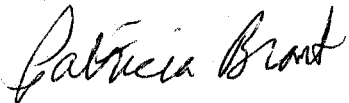
Tallahassee-Leon County Planning Department (MPO)
Mr. Jack Kostrzewa, Acting Director
City Hall
300 South Adams St.
Tallahassee, FL 32301

Lake Jackson has a terrible problem with turtles getting run over by vehicles. Silt fences are an effective short-term solution to this problem, but require constant monitoring and maintenance to be effective. The material degrades rapidly in direct sunlight and is easily damaged by mowers, vandals, all terrain vehicles, and storm water runoff.

Permanent wildlife crossings – ecopassages – offer a solution. Ideally, ecopassages should be designed to lessen the effects of highway mortality and habitat fragmentation for all wildlife affected by a particular road. The Florida Department of Transportation recently constructed a prototype multispecies ecopassage near Gainesville – a lipped, four-foot high concrete guide wall with a series of culverts under the highway. This system has virtually eliminated roadkill.

I strongly support the construction of a permanent ecopassage along US 27 to prevent future mortality of turtles and other wildlife. As stewards of the environment, we need to ensure that turtles and their wildlife are protected from the hazards that we create.

Respectfully,



Patricia Brant

RECEIVED
04 JUL 12 AM 8: 07
TALLAHASSEE/LEON COUNTY
PLANNING DEPARTMENT

Kostrzewa, Jack

From: Brant Patricia (MARC) [PBrant@MARCLife.com]
Sent: Tuesday, July 06, 2004 1:43 PM
To: Winchester, Dan; Kostrzewa, Jack
Subject: Important issue

Gentlemen,

Lake Jackson has a terrible problem with turtles getting run over by vehicles. I strongly support the construction of a permanent ecopassage along US 27 to prevent future mortality of turtles, along with other wildlife.

Sincerely, Patricia Brant pbrant@marclife.com

Laurel Boyett
560 Beverly Court
Tallahassee, Florida 32301

March 17, 2003

Secretary
Florida Department of Transportation
c/o Mr. Jack Kostrzewa
Lake Jackson Ecopassage Project Manager
Tallahassee-Leon County Planning Department
(MPO)
City Hall, 300 S. Adams Street
Tallahassee, Florida 32301

RECEIVED

03 MAR 24 PM 12: 15

TALLAHASSEE/LEON COUNTY
PLANNING DEPARTMENT

Dear Secretary:

I wish to express my enthusiastic support for the construction of a permanent ecopassage along U.S. 27 at Lake Jackson. The highway forms an impassable barrier to turtles, frogs, snakes, and other wildlife and negatively affects the ecology of the lake ecosystem. The area has the highest documented road mortality and attempted crossings of turtles that has ever been recorded worldwide.

The ecopassage should span the entire lakefront and consist of a set of wildlife underpasses and guidewalls similar to the successful design utilized on Paynes Prairie. Such a system will divert wildlife away from the travel lanes to safe passage beneath the highway. The ecopassage will not only make the highway safer for wildlife and protect the Lake Jackson ecosystem, but it will improve motorist safety and enhance the aesthetic character and public enjoyment of the area.

I congratulate the FDOT, elected officials, and all cooperating agencies in their current efforts to resolve the effects of U.S. 27 on Lake Jackson and strongly encourage the expeditious creation of a permanent ecopassage.

We are counting on you to help the people of Florida protect the environment upon which we all depend.

Thank you very much.

Sincerely,



Kostrzewa, Jack

From: Pigeonsave@aol.com

Sent: Saturday, June 26, 2004 11:48 AM

To: Kostrzewa, Jack

Subject: In support of ecopassages

To whom it may concern:

As somebody who has rescued numerous turtles from off the roads and been too late for many others, I strongly favor the construction of ecopassages for these animals and all others. I hope you too will support the creation of these passages, for the sake of the countless animals that need to cross major roads each year.

Thank you.

Sincerely,
Jennifer Books

Sincerely,

Kevin Bodiford

Ms. Davies' Biology class
Florida High school
3000 School House Road
Tallahassee, FL 32306-4420

September 16, 2002

Matthew Aresco
Department of Biological Science
Florida State University
Tallahassee, FL 32306

Dear Mr. Aresco:

I am writing to express my concern over the high wildlife mortality that occurs along the portion of US Highway 27 that crosses north west Lake Jackson in Leon County, Florida. US Highway 27 is a virtually impassable migration barrier to turtles and other wildlife and the road mortality rate and attempted crossings here of turtles is higher than has been documented anywhere else in the North America. The loss of large numbers of adult turtles to road mortality is not sustainable and can lead to rapid depletion of populations that will ultimately undermine the proper functioning of the entire lake ecosystem.

I strongly support the creation of an ecopassage along the 3000-foot section of U.S. Highway 27 that crosses Lake Jackson. The ecopassage should consist of a series of wildlife underpasses connected by a set of wildlife guidewalls, similar to the system recently constructed at Paynes Prairie (near Gainesville, FL) on US Highway 441. Such a system would divert wildlife away from the travel lanes to safe passages beneath the highway. The ecopassage will not only make the highway safer for wildlife and protect the Lake Jackson ecosystem, but it will improve motorist safety (by reducing vehicle collisions with wildlife) and enhance the aesthetic character and public enjoyment of the area.

I am asking that you use your authority to secure funding for this worthy project. I am counting on you and the Florida Department of Transportation to stop the unnecessary killing of Florida wildlife on US Highway 27 and help the people of Florida preserve Lake Jackson. Thank you for your attention to this important issue.

Ms. Davies' Biology Class
Florida High School
Tallahassee, Fl 32306-4220
September 16, 2002

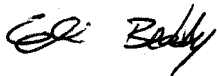
Matthew Aresco
Department of Biological Science
Florida State University
Tallahassee, Fl 32306-1100

I am writing to express my concern over the high wildlife mortality that occurs along the portion of US Highway 27 that crosses northwest Lake Jackson in Leon County, Florida. US Highway 27 is a virtually impassable migration barrier to turtles and other wildlife and the road mortality rate and attempted crossings here of turtles is higher than has been documented anywhere else in the North America. The loss of large numbers of adult turtles to road mortality is not sustainable and can lead to rapid depletion of populations that will ultimately undermine the proper functioning of the entire lake ecosystem.

I strongly support the creation of an ecopassage along the 3000-foot section of U.S. Highway 27 that crosses Lake Jackson. The ecopassage should consist of a series of wildlife underpasses connected by a set of wildlife guidewalls, similar to the system recently constructed at Paynes Prairie (near Gainesville, FL) on US Highway 441. Such a system would divert wildlife away from the travel lanes to safe passages beneath the highway. The ecopassage will not only make the highway safer for wildlife and protect the Lake Jackson ecosystem, but it will improve motorist safety (by reducing vehicle collisions with wildlife) and enhance the aesthetic character and public enjoyment of the area.

I am asking that you use your authority to secure funding for this worthy project. I am counting on you and the Florida Department of Transportation to stop the unnecessary killing of Florida wildlife on US Highway 27 and help the people of Florida preserve Lake Jackson. Thank you for your attention to this important issue.

Sincerely,



Eli Bidy

Sincerely,

/s/ H. E. Prescott

H. E. Prescott, P.E.
District Secretary

Handled by:

Greg Vickery

Office of the District Secretary

Toll-free: 1-888-638-0250, extension 529

(850) 638-0250, extension 529

Suncom 767-1529

FAX (850) 638-6159 / Suncom 769-6159

mailto:greg.vickery@dot.state.fl.us

Kostrzewa, Jack

From: greg.vickery@dot.state.fl.us
Sent: Monday, March 24, 2003 10:43 AM
To: gaddyfl25@yahoo.com
Cc: parvez@mail.co.leon.fl.us; barrettb@talgov.com; kostrzej@talgov.com; edward.prescott@dot.state.fl.us; gene.martin@dot.state.fl.us; regina.battles@dot.state.fl.us; jerry.jenkins@dot.state.fl.us; wehowell@pbsj.com; tommy.barfield@dot.state.fl.us; mary.weekley@dot.state.fl.us; tommie.speights@dot.state.fl.us; Olivia.Youse@dot.state.fl.us
Subject: Support for Lake Jackson Ecopassage
Importance: High

Florida Department of Transportation
District Three Administration Building
Office of the District Secretary
Post Office Box 607
Chipley, Florida 32428-0607

Ms. Gaddy Bergmann
7400 Stirling Road, Apartment 1126
Hollywood, Florida 33024-1540

RE: U.S. 27 at Lake Jackson

Dear Ms. Bergmann:

I have received a copy of your recent letter requesting the Department to consider funding and constructing a permanent wildlife barrier along the subject facility north of Tallahassee. Thank you for the opportunity to provide assistance.

The issues noted in your letter were reviewed, and the following comments are provided for your reference. We suggest the County propose the barrier as a project for potential federal enhancement funding via the Tallahassee-Leon County Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO). The project must be prioritized by the MPO and included in their Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP) in order for the Department to pursue federal funding.

In conclusion, we look forward to partnering with Leon County, Tallahassee-Leon County Metropolitan Planning Organization, FDEP and other interested parties to accomplish a study to recommend the most appropriate design for this endeavor. Presently, we are in the process of developing all the pertinent agreements associated with beginning the study effort. We believe the enhanced relationships produced from this project will prove invaluable as we work together toward providing an efficient transportation system for the citizens of Leon County.

Thank you for your interest in transportation. If you have any questions concerning this matter, you may contact our office toll-free at 1-888-638-0250, extension 205.

Ms. Davies' Biology Class
Florida High School
3000 School House Road
Tallahassee, FL 32306-4420

September 15, 2002

Matthew Aresco
Department of Biological Science
Florida State University
Tallahassee, Florida 32306-1100

Dear Mr. Aresco:

I am writing to express my concern over the high wildlife mortality that occurs along the portion of US Highway 27 that crosses northwest Lake Jackson in Leon County, Florida. US Highway 27 is a virtually impassable migration barrier to turtles and other wildlife and the road mortality rate and attempted crossings here of turtles is higher than has been documented anywhere else in North America. The loss of large numbers of adult turtles to road mortality is not sustainable and can lead to rapid depletion of populations that will ultimately undermine the proper functioning of the entire lake ecosystem.

I strongly support the creation of an ecopassage along the 3000-foot section of U.S. Highway 27 that crosses Lake Jackson. The ecopassage should consist of a series of wildlife underpasses connected by a set of wildlife guidewalls, similar to the system recently constructed at Paynes Prairie (near Gainesville, FL) on US Highway 441. Such a system would divert wildlife away from the travel lanes to safe passages beneath the highway. The ecopassage will not only make the highway safer for wildlife and protect the Lake Jackson ecosystem, but it will improve motorist safety (by reducing vehicle collisions with wildlife) and enhance the aesthetic character and public enjoyment of the area.

Sincerely,



Nathan Beidler

Ms. Davies' Biology Class
Florida High School
3000 School House Road
Tallahassee, FL 32306-4420

September 16, 2002

Matthew Aresco
Department of Biological Science
Florida State University
Tallahassee, FL 32306-1100

Dear Mr. Aresco

My name is Ashley Bailey. I am a sophomore at Fl. High School. I would like to ask for your help in saving the wildlife near Lake Jackson. The water level of Lake Jackson fluctuates widely and is controlled naturally by rainfall and by two primary sinkholes. During drought conditions, the lowering water table causes leakage into the groundwater through sinkholes and most of the lake bottom dries up, an event that has occurred 8 times during the 20th Century. Drying of the lake bottom leads to the migration of several thousand turtles, reptiles and amphibians. US Highway 27, a four-lane highway built directly over a half-mile portion of northwest Lake Jackson, is a virtually impassible barrier to the migration of turtles and other wildlife, with more than 36,500 vehicles traveling along this stretch of highway each day. The loss of turtles and other wildlife is not sustainable and can lead to the rapid depletion of populations, ultimately undermining the entire Lake Jackson ecosystem.

In order to solve this problem, Mr. Matt Aresco built a temporary fence to channel turtles and other wildlife towards a culvert that runs underneath US Highway 27. This temporary solution has allowed the safe passage of countless wildlife over the past two years. However, it is past its prime and requires continual maintenance in order to remain effective. Mr. Aresco requests that a permanent ecopassage be built to solve the high mortality rate in this region of Florida. The ecosystem should be constructed of a series of wildlife guide walls which divert wildlife towards a series of protected underpasses. This would allow the wildlife to migrate safely under the highway away from travel lanes along US Highway 27. Not only will this improve the high mortality rate, but will also improve motorist safety and enhance the aesthetic character of the area to automobile tourists and the Tallahassee public.

I ask for your help in funding for the development of a permanent ecopassage to maintain north Florida's richness of animal diversity. I'm counting on you and the Department of Transportation to stop the unnecessary slaughter of Florida's wildlife along US Highway 27 in the Tallahassee area. Thank you for your immediate attention and support for this important ecological issue.

Sincerely,
Ashley Bailey

Kostrzewa, Jack

From: connie bencze [conniemacm@yahoo.com]

Sent: Sunday, June 27, 2004 12:00 AM

To: Kostrzewa, Jack

Subject: Echopassages

Please make the installation of echopassages a priority. Now that we have the technology to stop this mass carnage of wildlife on the highway, it is time to do it. Thank you. Constance Bencze

Do You Yahoo!?

Tired of spam? Yahoo! Mail has the best spam protection around

<http://mail.yahoo.com>

Kostrzewa, Jack

From: applejax157@netscape.net
Sent: Thursday, June 24, 2004 11:47 PM
To: Winchester, Dan
Cc: turtles@lakejacksonturtles.org

Protect your turtles!!! Protect the Turtles!!!!

Switch to the New Netscape Internet Service.
As low as \$9.95 a month -- Sign up today at <http://isp.netscape.com/register>

Netscape. Just the Net You Need.

New! Netscape Toolbar for Internet Explorer
Search from anywhere on the Web and block those annoying pop-ups.
Download now at <http://channels.netscape.com/ns/search/install.jsp>

Ms. Davies' Biology Class

Florida High School

3000 School House Rd.

Tallahassee, Fl. 32306-4420

September 12, 2002

Department of Biological Science

Florida State University

Tallahassee, Florida 32306-1100

Dear Mr. Matthew Aresco:

I am writing to express my concern over the high wildlife mortality that occurs along the portion of US Highway 27 that crosses northwest Lake Jackson in Leon County, Florida. US Highway 27 is a virtually impassable migration barrier to turtles and other wildlife and the road mortality rate and attempted crossings here of turtles is higher than has been documented anywhere else in the North America. The loss of large numbers of adult turtles to road mortality is not sustainable and can lead to rapid depletion of populations that will ultimately undermine the proper functioning of the entire lake ecosystem.

I strongly support the creation of an ecopassage along the 3000-foot section of U.S. Highway 27 that crosses Lake Jackson. The ecopassage should consist of a series of wildlife underpasses connected by a set of wildlife guidewalls, similar to the system recently constructed at Paynes Prairie (near Gainesville, FL) on US Highway 441. Such a system would divert wildlife away from the travel lanes to safe passages beneath the highway. The ecopassage will not only make the highway safer for wildlife and protect the Lake Jackson ecosystem, but it will improve motorist safety (by reducing vehicle collisions with wildlife) and enhance the aesthetic character and public enjoyment of the area.

I am asking that you use your authority to secure funding for this worthy project. I am counting on you and the Florida Department of Transportation to stop the unnecessary killing of Florida wildlife on US Highway 27 and help the people of Florida preserve Lake Jackson. Thank you for your attention to this important issue.

Sincerely,


Derek N. Anderson



you to consider that these letters represent the concerns of many more than just those who have had the time to send them.

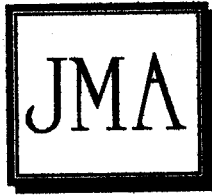
We are counting on you to help the people of Florida protect the environment upon which we all depend. I urge you to recommend this project to your successor, for the good of the entire community, and I thank you for the service that you have faithfully given to the people of Florida.

Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "James M. Amend", written in a cursive style.

James M. Amend



RECEIVED
03 FEB 17 PM 2:53
TALLAHASSEE/LEON COUNTY
PLANNING DEPARTMENT

1351 Cochise Trail
Tallahassee, Florida 32304
2/13/03

Thomas J. Barry, Secretary
Florida Department of Transportation
c/o Mr. Jack Kostrzewa
Lake Jackson Ecopassage Project Manager
Tallahassee-Leon County Planning Department (MPO)
City Hall
Tallahassee, Florida

Re: Lake Jackson Ecopassage

Dear Mr. Secretary

As a 14-year resident of Leon County, I wish to express my enthusiastic support for the construction of a permanent ecopassage along U.S. 27 at Lake Jackson. The highway forms an impassable barrier to turtles, frogs, snakes, and other wildlife and negatively impacts the ecology of the lake ecosystem. The area has the highest documented road mortality and attempted crossings of turtles that has ever been recorded worldwide.

The ecopassage should span the entire lakefront and consist of a set of wildlife underpasses and guidewalls similar to the successful design utilized on Paynes Prairie. Such a system will divert wildlife away from the travel lanes to safe passage beneath the highway. The ecopassage will not only make the highway safer for wildlife and protect the Lake Jackson ecosystem, it will improve motorist safety and enhance the aesthetic character and public enjoyment of the area.

I congratulate the FDOT, elected officials, and all cooperating agencies in their current efforts to resolve the effects of U.S. 27 on Lake Jackson and strongly encourage the expeditious creation of a permanent ecopassage. While I am certain that you have already received this letter in some form or other several times, I urge

In order to prevent massive road mortality of the entire population of migrating turtles, we constructed a fence using silt fence material that directs turtles into a culvert under the road. A 3,000 foot fence along US Highway 27 North was completed on 3 April 2000 and has been monitored 2-3 times a day since construction. A 2,000 foot fence was then constructed along US Highway 27 South to intercept turtles that attempted to migrate across the road when Lake Jackson refilled. Turtles were hand-collected as they moved along the fences, measured, transported by hand across the highway, and released into the water. Over 8,000 turtles and hundreds of other reptiles and amphibians were saved from death on the highway by these fences.

The fence we constructed is only a temporary short-term solution to this wildlife mortality problem and is degrading rapidly to the point where it will soon be ineffective. In addition, species such as frogs, snapping turtles, large softshell turtles, alligators, and most mammals can climb over this low fence. Although the peak migration occurred as Lake Jackson dried, migration of turtles and other wildlife between Lake Jackson and Little Lake Jackson has continued since the lake refilled, so this is not a one-time problem. Our fence also serves to protect hundreds of nesting female turtles that emerge onto land every spring to lay eggs. Without the fence many females would be killed while searching for appropriate nesting habitat. Thus a permanent ecopassage (guide wall and culvert system) is needed to solve this continuing wildlife mortality problem.

Our goal is to work with the Florida Department of Transportation and other agencies to construct a permanent ecopassage to prevent future mortality of turtles and other wildlife. The Department of Transportation has an Environmental Management Office that specifically deals with these problems. Public support is an important part of convincing the Florida Department of Transportation and other agencies that this project is a worthwhile expenditure of government funds. We have already received letters of support for this project from the Florida Natural Areas Inventory, Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, and the Leon County Commission, but many more letters are needed! Letters of support from concerned citizens are especially critical to our effort!

Sincerely,

Matt Altomaro

Ms. Davies' Class Biology Class
Florida High School
3000 School House Road
Tallahassee, FL 32306-4420

September 15, 2002

Matthew Aresco
Department of Biological Science
Florida State University
Tallahassee, Florida 32306-1100

Dear Matthew Aresco,

My name is Matt Altomaro and I am a student in Mrs. Davies class. We have been studying ecology and I strongly agree with the following writing from <http://bio.fsu.edu/~aresco/lakejacksonturtles.html>.

Lake Jackson is a 4000-acre sinkhole lake in northwestern Florida located 7 miles north of Tallahassee in the Ochlockonee River basin. Lake Jackson is considered one of Leon County's most precious natural resources and is designated as an Aquatic Preserve by the State of Florida. The water level of Lake Jackson fluctuates widely and is controlled naturally by rainfall (variation in surface water run-off into the lake) and by two primary sinkholes (Porter Hole and Lime Sink). During drought conditions, a lowering of the water table causes leakage into the groundwater through the sinkholes and most of the lake bottom dries, an event that occurred 8 times during the 20th century (1907, 1909, 1932, 1935, 1936, 1957, 1982, 1999), drying on average every 12.5 years.

US Highway 27 is a four-lane highway that was built directly across a half-mile portion of northwest Lake Jackson in the 1950s, isolating part of the lake to the west now known as Little Lake Jackson. US Highway 27 is a virtually impassable barrier to turtles and other wildlife with 36,500 vehicles traveling along it each day. **The road mortality and attempted crossings, especially of turtles, is higher than has been documented anywhere else in North America.** I have documented over 8,000 animals of 55 different species attempting to cross the half-mile section of US Highway 27 at Lake Jackson in the last 2 1/2 years. Clearly, a permanent solution to this significant wildlife mortality problem is needed.

During the recent drought in North Florida, Lake Jackson dried completely causing a mass exodus of thousands of animals that attempted to migrate to Little Lake Jackson directly across US Highway 27. Between February and April 2000, the highway was monitored every 1-2 days for dead and live turtles. 439 turtles were killed on US Highway 27 during this period prior to fence construction.

Sincerely,

/s/ H. E. Prescott

H. E. Prescott, P.E.
District Secretary

Handled by:

Greg Vickery

Office of the District Secretary

Toll-free: 1-888-638-0250, extension 529

(850) 638-0250, extension 529

Suncom 767-1529

FAX (850) 638-6159 / Suncom 769-6159

mailto:greg.vickery@dot.state.fl.us



Florida Department of Transportation

JEB BUSH
GOVERNOR

1074 Highway 90
Chipley, Florida 32428

THOMAS F. BARRY, JR.
SECRETARY

Post Office Box 607
Chipley, Florida 32428-0607

October 22, 2002

Ms. Michelle Cooper
3234 Citation Trail
Tallahassee, Florida 32309

RE: U.S. 27 at Lake Jackson

Dear Ms. Cooper:

I have received a copy of your recent letter requesting the Department to consider funding and constructing a permanent wildlife barrier along the subject facility north of Tallahassee. Thank you for the opportunity to provide assistance.

The issues noted in your letter were reviewed, and the following comments are provided for your reference. We suggest the County propose the barrier as a project for potential federal enhancement funding via the Tallahassee-Leon County Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO). The project must be prioritized by the MPO and included in their Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP) in order for the Department to pursue federal funding.

In conclusion, we look forward to partnering with Leon County, Tallahassee-Leon County Metropolitan Planning Organization, FDEP and other interested parties to accomplish a study to recommend the most appropriate design for this endeavor. Presently, we are in the process of developing all the pertinent agreements associated with beginning the study effort. We believe the enhanced relationships produced from this project will prove invaluable as we work together toward providing an efficient transportation system for the citizens of Leon County.

Thank you for your interest in transportation. If you have any questions concerning this matter, you may contact our office toll-free at 1-888-638-0250, extension 205.

Sincerely,

H. E. Prescott, P.E.
District Secretary

cc: Mr. Parwez Alam, County Administrator, Leon County
Mr. Gene Martin, P.E., District Director of Production, FDOT District 3
Ms. Regina Battles, P.E., District Environmental Management Engineer, FDOT District 3
Mr. Tommy Barfield, P.E., District Production Engineer, FDOT District 3
Ms. Jean Weekley, Urban Planning Office, Midway Operations, FDOT District 3
Mr. Tommie Speights, District Public Information Director, FDOT District 3
Mr. Greg Vickery, Administration, FDOT District 3

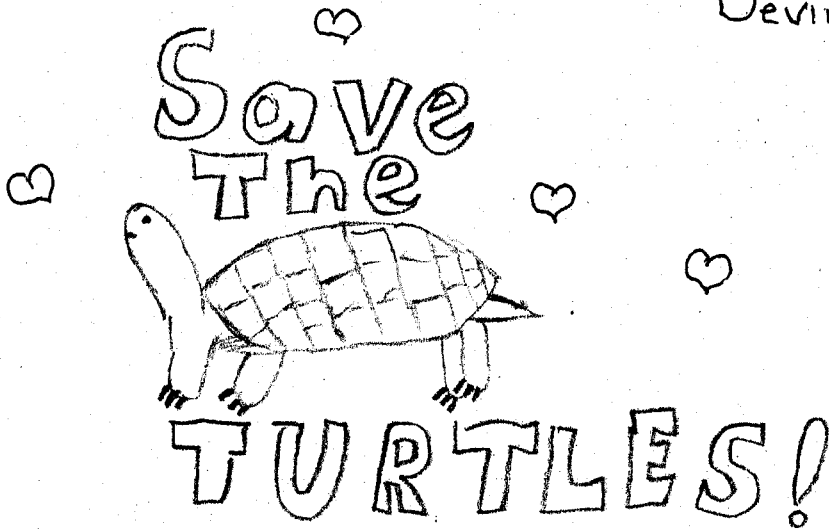
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Jose Abreu, Secretary FDOT c/o Mr. Jack
Kostrzewa City Hall, 300 S. Adams St.
Tallahassee, FL 32301
July 13, 2003

Dear Mr. Abreu,

I think that it's not fair for turtles to become roadkill. I really love turtles and I don't like seeing them dead on the highway. Turtles are very important to lakes so, they should be able to make it safely across the highway. I think an Eco passage should be built at Lake Jackson so the turtles don't have to go across the road and risk their lives. Please help save the turtles at Lake Jackson.

Sincerely,
Devin Geraci





UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH OF TALLAHASSEE

2810 North Meridian Road

Tallahassee, Florida 32312 · Phone: (850) 385-5115 · Fax: (850) 385-5834

E-Mail: uuct@nettally.com · Web Address: www.nettally.com/uuct

RECEIVED

03 JUL 18 AM 9:20

TALLAHASSEE/LEON COUNTY
PLANNING DEPARTMENT

Pamela Hoskins
Religious Education teacher,
Unitarian Universalist Church of Tallahassee

July 15, 2003

Jose Abuero
Secretary, Florida Department of Transportation
Care of Jack Kostrzwa
Lake Jackson Ecopassage Project Manager
Tallahassee-Leon County Planning Department (MPO)
City Hall
300 South Adams Street
Tallahassee, Florida 32301

Re: Lake Jackson Ecopassage Project

Dear Mr. Abuero:

Enclosed are several letters written by religious education students at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Tallahassee, supporting the building of the Lake Jackson Ecopassage. The children, ranging in age from six to thirteen years old, are very concerned about the plight of the turtles and other wildlife.

Please take the time to read the words, and look at the drawings, of these caring young Floridians.

Sincerely,

Pamela Hoskins



Florida Department of Transportation

JEB BUSH
GOVERNOR

1074 Highway 90
Chipley, Florida 32428

THOMAS F. BARRY, JR.
SECRETARY

Post Office Box 607
Chipley, Florida 32428-0607

October 22, 2002

Ms. Jean Hooker
200 North Bath Club Boulevard
St. Petersburg, Florida 33708

RE: U.S. 27 at Lake Jackson

Dear Ms. Hooker:

I have received a copy of your recent letter requesting the Department to consider funding and constructing a permanent wildlife barrier along the subject facility north of Tallahassee. Thank you for the opportunity to provide assistance.

The issues noted in your letter were reviewed, and the following comments are provided for your reference. We suggest the County propose the barrier as a project for potential federal enhancement funding via the Tallahassee-Leon County Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO). The project must be prioritized by the MPO and included in their Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP) in order for the Department to pursue federal funding.

In conclusion, we look forward to partnering with Leon County, Tallahassee-Leon County Metropolitan Planning Organization, FDEP and other interested parties to accomplish a study to recommend the most appropriate design for this endeavor. Presently, we are in the process of developing all the pertinent agreements associated with beginning the study effort. We believe the enhanced relationships produced from this project will prove invaluable as we work together toward providing an efficient transportation system for the citizens of Leon County.

Thank you for your interest in transportation. If you have any questions concerning this matter, you may contact our office toll-free at 1-888-638-0250, extension 205.

Sincerely,

H. E. Prescott, P.E.
District Secretary

for

cc: Mr. Parwez Alam, County Administrator, Leon County
Mr. Gene Martin, P.E., District Director of Production, FDOT District 3
Ms. Regina Battles, P.E., District Environmental Management Engineer, FDOT District 3
Mr. Tommy Barfield, P.E., District Production Engineer, FDOT District 3
Ms. Jean Weekley, Urban Planning Office, Midway Operations, FDOT District 3
Mr. Tommie Speights, District Public Information Director, FDOT District 3
Mr. Greg Vickery, Administration, FDOT District 3

11/06/01 W0602126 WILDLIFE BARRIER 010.doc

Kostrzewa, Jack

From: Holtz, Barbara [BarbaraHoltz@paulhastings.com]
Sent: Friday, June 25, 2004 12:52 PM
To: Kostrzewa, Jack
Cc: 'turtles@lakejacksonturtles.org'
Subject: Support the US Highway 27 Ecopassage

Dear Secretary Abreu

I wish to express my enthusiastic support for the construction of a permanent ecopassage along U.S. 27 at Lake Jackson. The highway forms an impassable barrier to turtles, frogs, snakes, and other wildlife and negatively impacts the ecology of the lake ecosystem. The area has the highest documented road mortality and attempted crossings of turtles that has ever been recorded worldwide.

The ecopassage should span the entire lakefront and consist of a set of wildlife underpasses and guidewalls similar to the successful design utilized on Paynes Prairie. Such a system will divert wildlife away from the travel lanes to safe passage beneath the highway. The ecopassage will not only make the highway safer for wildlife and protect the Lake Jackson ecosystem, it will improve motorist safety and enhance the aesthetic character and public enjoyment of the area.

I congratulate the Florida Department of Transportation, Leon County, other elected officials, and all cooperating agencies in their current efforts to resolve the effects of U.S. 27 on Lake Jackson and strongly encourage the expeditious creation of a permanent ecopassage.

We are counting on you to help the people of Florida protect the environment upon which we all depend.

Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

This message is sent by a law firm and may contain information that is privileged or confidential. If you received this transmission in error, please notify the sender by reply e-mail and delete the message and any attachments.

For additional information, please visit our website at www.paulhastings.com.

Kostrzewa, Jack

From: Holman, Glen [Glen.Holman@icn.siemens.com]

Sent: Wednesday, May 05, 2004 1:45 PM

To: Kostrzewa, Jack

Cc: 'turtles@lakejacksonturtles.org'

Subject: Support the US Highway 27 Ecopassage

Dear Secretary Abreu

I wish to express my enthusiastic support for the construction of a permanent ecopassage along U.S. 27 at Lake Jackson. The highway forms an impassable barrier to turtles, frogs, snakes, and other wildlife and negatively impacts the ecology of the lake ecosystem. The area has the highest documented road mortality and attempted crossings of turtles that has ever been recorded worldwide.

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We are counting on you to help the people of Florida protect the environment upon which we all depend.

Thank you very much.

Sincerely,



Florida Department of Transportation

JEB BUSH
GOVERNOR

1074 Highway 90
Chipley, Florida 32428

THOMAS F. BARRY, JR.
SECRETARY

Post Office Box 607
Chipley, Florida 32428-0607

Mr. Gene Helfman, Ph.D.
Institute of Ecology
University of Georgia
Athens, Georgia 30602

RE: U.S. 27 at Lake Jackson

Dear Dr. Helfman:

I have received a copy of your recent letter requesting the Department to consider funding and constructing a permanent wildlife barrier along the subject facility north of Tallahassee. Thank you for the opportunity to provide assistance.

The issues noted in your letter were reviewed, and the following comments are provided for your reference. We suggest the County propose the barrier as a project for potential federal enhancement funding via the Tallahassee-Leon County Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO). The project must be prioritized by the MPO and included in their Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP) in order for the Department to pursue federal funding.

In conclusion, we look forward to partnering with Leon County, Tallahassee-Leon County Metropolitan Planning Organization, FDEP and other interested parties to accomplish a study to recommend the most appropriate design for this endeavor. Presently, we are in the process of developing all the pertinent agreements associated with beginning the study effort. We believe the enhanced relationships produced from this project will prove invaluable as we work together toward providing an efficient transportation system for the citizens of Leon County.

Thank you for your interest in transportation. If you have any questions concerning this matter, you may contact our office toll-free at 1-888-638-0250, extension 205.

Sincerely,

H. E. Prescott, P.E.
District Secretary

cc: ~~Mr. Parvez~~ Alam, County Administrator, Leon County
Mr. Gene Martin, P.E., District Director of Production, FDOT District 3
Ms. Regina Battles, P.E., District Environmental Management Engineer, FDOT District 3
Mr. Tommy Barfield, P.E., District Production Engineer, FDOT District 3
Ms. Jean Weekley, Urban Planning Office, Midway Operations, FDOT District 3
Mr. Tommie Speights, District Public Information Director, FDOT District 3
Mr. Greg Vickery, Administration, FDOT District 3

H:\Other\Work\2002\Leon\WILEY\PR BARFIELD.d01.doc

Kostrzewa, Jack

From: Glo Harrod [glozee@att.net]
Sent: Tuesday, August 12, 2003 12:25 PM
To: KostrzeJ@talgov.com
Cc: turtles@lakejacksonturtles.org
Subject: Lake Jackson Ecopassage PD

Dear Mr. Kostrzewa:

I wish to express my enthusiastic support for the construction of a permanent ecopassage along U.S. 27 at Lake Jackson. The highway forms an impassable barrier to turtles, frogs, snakes, and other wildlife and negatively impacts the ecology of the lake ecosystem. The area has the highest documented road mortality and attempted crossings of turtles that has ever been recorded worldwide.

The ecopassage should span the entire lakefront and consist of a set of wildlife underpasses and guidewalls similar to the successful design utilized on Paynes Prairie. Such a system will divert wildlife away from the travel lanes to safe passage beneath the highway. The ecopassage will not only make the highway safer for wildlife and protect the Lake Jackson ecosystem, it will improve motorist safety and enhance the aesthetic character and public enjoyment of the area.

I congratulate the Florida Department of Transportation, Leon County, other elected officials, and all cooperating agencies in their current efforts to resolve the effects of U.S. 27 on Lake Jackson and strongly encourage the expeditious creation of a permanent ecopassage.

We are counting on you to help the people of Florida protect the environment upon which we all depend.

Thank you very much.

Gloria Harrod, 9 Edgewater Place, Palm Coast, FL 32164



IncrediMail - Email has finally evolved - [Click Here](#)



Florida Department of Transportation

JEB BUSH
GOVERNOR

1074 Highway 90
Chipley, Florida 32428

THOMAS F. BARRY, JR.
SECRETARY

Post Office Box 607
Chipley, Florida 32428-0607

October 22, 2002

Ms. Susan Harris
18 Spokane Trail
Crawfordville, Florida 32327

RE: U.S. 27 at Lake Jackson

Dear Ms. Harris:

I have received a copy of your recent letter requesting the Department to consider funding and constructing a permanent wildlife barrier along the subject facility north of Tallahassee. Thank you for the opportunity to provide assistance.

The issues noted in your letter were reviewed, and the following comments are provided for your reference. We suggest the County propose the barrier as a project for potential federal enhancement funding via the Tallahassee-Leon County Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO). The project must be prioritized by the MPO and included in their Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP) in order for the Department to pursue federal funding.

In conclusion, we look forward to partnering with Leon County, Tallahassee-Leon County Metropolitan Planning Organization, FDEP and other interested parties to accomplish a study to recommend the most appropriate design for this endeavor. Presently, we are in the process of developing all the pertinent agreements associated with beginning the study effort. We believe the enhanced relationships produced from this project will prove invaluable as we work together toward providing an efficient transportation system for the citizens of Leon County.

Thank you for your interest in transportation. If you have any questions concerning this matter, you may contact our office toll-free at 1-888-638-0250, extension 205.

Sincerely,

for H. E. Prescott, P.E.
District Secretary

cc: Mr. Parwez Alam, County Administrator, Leon County
Mr. Gene Martin, P.E., District Director of Production, FDOT District 3
Ms. Regina Battles, P.E., District Environmental Management Engineer, FDOT District 3
Mr. Tommy Barfield, P.E., District Production Engineer, FDOT District 3
Ms. Jean Weekley, Urban Planning Office, Midway Operations, FDOT District 3
Mr. Tommie Speights, District Public Information Director, FDOT District 3
Mr. Greg Vickery, Administration, FDOT District 3

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Florida Department of Transportation

JEB BUSH
GOVERNOR

1074 Highway 90
Chipley, Florida 32428

THOMAS F. BARRY, JR.
SECRETARY

Post Office Box 607
Chipley, Florida 32428-0607

Val Hubbard

FTI PA 12/19

Mr. Cody Hansen
The School of Arts and Sciences
3208 Thomasville Road
Tallahassee, Florida 32308

RE: U.S. 27 at Lake Jackson

Dear Mr. Hansen:

I have received a copy of your recent letter requesting the Department to consider funding and constructing a permanent wildlife barrier along the subject facility north of Tallahassee. Thank you for the opportunity to provide assistance.

The issues noted in your letter were reviewed, and the following comments are provided for your reference. We suggest the County propose the barrier as a project for potential federal enhancement funding via the Tallahassee-Leon County Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO). The project must be prioritized by the MPO and included in their Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP) in order for the Department to pursue federal funding.

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Thank you for your interest in transportation. If you have any questions concerning this matter, you may contact our office toll-free at 1-888-638-0250, extension 205.

Sincerely,

H. E. Prescott, P.E.
District Secretary

RECEIVED
02 DEC 31 AM 10: 12
TALLAHASSEE/LEON COUNTY
PLANNING DEPARTMENT

- cc: Mr. Parwez Alam, County Administrator, Leon County
- Mr. Gene Martin, P.E., District Director of Production, FDOT District 3
- Ms. Regina Battles, P.E., District Environmental Management Engineer, FDOT District 3
- Mr. Tommy Barfield, P.E., District Production Engineer, FDOT District 3
- Ms. Jean Weekley, Urban Planning Office, Midway Operations, FDOT District 3
- Mr. Tommie Speights, District Public Information Director, FDOT District 3
- Mr. Greg Vickery, Administration, FDOT District 3

11 Office Word 2002 Leon WILDLIFE BARRIER-011.doc



Florida Department of Transportation

JEB BUSH
GOVERNOR

1074 Highway 90
Chipley, Florida 32428

THOMAS F. BARRY, JR.
SECRETARY

Post Office Box 607
Chipley, Florida 32428-0607

September 12, 2002

Mr. Dean A. Hansen
2210 Cline Street
Tallahassee, Florida 32308

RE: U.S. 27 at Lake Jackson

Dear Mr. Hansen:

I have received your recent letter requesting the Department to consider funding and constructing a permanent wildlife barrier along the subject facility north of Tallahassee. Thank you for the opportunity to provide assistance.

The issues noted in your letter were reviewed, and the following comments are provided for your reference. As stated in our letter, dated August 26, 2002, to Chairman Dan Winchester, Leon County Commission, it is suggested that the County propose the barrier as a project for potential federal enhancement funding. We anticipate the construction of the barrier to total approximately \$250,000.

Thank you for your interest in transportation. If you have any questions concerning this matter, you may contact our office toll-free at 1-888-638-0250, extension 205.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "H. E. Prescott".

H. E. Prescott, P.E.
District Secretary

cc: ~~Mr. [REDACTED] Administrator, Leon County~~
Mr. Gene Martin, P.E., District Director of Production, FDOT District 3
Ms. Regina Battles, P.E., District Environmental Management Engineer, FDOT District 3
Mr. Tommy Barfield, P.E., District Production Engineer, FDOT District 3
Ms. Jean Weekley, Urban Planning Office, Midway Operations, FDOT District 3
Mr. Tommie Speights, District Public Information Director, FDOT District 3
Mr. Greg Vickery, Administration, FDOT District 3

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Kostrzewa, Jack

From: Copeland, Anne [acopelan@chuma1.cas.usf.edu]
Sent: Monday, January 20, 2003 11:33 PM
To: 'KostrzeJ@talgov.com'
Cc: 'aresco@bio.fsu.edu'
Subject: Lake Jackson Ecopassage PD

Dear Secretary Barry,

I am writing to express my concern over the high wildlife mortality that occurs along the portion of US Highway 27 that crosses northwest Lake Jackson in Leon County, Florida. US Highway 27 is a virtually impassable migration barrier to turtles and other wildlife and the road mortality rate and attempted crossings here of turtles is higher than has been documented anywhere else in the world. The loss of large numbers of adult turtles to road mortality is not sustainable and can lead to rapid depletion of populations that will ultimately undermine the proper functioning of the entire lake ecosystem.

I strongly support the creation of an ecopassage along the 4000-foot section of U.S. Highway 27 that crosses Lake Jackson. The ecopassage should consist of a series of wildlife underpasses connected by a set of wildlife guidewalls, similar to the system recently constructed at Paynes Prairie (near Gainesville, FL) on US Highway 441. Such a system would divert wildlife away from the travel lanes to safe passages beneath the highway. The ecopassage will not only make the highway safer for wildlife and protect the Lake Jackson ecosystem, but it will improve motorist safety (by reducing vehicle collisions with wildlife) and enhance the aesthetic character and public enjoyment of the area.

I am asking that you use your authority to secure funding for this worthy project. I am counting on you and the Florida Department of Transportation to stop the unnecessary killing of Florida wildlife on US Highway 27 and help the people of Florida preserve Lake Jackson's ecosystem. Thank you for your attention to this important issue.

Sincerely,

Anne Copeland Hamer
Program Assistant
Public Administration Program
University of South Florida
(813) 974-0813
acopelan@chuma1.cas.usf.edu

Kostrzewa, Jack

From: Carol Hallabrin [challabrin@hwdavis.com]
Sent: Friday, June 25, 2004 10:18 AM
To: Kostrzewa, Jack
Cc: turtles@lakejacksonturtles.org
Subject: Support the US Highway 27 Ecopassage

Dear Secretary Abreu

I wish to express my enthusiastic support for the construction of a permanent ecopassage along U.S. 27 at Lake Jackson. The highway forms an impassable barrier to turtles, frogs, snakes, and other wildlife and negatively impacts the ecology of the lake ecosystem. The area has the highest documented road mortality and attempted crossings of turtles that has ever been recorded worldwide.

The ecopassage should span the entire lakefront and consist of a set of wildlife underpasses and guidewalls similar to the successful design utilized on Paynes Prairie. Such a system will divert wildlife away from the travel lanes to safe passage beneath the highway. The ecopassage will not only make the highway safer for wildlife and protect the Lake Jackson ecosystem, it will improve motorist safety and enhance the aesthetic character and public enjoyment of the area.

I congratulate the Florida Department of Transportation, Leon County, other elected officials, and all cooperating agencies in their current efforts to resolve the effects of U.S. 27 on Lake Jackson and strongly encourage the expeditious creation of a permanent ecopassage.

We are counting on you to help the people of Florida protect the environment upon which we all depend.

Thank you very much.

Sincerely,
Carol Hallabrin
Clermont, FL



Florida Department of Transportation

JEB BUSH
GOVERNOR

1074 Highway 90
Chipley, Florida 32428

THOMAS F. BARRY, JR.
SECRETARY

Post Office Box 607
Chipley, Florida 32428-0607

Ms. Arielle Hall
The School of Arts and Sciences
3208 Thomasville Road
Tallahassee, Florida 32308

RE: U.S. 27 at Lake Jackson

Dear Ms. Hall:

I have received a copy of your recent letter requesting the Department to consider funding and constructing a permanent wildlife barrier along the subject facility north of Tallahassee. Thank you for the opportunity to provide assistance.

The issues noted in your letter were reviewed, and the following comments are provided for your reference. We suggest the County propose the barrier as a project for potential federal enhancement funding via the Tallahassee-Leon County Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO). The project must be prioritized by the MPO and included in their Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP) in order for the Department to pursue federal funding.

In conclusion, we look forward to partnering with Leon County, Tallahassee-Leon County Metropolitan Planning Organization, FDEP and other interested parties to accomplish a study to recommend the most appropriate design for this endeavor. Presently, we are in the process of developing all the pertinent agreements associated with beginning the study effort. We believe the enhanced relationships produced from this project will prove invaluable as we work together toward providing an efficient transportation system for the citizens of Leon County.

Thank you for your interest in transportation. If you have any questions concerning this matter, you may contact our office toll-free at 1-888-638-0250, extension 205.

Sincerely,

H. E. Prescott, P.E.
District Secretary

cc: Mr. Farwez Alam, County Administrator, Leon County
Mr. Gene Martin, P.E., District Director of Production, FDOT District 3
Ms. Regina Battles, P.E., District Environmental Management Engineer, FDOT District 3
Mr. Tommy Barfield, P.E., District Production Engineer, FDOT District 3
Ms. Jean Weekley, Urban Planning Office, Midway Operations, FDOT District 3
Mr. Tommie Speights, District Public Information Director, FDOT District 3
Mr. Greg Vickery, Administration, FDOT District 3

11 Other Word 2002 Leon WILDLIFE BARRIER-04.doc

2 May 2003

Margaret Gunzburger
Lake Jackson Ecopassage Alliance
P. O. Box 180891
Tallahassee, FL 32318

Jose Abreu, Secretary, Florida Department of Transportation
c/o Jack Kostrzewa
Lake Jackson Ecopassage Project Manager
Tallahassee-Leon County Planning Department (MPO)
City Hall, 300 S. Adams St.
Tallahassee, FL 32301

Dear Mr. Kostrzewa,

Enclosed are letters of support received by the Lake Jackson Ecopassage Alliance in September 2002. We received these letters from local schoolchildren who asked us to forward them to persons responsible for the decision to fund and build an ecopassage at Lake Jackson.

We received a total of 328 letters from students in 10 different classes from 1st grade through high school from Hartsfield Elementary, Fairview Middle School, and Florida High School. Letters were addressed to various individuals including the Leon Country Commissioners, Thomas Barry (Florida Department of Transportation), Senator Bob Graham, Representative Lorraine Ausley, and Matthew Aresco. We have divided up these letters and mailed them to the ten individuals we feel are likely to participate in the decision making for the Lake Jackson Ecopassage, thus you are receiving only about 32 of the original 328 letters.

We hope these letters serve to remind you that there is strong public support for construction of the Lake Jackson Ecopassage and that the progress thus far towards this goal has been appreciated.

Sincerely,


Margaret Gunzburger



Florida Department of Transportation

JEB BUSH
GOVERNOR

1074 Highway 90
Chipley, Florida 32428

THOMAS F. BARRY, JR.
SECRETARY

Post Office Box 607
Chipley, Florida 32428-0607

October 22, 2002

Ms. Rachel Gross
2112 Skland Drive
Tallahassee, Florida 32303

RE: U.S. 27 at Lake Jackson

Dear Ms. Gross:

I have received a copy of your recent letter requesting the Department to consider funding and constructing a permanent wildlife barrier along the subject facility north of Tallahassee. Thank you for the opportunity to provide assistance.

The issues noted in your letter were reviewed, and the following comments are provided for your reference. We suggest the County propose the barrier as a project for potential federal enhancement funding via the Tallahassee-Leon County Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO). The project must be prioritized by the MPO and included in their Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP) in order for the Department to pursue federal funding.

In conclusion, we look forward to partnering with Leon County, Tallahassee-Leon County Metropolitan Planning Organization, FDEP and other interested parties to accomplish a study to recommend the most appropriate design for this endeavor. Presently, we are in the process of developing all the pertinent agreements associated with beginning the study effort. We believe the enhanced relationships produced from this project will prove invaluable as we work together toward providing an efficient transportation system for the citizens of Leon County.

Thank you for your interest in transportation. If you have any questions concerning this matter, you may contact our office toll-free at 1-888-638-0250, extension 205.

Sincerely,

H. E. Prescott, P.E.
District Secretary

cc: ~~Mr. Parvez Alam~~, County Administrator, Leon County
Mr. Gene Martin, P.E., District Director of Production, FDOT District 3
Ms. Regina Battles, P.E., District Environmental Management Engineer, FDOT District 3
Mr. Tommy Barfield, P.E., District Production Engineer, FDOT District 3
Ms. Jean Weekley, Urban Planning Office, Midway Operations, FDOT District 3
Mr. Tommie Speights, District Public Information Director, FDOT District 3
Mr. Greg Vickery, Administration, FDOT District 3

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Florida Department of Transportation

JEB BUSH
GOVERNOR

1074 Highway 90
Chipley, Florida 32428

THOMAS F. BARRY, JR.
SECRETARY

Post Office Box 607
Chipley, Florida 32428-0607

October 22, 2002

Ms. Diane Graham
159 Villa Lane
Havana, Florida 32333

RE: U.S. 27 at Lake Jackson

Dear Ms. Graham:

I have received a copy of your recent letter requesting the Department to consider funding and constructing a permanent wildlife barrier along the subject facility north of Tallahassee. Thank you for the opportunity to provide assistance.

The issues noted in your letter were reviewed, and the following comments are provided for your reference. We suggest the County propose the barrier as a project for potential federal enhancement funding via the Tallahassee-Leon County Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO). The project must be prioritized by the MPO and included in their Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP) in order for the Department to pursue federal funding.

In conclusion, we look forward to partnering with Leon County, Tallahassee-Leon County Metropolitan Planning Organization, FDEP and other interested parties to accomplish a study to recommend the most appropriate design for this endeavor. Presently, we are in the process of developing all the pertinent agreements associated with beginning the study effort. We believe the enhanced relationships produced from this project will prove invaluable as we work together toward providing an efficient transportation system for the citizens of Leon County.

Thank you for your interest in transportation. If you have any questions concerning this matter, you may contact our office toll-free at 1-888-638-0250, extension 205.

Sincerely,

H. E. Prescott, P.E.
District Secretary

cc: ~~Mr.~~ Parwez Alam, County Administrator, Leon County
Mr. Gene Martin, P.E., District Director of Production, FDOT District 3
Ms. Regina Battles, P.E., District Environmental Management Engineer, FDOT District 3
Mr. Tommy Barfield, P.E., District Production Engineer, FDOT District 3
Ms. Jean Weekley, Urban Planning Office, Midway Operations, FDOT District 3
Mr. Tommie Speights, District Public Information Director, FDOT District 3
Mr. Greg Vickery, Administration, FDOT District 3

H:\076\01\W\2002\PL\WILDLIFE BARRIER 027.doc

(near Gainesville, FL) on US Highway 441. Such a system would divert wildlife away from the travel lanes to safe passages beneath the highway. The ecopassage will not only make the highway safer for wildlife and protect the Lake Jackson ecosystem, but it will improve motorist safety (by reducing vehicle collisions with wildlife) and enhance the aesthetic character and public enjoyment of the area.

I am asking that you use your authority to secure funding for this worthy project. I am counting on you and the Florida Department of Transportation to stop the unnecessary killing of Florida wildlife on US Highway 27 and help the people of Florida preserve Lake Jackson. Thank you for your attention to this important issue.

Sincerely,

Patricia Gordon,
67 Cherokee Drive
Havana, FL 32333

Treat the earth well,
it was not given to us by our parents,
but lent to us by our children

system for the citizens of Leon County.

Thank you for your interest in transportation. If you have any questions concerning this matter, you may contact our office toll-free at 1-888-638-0250, extension 205.

Sincerely,

/s/ H. E. Prescott

H. E. Prescott, P.E.
District Secretary

Handled by:

Greg Vickery

Office of the District Secretary

Toll-free: 1-888-638-0250, extension 529

(850) 638-0250, extension 529

Suncom 767-1529

FAX (850) 638-6159 / Suncom 769-6159

mailto:greg.vickery@dot.state.fl.us

-----Original Message-----

From: patricia_a_gordon@mail.dbf.state.fl.us

Sent: Thursday, October 24, 2002 1:10 PM

To: tom.barry@dot.state.fl.us,

danw@mail.co.leon.fl.us, richardson.curtis@leg.state.fl.us,

bob_graham@graham.senate.gov, ausley.loranne@leg.state.fl.us,

ken.haddad@fwc.state.fl.us, lawson.alfred.web@leg.state.fl.us,

david.struhs@dep.state.fl.us

Subject: Support for Lake Jackson Ecopassage

Most Honorable Government Leaders:

Since I drive by Lake Jackson at least twice a day, I am concerned about the loss of wildlife due to Highway US 27 being built over Lake Jackson.

I am writing to express my concern over the high wildlife mortality that occurs along the portion of US Highway 27 that crosses northwest Lake Jackson in Leon County, Florida. US Highway 27 is a virtually impassable migration barrier to turtles and other wildlife and the road mortality rate and attempted crossings here of turtles is higher than has been documented anywhere else in the North America. The loss of large numbers of adult turtles to road mortality is not sustainable and can lead to rapid depletion of populations that will ultimately undermine the proper functioning of the entire lake ecosystem.

I strongly support the creation of an ecopassage along the 4000-foot section of U.S. Highway 27 that crosses Lake Jackson. The ecopassage should consist of a series of wildlife underpasses connected by a set of wildlife guidewalls, similar to the system recently constructed at Paynes Prairie

Kostrzewa, Jack

From: greg.vickery@dot.state.fl.us
Sent: Tuesday, October 29, 2002 4:28 PM
To: patricia_a_gordon@mail.dbf.state.fl.us
Cc: danw@mail.co.leon.fl.us; richardson.curtis@leg.state.fl.us; bob_graham@graham.senate.gov; ausley.loranne@leg.state.fl.us; ken.haddad@fwc.state.fl.us; lawson.alfred.web@leg.state.fl.us; david.struhs@dep.state.fl.us; parwez@mail.co.leon.fl.us; barrettb@talgov.com; kostrzej@talgov.com; edward.prescott@dot.state.fl.us; gene.martin@dot.state.fl.us; regina.battles@dot.state.fl.us; jerry.jenkins@dot.state.fl.us; wehowell@pbsj.com; tommy.barfield@dot.state.fl.us; mary.weekley@dot.state.fl.us; tommie.speights@dot.state.fl.us; Olivia.Youse@dot.state.fl.us
Subject: Support for Lake Jackson Ecopassage
Importance: High

Florida Department of Transportation
District Three Administration Building
Office of the District Secretary
Post Office Box 607
Chipley, Florida 32428-0607

October 28, 2002

Ms. Patricia A. Gordon
67 Cherokee Drive
Havana, Florida 32333

RE: U.S. 27 at Lake Jackson

Dear Ms. Gordon:

I have received a copy of your recent e-mail, dated October 24, 2002, requesting the Department to consider funding and constructing a permanent wildlife barrier along the subject facility north of Tallahassee. Thank you for the opportunity to provide assistance.

The issues noted in your letter were reviewed, and the following comments are provided for your reference. We suggest the County propose the barrier as a project for potential federal enhancement funding via the Tallahassee-Leon County Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO). The project must be prioritized by the MPO and included in their Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP) in order for the Department to pursue federal funding.

In conclusion, we look forward to partnering with Leon County, Tallahassee-Leon County Metropolitan Planning Organization, FDEP and other interested parties to accomplish a study to recommend the most appropriate design for this endeavor. Presently, we are in the process of developing all the pertinent agreements associated with beginning the study effort. We believe the enhanced relationships produced from this project will prove invaluable as we work together toward providing an efficient transportation

Kostrzewa, Jack

From: RGonz29452@aol.com

Sent: Friday, June 25, 2004 10:08 PM

To: Winchester, Dan

Cc: Kostrzewa, Jack

Subject: Create More "Ecopassages"

I am writing to you concerning the enormous amount of wildlife that are killed by traffic on our roads. This waste of life is absolutely irresponsible! I request that more of these wildlife sparing 'Ecopassages' be built. The monetary cost will be greater, but the waste of wildlife will be less and very much worth it !!!

Rob Gonzalez
8840 Lake Park Circle N.
Davie, FL 33328

Sincerely,

/s/ H. E. Prescott

H. E. Prescott, P.E.
District Secretary

Handled by:

Greg Vickery

Office of the District Secretary

Toll-free: 1-888-638-0250, extension 529

(850) 638-0250, extension 529

Suncom 767-1529

FAX (850) 638-6159 / Suncom 769-6159

mailto:greg.vickery@dot.state.fl.us

Kostrzewa, Jack

From: greg.vickery@dot.state.fl.us
Sent: Monday, March 24, 2003 10:43 AM
To: mzgrace@bellsouth.net
Cc: parwez@mail.co.leon.fl.us; barrettb@talgov.com; kostrzej@talgov.com; edward.prescott@dot.state.fl.us; gene.martin@dot.state.fl.us; regina.battles@dot.state.fl.us; jerry.jenkins@dot.state.fl.us; wehowell@pbsj.com; tommy.barfield@dot.state.fl.us; mary.weekley@dot.state.fl.us; tommie.speights@dot.state.fl.us; Olivia.Youse@dot.state.fl.us
Subject: Support for Lake Jackson Ecopassage
Importance: High

Florida Department of Transportation
District Three Administration Building
Office of the District Secretary
Post Office Box 607
Chipley, Florida 32428-0607

Ms. Grace T. Gokturk
570 Ocean Drive, #1101
Juno Beach, Florida 33408

RE: U.S. 27 at Lake Jackson

Dear Ms. Gokturk:

I have received a copy of your recent letter requesting the Department to consider funding and constructing a permanent wildlife barrier along the subject facility north of Tallahassee. Thank you for the opportunity to provide assistance.

The issues noted in your letter were reviewed, and the following comments are provided for your reference. We suggest the County propose the barrier as a project for potential federal enhancement funding via the Tallahassee-Leon County Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO). The project must be prioritized by the MPO and included in their Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP) in order for the Department to pursue federal funding.

In conclusion, we look forward to partnering with Leon County, Tallahassee-Leon County Metropolitan Planning Organization, FDEP and other interested parties to accomplish a study to recommend the most appropriate design for this endeavor. Presently, we are in the process of developing all the pertinent agreements associated with beginning the study effort. We believe the enhanced relationships produced from this project will prove invaluable as we work together toward providing an efficient transportation system for the citizens of Leon County.

Thank you for your interest in transportation. If you have any questions concerning this matter, you may contact our office toll-free at 1-888-638-0250, extension 205.



Florida Department of Transportation

JEB BUSH
GOVERNOR

1074 Highway 90
Chipley, Florida 32428

THOMAS F. BARRY, JR.
SECRETARY

Post Office Box 607
Chipley, Florida 32428-0607

October 22, 2002

Ms. Heidi Gilbert
10850 Lund Point Road
Tallahassee, Florida 32312

RE: U.S. 27 at Lake Jackson

Dear Ms. Gilbert:

I have received a copy of your recent letter requesting the Department to consider funding and constructing a permanent wildlife barrier along the subject facility north of Tallahassee. Thank you for the opportunity to provide assistance.

The issues noted in your letter were reviewed, and the following comments are provided for your reference. We suggest the County propose the barrier as a project for potential federal enhancement funding via the Tallahassee-Leon County Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO). The project must be prioritized by the MPO and included in their Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP) in order for the Department to pursue federal funding.

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Thank you for your interest in transportation. If you have any questions concerning this matter, you may contact our office toll-free at 1-888-638-0250, extension 205.

Sincerely,

for H. E. Prescott, P.E.
District Secretary

cc: Mr. Parwez Alam, County Administrator, Leon County
Mr. Gene Martin, P.E., District Director of Production, FDOT District 3
Ms. Regina Battles, P.E., District Environmental Management Engineer, FDOT District 3
Mr. Tommy Barfield, P.E., District Production Engineer, FDOT District 3
Ms. Jean Weekley, Urban Planning Office, Midway Operations, FDOT District 3
Mr. Tommie Speights, District Public Information Director, FDOT District 3
Mr. Greg Vickery, Administration, FDOT District 3

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Florida Department of Transportation

JEB BUSH
GOVERNOR

1074 Highway 90
Chipley, Florida 32428

THOMAS F. BARRY, JR.
SECRETARY

Post Office Box 607
Chipley, Florida 32428-0607

October 22, 2002

Ms. M. L. Garcia
6735 Chevy Way
Tallahassee, Florida 32317-7412

RE: U.S. 27 at Lake Jackson

Dear Ms. Garcia:

I have received a copy of your recent letter requesting the Department to consider funding and constructing a permanent wildlife barrier along the subject facility north of Tallahassee. Thank you for the opportunity to provide assistance.

The issues noted in your letter were reviewed, and the following comments are provided for your reference. We suggest the County propose the barrier as a project for potential federal enhancement funding via the Tallahassee-Leon County Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO). The project must be prioritized by the MPO and included in their Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP) in order for the Department to pursue federal funding.

In conclusion, we look forward to partnering with Leon County, Tallahassee-Leon County Metropolitan Planning Organization, FDEP and other interested parties to accomplish a study to recommend the most appropriate design for this endeavor. Presently, we are in the process of developing all the pertinent agreements associated with beginning the study effort. We believe the enhanced relationships produced from this project will prove invaluable as we work together toward providing an efficient transportation system for the citizens of Leon County.

Thank you for your interest in transportation. If you have any questions concerning this matter, you may contact our office toll-free at 1-888-638-0250, extension 205.

Sincerely,

H. E. Prescott, P.E.
District Secretary

cc: Mr. Parvez Alam, County Administrator, Leon County
Mr. Gene Martin, P.E., District Director of Production, FDOT District 3
Ms. Regina Battles, P.E., District Environmental Management Engineer, FDOT District 3
Mr. Tommy Barfield, P.E., District Production Engineer, FDOT District 3
Ms. Jean Weekley, Urban Planning Office, Midway Operations, FDOT District 3
Mr. Tommie Speights, District Public Information Director, FDOT District 3
Mr. Greg Vickery, Administration, FDOT District 3

WORKING TOGETHER TO PROTECT WILDLIFE BARRIERS



Florida Department of Transportation

JEB BUSH
GOVERNOR

1074 Highway 90
Chipley, Florida 32428

THOMAS F. BARRY, JR.
SECRETARY

Post Office Box 607
Chipley, Florida 32428-0607

Mr. Zach Gaylou
The School of Arts and Sciences
3208 Thomasville Road
Tallahassee, Florida 32308

RE: U.S. 27 at Lake Jackson

Dear Mr. Gaylou:

I have received a copy of your recent letter requesting the Department to consider funding and constructing a permanent wildlife barrier along the subject facility north of Tallahassee. Thank you for the opportunity to provide assistance.

The issues noted in your letter were reviewed, and the following comments are provided for your reference. We suggest the County propose the barrier as a project for potential federal enhancement funding via the Tallahassee-Leon County Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO). The project must be prioritized by the MPO and included in their Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP) in order for the Department to pursue federal funding.

In conclusion, we look forward to partnering with Leon County, Tallahassee-Leon County Metropolitan Planning Organization, FDEP and other interested parties to accomplish a study to recommend the most appropriate design for this endeavor. Presently, we are in the process of developing all the pertinent agreements associated with beginning the study effort. We believe the enhanced relationships produced from this project will prove invaluable as we work together toward providing an efficient transportation system for the citizens of Leon County.

Thank you for your interest in transportation. If you have any questions concerning this matter, you may contact our office toll-free at 1-888-638-0250, extension 205.

Sincerely,

H. E. Prescott, P.E.
District Secretary

cc: Mr. Parwez Alam, County Administrator, Leon County
Mr. Gene Martin, P.E., District Director of Production, FDOT District 3
Ms. Regina Battles, P.E., District Environmental Management Engineer, FDOT District 3
Mr. Tommy Barfield, P.E., District Production Engineer, FDOT District 3
Ms. Jean Weekley, Urban Planning Office, Midway Operations, FDOT District 3
Mr. Tommie Speights, District Public Information Director, FDOT District 3
Mr. Greg Vickery, Administration, FDOT District 3

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Sincerely,

/s/ H. E. Prescott

H. E. Prescott, P.E.
District Secretary

Handled by:
Greg Vickery
Office of the District Secretary
Toll-free: 1-888-638-0250, extension 529
(850) 638-0250, extension 529
Suncom 767-1529
FAX (850) 638-6159 / Suncom 769-6159
mailto:greg.vickery@dot.state.fl.us

Kostrzewa, Jack

From: greg.vickery@dot.state.fl.us
Sent: Monday, March 24, 2003 10:43 AM
To: nfriedman@hotmail.com
Cc: parwez@mail.co.leon.fl.us; barrettb@talgov.com; kostrzej@talgov.com;
edward.prescott@dot.state.fl.us; gene.martin@dot.state.fl.us; regina.battles@dot.state.fl.us;
jerry.jenkins@dot.state.fl.us; wehowell@pbsj.com; tommy.barfield@dot.state.fl.us;
mary.weekley@dot.state.fl.us; tommie.speights@dot.state.fl.us; Olivia.Youse@dot.state.fl.us
Subject: Support for Lake Jackson Ecopassage
Importance: High

Florida Department of Transportation
District Three Administration Building
Office of the District Secretary
Post Office Box 607
Chipley, Florida 32428-0607

Mr. Norman Friedman
807 Weeden Island Drive
Niceville, Florida 32578

RE: U.S. 27 at Lake Jackson

Dear Mr. Friedman:

I have received a copy of your recent letter requesting the Department to consider funding and constructing a permanent wildlife barrier along the subject facility north of Tallahassee. Thank you for the opportunity to provide assistance.

The issues noted in your letter were reviewed, and the following comments are provided for your reference. We suggest the County propose the barrier as a project for potential federal enhancement funding via the Tallahassee-Leon County Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO). The project must be prioritized by the MPO and included in their Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP) in order for the Department to pursue federal funding.

In conclusion, we look forward to partnering with Leon County, Tallahassee-Leon County Metropolitan Planning Organization, FDEP and other interested parties to accomplish a study to recommend the most appropriate design for this endeavor. Presently, we are in the process of developing all the pertinent agreements associated with beginning the study effort. We believe the enhanced relationships produced from this project will prove invaluable as we work together toward providing an efficient transportation system for the citizens of Leon County.

Thank you for your interest in transportation. If you have any questions concerning this matter, you may contact our office toll-free at 1-888-638-0250, extension 205.



Florida Department of Transportation

JEB BUSH
GOVERNOR

1074 Highway 90
Chipley, Florida 32428

THOMAS F. BARRY, JR.
SECRETARY

Post Office Box 607
Chipley, Florida 32428-0607

October 22, 2002

Ms. Sheila Fretterd
2781 Spring Creek Highway
Crawfordville, Florida 32327

RE: U.S. 27 at Lake Jackson

Dear Ms. Fretterd:

I have received a copy of your recent letter requesting the Department to consider funding and constructing a permanent wildlife barrier along the subject facility north of Tallahassee. Thank you for the opportunity to provide assistance.

The issues noted in your letter were reviewed, and the following comments are provided for your reference. We suggest the County propose the barrier as a project for potential federal enhancement funding via the Tallahassee-Leon County Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO). The project must be prioritized by the MPO and included in their Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP) in order for the Department to pursue federal funding.

In conclusion, we look forward to partnering with Leon County, Tallahassee-Leon County Metropolitan Planning Organization, FDEP and other interested parties to accomplish a study to recommend the most appropriate design for this endeavor. Presently, we are in the process of developing all the pertinent agreements associated with beginning the study effort. We believe the enhanced relationships produced from this project will prove invaluable as we work together toward providing an efficient transportation system for the citizens of Leon County.

Thank you for your interest in transportation. If you have any questions concerning this matter, you may contact our office toll-free at 1-888-638-0250, extension 205.

Sincerely,

H. E. Prescott, P.E.
District Secretary

cc: ~~Mr. Dan...~~ County Administrator, Leon County
Mr. Gene Martin, P.E., District Director of Production, FDOT District 3
Ms. Regina Battles, P.E., District Environmental Management Engineer, FDOT District 3
Mr. Tommy Barfield, P.E., District Production Engineer, FDOT District 3
Ms. Jean Weekley, Urban Planning Office, Midway Operations, FDOT District 3
Mr. Tommie Speights, District Public Information Director, FDOT District 3
Mr. Greg Vickery, Administration, FDOT District 3

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Kostrzewa, Jack

From: Lfrank1999@aol.com
Sent: Friday, June 25, 2004 8:18 PM
To: Kostrzewa, Jack
Subject: Support ecopassages

My family and I urge you to support the construction of ecopassages across fragmented wetlands. This is a simple solution to the slaughter of tens of thousands of wildlife species, mainly turtles, by highway traffic.
Harriette Frank

Kostrzewa, Jack

From: GloeFloe@aol.com
Sent: Saturday, July 10, 2004 2:55 PM
To: Kostrzewa, Jack
Cc: turtles@lakejacksonturtles.org
Subject: Support the US Highway 27 Ecopassage

Dear Secretary Abreu

I wish to express my enthusiastic support for the construction of a permanent ecopassage along U.S. 27 at Lake Jackson. The highway forms an impassable barrier to turtles, frogs, snakes, and other wildlife and negatively impacts the ecology of the lake ecosystem. The area has the highest documented road mortality and attempted crossings of turtles that has ever been recorded worldwide.

The ecopassage should span the entire lakefront and consist of a set of wildlife underpasses and guidewalls similar to the successful design utilized on Paynes Prairie. Such a system will divert wildlife away from the travel lanes to safe passage beneath the highway. The ecopassage will not only make the highway safer for wildlife and protect the Lake Jackson ecosystem, it will improve motorist safety and enhance the aesthetic character and public enjoyment of the area.

I congratulate the Florida Department of Transportation, Leon County, other elected officials, and all cooperating agencies in their current efforts to resolve the effects of U.S. 27 on Lake Jackson and strongly encourage the expeditious creation of a permanent ecopassage.

We are counting on you to help the people of Florida protect the environment upon which we all depend.

Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

Gloria G Flucks



Florida Department of Transportation

JEB BUSH
GOVERNOR

1074 Highway 90
Chipley, Florida 32428

THOMAS F. BARRY, JR.
SECRETARY

Post Office Box 607
Chipley, Florida 32428-0607

October 22, 2002

Ms. Nancy H. Fink
2396 Harvey Mill Creek Road
Tallahassee, Florida 32310

RE: U.S. 27 at Lake Jackson

Dear Ms. Fink:

I have received a copy of your recent letter requesting the Department to consider funding and constructing a permanent wildlife barrier along the subject facility north of Tallahassee. Thank you for the opportunity to provide assistance.

The issues noted in your letter were reviewed, and the following comments are provided for your reference. We suggest the County propose the barrier as a project for potential federal enhancement funding via the Tallahassee-Leon County Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO). The project must be prioritized by the MPO and included in their Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP) in order for the Department to pursue federal funding.

In conclusion, we look forward to partnering with Leon County, Tallahassee-Leon County Metropolitan Planning Organization, FDEP and other interested parties to accomplish a study to recommend the most appropriate design for this endeavor. Presently, we are in the process of developing all the pertinent agreements associated with beginning the study effort. We believe the enhanced relationships produced from this project will prove invaluable as we work together toward providing an efficient transportation system for the citizens of Leon County.

Thank you for your interest in transportation. If you have any questions concerning this matter, you may contact our office toll-free at 1-888-638-0250, extension 205.

Sincerely,

H. E. Prescott
for H. E. Prescott, P.E.
District Secretary

cc: Mr. Parwez Alam, County Administrator, Leon County
Mr. Gene Martin, P.E., District Director of Production, FDOT District 3
Ms. Regina Battles, P.E., District Environmental Management Engineer, FDOT District 3
Mr. Tommy Barfield, P.E., District Production Engineer, FDOT District 3
Ms. Jean Weekley, Urban Planning Office, Midway Operations, FDOT District 3
Mr. Tommie Speights, District Public Information Director, FDOT District 3
Mr. Greg Vickery, Administration, FDOT District 3

NOTE: WILDLIFE BARRIER 317 00

Kostrzewa, Jack

From: Robbie [tere257@earthlink.net]
Sent: Saturday, September 04, 2004 3:00 PM
To: Kostrzewa, Jack
Cc: turtles@lakejacksonturtles.org
Subject: Support the US Highway 27 Ecopassage

Dear Secretary Abreu

I wish to express my enthusiastic support for the construction of a permanent ecopassage along U.S. 27 at Lake Jackson. The highway forms an impassable barrier to turtles, frogs, snakes, and other wildlife and negatively impacts the ecology of the lake ecosystem. The area has the highest documented road mortality and attempted crossings of turtles that has ever been recorded worldwide.

The ecopassage should span the entire lakefront and consist of a set of wildlife underpasses and guidewalls similar to the successful design utilized on Paynes Prairie. Such a system will divert wildlife away from the travel lanes to safe passage beneath the highway. The ecopassage will not only make the highway safer for wildlife and protect the Lake Jackson ecosystem, it will improve motorist safety and enhance the aesthetic character and public enjoyment of the area.

I congratulate the Florida Department of Transportation, Leon County, other elected officials, and all cooperating agencies in their current efforts to resolve the effects of U.S. 27 on Lake Jackson and strongly encourage the expeditious creation of a permanent ecopassage.

We are counting on you to help the people of Florida protect the environment upon which we all depend.

Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

roberta l. eures

we all depend.

Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

Gregory Esteve

3655 North Scenic Highway

Lake Wales, Florida 33898

gregatourhouse@hotmail.com

863.676.8015

Watch the online reality show *Mixed Messages* with a friend and enter to win a trip to NY

Kostrzewa, Jack

From: Gregory Esteve [gregatourhouse@hotmail.com]
Sent: Friday, June 25, 2004 1:13 PM
To: Winchester, Dan
Cc: Kostrzewa, Jack
Subject: Please Continue to Support Eco-Passages Along U.S. 27 at Lake Jackson.
Lake Wales, Florida

June 25, 2004

Leon County Board of County Commissioners

Leon County Courthouse
301 South Monroe St.
Fifth Floor
Tallahassee, FL 32301-1853
850-488-9962
Fax: 850-488-1670
danw@mail.co.leon.fl.us

Tallahassee-Leon County Planning Department (MPO)

Mr. Jack Kostrzewa, Acting Director
City Hall
300 South Adams St.
Tallahassee, FL 32301
850-891-8600
Fax: 850-891-8734
KostrzeJ@talgov.com

Dear Sirs or Ma'ams,

I wish to express my enthusiastic support for the construction of a permanent ecopassage along U.S. 27 at Lake Jackson. The highway forms an impassable barrier to turtles, frogs, snakes, and other wildlife and negatively impacts the ecology of the lake ecosystem. The area has the highest documented road mortality and attempted crossings of turtles that has ever been recorded worldwide.

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We are counting on you to help the people of Florida protect the environment upon which



Florida Department of Transportation

JEB BUSH
GOVERNOR

1074 Highway 90
Chipley, Florida 32428

THOMAS F. BARRY, JR.
SECRETARY

Post Office Box 607
Chipley, Florida 32428-0607

October 22, 2002

Ms. Tamlyn L. Ellis
1816 Ivan Drive
Tallahassee, Florida 32303

RE: U.S. 27 at Lake Jackson

Dear Ms. Ellis:

I have received a copy of your recent letter requesting the Department to consider funding and constructing a permanent wildlife barrier along the subject facility north of Tallahassee. Thank you for the opportunity to provide assistance.

The issues noted in your letter were reviewed, and the following comments are provided for your reference. We suggest the County propose the barrier as a project for potential federal enhancement funding via the Tallahassee-Leon County Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO). The project must be prioritized by the MPO and included in their Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP) in order for the Department to pursue federal funding.

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Thank you for your interest in transportation. If you have any questions concerning this matter, you may contact our office toll-free at 1-888-638-0250, extension 205.

Sincerely,

H. E. Prescott, P.E.
District Secretary

cc: Mr. Parvez Alam, County Administrator, Leon County
Mr. Gene Martin, P.E., District Director of Production, FDOT District 3
Ms. Regina Battles, P.E., District Environmental Management Engineer, FDOT District 3
Mr. Tommy Barfield, P.E., District Production Engineer, FDOT District 3
Ms. Jean Weekley, Urban Planning Office, Midway Operations, FDOT District 3
Mr. Tommie Speights, District Public Information Director, FDOT District 3
Mr. Greg Vickery, Administration, FDOT District 3

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Tallahassee-Leon County Planning Department (MPO)
Mr. Jack Kostrzewa, Acting Director
City Hall
300 South Adams St.
Tallahassee, FL 32301

RECEIVED
04 JUN 30 AM 8: 04
TALLAHASSEE/LEON COUNTY
PLANNING DEPARTMENT

June 25, 2004

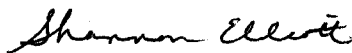
Mr. Kostrzewa:

I am writing to you in support of ecopassages. Death from vehicle collisions is an increasingly significant threat to turtle populations—and those of many other long-lived animals. Recent studies in parts of North America provide strong evidence that traffic mortality and habitat fragmentation reduce local populations of freshwater and terrestrial turtles along highways.

Permanent wildlife crossings—ecopassages—offer an answer. Ideally, ecopassages should be designed to lessen the effects of highway mortality and habitat fragmentation for *all* wildlife affected by a particular road. The FDOT recently constructed a prototype multispecies ecopassage near Gainesville—a lipped, four-foot-high concrete guide wall with a series of culverts under the highway. The system has virtually eliminated roadkill.

The migration of thousands of turtles at Lake Jackson and their ability to find water during drought is truly an incredible natural wonder. Turtles possess a tenacity for survival that reflects millions of years of adaptation to dynamic environments. Yet the resiliency of turtles is too often overshadowed by their vulnerability to habitat destruction and fragmentation and the dangers of roads and highways. A migrating turtle knows where it wants to go and moves with single-minded purpose toward its goal. As stewards of the environment, we should follow that example and ensure that turtles and other wildlife are protected from the hazards that we create.

Sincerely,



Shannon Elliott
1690 Point Drive
Bensalem, PA 19020

Kostrzewa, Jack

From: William Eagan [weagan@cfi.rr.com]
Sent: Saturday, February 08, 2003 7:10 PM
To: KostrzeJ@talgov.com
Subject: ecopassage

Dear Mr. Kostrzewa:

Having just learned that the PD&E study for the ecopassage between Lake Jackson is now underway, I can only say "HOORAY!". I'm hoping that this *humane* step taken in this instance will be a model for further eco-projects on busy roads to protect wildlife, including tortoises and turtles. It would be great to see FDOT incorporate this wildlife-friendly thinking and construction on ALL its projects----it's the least we ever-encroaching humans can do (and I'm sure such measures are widely supported by Florida taxpayers)!

Best of Luck with all phases of the ecopassage!

Sincerely,

Rebecca Eagan

Kostrzewa, Jack

From: ELIZABETHVONDREE@aol.com

Sent: Friday, June 25, 2004 8:21 AM

To: Kostrzewa, Jack

Subject: Ecopassages for Turtles

Mr. Jack Kostrzewa, Acting Director
Tallahassee-Leon Conty Planning Department
Tallahassee, Florida

Dear Mr. Kostrzewa:

I am writing to respectfully urge that you work to create ecopassages which guide turtles away from main highways which they would otherwise cross in their migrations to reach natural habitats.

A report of an ecopassage created between Lake Jackson and Little Lake Jackson indicates that 99% of turtles using such passage were saved from death on a main highway that they would otherwise have used had it not been for the ecopassage. Permanent ecopassages should be built in other areas for turtles in order to preserve this ancient and adaptable species of life.

Thank you for your kind attention and anticipated action to support the building of permanent ecopassages.

Sincerely,
Elizabeth von Dreele
42 Crestwood Mews
Allendale, N.J. 07401

concerning this matter, you may contact our office toll-free at 1-888-638-0250, extension 205.

Sincerely,

/s/ H. E. Prescott

H. E. Prescott, P.E.
District Secretary

Handled by:
Greg Vickery
Office of the District Secretary
Toll-free: 1-888-638-0250, extension 529
(850) 638-0250, extension 529
Suncom 767-1529
FAX (850) 638-6159 / Suncom 769-6159
mailto:greg.vickery@dot.state.fl.us

-----Original Message-----

From: md000068044@ltu.edu
Sent: Tuesday, October 1, 2002 7:57 PM
To: tom.barry@dot.state.fl.us
Subject: Support the US Highway 27 Ecopassage

To whom it may concern,

I am outraged that nothing has been done to preserve the wildlife trying to pass the U S highway 27. We are in their territory and sadly they are being killed off faster than they can reproduce, and we can't live without them. Every animal is here for a reason, and every animal helps the earth out in a special way. No animal is unimportant. I would appreciate the instillation of a ecopassage to help solve the road mortality and traffic problems on the highway. Thank you.

Melissa Domsic

Kostrzewa, Jack

From: greg.vickery@dot.state.fl.us
Sent: Monday, October 07, 2002 8:15 AM
To: md000068044@ltu.edu
Cc: parwez@mail.co.leon.fl.us; barrettb@talgov.com; kostrzej@talgov.com; edward.prescott@dot.state.fl.us; gene.martin@dot.state.fl.us; regina.battles@dot.state.fl.us; jerry.jenkins@dot.state.fl.us; wehowell@pbsj.com; tommy.barfield@dot.state.fl.us; mary.weekley@dot.state.fl.us; tommie.speights@dot.state.fl.us; Olivia.Youse@dot.state.fl.us
Subject: U.S. 27 at Lake Jackson
Importance: High

Florida Department of Transportation
District Three Administration Building
Office of the District Secretary
Post Office Box 607
Chipley, Florida 32428-0607

October 3, 2002

Ms. Melissa Domsic
Internet E-mail Address
md000068044@ltu.edu

RE: U.S. 27 at Lake Jackson

Dear Ms. Domsic:

I have received a copy of your recent e-mail, dated October 1, 2002, requesting the Department to consider funding and constructing a permanent wildlife barrier along the subject facility north of Tallahassee. Thank you for the opportunity to provide assistance.

The issues noted in your letter were reviewed, and the following comments are provided for your reference. We suggest the County propose the barrier as a project for potential federal enhancement funding via the Tallahassee-Leon County Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO). The project must be prioritized by the MPO and included in their Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP) in order for the Department to pursue federal funding.

In conclusion, we look forward to partnering with Leon County, Tallahassee-Leon County Metropolitan Planning Organization, FDEP and other interested parties to accomplish a study to recommend the most appropriate design for this endeavor. Presently, we are in the process of developing all the pertinent agreements associated with beginning the study effort. We believe the enhanced relationships produced from this project will prove invaluable as we work together toward providing an efficient transportation system for the citizens of Leon County.

Thank you for your interest in transportation. If you have any questions



Florida Department of Transportation

JEB BUSH
GOVERNOR

1074 Highway 90
Chipley, Florida 32428

THOMAS F. BARRY, JR.
SECRETARY

Post Office Box 607
Chipley, Florida 32428-0607

Ms. Bonnie Dodge
The School of Arts and Sciences
3208 Thomasville Road
Tallahassee, Florida 32308

RE: U.S. 27 at Lake Jackson

Dear Ms. Dodge:

I have received a copy of your recent letter requesting the Department to consider funding and constructing a permanent wildlife barrier along the subject facility north of Tallahassee. Thank you for the opportunity to provide assistance.

The issues noted in your letter were reviewed, and the following comments are provided for your reference. We suggest the County propose the barrier as a project for potential federal enhancement funding via the Tallahassee-Leon County Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO). The project must be prioritized by the MPO and included in their Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP) in order for the Department to pursue federal funding.

In conclusion, we look forward to partnering with Leon County, Tallahassee-Leon County Metropolitan Planning Organization, FDEP and other interested parties to accomplish a study to recommend the most appropriate design for this endeavor. Presently, we are in the process of developing all the pertinent agreements associated with beginning the study effort. We believe the enhanced relationships produced from this project will prove invaluable as we work together toward providing an efficient transportation system for the citizens of Leon County.

Thank you for your interest in transportation. If you have any questions concerning this matter, you may contact our office toll-free at 1-888-638-0250, extension 205.

Sincerely,

H. E. Prescott, P.E.
District Secretary

cc: Mr. Parwez Alam, County Administrator, Leon County
Mr. Gene Martin, P.E., District Director of Production, FDOT District 3
Ms. Regina Battles, P.E., District Environmental Management Engineer, FDOT District 3
Mr. Tommy Barfield, P.E., District Production Engineer, FDOT District 3
Ms. Jean Weekley, Urban Planning Office, Midway Operations, FDOT District 3
Mr. Tommie Speights, District Public Information Director, FDOT District 3
Mr. Greg Vickery, Administration, FDOT District 3

11 Office Word 2002 Leon WILLILIFE HARRIS 018.doc



Florida Department of Transportation

JEB BUSH
GOVERNOR

1074 Highway 90
Chipley, Florida 32428

THOMAS F. BARRY, JR.
SECRETARY

Post Office Box 607
Chipley, Florida 32428-0607

Mr. Daniel M. Doan
The School of Arts and Sciences
3208 Thomasville Road
Tallahassee, Florida 32308

RE: U.S. 27 at Lake Jackson

Dear Mr. Doan:

I have received a copy of your recent letter requesting the Department to consider funding and constructing a permanent wildlife barrier along the subject facility north of Tallahassee. Thank you for the opportunity to provide assistance.

The issues noted in your letter were reviewed, and the following comments are provided for your reference. We suggest the County propose the barrier as a project for potential federal enhancement funding via the Tallahassee-Leon County Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO). The project must be prioritized by the MPO and included in their Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP) in order for the Department to pursue federal funding.

In conclusion, we look forward to partnering with Leon County, Tallahassee-Leon County Metropolitan Planning Organization, FDEP and other interested parties to accomplish a study to recommend the most appropriate design for this endeavor. Presently, we are in the process of developing all the pertinent agreements associated with beginning the study effort. We believe the enhanced relationships produced from this project will prove invaluable as we work together toward providing an efficient transportation system for the citizens of Leon County.

Thank you for your interest in transportation. If you have any questions concerning this matter, you may contact our office toll-free at 1-888-638-0250, extension 205.

Sincerely,

H. E. Prescott, P.E.
District Secretary

cc: Mr. Parwez Alam, County Administrator, Leon County
Mr. Gene Martin, P.E., District Director of Production, FDOT District 3
Ms. Regina Battles, P.E., District Environmental Management Engineer, FDOT District 3
Mr. Tommy Barfield, P.E., District Production Engineer, FDOT District 3
Ms. Jean Weekley, Urban Planning Office, Midway Operations, FDOT District 3
Mr. Tommie Speights, District Public Information Director, FDOT District 3
Mr. Greg Vickery, Administration, FDOT District 3

11 Office Word 2012 Leon\WLDL\FB BARRY\TR-055.doc

Dear Mr.

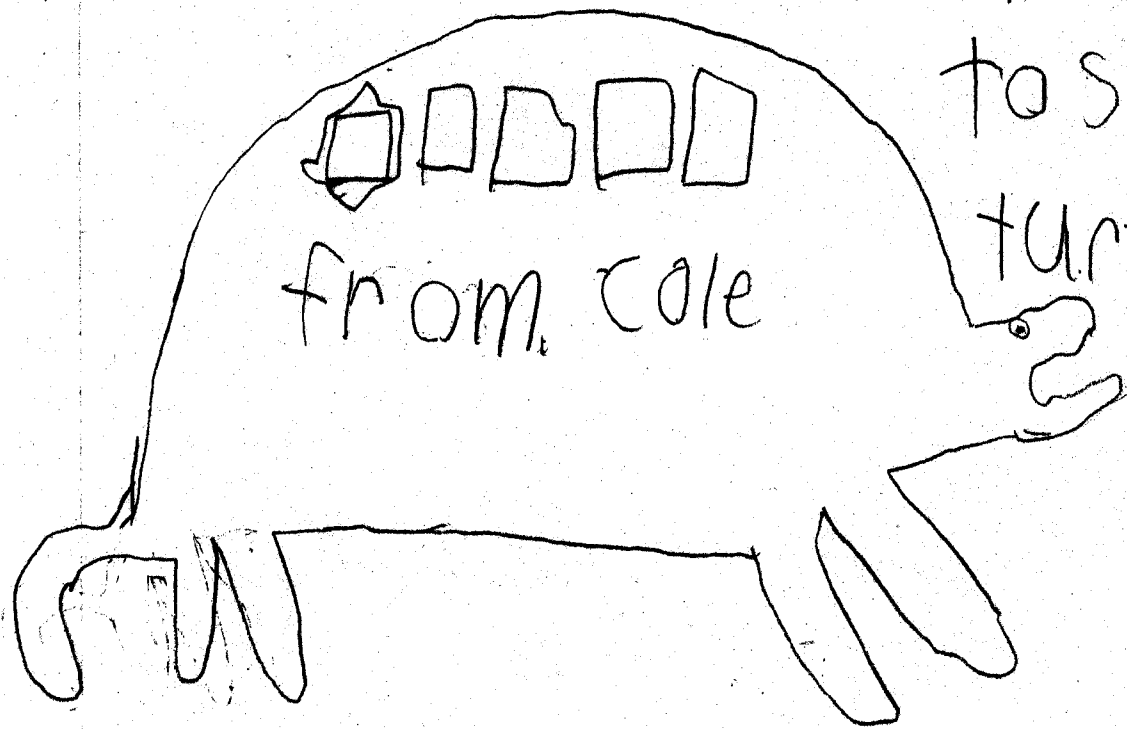
Jose Abreu

Save the turtles



Build Lake Jackson EcoPassag

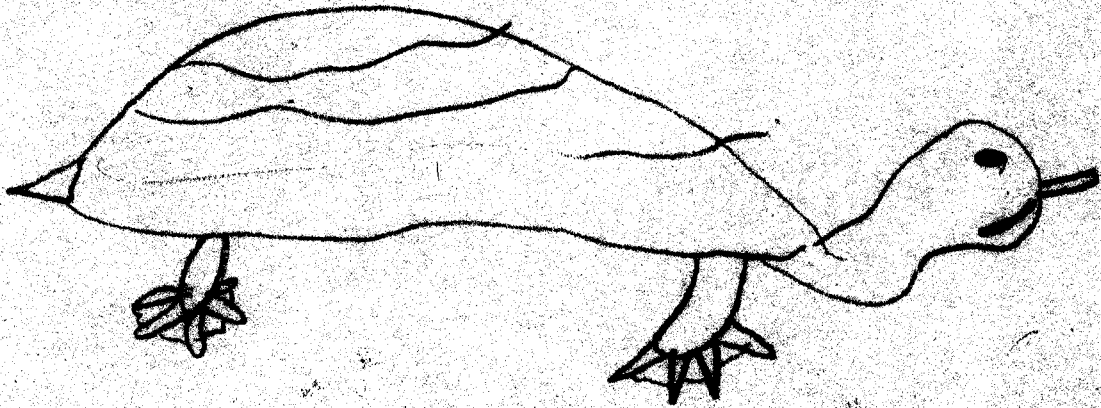
to save turtles



Pleys Bid the Ecopassage

OR! they will do

and, A tart
Can also help us.



Caroline.

Mooney

7/13/03

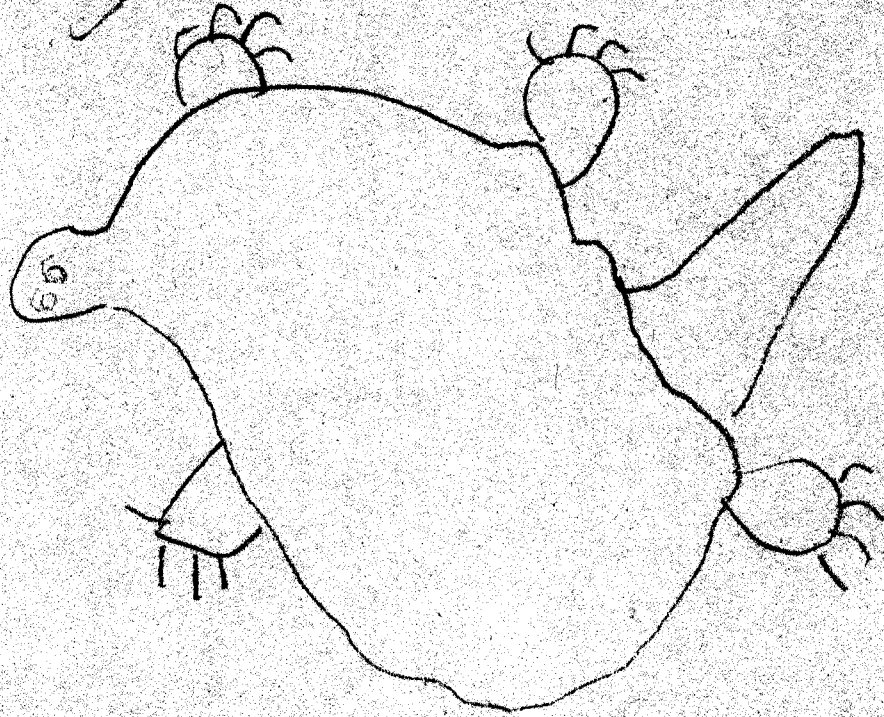
Dear Mr. Abreu,

I'm writing to tell you that I care about the turtles and wildlife that are crossing the highway and getting killed by cars everyday.

I would like Florida to make a permanent Ecopassage At Lake Jackson.

Sincerely,
Daniel Geraci

MR JACK KOS TRZ QWA
CITY HALL 300 S. ADAMS ST

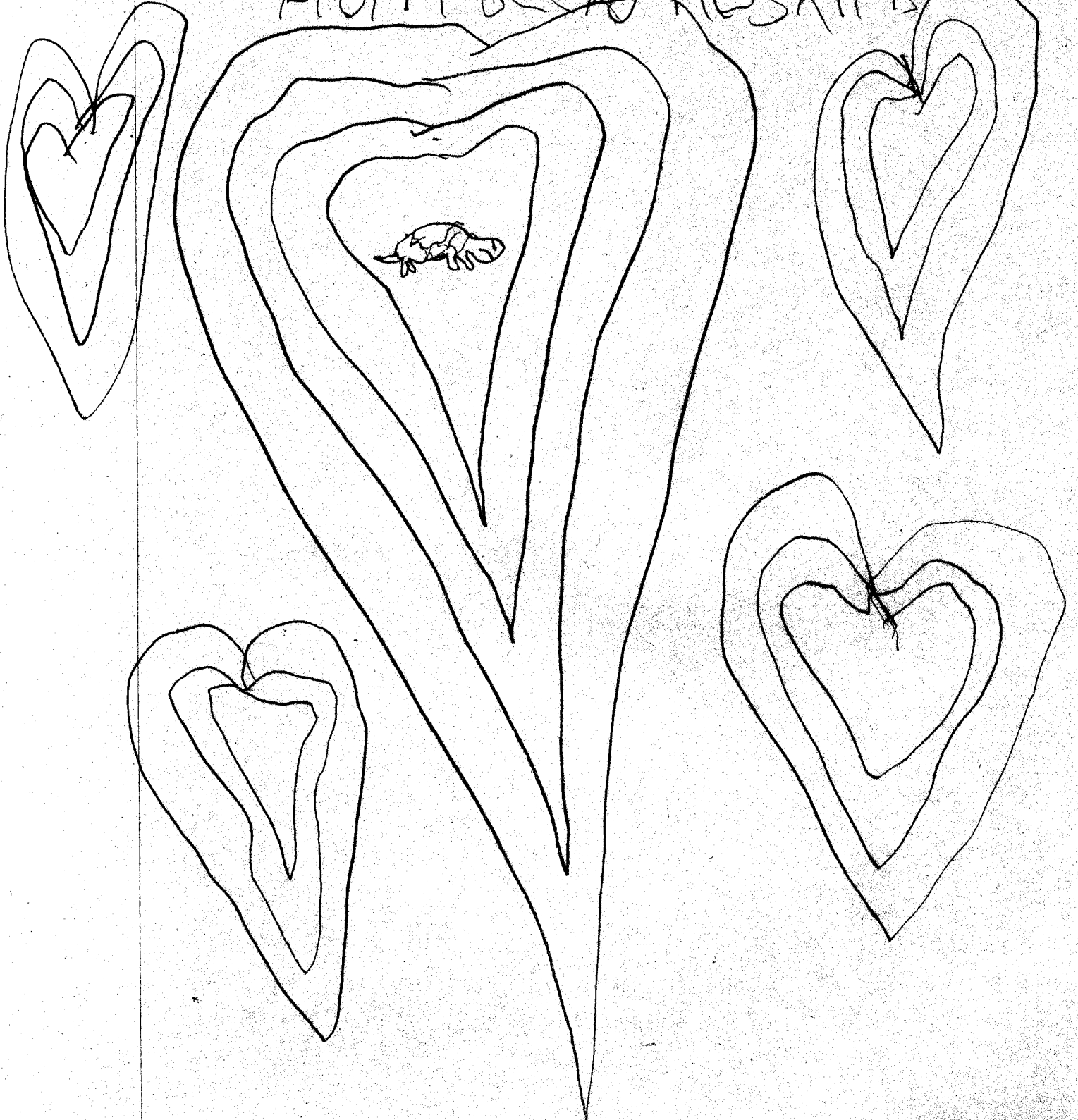


DEAR MR. ABRU
SAY, ARE FURLEDS
FRIENDS
GRAYDON BALL

Dear Mr. Abram, sorry,

LOL

I LOVE TURTLES, SAVE THE M
FROM BECKY HOSKINS

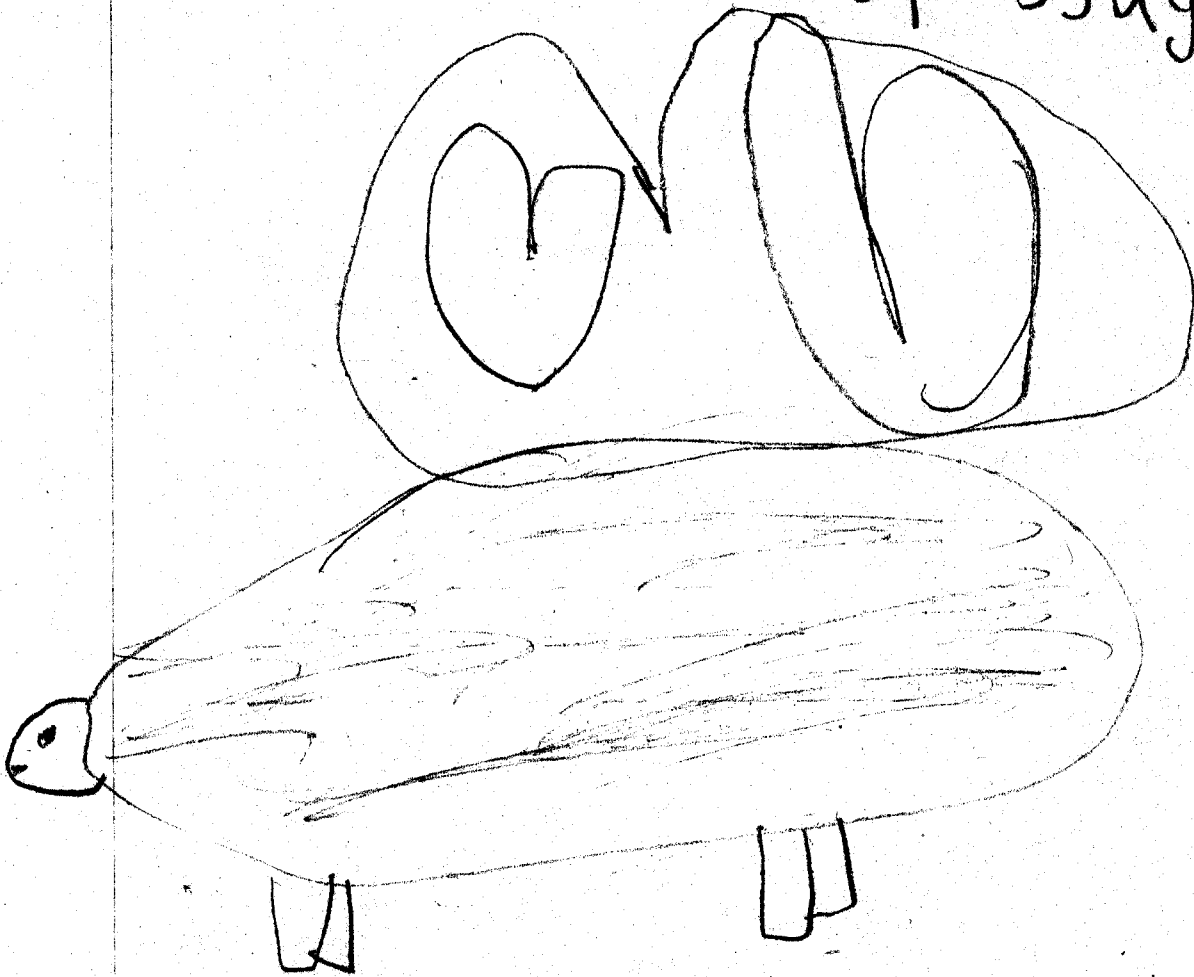


July 13, 2003
Jose Abreu, Secretary
FDot

Dear Mr. Abreu:
I Love Turtles.

Love
Morgan Stewart
Spiegel

Please build the
Lake Jackson
Ecopassage.





Florida Department of Transportation

JEB BUSH
GOVERNOR

1074 Highway 90
Chipley, Florida 32428

THOMAS F. BARRY, JR.
SECRETARY

Post Office Box 607
Chipley, Florida 32428-0607

October 22, 2002

Mr. Tann H. Hunt
1303 Miccosukee Road
Tallahassee, Florida 32308

RECEIVED OCT 25 2002

RE: U.S. 27 at Lake Jackson

Dear Mr. Hunt:


I have received a copy of your recent letter requesting the Department to consider funding and constructing a permanent wildlife barrier along the subject facility north of Tallahassee. Thank you for the opportunity to provide assistance.

The issues noted in your letter were reviewed, and the following comments are provided for your reference. We suggest the County propose the barrier as a project for potential federal enhancement funding via the Tallahassee-Leon County Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO). The project must be prioritized by the MPO and included in their Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP) in order for the Department to pursue federal funding.

In conclusion, we look forward to partnering with Leon County, Tallahassee-Leon County Metropolitan Planning Organization, FDEP and other interested parties to accomplish a study to recommend the most appropriate design for this endeavor. Presently, we are in the process of developing all the pertinent agreements associated with beginning the study effort. We believe the enhanced relationships produced from this project will prove invaluable as we work together toward providing an efficient transportation system for the citizens of Leon County.

Thank you for your interest in transportation. If you have any questions concerning this matter, you may contact our office toll-free at 1-888-638-0250, extension 205.

Sincerely,


H. E. Prescott, P.E.
District Secretary

- cc: Mr. Parwez Alam, County Administrator, Leon County
- Mr. Gene Martin, P.E., District Director of Production, FDOT District 3
- Ms. Regina Battles, P.E., District Environmental Management Engineer, FDOT District 3
- Mr. Tommy Barfield, P.E., District Production Engineer, FDOT District 3
- Ms. Jean Weekley, Urban Planning Office, Midway Operations, FDOT District 3
- Mr. Tommie Speights, District Public Information Director, FDOT District 3
- Mr. Greg Vickery, Administration, FDOT District 3

11/05/01 www.floridadot.com WILDLIFE BARRIER 312 00

RECEIVED
02 OCT 31 PM 12:16
TALLAHASSEE/LEON COUNTY
PLANNING DEPARTMENT

Kostrzewa, Jack

From: Cupcakes1@aol.com
Sent: Saturday, October 30, 2004 2:46 PM
To: Kostrzewa, Jack
Cc: turtles@lakejacksonturtles.org
Subject: Support the US Highway 27 Ecopassage

Dear Secretary Abreu:

I wish to express my enthusiastic support for the construction of a permanent ecopassage along US 27 at Lake Jackson. The highway forms an impassable barrier to turtles, frogs, snakes, and other wildlife and negatively impacts the ecology of the lake ecosystem. The area has the highest documented road mortality and attempted crossings of turtles that has ever been recorded worldwide.

The ecopassage should span the entire lakefront and consist of a set of wildlife underpasses and guidewalls similar to the successful design utilized on Paynes Prairie. Such a system will divert wildlife away from the travel lanes to safe passage beneath the highway. The ecopassage will not only make the highway safer for wildlife and protect the Lake Jackson ecosystem, it will improve motorist safety and enhance the aesthetic character and public enjoyment of the area.

I congratulate the Florida Department of Transportation, Leon County, other elected officials, and all cooperating agencies in their current efforts to resolve the effects of US 27 on Lake Jackson and strongly encourage the expeditious creation of a permanent ecopassage.

We are counting on you to help the people of Florida protect the environment upon which we all depend. I don't even live in the state of Florida and I'm very passionate about this cause. so please do all that you can because once wildlife is gone we are all next.....

Thank you very much.

Sincerely, Margaret Jackson
1131 Simpson Ave
Ocean City NJ. 08226

12/28/04

Kostrzewa, Jack

From: greg.vickery@dot.state.fl.us
Sent: Wednesday, October 09, 2002 2:18 PM
To: james@bio.fsu.edu; biology@bio.fsu.edu
Cc: aresco@bio.fsu.edu; parwez@mail.co.leon.fl.us; barrettb@talgov.com; kostrzej@talgov.com; edward.prescott@dot.state.fl.us; gene.martin@dot.state.fl.us; regina.battles@dot.state.fl.us; jerry.jenkins@dot.state.fl.us; wehowell@pbsj.com; tommy.barfield@dot.state.fl.us; mary.weekley@dot.state.fl.us; tommie.speights@dot.state.fl.us; Olivia.Youse@dot.state.fl.us
Subject: Support for Lake Jackson Ecopassage
Importance: High

Florida Department of Transportation
District Three Administration Building
Office of the District Secretary
Post Office Box 607
Chipley, Florida 32428-0607

October 8, 2002

Dr. Frances C. James
The Florida State University
Department of Biological Science
Tallahassee, Florida 32306-1100

RE: U.S. 27 at Lake Jackson

Dear Dr. James:

I have received a copy of your recent letter, via Secretary Barry's Office, requesting the Department to consider funding and constructing a permanent wildlife barrier along the subject facility north of Tallahassee. Thank you for the opportunity to provide assistance.

The issues noted in your letter were reviewed, and the following comments are provided for your reference. We suggest the County propose the barrier as a project for potential federal enhancement funding via the Tallahassee-Leon County Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO). The project must be prioritized by the MPO and included in their Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP) in order for the Department to pursue federal funding.

In conclusion, we look forward to partnering with Leon County, Tallahassee-Leon County Metropolitan Planning Organization, FDEP and other interested parties to accomplish a study to recommend the most appropriate design for this endeavor. Presently, we are in the process of developing all the pertinent agreements associated with beginning the study effort. We believe the enhanced relationships produced from this project will prove invaluable as we work together toward providing an efficient transportation system for the citizens of Leon County.

Thank you for your interest in transportation. If you have any questions concerning this matter, you may contact our office toll-free at 1-888-638-0250, extension 205.

Sincerely,

/s/ H. E. Prescott

H. E. Prescott, P.E.
District Secretary

Handled by:
Greg Vickery
Office of the District Secretary
Toll-free: 1-888-638-0250, extension 529
(850) 638-0250, extension 529
Suncom 767-1529
FAX (850) 638-6159 / Suncom 769-6159
mailto:greg.vickery@dot.state.fl.us



Big Bend Sierra Club

RECEIVED
04 FEB -9 PM 1:09
TALLAHASSEE/LEON COUNTY
PLANNING DEPARTMENT

January 27, 2004

Mr. Jack Kostrzewa
Lake Jackson Ecopassage Project Manager
Tallahassee-Leon County Planning Department (MPO)
City Hall, 300 S. Adams Street
Tallahassee, FL 32301

Dear Mr. Kostrzewa:

The Big Bend Group of the Sierra Club was dismayed to learn of the large number of turtles and other wildlife that are killed annually along a stretch of U.S. Highway 27 at Lake Jackson near Tallahassee, Florida. The highway was built directly across the four thousand acre lake, dividing one basin into two, and forms an impassable barrier to turtles, frogs, snakes, and other wildlife and negatively impacts the ecology of the lake ecosystem. This site has the highest documented road mortality and attempted crossings of turtles ever recorded worldwide.

Though it is not known to the general public, turtles fill an array of vital niches in our ecosystems and are already in a conservation crisis worldwide. Our ecosystems could become biologically impoverished and their function impaired without these turtles' invaluable services.

Therefore, on behalf of its more than 1600 members, the Big Bend Group of the Sierra Club would like to state its unequivocal support for the expeditious funding, construction, and maintenance of an ecopassage to solve this significant wildlife road-mortality crisis.

As of its April meeting, the Florida Chapter of the Sierra Club has now joined us in unanimous support of this commendable project, representing more than 26,000 members. Indeed, we hope National Sierra Club will also join us in support of this ecopassage.

The Big Bend Group of the Sierra Club strongly supports the efforts of the Florida Department of Transportation, the Tallahassee-Leon County Metropolitan Planning Organization, and other agencies to resolve the effects of U.S. 27 on Lake Jackson. We agree with wildlife biologists working on the project that the ecopassage should span the entire lakefront contiguous with the highway and consist of a set of wildlife underpasses and guide walls similar to the successful design utilized on Payne's Prairie in Gainesville, Florida. Such a system will divert wildlife away from the travel lanes to safe passage beneath the highway. The ecopassage will not only make the highway safer for wildlife and protect the Lake Jackson ecosystem, it will improve motorist safety and enhance the aesthetic character and public enjoyment of the area. The successful completion of this project will also set a precedent that similar wildlife road mortality problems can be solved elsewhere.

Sincerely,

Linda Jamison, Chair
Big Bend Sierra Club Group
jamisonL@mailier.fsu.edu

"Not blind opposition to progress, opposition to blind progress"

Printed on recycled paper with soy based ink.

Kostrzewa, Jack

From: Deborah Kemmerer DVM [petvet@westendanimal.com]
Sent: Wednesday, January 22, 2003 9:09 AM
To: KostrzeJ@talgov.com; bob_graham@graham.senate.gov
Cc: turtles@lakejacksonturtles.org
Subject: Lake Jackson Ecopassage

Dear Mr. Barry and Senator Graham:

We are writing to express support of the building of a wildlife ecopassage at U.S. Highway 27 where it crosses northwest Lake Jackson, Leon County, Florida.

It is apparent that a major highway has been built completely blocking a major wildlife migratory corridor, resulting in the deaths of thousands of animals unnecessarily.

We owe it to the wildlife whose habitats we develop to do something in return in order to prevent this needless carnage.

In order to assist in this effort, we are also making a financial donation to the Lake Jackson Ecopassage organization. We DO understand the tax consequences of undertaking such a project, and think you'll find many of us are willing to make that financial commitment to such a worthwhile endeavour. Our tax money has been spent freely on far less worthy projects.

Please support this effort. The wildlife habitats of Florida depend on you.

Sincerely,

Deborah Whiting Kemmerer DVM

Scott Iaon Cottrell



Florida Department of Transportation

JEB BUSH
GOVERNOR

1074 Highway 90
Chipley, Florida 32428

THOMAS F. BARRY, JR.
SECRETARY

Post Office Box 607
Chipley, Florida 32428-0607

October 22, 2002

Ms. Sonya King
1033 Heartside Run
Tallahassee, Florida 32317

RE: U.S. 27 at Lake Jackson

Dear Ms. King:

I have received a copy of your recent letter requesting the Department to consider funding and constructing a permanent wildlife barrier along the subject facility north of Tallahassee. Thank you for the opportunity to provide assistance.

The issues noted in your letter were reviewed, and the following comments are provided for your reference. We suggest the County propose the barrier as a project for potential federal enhancement funding via the Tallahassee-Leon County Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO). The project must be prioritized by the MPO and included in their Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP) in order for the Department to pursue federal funding.

In conclusion, we look forward to partnering with Leon County, Tallahassee-Leon County Metropolitan Planning Organization, FDEP and other interested parties to accomplish a study to recommend the most appropriate design for this endeavor. Presently, we are in the process of developing all the pertinent agreements associated with beginning the study effort. We believe the enhanced relationships produced from this project will prove invaluable as we work together toward providing an efficient transportation system for the citizens of Leon County.

Thank you for your interest in transportation. If you have any questions concerning this matter, you may contact our office toll-free at 1-888-638-0250, extension 205.

Sincerely,

H. E. Prescott, P.E.
District Secretary

cc: ~~Mr. Farvez Alan~~, County Administrator, Leon County
Mr. Gene Martin, P.E., District Director of Production, FDOT District 3
Ms. Regina Battles, P.E., District Environmental Management Engineer, FDOT District 3
Mr. Tommy Barfield, P.E., District Production Engineer, FDOT District 3
Ms. Jean Weekley, Urban Planning Office, Midway Operations, FDOT District 3
Mr. Tommie Speights, District Public Information Director, FDOT District 3
Mr. Greg Vickery, Administration, FDOT District 3

11016-110-0001/LEW/WILDLIFE BARRIER.TIP Doc



Florida Department of Transportation

JEB BUSH
GOVERNOR

1074 Highway 90
Chipley, Florida 32428

THOMAS F. BARRY, JR.
SECRETARY

Post Office Box 607
Chipley, Florida 32428-0607

Mr. Bruce A. Kingsbury, Ph.D.
The Herpetologists League
Indiana-Purdue University
Science Building
2101 East Coliseum Boulevard
Fort Wayne, Indiana 46805

RE: U.S. 27 at Lake Jackson

Dear Dr. Kingsbury:

I have received a copy of your recent letter requesting the Department to consider funding and constructing a permanent wildlife barrier along the subject facility north of Tallahassee. Thank you for the opportunity to provide assistance.

The issues noted in your letter were reviewed, and the following comments are provided for your reference. We suggest the County propose the barrier as a project for potential federal enhancement funding via the Tallahassee-Leon County Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO). The project must be prioritized by the MPO and included in their Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP) in order for the Department to pursue federal funding.

In conclusion, we look forward to partnering with Leon County, Tallahassee-Leon County Metropolitan Planning Organization, FDEP and other interested parties to accomplish a study to recommend the most appropriate design for this endeavor. Presently, we are in the process of developing all the pertinent agreements associated with beginning the study effort. We believe the enhanced relationships produced from this project will prove invaluable as we work together toward providing an efficient transportation system for the citizens of Leon County.

Thank you for your interest in transportation. If you have any questions concerning this matter, you may contact our office toll-free at 1-888-638-0250, extension 205.

Sincerely,

H. E. Prescott, P.E.
District Secretary

cc: Mr. Parwez Alam, County Administrator, Leon County
Mr. Gene Martin, P.E., District Director of Production, FDOT District 3
Ms. Regina Battles, P.E., District Environmental Management Engineer, FDOT District 3
Mr. Tommy Barfield, P.E., District Production Engineer, FDOT District 3
Ms. Jean Weekley, Urban Planning Office, Midway Operations, FDOT District 3
Mr. Tommie Speights, District Public Information Director, FDOT District 3
Mr. Greg Vickery, Administration, FDOT District 3

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www.dot.state.fl.us



Florida Department of Transportation

JEB BUSH
GOVERNOR

1074 Highway 90
Chipley, Florida 32428

THOMAS F. BARRY, JR.
SECRETARY

Post Office Box 607
Chipley, Florida 32428-0607

October 22, 2002

Ms. Kristine M. Lee
3560 Bear Creek Road
Tallahassee, Florida 32308

RE: U.S. 27 at Lake Jackson

Dear Ms. Lee:

I have received a copy of your recent letter requesting the Department to consider funding and constructing a permanent wildlife barrier along the subject facility north of Tallahassee. Thank you for the opportunity to provide assistance.

The issues noted in your letter were reviewed, and the following comments are provided for your reference. We suggest the County propose the barrier as a project for potential federal enhancement funding via the Tallahassee-Leon County Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO). The project must be prioritized by the MPO and included in their Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP) in order for the Department to pursue federal funding.

In conclusion, we look forward to partnering with Leon County, Tallahassee-Leon County Metropolitan Planning Organization, FDEP and other interested parties to accomplish a study to recommend the most appropriate design for this endeavor. Presently, we are in the process of developing all the pertinent agreements associated with beginning the study effort. We believe the enhanced relationships produced from this project will prove invaluable as we work together toward providing an efficient transportation system for the citizens of Leon County.

Thank you for your interest in transportation. If you have any questions concerning this matter, you may contact our office toll-free at 1-888-638-0250, extension 205.

Sincerely,

H. E. Prescott, P.E.
District Secretary

cc: ~~Mr. Parwez Alam~~, County Administrator, Leon County
Mr. Gene Martin, P.E., District Director of Production, FDOT District 3
Ms. Regina Battles, P.E., District Environmental Management Engineer, FDOT District 3
Mr. Tommy Barfield, P.E., District Production Engineer, FDOT District 3
Ms. Jean Weekley, Urban Planning Office, Midway Operations, FDOT District 3
Mr. Tommie Speights, District Public Information Director, FDOT District 3
Mr. Greg Vickery, Administration, FDOT District 3

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Cynthia E Long
320 Westwood Avenue
Columbia, SC 29203-3967
USA
Email cynthialong@mindspring.com

June 14, 2003

Mr Jose' Abreu-Secretary
Florida Department of Transportation
c/o Mr Jack Kostrzewa
Lake Jackson Ecopassage Project Manager
~~Tallahassee-Leon County Planning Department~~
City Hall- 300 South Adams Street
Tallahassee, Florida 32321

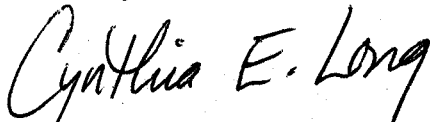
Dear Mr Abrea,

I'm writing to you today concerning the proposed Lake Jackson Ecopassage Project.

The Ecopassage would allow turtles and other animals to pass under the roadway and not become a road/safety hazard for commuters.

I sincerely hope that the Lake Jackson Ecopassage will become a reality. Most importantly, let the Lake Jackson Ecopassage be an example of retro-fitting an existing roadway to accomodate BOTH the needs of wildlife and people.

Sincerely,



Cynthia E Long

RECEIVED

03 JUL 14 AM 8:43

TALLAHASSEE/LEON COUNTY
PLANNING DEPARTMENT

Tonia Longobardy
14311 Morning Glory Road
Tustin, CA 92780
tonialongo@yahoo.com

José Abreu, Secretary
Florida Department of Transportation
c/o Mr. Jack Kostrzewa
Lake Jackson Ecopassage Project Manager
Tallahassee-Leon County Planning Department (MPO)
City Hall, 300 S. Adams Street
Tallahassee, FL 32301
(850) 891-8600
FAX (850) 891-8734

7/09/2003

Dear José Abreu:

I wish to express my enthusiastic support for the construction of a permanent ecopassage along U.S. 27 at Lake Jackson. The highway forms an impassable barrier to turtles, frogs, snakes, and other wildlife and negatively impacts the ecology of the lake ecosystem. The area has the highest documented road mortality and attempted crossings of turtles that has ever been recorded worldwide.

The ecopassage should span the entire lakefront and consist of a set of wildlife underpasses and guidewalls similar to the successful design utilized on Paynes Prairie. Such a system will divert wildlife away from the travel lanes to safe passage beneath the highway. The ecopassage will not only make the highway safer for wildlife and protect the Lake Jackson ecosystem, it will improve motorist safety and enhance the aesthetic character and public enjoyment of the area.

I congratulate the Florida Department of Transportation, Leon County, other elected officials, and all cooperating agencies in their current efforts to resolve the effects of U.S. 27 on Lake Jackson and strongly encourage the expeditious creation of a permanent ecopassage.

We are counting on you to help the people of Florida protect the environment upon which we all depend.

Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

Tonia Longobardy

Kostrzewa, Jack

From: Martha Lorenz [scooter8@comcast.net]
Sent: Wednesday, May 21, 2003 9:41 AM
To: KostrzeJ@talgov.com
Cc: turtles@lakejacksonturtles.org
Subject: Lake Jackson Ecopassage PD

**5650 Santa Anita Drive
Tallahassee, FL 32309-2024
May 21, 2003**

**José Abreu, Secretary
Florida Department of Transportation**

Secretary Abreu:

I wish to express my enthusiastic support for the construction of a permanent ecopassage along U.S. 27 at Lake Jackson. The highway forms an impassable barrier to turtles, frogs, snakes, and other wildlife and negatively impacts the ecology of the lake ecosystem. The area has the highest documented road mortality and attempted crossings of turtles that has ever been recorded worldwide.

The ecopassage should span the entire lakefront and consist of a set of wildlife underpasses and guidewalls similar to the successful design utilized on Paynes Prairie. Such a system will divert wildlife away from the travel lanes to safe passage beneath the highway. The ecopassage will not only make the highway safer for wildlife and protect the Lake Jackson ecosystem, it will improve motorist safety and enhance the aesthetic character and public enjoyment of the area.

I congratulate the FDOT, elected officials, and all cooperating agencies in their current efforts to resolve the effects of U.S. 27 on Lake Jackson and strongly encourage the expeditious creation of a permanent ecopassage.

We are counting on you to help the people of Florida protect the environment upon which we all depend.

Thank you very much.

**Sincerely,
Martha G. Lorenz**

Kostrzewa, Jack

From: greg.vickery@dot.state.fl.us
Sent: Monday, March 24, 2003 10:42 AM
To: lovelem@hotmail.com
Cc: parwez@mail.co.leon.fl.us; barrettb@talgov.com; kostrzej@talgov.com; edward.prescott@dot.state.fl.us; gene.martin@dot.state.fl.us; regina.battles@dot.state.fl.us; jerry.jenkins@dot.state.fl.us; wehowell@pbsj.com; tommy.barfield@dot.state.fl.us; mary.weekley@dot.state.fl.us; tommie.speights@dot.state.fl.us; Olivia.Youse@dot.state.fl.us
Subject: Support for Lake Jackson Ecopassage
Importance: High

Florida Department of Transportation
District Three Administration Building
Office of the District Secretary
Post Office Box 607
Chipley, Florida 32428-0607

Mr. Micheal Loveless
3875 Ashton Court
Columbus, Ohio 43227

RE: U.S. 27 at Lake Jackson

Dear Mr. Loveless:

I have received a copy of your recent letter requesting the Department to consider funding and constructing a permanent wildlife barrier along the subject facility north of Tallahassee. Thank you for the opportunity to provide assistance.

The issues noted in your letter were reviewed, and the following comments are provided for your reference. We suggest the County propose the barrier as a project for potential federal enhancement funding via the Tallahassee-Leon County Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO). The project must be prioritized by the MPO and included in their Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP) in order for the Department to pursue federal funding.

In conclusion, we look forward to partnering with Leon County, Tallahassee-Leon County Metropolitan Planning Organization, FDEP and other interested parties to accomplish a study to recommend the most appropriate design for this endeavor. Presently, we are in the process of developing all the pertinent agreements associated with beginning the study effort. We believe the enhanced relationships produced from this project will prove invaluable as we work together toward providing an efficient transportation system for the citizens of Leon County.

Thank you for your interest in transportation. If you have any questions concerning this matter, you may contact our office toll-free at 1-888-638-0250, extension 205.

Sincerely,

/s/ H. E. Prescott

H. E. Prescott, P.E.
District Secretary

Handled by:

Greg Vickery

Office of the District Secretary

Toll-free: 1-888-638-0250, extension 529

(850) 638-0250, extension 529

Suncom 767-1529

FAX (850) 638-6159 / Suncom 769-6159

mailto:greg.vickery@dot.state.fl.us

Kostrzewa, Jack

From: Dave Barry [davebarry@brad88.fsnet.co.uk]
Sent: Monday, March 10, 2003 9:23 PM
To: KostrzeJ@talgov.com
Subject: Support the US Highway 27 Ecopassage

Dear Sirs

I have recently been made aware of the tragic and avoidable deaths of thousands of turtles on the US 27 Lake Jackson Ecopassage. I commend the dedicated action of the Lake Jackson Ecopassage Alliance in saving many turtles and support them in their efforts to have a permanent passage installed to direct reptiles and other wildlife safely away from traffic.

Florida is promoted as a haven for wildlife. Failure to protect the wildlife along the Lake Jackson Ecopassage, which includes endangered species, does much to tarnish this 'wildlife friendly' image.

Thank you for giving this matter your urgent attention

Yours faithfully
Christine Mackay
UK

Kostrzewa, Jack

From: greg.vickery@dot.state.fl.us
Sent: Wednesday, October 16, 2002 8:12 AM
To: auntie_annie@hotmail.com
Cc: parwez@mail.co.leon.fl.us; barrettb@talgov.com; kostrzej@talgov.com; edward.prescott@dot.state.fl.us; gene.martin@dot.state.fl.us; regina.battles@dot.state.fl.us; jerry.jenkins@dot.state.fl.us; wehowell@pbsj.com; tommy.barfield@dot.state.fl.us; mary.weekley@dot.state.fl.us; tommie.speights@dot.state.fl.us; Olivia.Youse@dot.state.fl.us; bob_graham@graham.senate.gov; richardson.curtis@leg.state.fl.us; ausley.loranne@leg.state.fl.us; lawson.alfred.web@leg.state.fl.us; david.struhs@dep.state.fl.us; ken.haddad@fwc.state.fl.us
Subject: Support for Lake Jackson Ecopassage
Importance: High

Florida Department of Transportation
District Three Administration Building
Office of the District Secretary
Post Office Box 607
Chipley, Florida 32428-0607

October 15, 2002

Ms. Ann T. Macmillan, M.S.
1121 Harbert Street
Tallahassee, Florida 32303-6418

RE: U.S. 27 at Lake Jackson

Dear Ms. Macmillan:

I have received a copy of your recent e-mail, via Secretary Barry's Office, requesting the Department to consider funding and constructing a permanent wildlife barrier along the subject facility north of Tallahassee. Thank you for the opportunity to provide assistance.

The issues noted in your letter were reviewed, and the following comments are provided for your reference. We suggest the County propose the barrier as a project for potential federal enhancement funding via the Tallahassee-Leon County Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO). The project must be prioritized by the MPO and included in their Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP) in order for the Department to pursue federal funding.

In conclusion, we look forward to partnering with Leon County, Tallahassee-Leon County Metropolitan Planning Organization, FDEP and other interested parties to accomplish a study to recommend the most appropriate design for this endeavor. Presently, we are in the process of developing all the pertinent agreements associated with beginning the study effort. We believe the enhanced relationships produced from this project will prove invaluable as we work together toward providing an efficient transportation

system for the citizens of Leon County.

Thank you for your interest in transportation. If you have any questions concerning this matter, you may contact our office toll-free at 1-888-638-0250, extension 205.

Sincerely,

/s/ H. E. Prescott

H. E. Prescott, P.E.
District Secretary

Handled by:
Greg Vickery
Office of the District Secretary
Toll-free: 1-888-638-0250, extension 529
(850) 638-0250, extension 529
Suncom 767-1529
FAX (850) 638-6159 / Suncom 769-6159
mailto:greg.vickery@dot.state.fl.us

-----Original Message-----

From: auntie_annie@hotmail.com
Sent: Monday, October 14, 2002 12:55 PM
To: tom.barry@dot.state.fl.us
Cc: bob_graham@graham.senate.gov,
richardson.curtis@leg.state.fl.us,
ausley.loranne@leg.state.fl.us,
lawson.alfred.web@leg.state.fl.us,
david.struhs@dep.state.fl.us,
ken.haddad@fwc.state.fl.us
Subject: Lake Jackson Ecopassage

Dear Mr. Barry:

I am writing in reference to the need for an ecopassage for wildlife on Highway 27 in northern Tallahassee. It is appalling that so many critters are killed on that road daily when a simple protection device is not provided. A similar one has been erected on Highway 441 south of Gainesville that is working; it seems logical that the need for one in Tallahassee be addressed as well.

Please register my request that the funds be found, allocated, and spent to get this permanent ecopassage in place soon. There is enough violence everywhere lately that this small effort to curb some of it locally could make a difference by helping stop some of the senseless killing of innocent creatures on Florida's roadways.

Thank you for your time. Please let me know if there is anything I can do from this end to assist with efforts to put this ecopassage in place.

All the best,

Ann T. Macmillan, M.S.
1121 Harbert St
Tallahassee FL 32303-6418
850/681-2339
auntie_annie@hotmail.com

Kostrzewa, Jack

From: melanie marine [mmarine7@yahoo.com]
Sent: Tuesday, June 29, 2004 4:09 PM
To: Winchester, Dan; Kostrzewa, Jack

I would like you to know that I support ecopassages
-the "wildlife safe" invention by the organization
Lake Jackson Ecopassage Alliance.

Sincerely,
Melanie Marine
10303 Appalachian Circle, #208
Oakton, VA 22124

Do you Yahoo!?
New and Improved Yahoo! Mail - 100MB free storage!
http://promotions.yahoo.com/new_mail



Florida Department of Transportation

JEB BUSH
GOVERNOR

1074 Highway 90
Chipley, Florida 32428

THOMAS F. BARRY, JR.
SECRETARY

Post Office Box 607
Chipley, Florida 32428-0607

Ms. Vittoria Marinello
31 Forteach Avenue
Elgin IV30 1TF
Scotland, U.K.

RE: U.S. 27 at Lake Jackson

Dear Ms. Marinello:

I have received a copy of your recent letter requesting the Department to consider funding and constructing a permanent wildlife barrier along the subject facility north of Tallahassee. Thank you for the opportunity to provide assistance.

The issues noted in your letter were reviewed, and the following comments are provided for your reference. We suggest the County propose the barrier as a project for potential federal enhancement funding via the Tallahassee-Leon County Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO). The project must be prioritized by the MPO and included in their Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP) in order for the Department to pursue federal funding.

In conclusion, we look forward to partnering with Leon County, Tallahassee-Leon County Metropolitan Planning Organization, FDEP and other interested parties to accomplish a study to recommend the most appropriate design for this endeavor. Presently, we are in the process of developing all the pertinent agreements associated with beginning the study effort. We believe the enhanced relationships produced from this project will prove invaluable as we work together toward providing an efficient transportation system for the citizens of Leon County.

Thank you for your interest in transportation. If you have any questions concerning this matter, you may contact our office toll-free at 1-888-638-0250, extension 205.

Sincerely,

H. E. Prescott, P.E.
District Secretary

cc: Mr. Parwez Alam, County Administrator, Leon County
Mr. Gene Martin, P.E., District Director of Production, FDOT District 3
Ms. Regina Battles, P.E., District Environmental Management Engineer, FDOT District 3
Mr. Tommy Barfield, P.E., District Production Engineer, FDOT District 3
Ms. Jean Weekley, Urban Planning Office, Midway Operations, FDOT District 3
Mr. Tommie Speights, District Public Information Director, FDOT District 3
Mr. Greg Vickery, Administration, FDOT District 3

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Kostrzewa, Jack

From: greg.vickery@dot.state.fl.us
Sent: Monday, March 24, 2003 10:44 AM
To: yurimastrikov@mail.com
Cc: parwez@mail.co.leon.fl.us; barrettb@talgov.com; kostrzej@talgov.com; edward.prescott@dot.state.fl.us; gene.martin@dot.state.fl.us; regina.battles@dot.state.fl.us; jerry.jenkins@dot.state.fl.us; wehowell@pbsj.com; tommy.barfield@dot.state.fl.us; mary.weekley@dot.state.fl.us; tommie.speights@dot.state.fl.us; Olivia.Youse@dot.state.fl.us
Subject: Support for Lake Jackson Ecopassage
Importance: High

Florida Department of Transportation
District Three Administration Building
Office of the District Secretary
Post Office Box 607
Chipley, Florida 32428-0607

Mr. Yuri Mastrikov
Internet E-mail Address
yurimastrikov@mail.com

RE: U.S. 27 at Lake Jackson

Dear Mr. Mastrikov:

I have received a copy of your recent letter requesting the Department to consider funding and constructing a permanent wildlife barrier along the subject facility north of Tallahassee. Thank you for the opportunity to provide assistance.

The issues noted in your letter were reviewed, and the following comments are provided for your reference. We suggest the County propose the barrier as a project for potential federal enhancement funding via the Tallahassee-Leon County Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO). The project must be prioritized by the MPO and included in their Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP) in order for the Department to pursue federal funding.

In conclusion, we look forward to partnering with Leon County, Tallahassee-Leon County Metropolitan Planning Organization, FDEP and other interested parties to accomplish a study to recommend the most appropriate design for this endeavor. Presently, we are in the process of developing all the pertinent agreements associated with beginning the study effort. We believe the enhanced relationships produced from this project will prove invaluable as we work together toward providing an efficient transportation system for the citizens of Leon County.

Thank you for your interest in transportation. If you have any questions concerning this matter, you may contact our office toll-free at 1-888-638-0250, extension 205.

Sincerely,

/s/ H. E. Prescott

H. E. Prescott, P.E.
District Secretary

Handled by:

Greg Vickery

Office of the District Secretary

Toll-free: 1-888-638-0250, extension 529

(850) 638-0250, extension 529

Suncom 767-1529

FAX (850) 638-6159 / Suncom 769-6159

mailto:greg.vickery@dot.state.fl.us

Kostrzewa, Jack

From: Faith Maxson [fmaxson@eAutoclaims.com]
Sent: Friday, June 25, 2004 10:03 AM
To: Winchester, Dan; Kostrzewa, Jack
Subject: Lake Jackson Ecopassage Alliance

To whom it may concern,

I am contacting you to show my support for the Lake Jackson Ecopassage. These permanent fixtures could save our state's wildlife, and that is something all Florida residents should take personally. Please advise the necessary State Wildlife or Environmental Committees, State Legislatures, or anyone who will listen, that there are Florida residents, even in other counties, who support developing ecopassages in Lake Jackson. Let's start a trend that other counties will follow, in support of some of Florida's oldest, and most treasured residents- our wildlife.

Regards,

Faith Maxson
Port Richey, FL
fmaxson@eautoclaims.com

The contents of this e-mail message and any attachments are private and confidential communications intended solely for the addressee(s) named in this message. If you are not the intended recipient of this message, please 1) immediately notify the sender by reply e-mail and then delete this message and its attachments and 2) do not read, use, distribute disclose or copy this message and/or any attachments. Opinions, conclusions and other information in this message that do not relate to the official business of eAutoclaims shall be understood as neither given nor endorsed by it.

Kostrzewa, Jack

From: DMayDNS@aol.com

Sent: Wednesday, July 16, 2003 12:40 AM

To: KostrzeJ@talgov.com

Subject: Development of an ecosystem passage for turtles on Highway

July 15, 2003

José Abreu, Secretary

Florida Department of Transportation

Dear Mr. Abreu

Decisions you make today regarding the environment will affect the life of your children and grandchildren and really, every one in generations to come. Every one of us needs to take responsibility to protect wildlife. I sincerely ask you to support development of a wildlife ecopassage at US Highway 27 where it crosses northwest Lake Jackson, Leon County, Florida to save turtles and other wildlife necessary for a health ecosystem.

I look into the skies at night and realize that someone wonderful created our universe including all of the creatures on the earth, and for a purpose. The beauty of our world needs to be maintained and this can only occur only if you step up to the plate and prioritize development of a wildlife ecopassage at the aforementioned area. I want you each and every night to be able to look to the heavens and feel good about what you have done to contribute to our environment on earth for the brief time that you were here. As I prepare for my retirement I look to living in Florida as an option to consider. Florida is one of our few remaining states that continues to have such wonderful creatures. Please do the right thing for our environment. In years to come, the money spent will be hardly remembered as any burden at all.

Sincerely,

Dr. Deborah L. May
10748 Weston Dr.
Carmel, IN
46032

7/16/03

Kostrzewa, Jack

From: McGrath, Victoria [vmcgrath@markham.ca]
Sent: Tuesday, September 02, 2003 2:11 PM
To: 'KostrzeJ@talgov.com'; 'richardson.curtis@leg.state.fl.us';
'bob_graham@graham.senate.gov'; 'ausley.loranne@leg.state.fl.us';
'lawson.alfred.web@flsenate.gov'; 'kilmer.bev@leg.state.fl.us';
'argenziano.nancy.web@flsenate.gov'; 'ken.haddad@fwc.state.fl.us';
'david.struhs@dep.state.fl.us'
Cc: 'turtles@lakejacksonturtles.org'
Subject: Lake Jackson Ecopassage PD

I wish to express my enthusiastic support for the construction of a permanent ecopassage along U.S. 27 at Lake Jackson. The highway forms an impassable barrier to turtles, frogs, snakes, and other wildlife and negatively impacts the ecology of the lake ecosystem. The area has the highest documented road mortality and attempted crossings of turtles that has ever been recorded worldwide.

The ecopassage should span the entire lakefront and consist of a set of wildlife underpasses and guidewalls similar to the successful design utilized on Paynes Prairie. Such a system will divert wildlife away from the travel lanes to safe passage beneath the highway. The ecopassage will not only make the highway safer for wildlife and protect the Lake Jackson ecosystem, it will improve motorist safety and enhance the aesthetic character and public enjoyment of the area.

I congratulate the Florida Department of Transportation, Leon County, other elected officials, and all cooperating agencies in their current efforts to resolve the effects of U.S. 27 on Lake Jackson and strongly encourage the expeditious creation of a permanent ecopassage.

We are counting on you to help the people of Florida protect the environment upon which we all depend.

Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

Victoria McGrath
47 Port Rush Trail
Markham, ON L6C 1Z3
Canada

Kostrzewa, Jack

From: greg.vickery@dot.state.fl.us
Sent: Monday, March 24, 2003 10:44 AM
To: canarymom@earthlink.net
Cc: parwez@mail.co.leon.fl.us; barrettb@talgov.com; kostrzej@talgov.com;
edward.prescott@dot.state.fl.us; gene.martin@dot.state.fl.us; regina.battles@dot.state.fl.us;
jerry.jenkins@dot.state.fl.us; wehowell@pbsj.com; tommy.barfield@dot.state.fl.us;
mary.weekley@dot.state.fl.us; tommie.speights@dot.state.fl.us; Olivia.Youse@dot.state.fl.us
Subject: Support for Lake Jackson Ecopassage
Importance: High

Florida Department of Transportation
District Three Administration Building
Office of the District Secretary
Post Office Box 607
Chipley, Florida 32428-0607

Ms. Gail McMahon
Internet E-mail Address
canarymom@earthlink.net

RE: U.S. 27 at Lake Jackson

Dear Ms. McMahon:

I have received a copy of your recent letter requesting the Department to consider funding and constructing a permanent wildlife barrier along the subject facility north of Tallahassee. Thank you for the opportunity to provide assistance.

The issues noted in your letter were reviewed, and the following comments are provided for your reference. We suggest the County propose the barrier as a project for potential federal enhancement funding via the Tallahassee-Leon County Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO). The project must be prioritized by the MPO and included in their Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP) in order for the Department to pursue federal funding.

In conclusion, we look forward to partnering with Leon County, Tallahassee-Leon County Metropolitan Planning Organization, FDEP and other interested parties to accomplish a study to recommend the most appropriate design for this endeavor. Presently, we are in the process of developing all the pertinent agreements associated with beginning the study effort. We believe the enhanced relationships produced from this project will prove invaluable as we work together toward providing an efficient transportation system for the citizens of Leon County.

Thank you for your interest in transportation. If you have any questions concerning this matter, you may contact our office toll-free at 1-888-638-0250, extension 205.

Sincerely,

/s/ H. E. Prescott

H. E. Prescott, P.E.
District Secretary

Handled by:

Greg Vickery

Office of the District Secretary

Toll-free: 1-888-638-0250, extension 529

(850) 638-0250, extension 529

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FAX (850) 638-6159 / Suncom 769-6159

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Florida Department of Transportation

JEB BUSH
GOVERNOR

1074 Highway 90
Chipley, Florida 32428

THOMAS F. BARRY, JR.
SECRETARY

Post Office Box 607
Chipley, Florida 32428-0607

October 22, 2002

Ms. Carol Melvin
2519 Old Bainbridge Road, #C
Tallahassee, Florida 32303

RE: U.S. 27 at Lake Jackson

Dear Ms. Melvin:

I have received a copy of your recent letter requesting the Department to consider funding and constructing a permanent wildlife barrier along the subject facility north of Tallahassee. Thank you for the opportunity to provide assistance.

The issues noted in your letter were reviewed, and the following comments are provided for your reference. We suggest the County propose the barrier as a project for potential federal enhancement funding via the Tallahassee-Leon County Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO). The project must be prioritized by the MPO and included in their Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP) in order for the Department to pursue federal funding.

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Thank you for your interest in transportation. If you have any questions concerning this matter, you may contact our office toll-free at 1-888-638-0250, extension 205.

Sincerely,

H. E. Prescott, P.E.
District Secretary

cc: ~~Mr. Parvez Alam~~ County Administrator, Leon County
Mr. Gene Martin, P.E., District Director of Production, FDOT District 3
Ms. Regina Battles, P.E., District Environmental Management Engineer, FDOT District 3
Mr. Tommy Barfield, P.E., District Production Engineer, FDOT District 3
Ms. Jean Weekley, Urban Planning Office, Midway Operations, FDOT District 3
Mr. Tommie Speights, District Public Information Director, FDOT District 3
Mr. Greg Vickery, Administration, FDOT District 3

H 1074 HWY 90 CHIPLEY WILDLIFE BARRIER 011 001



Florida Department of Transportation

JEB BUSH
GOVERNOR

1074 Highway 90
Chipley, Florida 32428

THOMAS F. BARRY, JR.
SECRETARY

Post Office Box 607
Chipley, Florida 32428-0607

October 22, 2002

Mr. Glenn Mercer
4707 West Alline Avenue
Tampa, Florida 33611

RE: U.S. 27 at Lake Jackson

Dear Mr. Mercer:

I have received a copy of your recent letter, dated October 7, 2002, requesting the Department to consider funding and constructing a permanent wildlife barrier along the subject facility north of Tallahassee. Thank you for the opportunity to provide assistance.

The issues noted in your letter were reviewed, and the following comments are provided for your reference. We suggest the County propose the barrier as a project for potential federal enhancement funding via the Tallahassee-Leon County Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO). The project must be prioritized by the MPO and included in their Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP) in order for the Department to pursue federal funding.

In conclusion, we look forward to partnering with Leon County, Tallahassee-Leon County Metropolitan Planning Organization, FDEP and other interested parties to accomplish a study to recommend the most appropriate design for this endeavor. Presently, we are in the process of developing all the pertinent agreements associated with beginning the study effort. We believe the enhanced relationships produced from this project will prove invaluable as we work together toward providing an efficient transportation system for the citizens of Leon County.

Thank you for your interest in transportation. If you have any questions concerning this matter, you may contact our office toll-free at 1-888-638-0250, extension 205.

Sincerely,

H. E. Prescott, P.E.

for District Secretary

cc: Mr. Parwez Alam, County Administrator, Leon County
Mr. Gene Martin, P.E., District Director of Production, FDOT District 3
Ms. Regina Battles, P.E., District Environmental Management Engineer, FDOT District 3
Mr. Tommy Barfield, P.E., District Production Engineer, FDOT District 3
Ms. Jean Weekley, Urban Planning Office, Midway Operations, FDOT District 3
Mr. Tommie Speights, District Public Information Director, FDOT District 3
Mr. Greg Vickery, Administration, FDOT District 3

11/03/02 www.dot.state.fl.us WILDLIFE BARRIER 2002.doc

Kostrzewa, Jack

From: Erica A. Miller, DVM [Erica@jfrink.com]
Sent: Monday, August 04, 2003 9:46 PM
To: KostrzeJ@talgov.com
Cc: turtles@lakejacksonturtles.org
Subject: Lake Jackson Ecopassage PD

Erica A. Miller, DVM
1250 Corner Ketch Rd.
Newark, DE 19711

2 August 2003

Dear Mr. Kostrzewa,

I wish to express my enthusiastic support for the construction of a permanent ecopassage along U.S. 27 at Lake Jackson. The highway forms an impassable barrier to turtles, frogs, snakes, and other wildlife and negatively impacts the ecology of the lake ecosystem. The area has the highest documented road mortality and attempted crossings of turtles that has ever been recorded worldwide.

The ecopassage should span the entire lakefront and consist of a set of wildlife underpasses and guidewalls similar to the successful design utilized on Paynes Prairie. Such a system will divert wildlife away from the travel lanes to safe passage beneath the highway. The ecopassage will not only make the highway safer for wildlife and protect the Lake Jackson ecosystem, it will improve motorist safety and enhance the aesthetic character and public enjoyment of the area.

I congratulate the Florida Department of Transportation, Leon County, other elected officials, and all cooperating agencies in their current efforts to resolve the effects of U.S. 27 on Lake Jackson and strongly encourage the expeditious creation of a permanent ecopassage.

We are counting on you to help the people of Florida protect the environment upon which we all depend.

Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

Erica Miller, DVM

8/18/03

Kostrzewa, Jack

From: Mary Moneypenny [felinophile@care2.com]
Sent: Friday, June 25, 2004 12:39 PM
To: Kostrzewa, Jack; =?iso-8859-1?B?oGRhbc=?=@mail.co.leon.fl.us
Subject: Help Create Safe Passageways for Wildlife!

Leon County Board of County Commissioners
Leon County Courthouse
301 South Monroe St.
Fifth Floor
Tallahassee, FL 32301-1853

Tallahassee-Leon County Planning Department (MPO)
Mr. Jack Kostrzewa, Acting Director
City Hall
300 South Adams St.
Tallahassee, FL 32301

To Whom It May Concern:

As key decision-makers, you are in a strong position to support ecopassages. In a recent HUMANELINES e-newsletter, some ideas relating to the solution to the problem of ecopassages were spelled out by Matthew J. Aresco, Lead Biologist, Lake Jackson Ecopassage Alliance. This article appeared, in a slightly different form, in the Summer 2004 issue of Wild Neighbors News, and you may find it illuminating and helpful in solving this problem:

"Another 18-wheeler roars down U.S. Highway 27 near Tallahassee, Florida, shaking the roadside brush. A Florida cooter—a turtle hatched on Lake Jackson's shore 15 years ago—steps into the road. The lake is drying up, and she's looking for a new home. A suitable place is only a few hundred yards away, but the open ground ahead is a killing zone for turtles.

I see her familiar silhouette from a quarter of a mile away. Pulling onto the shoulder, I hop out of my car and race toward her, against the approaching traffic. She pulls her head into her shell, mistaking me for real danger. I snatch her off the road with only seconds to spare. But the highway bears the remains of many turtles who weren't so lucky—90 of them in just a third of a mile on the northbound side alone that day.

Lake Jackson is a 4,000-acre State Aquatic Preserve typical of lakes in the area, with a shallow, flat-bottomed, closed basin. The water depth fluctuates widely. About every dozen years, most of it dries. The four-lane highway was built across a corner of the lake in the 1960s—before wetland protection laws—isolating a 50-acre part of it now known as Little Lake Jackson. The highway carries about 23,000 vehicles each day, presenting a lethal barrier for many wild animals.

As spring nears and the turtle migration intensifies, I patrol the roadside for hours. While Lake Jackson is slowly drying, Little Lake Jackson has plenty of water—and the turtles know it. But the traffic prevents me from saving many of them, and time after time I watch helplessly from the shoulder as a 20–30 year old turtle is run over.

Mass Departure

Something had to be done, so I proposed a simple, low-cost temporary solution to the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT)—a low nylon silt fence to direct turtles away from the road and into a large drainage culvert connecting the lakes. The FDOT donated the material, and I constructed fences along each side of U.S. 27.

I monitored the fences daily, transporting the turtles I found walking along it across the highway in large plastic containers. From April to August the fences prevented almost 5,000 turtles from entering the highway in their move to Little Lake Jackson—along with a variety of snakes, frogs, and alligators.

After heavy rains that September, turtles began migrating back to Lake Jackson—3,300 in all as the lake refilled the following spring and summer. Again the temporary fences and intensive daily monitoring saved 99 percent of them from being killed on the highway.

With the end of the drought—and of the turtles' return migration—I hoped that the crossings would subside. But the turtles kept coming in natural local movements to nest and as males and juveniles dispersed.

Death from vehicle collisions is an increasingly significant threat to turtle populations—and those of many other long-lived animals. Recent studies in other parts of North America provide strong evidence that traffic mortality and habitat fragmentation reduce local populations of freshwater and terrestrial turtles along highways.

Safe Passages

How can we solve this problem at Lake Jackson and elsewhere? While silt fences are an effective short-term solution, they require constant monitoring and maintenance to be effective. The material degrades rapidly in direct sunlight and is easily damaged by mowers, vandals, all terrain vehicles, and storm water runoff.

Permanent wildlife crossings—ecopassages—offer an answer. Ideally, ecopassages should be designed to lessen the effects of highway mortality and habitat fragmentation for all wildlife affected by a particular road. The FDOT recently constructed a prototype multispecies ecopassage near Gainesville—a lipped, four-foot-high

concrete guide wall with a series of culverts under the highway. The system has virtually eliminated roadkill.

Mobilizing Local Effort

Over the last two years, I have begun a grassroots effort to work with the Florida Department of Transportation, Leon County government, and other agencies to secure funding and to assure the construction of a permanent ecopassage along U.S. 27 to prevent future mortality of turtles and other wildlife. I established a website, www.lakejacksonturtles.org, and a citizen's action group, called the Lake Jackson Ecopassage Alliance, in order to develop and demonstrate broad-based support for the Lake Jackson Ecopassage. Recently, the Florida Department of Transportation allocated \$125,000 for a feasibility study to determine the most appropriate design to solve this unprecedented road mortality problem and to reestablish natural migration patterns.

Although the design and construction of a permanent ecopassage may still be years away and funding sources remain uncertain, this is an important first step toward meeting Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) requirements for possible Federal funding or Florida Department of Transportation's Ecosystem Management funds. In the meantime, I continue to walk the fences and carry turtles across the highway in plastic containers with duct tape in hand to patch the holes. As I watch the rainfall deficit increase for 2004 and the lake level slowly drop, I ready the fences for another mass migration of turtles.

A Final Word

The migration of thousands of turtles at Lake Jackson and their ability to find water during drought is truly an incredible natural wonder. Turtles possess a tenacity for survival that reflects millions of years of adaptation to dynamic environments. Yet the resiliency of turtles is too often overshadowed by their vulnerability to habitat destruction and fragmentation and the dangers of roads and highways. A migrating turtle knows where it wants to go and moves with single-minded purpose toward its goal. As stewards of the environment, we should follow that example and ensure that turtles and other wildlife are protected from the hazards that we create.

To learn more, contact

Lake Jackson Ecopassage Alliance
P.O. Box 180891
Tallahassee, FL 32318
www.lakejacksonturtles.org
turtles@lakejacksonturtles.org

Hope this article is of interest to you and gives you some ideas on creating safe passageways for wildlife.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

M. Money Penny

Care2 make the world greener!

Good People. Great Causes. Get Connected on Care2 Connect:

<http://www.care2.com/go/z/C2Connect>

Kostrzewa, Jack

From: sarah monson [huntressgreen13@yahoo.com]
Sent: Saturday, July 12, 2003 9:54 PM
To: KostrzeJ@talgov.com; richardson.curtis@leg.state.fl.us; bob_graham@graham.senate.gov; ausley.loranne@leg.state.fl.us; lawson.alfred.web@flsenate.gov; kilmer.bev@leg.state.fl.us; argenziano.nancy.web@flsenate.gov; ken.haddad@fwc.state.fl.us; david.struhs@dep.state.fl.us
Cc: streetteam@peta.org
Subject: Turtles

Hello

The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) has authorized \$100,000 USD from their Discretionary Environmental Mitigation funds for a study that may also include some design-cost components and permitting considerations. FDOT District 3 and Leon County have executed a Joint Participation Agreement (JPA), meaning that Leon County MPO is managing this phase of the project and they will be hiring a consulting firm to conduct the feasibility study. Unanimous approval to advertise for a consultant occurred at the 19 May 2003 meeting of the Tallahassee - Leon County Metropolitan Planning Organization. The feasibility study is the first phase of any state transportation-related project and is typically followed by the design phase.! The consulting firm will confer with the Lake Jackson Ecopassage Advisory Group on the biological aspects of the study. The Lake Jackson Ecopassage Alliance, Inc. recognizes and supports the decision by FDOT to allocate funds for the first step of this project and we look forward to their continued cooperation in the design, funding, and construction phases of the ecopassage. The Alliance will work closely with Leon County and assist their staffers so that a solution can be reached in an expeditious manner. Please be aware of the things that you do and how they affect you and me and the environment. Thank you for your time,
Sarah Monson

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7/14/03



Florida Department of Transportation

JEB BUSH
GOVERNOR

1074 Highway 90
Chipley, Florida 32428

THOMAS F. BARRY, JR.
SECRETARY

Post Office Box 607
Chipley, Florida 32428-0607

Ms. Anna Moore
The School of Arts and Sciences
3208 Thomasville Road
Tallahassee, Florida 32308

RE: U.S. 27 at Lake Jackson

Dear Ms. Moore:

I have received a copy of your recent letter requesting the Department to consider funding and constructing a permanent wildlife barrier along the subject facility north of Tallahassee. Thank you for the opportunity to provide assistance.

The issues noted in your letter were reviewed, and the following comments are provided for your reference. We suggest the County propose the barrier as a project for potential federal enhancement funding via the Tallahassee-Leon County Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO). The project must be prioritized by the MPO and included in their Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP) in order for the Department to pursue federal funding.

In conclusion, we look forward to partnering with Leon County, Tallahassee-Leon County Metropolitan Planning Organization, FDEP and other interested parties to accomplish a study to recommend the most appropriate design for this endeavor. Presently, we are in the process of developing all the pertinent agreements associated with beginning the study effort. We believe the enhanced relationships produced from this project will prove invaluable as we work together toward providing an efficient transportation system for the citizens of Leon County.

Thank you for your interest in transportation. If you have any questions concerning this matter, you may contact our office toll-free at 1-888-638-0250, extension 205.

Sincerely,

H. E. Prescott, P.E.
District Secretary

cc: ~~Mr. Parwez Alam~~, County Administrator, Leon County
Mr. Gene Martin, P.E., District Director of Production, FDOT District 3
Ms. Regina Battles, P.E., District Environmental Management Engineer, FDOT District 3
Mr. Tommy Barfield, P.E., District Production Engineer, FDOT District 3
Ms. Jean Weekley, Urban Planning Office, Midway Operations, FDOT District 3
Mr. Tommie Speights, District Public Information Director, FDOT District 3
Mr. Greg Vickery, Administration, FDOT District 3

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Kostrzewa, Jack

From: Phyl Morello [fastphyl1@hotmail.com]
Sent: Monday, June 28, 2004 8:35 AM
To: Kostrzewa, Jack
Subject: ecopassage for Lake Jackson on Hwy 27 needed

Mr. Jack Kostrzewa

Please help the wildlife who cross the Lake Jackson area of Hwy 27. Please help promote their safety with a much-needed ecopassage for them. Please be a champion for wildlife.

Thank you in advance for your consideration & help for wildlife.

Phyl Morello & family
Hc 2
Albrightsville Pa 18210

FREE pop-up blocking with the new MSN Toolbar – get it now!
<http://toolbar.msn.click-url.com/go/onm00200415ave/direct/01/>

Kostrzewa, Jack

From: Your Sister [fastphyl1@hotmail.com]

Sent: Sunday, June 27, 2004 7:06 AM

To: Kostrzewa, Jack

Cc: dan@mail.co.leon.fl.us

Subject: Please support turtle-crossing barriers

Please do all you can to help prevent more turtle deaths. US Hwy 27 is a death magnet for the turtles & you are full well aware of this immense problem & carnage.

US Hwy 27 is a major wildlife migration area. A well-thought-out ecopassage is needed here especially where it crosses northwest Lake Jackson. Please please build a permanent ecopassage on US Hwy 27 where it crosses northwest Lake Jackson. This ecopassage would be very similar to the Gainesville HWY 441 ecopassage at Paynes Prairie St. Preserve.

Won't you please help?

My family & I sincerely appreciate any positive feedback & concern for the wildlife in your state.

Phyl Morello
HC 2
Albrightsville PA 18210

12/28/04



United States Senate
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-0905

BILL NELSON
FLORIDA

March 19, 2003

The Honorable Dan Winchester
Commissioner
Leon County Commission
301 South Monroe Street
Tallahassee, Florida 32301

Dear Commissioner Winchester:

In response to my inquiry on your behalf, I am enclosing a copy of the correspondence I received from the Florida Department of Transportation. I appreciate you giving me the opportunity to look into this issue.

If I can assist you with any other matter, please do not hesitate to let me know.

Sincerely,

Bill Nelson

BN/mms

Enclosure

TALLAHASSEE/LEON COUNTY
PLANNING DEPARTMENT

03 MAR 32 AM 11:52

RECEIVED

Sutton, Mayra (Bill Nelson)

From:
Sent: Friday, March 14, 2003 9:17 AM
To: Sutton, Mayra (Bill Nelson)
Cc: Davich, Sherry (Bill Nelson); Greene, Artena (Bill Nelson)
Subject: FW: Lake Jackson Ecopassage Project

Subject: Lake Jackson Ecopassage Project

Florida Department of Transportation
District Three Administration Building
Office of the District Secretary
Post Office Box 607
Chipley, Florida 32428-0607

The Honorable Bill Nelson, U.S. Senator
United States Senate
225 East Robinson Street, Suite 410
Orlando, Florida 32801

RE: Mr. Matthew J. Aresco

Dear Senator Nelson:

I have received a copy of your recent letter, via Secretary Barry's Office, relaying the concerns of Mr. Matthew J. Aresco, and requesting the Department to consider funding and constructing a permanent wildlife barrier along U.S. 27 at Lake Jackson, north of Tallahassee. Thank you for the opportunity to provide assistance.

The issues noted in your transmittal were reviewed, and the following comments are provided for your reference. We suggest the County propose the barrier as a project for potential federal enhancement funding via the Tallahassee-Leon County Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO). The project must be prioritized by the MPO and included in their Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP) in order for the Department to pursue federal funding.

In conclusion, we look forward to partnering with Leon County, Tallahassee-Leon County Metropolitan Planning Organization, FDEP and other interested parties to accomplish a study to recommend the most appropriate design for this endeavor. Presently, we are in the process of developing all the pertinent agreements associated with beginning the study effort. We believe the enhanced relationships produced from this project will prove invaluable as we work together toward providing an efficient transportation system for the citizens of Leon County.

Thank you for your interest in transportation. If you have any questions concerning this matter, you may contact our office toll-free at 1-888-638-0250, extension 205.

Sincerely,

/s/ H. E. Prescott

H. E. Prescott, P.E.
District Secretary

Kostrzewa, Jack

From: J Novey [jnovey@comcast.net]
Sent: Thursday, September 12, 2002 9:23 AM
To: kostrzej@talgov.com
Cc: ARESKO
Subject: LAKE JACKSON ECOPASSAGE

September 12, 2002

Dear **Jack Kostrzewa**:

Your name is listed as the contact for the Metropolitan Planning Organization contact person. State Representative Lorraine Ausley suggested I contact the MPO with my concerns. A copy of her email reply follows this email.

We are writing to express our concern over the high wildlife mortality that occurs along the portion of US Highway 27 that crosses northwest Lake Jackson in Leon County, Florida. (Please refer to the internet website: <http://bio.fsu.edu/~aresko/lakejacksonturtles.html>)

US Highway 27 is a virtually impassable migration barrier to turtles and other wildlife and the road mortality rate and attempted crossings here of turtles is higher than has been documented anywhere else in the North America. The loss of large numbers of adult turtles to road mortality is not sustainable and can lead to rapid depletion of populations that will ultimately undermine the proper functioning of the entire lake ecosystem.

We strongly support the creation of an ecopassage along the 3000-foot section of U.S. Highway 27 that crosses Lake Jackson. The ecopassage should consist of a series of wildlife underpasses connected by a set of wildlife guidewalls, similar to the system recently constructed at Paynes Prairie (near Gainesville, FL) on US Highway 441. Such a system would divert wildlife away from the travel lanes to safe passages beneath the highway. The ecopassage will not only make the highway safer for wildlife and protect the Lake Jackson ecosystem, but it will improve motorist safety (by reducing vehicle collisions with wildlife) and enhance the aesthetic character and public enjoyment of the area.

We are asking that the Metropolitan Planning Organization use its authority to secure funding for this worthy project. We are counting on the MPO and the Florida Department of Transportation to stop the unnecessary killing of Florida wildlife on US Highway 27 and help the people of Florida preserve Lake Jackson. Thank you for your attention to this important issue.

Sincerely,

Jerome & Joanna Novey
1804 Old Fort Drive
Tallahassee FL 32301
JMNOVEYS@yahoo.com

----- Original Message -----

From: AUSLEY.LORANNE
To: 'J Novey'
Cc: ARBOUR.BONNIE ; KOSTRUB.ANNA
Sent: Wednesday, September 11, 2002 9:18 AM
Subject: RE: LAKE JACKSON ECOPASSAGE

Jerome and Joanna,

12/28/04

Thank you for your email regarding safe wildlife passage across US 27. We have been in contact with one of the biologists that has been involved. We have also contacted the DOT. In order for the DOT to support funding, the Metropolitan Planning Organization (which is the City Commission and County Commission meeting together as a body) must put this on their priority list. We have communicated to members of the City and County Commission, but it would be more meaningful coming from citizens in the community. You should let them know that this is an important priority for citizens of Tallahassee and Leon County and that it should be placed on the MPO's priority list for funding.

Let me know if you need anything else from me.

Loranne Ausley



Florida Department of Transportation

JEB BUSH
GOVERNOR

1074 Highway 90
Chipley, Florida 32428

THOMAS F. BARRY, JR.
SECRETARY

Post Office Box 607
Chipley, Florida 32428-0607

Ms. Samantha Novey
The School of Arts and Sciences
3208 Thomasville Road
Tallahassee, Florida 32308

RE: U.S. 27 at Lake Jackson

Dear Ms. Novey:

I have received a copy of your recent letter requesting the Department to consider funding and constructing a permanent wildlife barrier along the subject facility north of Tallahassee. Thank you for the opportunity to provide assistance.

The issues noted in your letter were reviewed, and the following comments are provided for your reference. We suggest the County propose the barrier as a project for potential federal enhancement funding via the Tallahassee-Leon County Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO). The project must be prioritized by the MPO and included in their Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP) in order for the Department to pursue federal funding.

In conclusion, we look forward to partnering with Leon County, Tallahassee-Leon County Metropolitan Planning Organization, FDEP and other interested parties to accomplish a study to recommend the most appropriate design for this endeavor. Presently, we are in the process of developing all the pertinent agreements associated with beginning the study effort. We believe the enhanced relationships produced from this project will prove invaluable as we work together toward providing an efficient transportation system for the citizens of Leon County.

Thank you for your interest in transportation. If you have any questions concerning this matter, you may contact our office toll-free at 1-888-638-0250, extension 205.

Sincerely,

H. E. Prescott, P.E.
District Secretary

cc: Mr. Parwez Alam, County Administrator, Leon County
Mr. Gene Martin, P.E., District Director of Production, FDOT District 3
Ms. Regina Battles, P.E., District Environmental Management Engineer, FDOT District 3
Mr. Tommy Barfield, P.E., District Production Engineer, FDOT District 3
Ms. Jean Weekley, Urban Planning Office, Midway Operations, FDOT District 3
Mr. Tommie Speights, District Public Information Director, FDOT District 3
Mr. Greg Vickery, Administration, FDOT District 3

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Florida Department of Transportation

JEB BUSH
GOVERNOR

1074 Highway 90
Chipley, Florida 32428

THOMAS F. BARRY, JR.
SECRETARY

Post Office Box 607
Chipley, Florida 32428-0607

October 22, 2002

Ms. Tammy L. Nelson
45 Smith Lane
Chattahoochee, Florida 32324

RE: U.S. 27 at Lake Jackson

Dear Ms. Nelson:

I have received a copy of your recent letter requesting the Department to consider funding and constructing a permanent wildlife barrier along the subject facility north of Tallahassee. Thank you for the opportunity to provide assistance.

The issues noted in your letter were reviewed, and the following comments are provided for your reference. We suggest the County propose the barrier as a project for potential federal enhancement funding via the Tallahassee-Leon County Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO). The project must be prioritized by the MPO and included in their Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP) in order for the Department to pursue federal funding.

In conclusion, we look forward to partnering with Leon County, Tallahassee-Leon County Metropolitan Planning Organization, FDEP and other interested parties to accomplish a study to recommend the most appropriate design for this endeavor. Presently, we are in the process of developing all the pertinent agreements associated with beginning the study effort. We believe the enhanced relationships produced from this project will prove invaluable as we work together toward providing an efficient transportation system for the citizens of Leon County.

Thank you for your interest in transportation. If you have any questions concerning this matter, you may contact our office toll-free at 1-888-638-0250, extension 205.

Sincerely,

H. E. Prescott, P.E. *for*
District Secretary

cc: ~~Mr. Parwez Alam~~, County Administrator, Leon County
Mr. Gene Martin, P.E., District Director of Production, FDOT District 3
Ms. Regina Battles, P.E., District Environmental Management Engineer, FDOT District 3
Mr. Tommy Barfield, P.E., District Production Engineer, FDOT District 3
Ms. Jean Weekley, Urban Planning Office, Midway Operations, FDOT District 3
Mr. Tommie Speights, District Public Information Director, FDOT District 3
Mr. Greg Vickery, Administration, FDOT District 3

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Kostrzewa, Jack

From: Conniesae@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, June 30, 2004 1:21 PM
To: Kostrzewa, Jack
Subject: Turtles

Dear Sir:

I recently read an article about the thousands of turtles that are killed as they migrate across U.S. 27.

It is disheartening to realize that progress and development for your ever increasing citizens means the demise of turtles and other forms of life that once defined life in Florida.

If there is anything you can do in your position of influence to promote their survival many will appreciate your efforts.

Perhaps turtle bridges over your highways are needed. Perhaps man made lakes on both sides of the road are warranted. I'm not sure what is viable, but whatever it takes to preserve these animals would be largely supported and appreciated by many.

I would often visit a benevolent state that promoted such preservation of wildlife.

Thanks for your consideration of the plight of your turtles.

Sincerely,

Connie Page

Sam Phelps
7912 Rutilio Court
New Port Richey, Fla. 34653
June 29, 2003

RECEIVED
03 JUL -7 AM 8:15
TALAHASSEE/LEON COUNTY
PLANNING DEPARTMENT

Dear Secretary,

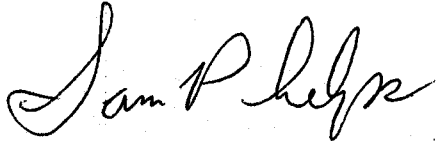
I wish to express my enthusiastic support for the construction of a permanent ecopassage along U.S. 27 at Lake Jackson. The highway forms an impassable barrier to turtles, frogs, snakes, and other wildlife and negatively impacts the ecology of the lake ecosystem. The area has the highest documented road mortality and attempted crossing of turtles that has ever been recorded worldwide.

The ecopassage should span the entire lakefront and consist of a set of wildlife underpasses and guidewalls similar to the successful design utilized on Paynes Prairie. Such a system will divert wildlife away from the travel lanes to save passage beneath the highway. The ecopassage will not only make the highway safer for wildlife and protect the Lake Jackson ecosystem, it will improve motorist safety and enhance the aesthetic character and public enjoyment of the area.

I congratulate FCOT, elected officials, and all cooperating agencies in their current efforts to resolve the effects of U. S. 27 on Lake Jackson and strongly encourage the expeditious creation of a permanent ecopassage.

We are counting on you to help the people of Florida protect the environment upon which we all depend.

Thank you very much,
Sincerely,



Kostrzewa, Jack

From: Reading [reading@supanet.com]
Sent: Wednesday, January 29, 2003 11:48 AM
To: KostrzeJ@talgov.com
Cc: turtles@lakejacksonturtles.org
Subject: Lake Jackson Ecopassage PD

Dear Sir,

I wish to express my enthusiastic support for the construction of a permanent ecopassage along U.S. 27 at Lake Jackson to divert wildlife away from the travel lanes to safe passage beneath the highway. I understand that the highway currently forms an impassable barrier to turtles, frogs, snakes, and other wildlife and negatively impacts the ecology of the lake ecosystem. The area has the highest documented road mortality and attempted crossings of turtles that has ever been recorded worldwide. And as someone who has witnessed similar problems, albeit on a smaller scale, on roads in the UK, I would urge you to take action to safeguard your valuable wildlife.

I congratulate all cooperating agencies in their current efforts to resolve the effects of U.S. 27 on Lake Jackson and strongly encourage the expeditious creation of a permanent ecopassage.

Thank you very much.

Yours sincerely,

Stuart Reading
Bitton
Bristol
UK



Florida Department of Transportation

JEB BUSH
GOVERNOR

1074 Highway 90
Chipley, Florida 32428

THOMAS F. BARRY, JR.
SECRETARY

Post Office Box 607
Chipley, Florida 32428-0607

October 22, 2002

Mr. Fredrick R. Reed
3852 Wiggington Road
Tallahassee, Florida 32303

RE: U.S. 27 at Lake Jackson

Dear Mr. Reed:

I have received a copy of your recent letter requesting the Department to consider funding and constructing a permanent wildlife barrier along the subject facility north of Tallahassee. Thank you for the opportunity to provide assistance.

The issues noted in your letter were reviewed, and the following comments are provided for your reference. We suggest the County propose the barrier as a project for potential federal enhancement funding via the Tallahassee-Leon County Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO). The project must be prioritized by the MPO and included in their Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP) in order for the Department to pursue federal funding.

In conclusion, we look forward to partnering with Leon County, Tallahassee-Leon County Metropolitan Planning Organization, FDEP and other interested parties to accomplish a study to recommend the most appropriate design for this endeavor. Presently, we are in the process of developing all the pertinent agreements associated with beginning the study effort. We believe the enhanced relationships produced from this project will prove invaluable as we work together toward providing an efficient transportation system for the citizens of Leon County.

Thank you for your interest in transportation. If you have any questions concerning this matter, you may contact our office toll-free at 1-888-638-0250, extension 205.

Sincerely,

for H. E. Prescott, P.E.
District Secretary

cc: Mr. Parwez Alam, County Administrator, Leon County
Mr. Gene Martin, P.E., District Director of Production, FDOT District 3
Ms. Regina Battles, P.E., District Environmental Management Engineer, FDOT District 3
Mr. Tommy Barfield, P.E., District Production Engineer, FDOT District 3
Ms. Jean Weekley, Urban Planning Office, Midway Operations, FDOT District 3
Mr. Tommie Speights, District Public Information Director, FDOT District 3
Mr. Greg Vickery, Administration, FDOT District 3

11/06/01 WWS/0702/00 WILDLIFE BARRIER 311.doc

Kostrzewa, Jack

From: greg.vickery@dot.state.fl.us
Sent: Monday, March 24, 2003 10:39 AM
To: reni_sand@cybertrails.com
Cc: parwez@mail.co.leon.fl.us; barrettb@talgov.com; kostrzej@talgov.com; edward.prescott@dot.state.fl.us; gene.martin@dot.state.fl.us; regina.battles@dot.state.fl.us; jerry.jenkins@dot.state.fl.us; wehowell@pbsj.com; tommy.barfield@dot.state.fl.us; mary.weekley@dot.state.fl.us; tommie.speights@dot.state.fl.us; Olivia.Youse@dot.state.fl.us
Subject: Support for Lake Jackson Ecopassage
Importance: High

Florida Department of Transportation
District Three Administration Building
Office of the District Secretary
Post Office Box 607
Chipley, Florida 32428-0607

Ms. Nancy Renison
1100 South Gold Nugget Lane
Payson, Arizona 85541

RE: U.S. 27 at Lake Jackson

Dear Ms. Renison:

I have received a copy of your recent letter requesting the Department to consider funding and constructing a permanent wildlife barrier along the subject facility north of Tallahassee. Thank you for the opportunity to provide assistance.

The issues noted in your letter were reviewed, and the following comments are provided for your reference. We suggest the County propose the barrier as a project for potential federal enhancement funding via the Tallahassee-Leon County Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO). The project must be prioritized by the MPO and included in their Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP) in order for the Department to pursue federal funding.

In conclusion, we look forward to partnering with Leon County, Tallahassee-Leon County Metropolitan Planning Organization, FDEP and other interested parties to accomplish a study to recommend the most appropriate design for this endeavor. Presently, we are in the process of developing all the pertinent agreements associated with beginning the study effort. We believe the enhanced relationships produced from this project will prove invaluable as we work together toward providing an efficient transportation system for the citizens of Leon County.

Thank you for your interest in transportation. If you have any questions concerning this matter, you may contact our office toll-free at 1-888-638-0250, extension 205.

Sincerely,

/s/ H. E. Prescott

H. E. Prescott, P.E.
District Secretary

Handled by:

Greg Vickery

Office of the District Secretary

Toll-free: 1-888-638-0250, extension 529

(850) 638-0250, extension 529

Suncom 767-1529

FAX (850) 638-6159 / Suncom 769-6159

mailto:greg.vickery@dot.state.fl.us



Florida Department of Transportation

JEB BUSH
GOVERNOR

1074 Highway 90
Chipley, Florida 32428

THOMAS F. BARRY, JR.
SECRETARY

Post Office Box 607
Chipley, Florida 32428-0607

October 22, 2002

Ms. Megan Reynolds
1907 Nanticoke Circle
Tallahassee, Florida 32303

RE: U.S. 27 at Lake Jackson

Dear Ms. Reynolds:

I have received a copy of your recent letter requesting the Department to consider funding and constructing a permanent wildlife barrier along the subject facility north of Tallahassee. Thank you for the opportunity to provide assistance.

The issues noted in your letter were reviewed, and the following comments are provided for your reference. We suggest the County propose the barrier as a project for potential federal enhancement funding via the Tallahassee-Leon County Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO). The project must be prioritized by the MPO and included in their Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP) in order for the Department to pursue federal funding.

In conclusion, we look forward to partnering with Leon County, Tallahassee-Leon County Metropolitan Planning Organization, FDEP and other interested parties to accomplish a study to recommend the most appropriate design for this endeavor. Presently, we are in the process of developing all the pertinent agreements associated with beginning the study effort. We believe the enhanced relationships produced from this project will prove invaluable as we work together toward providing an efficient transportation system for the citizens of Leon County.

Thank you for your interest in transportation. If you have any questions concerning this matter, you may contact our office toll-free at 1-888-638-0250, extension 205.

Sincerely,

H. E. Prescott, P.E.
District Secretary

cc: Mr. Parvez Alam, County Administrator, Leon County
Mr. Gene Martin, P.E., District Director of Production, FDOT District 3
Ms. Regina Battles, P.E., District Environmental Management Engineer, FDOT District 3
Mr. Tommy Barfield, P.E., District Production Engineer, FDOT District 3
Ms. Jean Weekley, Urban Planning Office, Midway Operations, FDOT District 3
Mr. Tommie Speights, District Public Information Director, FDOT District 3
Mr. Greg Vickery, Administration, FDOT District 3

10/22/02 10:07 AM WILDLIFE BARRIER.DOC

Kostrzewa, Jack

From: greg.vickery@dot.state.fl.us
Sent: Thursday, October 31, 2002 1:09 PM
To: pharez@ij.net
Cc: parwez@mail.co.leon.fl.us; barrettb@talgov.com; kostrzej@talgov.com; edward.prescott@dot.state.fl.us; gene.martin@dot.state.fl.us; regina.battles@dot.state.fl.us; jerry.jenkins@dot.state.fl.us; wehowell@pbsj.com; tommy.barfield@dot.state.fl.us; mary.weekley@dot.state.fl.us; tommie.speights@dot.state.fl.us; Olivia.Youse@dot.state.fl.us; danw@mail.co.leon.fl.us; david.struhs@dep.state.fl.us; ken.haddad@fwc.state.fl.us; bob_graham@graham.senate.gov; richardson.curtis@leg.state.fl.us; turtles@lakejacksonturtles.org
Subject: Support for Lake Jackson Ecopassage
Importance: High

Florida Department of Transportation
District Three Administration Building
Office of the District Secretary
Post Office Box 607
Chipley, Florida 32428-0607

October 30, 2002

Ms. Linda K. Rodante
1367 Cottage Grove Road
Tarpon Springs, Florida 34689

RE: U.S. 27 at Lake Jackson

Dear Ms. Rodante:

I have received a copy of your recent e-mail, via Secretary Barry's Office, requesting the Department to consider funding and constructing a permanent wildlife barrier along the subject facility north of Tallahassee. Thank you for the opportunity to provide assistance.

The issues noted in your letter were reviewed, and the following comments are provided for your reference. We suggest the County propose the barrier as a project for potential federal enhancement funding via the Tallahassee-Leon County Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO). The project must be prioritized by the MPO and included in their Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP) in order for the Department to pursue federal funding.

In conclusion, we look forward to partnering with Leon County, Tallahassee-Leon County Metropolitan Planning Organization, FDEP and other interested parties to accomplish a study to recommend the most appropriate design for this endeavor. Presently, we are in the process of developing all the pertinent agreements associated with beginning the study effort. We believe the enhanced relationships produced from this project will prove invaluable as we work together toward providing an efficient transportation

system for the citizens of Leon County.

Thank you for your interest in transportation. If you have any questions concerning this matter, you may contact our office toll-free at 1-888-638-0250, extension 205.

Sincerely,

/s/ H. E. Prescott

H. E. Prescott, P.E.
District Secretary

Handled by:
Greg Vickery
Office of the District Secretary
Toll-free: 1-888-638-0250, extension 529
(850) 638-0250, extension 529
Suncom 767-1529
FAX (850) 638-6159 / Suncom 769-6159
mailto:greg.vickery@dot.state.fl.us

-----Original Message-----

From: pharez@ij.net
Sent: Saturday, October 12, 2002 09:04 PM
To: danw@mail.co.leon.fl.us, david.struhs@dep.state.fl.us,
ken.haddad@fwc.state.fl.us, bob_graham@graham.senate.gov,
richardson.curtis@leg.state.fl.us, tom.barry@dot.state.fl.us
Cc: pharez@ij.net, turtles@lakejacksonturtles.org,
Subject: Support the US Highway 27 Ecopassage

Dear Secretary, Commissioner, Senator, and others:

I read about this project in the Tampa Tribune. I must say that with everything going on in the world, turtles might not be everyone's priority. However, when there seems such a sure and relatively inexpensive way of saving thousands of these wonderful creatures and others wild animals, I am surprised we are waiting so long to do it. what could possibly be the hold up? I have included some pictures you may or may not have seen. Do you see how many turtles are being saved by this little fence? what would the ecopassage do?!

I support the construction of a permanent wildlife ecopassage at US Highway 27 where it crosses northwest Lake Jackson, Leon County, Florida. At this point, US Highway 27 becomes a major wildlife migration barrier. The ecopassage would solve this situation quickly. The project would be similar to the recently-completed and highly successful project along US Highway 441 at Paynes Prairie State Preserve south of Gainesville.

I hope in the midst of all that is going on that you will take a little time and allot the needed funds for this project.

Thank you,
Linda K. Rodante
1367 Cottage Grove RD.
Tarpon Springs, Fl. 34689
727-938-4752

Kostrzewa, Jack

From: greg.vickery@dot.state.fl.us
Sent: Tuesday, September 24, 2002 11:36 AM
To: kar1511@garnet.acns.fsu.edu
Cc: parwez@mail.co.leon.fl.us; barrettb@talgov.com; kostrzej@talgov.com; edward.prescott@dot.state.fl.us; gene.martin@dot.state.fl.us; regina.battles@dot.state.fl.us; jerry.jenkins@dot.state.fl.us; wehowell@pbsj.com; tommy.barfield@dot.state.fl.us; mary.weekley@dot.state.fl.us; tommie.speights@dot.state.fl.us; Olivia.Youse@dot.state.fl.us
Subject: U.S. 27 at Lake Jackson
Importance: High

Florida Department of Transportation
District Three Administration Building
Office of the District Secretary
Post Office Box 607
Chipley, Florida 32428-0607

September 23, 2002

Ms. Kimberly Rogers
2657B Wiggington Road
Tallahassee, Florida 32303

RE: U.S. 27 at Lake Jackson

Dear Ms. Rogers:

I have received your recent e-mail, dated September 21, 2002, requesting the Department to consider funding and constructing a permanent wildlife barrier along the subject facility north of Tallahassee. Thank you for the opportunity to provide assistance.

The issues noted in your letter were reviewed, and the following comments are provided for your reference. We suggest the County propose the barrier as a project for potential federal enhancement funding via the Tallahassee-Leon County Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO). The project must be prioritized by the MPO and included in their Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP) in order for the Department to pursue federal funding.

We anticipate the construction cost of the barrier to total approximately \$250,000. However, a second letter received from Mr. Matthew Aresco, FSU Department of Biological Science, indicates the cost of the proposed project could potentially exceed \$3 million. Presently, we are exploring any alternative funding sources that could be applied to this type project.

Thank you for your interest in transportation. If you have any questions concerning this matter, you may contact our office toll-free at 1-888-638-0250, extension 205.

Sincerely,

/s/ H. E. Prescott

H. E. Prescott, P.E.
District Secretary

Handled by:
Greg Vickery
Office of the District Secretary
Toll-free: 1-888-638-0250, extension 529
(850) 638-0250, extension 529
Suncom 767-1529
FAX (850) 638-6159 / Suncom 769-6159
mailto:greg.vickery@dot.state.fl.us

-----Original Message-----

From: kar1511@garnet.acns.fsu.edu
Sent: Saturday, September 21, 2002 11:55 AM
To: tom.barry@dot.state.fl.us
Subject: Support the US Highway 27 Ecopassage

3657B Wiggington Road
Tallahassee, FL 32303

September 21, 2002

Thomas Barry, Jr., Secretary
Florida Department of Transportation
605 Suwannee Street, M. S. 59
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0450

Dear Secretary Barry:

I am writing to express my concern over the high wildlife mortality that occurs along the portion of US Highway 27 that crosses northwest Lake Jackson in Leon County, Florida. US Highway 27 is a virtually impassable migration barrier to turtles and other wildlife and the road mortality rate and attempted crossings here of turtles is higher than has been documented anywhere else in the North America. The loss of large numbers of adult turtles to road mortality is not sustainable and can lead to rapid depletion of populations that will ultimately undermine the proper functioning of the entire lake ecosystem.

I strongly support the creation of an ecopassage along the 3000-foot section of U.S. Highway 27 that crosses Lake Jackson. The ecopassage

should consist of a series of wildlife underpasses connected by a set of wildlife guidewalls, similar to the system recently constructed at Paynes Prairie (near Gainesville, FL) on US Highway 441. Such a system would divert wildlife away from the travel lanes to safe passages beneath the highway. The ecopassage will not only make the highway safer for wildlife and protect the Lake Jackson ecosystem, but it will improve motorist safety (by reducing vehicle collisions with wildlife) and enhance the aesthetic character and public enjoyment of the area.

I am asking that you use your authority to secure funding for this worthy project. I am counting on you and the Florida Department of Transportation to stop the unnecessary killing of Florida wildlife on US Highway 27 and help the people of Florida preserve Lake Jackson. Thank you for your attention to this important issue.

Sincerely,

Kimberly Rogers



Florida Department of Transportation

JEB BUSH
GOVERNOR

1074 Highway 90
Chipley, Florida 32428

THOMAS F. BARRY, JR.
SECRETARY

Post Office Box 607
Chipley, Florida 32428-0607

October 22, 2002

Ms. Megan C. Romano
3560 Bear Creek Road
Tallahassee, Florida 32308

RE: U.S. 27 at Lake Jackson

Dear Ms. Romano:

I have received a copy of your recent letter requesting the Department to consider funding and constructing a permanent wildlife barrier along the subject facility north of Tallahassee. Thank you for the opportunity to provide assistance.

The issues noted in your letter were reviewed, and the following comments are provided for your reference. We suggest the County propose the barrier as a project for potential federal enhancement funding via the Tallahassee-Leon County Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO). The project must be prioritized by the MPO and included in their Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP) in order for the Department to pursue federal funding.

In conclusion, we look forward to partnering with Leon County, Tallahassee-Leon County Metropolitan Planning Organization, FDEP and other interested parties to accomplish a study to recommend the most appropriate design for this endeavor. Presently, we are in the process of developing all the pertinent agreements associated with beginning the study effort. We believe the enhanced relationships produced from this project will prove invaluable as we work together toward providing an efficient transportation system for the citizens of Leon County.

Thank you for your interest in transportation. If you have any questions concerning this matter, you may contact our office toll-free at 1-888-638-0250, extension 205.

Sincerely,

H. E. Prescott, P.E. *ju*
District Secretary

cc: Mr. Parwez Alam, County Administrator, Leon County
Mr. Gene Martin, P.E., District Director of Production, FDOT District 3
Ms. Regina Battles, P.E., District Environmental Management Engineer, FDOT District 3
Mr. Tommy Barfield, P.E., District Production Engineer, FDOT District 3
Ms. Jean Weekley, Urban Planning Office, Midway Operations, FDOT District 3
Mr. Tommie Speights, District Public Information Director, FDOT District 3
Mr. Greg Vickery, Administration, FDOT District 3

H:\026\www\dot\TFL\dot\WILDLIFE\BARRIER-021.doc

Kostrzewa, Jack

From: greg.vickery@dot.state.fl.us
Sent: Monday, March 24, 2003 10:43 AM
To: rross43@earthlink.net
Cc: parwez@mail.co.leon.fl.us; barrettb@talgov.com; kostrzej@talgov.com; edward.prescott@dot.state.fl.us; gene.martin@dot.state.fl.us; regina.battles@dot.state.fl.us; jerry.jenkins@dot.state.fl.us; wehowell@pbsj.com; tommy.barfield@dot.state.fl.us; mary.weekley@dot.state.fl.us; tommie.speights@dot.state.fl.us; Olivia.Youse@dot.state.fl.us
Subject: Support for Lake Jackson Ecopassage
Importance: High

Florida Department of Transportation
District Three Administration Building
Office of the District Secretary
Post Office Box 607
Chipley, Florida 32428-0607

Ms. Karen Ross
852 Eagle View Drive
Tallahassee, Florida 32311

RE: U.S. 27 at Lake Jackson

Dear Ms. Ross:

I have received a copy of your recent letter requesting the Department to consider funding and constructing a permanent wildlife barrier along the subject facility north of Tallahassee. Thank you for the opportunity to provide assistance.

The issues noted in your letter were reviewed, and the following comments are provided for your reference. We suggest the County propose the barrier as a project for potential federal enhancement funding via the Tallahassee-Leon County Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO). The project must be prioritized by the MPO and included in their Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP) in order for the Department to pursue federal funding.

In conclusion, we look forward to partnering with Leon County, Tallahassee-Leon County Metropolitan Planning Organization, FDEP and other interested parties to accomplish a study to recommend the most appropriate design for this endeavor. Presently, we are in the process of developing all the pertinent agreements associated with beginning the study effort. We believe the enhanced relationships produced from this project will prove invaluable as we work together toward providing an efficient transportation system for the citizens of Leon County.

Thank you for your interest in transportation. If you have any questions concerning this matter, you may contact our office toll-free at 1-888-638-0250, extension 205.

Sincerely,

/s/ H. E. Prescott

H. E. Prescott, P.E.
District Secretary

Handled by:
Greg Vickery
Office of the District Secretary
Toll-free: 1-888-638-0250, extension 529
(850) 638-0250, extension 529
Suncom 767-1529
FAX (850) 638-6159 / Suncom 769-6159
mailto:greg.vickery@dot.state.fl.us



Florida Department of Transportation

JEB BUSH
GOVERNOR

1074 Highway 90
Chipley, Florida 32428

THOMAS F. BARRY, JR.
SECRETARY

Post Office Box 607
Chipley, Florida 32428-0607

October 22, 2002

Ms. Genette Rundle
29 Luckybird Lane
Crawfordville, Florida 32327

RE: U.S. 27 at Lake Jackson

Dear Ms. Rundle:

I have received a copy of your recent letter requesting the Department to consider funding and constructing a permanent wildlife barrier along the subject facility north of Tallahassee. Thank you for the opportunity to provide assistance.

The issues noted in your letter were reviewed, and the following comments are provided for your reference. We suggest the County propose the barrier as a project for potential federal enhancement funding via the Tallahassee-Leon County Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO). The project must be prioritized by the MPO and included in their Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP) in order for the Department to pursue federal funding.

In conclusion, we look forward to partnering with Leon County, Tallahassee-Leon County Metropolitan Planning Organization, FDEP and other interested parties to accomplish a study to recommend the most appropriate design for this endeavor. Presently, we are in the process of developing all the pertinent agreements associated with beginning the study effort. We believe the enhanced relationships produced from this project will prove invaluable as we work together toward providing an efficient transportation system for the citizens of Leon County.

Thank you for your interest in transportation. If you have any questions concerning this matter, you may contact our office toll-free at 1-888-638-0250, extension 205.

Sincerely,

for H. E. Prescott, P.E.
District Secretary

cc: Mr. Parwez Alam, County Administrator, Leon County
Mr. Gene Martin, P.E., District Director of Production, FDOT District 3
Ms. Regina Battles, P.E., District Environmental Management Engineer, FDOT District 3
Mr. Tommy Barfield, P.E., District Production Engineer, FDOT District 3
Ms. Jean Weekley, Urban Planning Office, Midway Operations, FDOT District 3
Mr. Tommie Speights, District Public Information Director, FDOT District 3
Mr. Greg Vickery, Administration, FDOT District 3

WILDLIFE BARRIER 010.doc



Florida Department of Transportation

JEB BUSH
GOVERNOR

1074 Highway 90
Chipley, Florida 32428

THOMAS F. BARRY, JR.
SECRETARY

Post Office Box 607
Chipley, Florida 32428-0607

October 22, 2002

Ms. Colleen Sanderson
405 East Jean Street, #6
Tampa, Florida 33604

RE: U.S. 27 at Lake Jackson

Dear Ms. Sanderson:

I have received a copy of your recent letter, dated October 8, 2002, requesting the Department to consider funding and constructing a permanent wildlife barrier along the subject facility north of Tallahassee. Thank you for the opportunity to provide assistance.

The issues noted in your letter were reviewed, and the following comments are provided for your reference. We suggest the County propose the barrier as a project for potential federal enhancement funding via the Tallahassee-Leon County Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO). The project must be prioritized by the MPO and included in their Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP) in order for the Department to pursue federal funding.

In conclusion, we look forward to partnering with Leon County, Tallahassee-Leon County Metropolitan Planning Organization, FDEP and other interested parties to accomplish a study to recommend the most appropriate design for this endeavor. Presently, we are in the process of developing all the pertinent agreements associated with beginning the study effort. We believe the enhanced relationships produced from this project will prove invaluable as we work together toward providing an efficient transportation system for the citizens of Leon County.

Thank you for your interest in transportation. If you have any questions concerning this matter, you may contact our office toll-free at 1-888-638-0250, extension 205.

Sincerely,

H. E. Prescott, P.E.
District Secretary

cc: Mr. Parwez Alam, County Administrator, Leon County
Mr. Gene Martin, P.E., District Director of Production, FDOT District 3
Ms. Regina Battles, P.E., District Environmental Management Engineer, FDOT District 3
Mr. Tommy Barfield, P.E., District Production Engineer, FDOT District 3
Ms. Jean Weekley, Urban Planning Office, Midway Operations, FDOT District 3
Mr. Tommie Speights, District Public Information Director, FDOT District 3
Mr. Greg Vickery, Administration, FDOT District 3

11/08/02 www.fdot.state.fl.us WILDLIFE BARRIER 007.doc

Kostrzewa, Jack

From: greg.vickery@dot.state.fl.us
Sent: Monday, March 24, 2003 10:42 AM
To: gretchenschumann@garnett-powers.com
Cc: parwez@mail.co.leon.fl.us; barrettb@talgov.com; kostrzej@talgov.com;
edward.prescott@dot.state.fl.us; gene.martin@dot.state.fl.us; regina.battles@dot.state.fl.us;
jerry.jenkins@dot.state.fl.us; wehowell@pbsj.com; tommy.barfield@dot.state.fl.us;
mary.weekley@dot.state.fl.us; tommie.speights@dot.state.fl.us; Olivia.Youse@dot.state.fl.us
Subject: Support for Lake Jackson Ecopassage
Importance: High

Florida Department of Transportation
District Three Administration Building
Office of the District Secretary
Post Office Box 607
Chipley, Florida 32428-0607

Ms. Doris M. Schumann
107 Valley View Terrace
Mission Viejo, California 92692

RE: U.S. 27 at Lake Jackson

Dear Ms. Schumann:

I have received a copy of your recent letter requesting the Department to consider funding and constructing a permanent wildlife barrier along the subject facility north of Tallahassee. Thank you for the opportunity to provide assistance.

The issues noted in your letter were reviewed, and the following comments are provided for your reference. We suggest the County propose the barrier as a project for potential federal enhancement funding via the Tallahassee-Leon County Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO). The project must be prioritized by the MPO and included in their Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP) in order for the Department to pursue federal funding.

In conclusion, we look forward to partnering with Leon County, Tallahassee-Leon County Metropolitan Planning Organization, FDEP and other interested parties to accomplish a study to recommend the most appropriate design for this endeavor. Presently, we are in the process of developing all the pertinent agreements associated with beginning the study effort. We believe the enhanced relationships produced from this project will prove invaluable as we work together toward providing an efficient transportation system for the citizens of Leon County.

Thank you for your interest in transportation. If you have any questions concerning this matter, you may contact our office toll-free at 1-888-638-0250, extension 205.

Sincerely,

/s/ H. E. Prescott

H. E. Prescott, P.E.
District Secretary

Handled by:

Greg Vickery

Office of the District Secretary

Toll-free: 1-888-638-0250, extension 529

(850) 638-0250, extension 529

Suncom 767-1529

FAX (850) 638-6159 / Suncom 769-6159

mailto:greg.vickery@dot.state.fl.us

Kostrzewa, Jack

From: greg.vickery@dot.state.fl.us
Sent: Monday, March 24, 2003 10:42 AM
To: basellers@netzero.net
Cc: parwez@mail.co.leon.fl.us; barrettb@talgov.com; kostrzej@talgov.com; edward.prescott@dot.state.fl.us; gene.martin@dot.state.fl.us; regina.battles@dot.state.fl.us; jerry.jenkins@dot.state.fl.us; wehowell@pbsj.com; tommy.barfield@dot.state.fl.us; mary.weekley@dot.state.fl.us; tommie.speights@dot.state.fl.us; Olivia.Youse@dot.state.fl.us
Subject: Support for Lake Jackson Ecopassage
Importance: High

Florida Department of Transportation
District Three Administration Building
Office of the District Secretary
Post Office Box 607
Chipley, Florida 32428-0607

Ms. Susan Sellers
2780 Bayou Boulevard
Pensacola, Florida 32503

RE: U.S. 27 at Lake Jackson

Dear Ms. Sellers:

I have received a copy of your recent letter requesting the Department to consider funding and constructing a permanent wildlife barrier along the subject facility north of Tallahassee. Thank you for the opportunity to provide assistance.

The issues noted in your letter were reviewed, and the following comments are provided for your reference. We suggest the County propose the barrier as a project for potential federal enhancement funding via the Tallahassee-Leon County Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO). The project must be prioritized by the MPO and included in their Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP) in order for the Department to pursue federal funding.

In conclusion, we look forward to partnering with Leon County, Tallahassee-Leon County Metropolitan Planning Organization, FDEP and other interested parties to accomplish a study to recommend the most appropriate design for this endeavor. Presently, we are in the process of developing all the pertinent agreements associated with beginning the study effort. We believe the enhanced relationships produced from this project will prove invaluable as we work together toward providing an efficient transportation system for the citizens of Leon County.

Thank you for your interest in transportation. If you have any questions concerning this matter, you may contact our office toll-free at 1-888-638-0250, extension 205.

Sincerely,

/s/ H. E. Prescott

H. E. Prescott, P.E.
District Secretary

Handled by:

Greg Vickery

Office of the District Secretary

Toll-free: 1-888-638-0250, extension 529

(850) 638-0250, extension 529

Suncom 767-1529

FAX (850) 638-6159 / Suncom 769-6159

mailto:greg.vickery@dot.state.fl.us

Kostrzewa, Jack

From: marylou.sheehan@weil.com
Sent: Wednesday, June 30, 2004 3:59 PM
To: Kostrzewa, Jack
Subject: Ecopassages

I am writing to you from Texas to ask you to please support ecopassages which will allow turtles and other creatures a way to protect themselves in their never ending quest for water and will keep them from being killed unnecessarily. We all deserve a safe passage to that which is our destiny. Please allow them theirs.

Thank you.

Mary Lou Sheehan
Weil, Gotshal & Manges LLP
200 Crescent Court, Suite 300
Dallas, TX 75201
(214) 746-7771 (direct)
(214) 746-7777 (fax)
marylou.sheehan@weil.com

<END >

The information contained in this email message is intended only for use of the individual or entity named above. If the reader of this message is not the intended recipient, or the employee or agent responsible to deliver it to the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any dissemination, distribution or copying of this communication is strictly prohibited. If you have received this communication in error, please immediately notify us by email (postmaster@weil.com), and destroy the original message. Thank you

Kostrzewa, Jack

From: Sharyn Shubert [sharyn@collier-friends.org]
Sent: Friday, October 08, 2004 2:36 PM
To: Kostrzewa, Jack
Cc: turtles@lakejacksonturtles.org
Subject: Support the US Highway 27 Ecopassage

Dear Secretary Abreu

I wish to express my enthusiastic support for the construction of a permanent ecopassage along U.S. 27 at Lake Jackson. The highway forms an impassable barrier to turtles, frogs, snakes, and other wildlife and negatively impacts the ecology of the lake ecosystem. The area has the highest documented road mortality and attempted crossings of turtles that has ever been recorded worldwide.

The ecopassage should span the entire lakefront and consist of a set of wildlife underpasses and guidewalls similar to the successful design utilized on Paynes Prairie. Such a system will divert wildlife away from the travel lanes to safe passage beneath the highway. The ecopassage will not only make the highway safer for wildlife and protect the Lake Jackson ecosystem, it will improve motorist safety and enhance the aesthetic character and public enjoyment of the area.

I congratulate the Florida Department of Transportation, Leon County, other elected officials, and all cooperating agencies in their current efforts to resolve the effects of U.S. 27 on Lake Jackson and strongly encourage the expeditious creation of a permanent ecopassage.

We are counting on you to help the people of Florida protect the environment upon which we all depend.

Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

Sharyn W. Shubert

Kostrzewa, Jack

From: greg.vickery@dot.state.fl.us
Sent: Tuesday, September 24, 2002 11:34 AM
To: silverowl275@aol.com
Cc: parwez@mail.co.leon.fl.us; barrettb@talgov.com; kostrzej@talgov.com;
edward.prescott@dot.state.fl.us; gene.martin@dot.state.fl.us; regina.battles@dot.state.fl.us;
jerry.jenkins@dot.state.fl.us; wehowell@pbsj.com; tommy.barfield@dot.state.fl.us;
mary.weekley@dot.state.fl.us; tommie.speights@dot.state.fl.us; Olivia.Youse@dot.state.fl.us
Subject: U.S. 27 at Lake Jackson
Importance: High

Florida Department of Transportation
District Three Administration Building
Office of the District Secretary
Post Office Box 607
Chipley, Florida 32428-0607

September 23, 2002

Ms. Kathleen M. Smith
Internet E-mail Address
silverowl275@aol.com

RE: U.S. 27 at Lake Jackson

Dear Ms. Smith:

I have received your recent e-mail, dated September 22, 2002, requesting the Department to consider funding and constructing a permanent wildlife barrier along the subject facility north of Tallahassee. Thank you for the opportunity to provide assistance.

The issues noted in your letter were reviewed, and the following comments are provided for your reference. We suggest the County propose the barrier as a project for potential federal enhancement funding via the Tallahassee-Leon County Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO). The project must be prioritized by the MPO and included in their Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP) in order for the Department to pursue federal funding.

We anticipate the construction cost of the barrier to total approximately \$250,000. However, a second letter received from Mr. Matthew Aresco, FSU Department of Biological Science, indicates the cost of the proposed project could potentially exceed \$3 million. Presently, we are exploring any alternative funding sources that could be applied to this type project.

Thank you for your interest in transportation. If you have any questions concerning this matter, you may contact our office toll-free at 1-888-638-0250, extension 205.

Sincerely,

/s/ H. E. Prescott

H. E. Prescott, P.E.
District Secretary

Handled by:

Greg Vickery

Office of the District Secretary

Toll-free: 1-888-638-0250, extension 529

(850) 638-0250, extension 529

Suncom 767-1529

FAX (850) 638-6159 / Suncom 769-6159

mailto:greg.vickery@dot.state.fl.us

-----Original Message-----

From: silverowl275@aol.com

Sent: Sunday, September 22, 2002 2:13 PM

To: tom.barry@dot.state.fl.us

Subject: Support the US Highway 27 Ecopassage

Dear Sir,

I am concerned over the high wildlife mortality that occurs along the portion of US Highway 27 that crosses northwest Lake Jackson, in the Leon County Florida

I strongly support the creation of an ecopassage along the 3000-foot section of US Highway 27 that crosses Lake Jackson. I am asking you to use your authority to secure funding for this worthy project.

Sincerely,

Kathleen M. Smith



Florida Department of Transportation

JEB BUSH
GOVERNOR

1074 Highway 90
Chipley, Florida 32428

THOMAS F. BARRY, JR.
SECRETARY

Post Office Box 607
Chipley, Florida 32428-0607

October 22, 2002

Ms. Sheila Smith
7414 Old Lloyd Road
Monticello, Florida 32344

RE: U.S. 27 at Lake Jackson

Dear Ms. Smith:

I have received a copy of your recent letter requesting the Department to consider funding and constructing a permanent wildlife barrier along the subject facility north of Tallahassee. Thank you for the opportunity to provide assistance.

The issues noted in your letter were reviewed, and the following comments are provided for your reference. We suggest the County propose the barrier as a project for potential federal enhancement funding via the Tallahassee-Leon County Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO). The project must be prioritized by the MPO and included in their Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP) in order for the Department to pursue federal funding.

In conclusion, we look forward to partnering with Leon County, Tallahassee-Leon County Metropolitan Planning Organization, FDEP and other interested parties to accomplish a study to recommend the most appropriate design for this endeavor. Presently, we are in the process of developing all the pertinent agreements associated with beginning the study effort. We believe the enhanced relationships produced from this project will prove invaluable as we work together toward providing an efficient transportation system for the citizens of Leon County.

Thank you for your interest in transportation. If you have any questions concerning this matter, you may contact our office toll-free at 1-888-638-0250, extension 205.

Sincerely,

for H. E. Prescott, P.E.
District Secretary

cc: Mr. Parwez Alam, County Administrator, Leon County
Mr. Gene Martin, P.E., District Director of Production, FDOT District 3
Ms. Regina Battles, P.E., District Environmental Management Engineer, FDOT District 3
Mr. Tommy Barfield, P.E., District Production Engineer, FDOT District 3
Ms. Jean Weekley, Urban Planning Office, Midway Operations, FDOT District 3
Mr. Tommie Speights, District Public Information Director, FDOT District 3
Mr. Greg Vickery, Administration, FDOT District 3

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Kostrzewa, Jack

From: Solwa, Gail [SBS] [Gail.D.Solwa@mail.sprint.com]

Sent: Sunday, June 27, 2004 3:52 PM

To: Kostrzewa, Jack

Subject: Turtles

I just read the article about the solution to turtles crossing the highway in a safe way. I think the ecopassages that have been proposed are the best idea I have heard of. Being an avid Animal-lover I am always concerned about any animal. This proposal just makes sense. Everytime I see roadkill on the road it makes me sick. I wish everyone was as concerned with this issue as Matthew Aresco is. This sounds like an idea that could be adopted all over the country. And in several areas fine tuned for the animals in that area. This is even a project I would like to be involved in. Please vote yes for the Ecopassage Alliance and do it as soon as possible before we have no more turtles left to protect.

Sincerely,

Gail Solwa

8920 Goddard

Overland Park, KS 66214

913-492-9344

Kostrzewa, Jack

From: Laurie Squire [lsq1@optonline.net]
Sent: Tuesday, June 10, 2003 4:36 PM
To: KostrzeJ@talgov.com
Cc: turtles@lakejacksonturtles.org
Subject: Lake Jackson Ecopassage PD

25 Loft Drive, Martinsville NJ 08836

10 June '03

Dear Sir,

I have been a frequent visitor to your lovely part of the State of Florida and right now am writing as I wish to express my enthusiastic support for the construction of a permanent ecopassage along U.S. 27 at Lake Jackson. The highway forms an impassable barrier to turtles, frogs, snakes, and other wildlife and negatively impacts the ecology of the lake ecosystem. The area has the highest documented road mortality and attempted crossings of turtles that has ever been recorded worldwide.

The ecopassage should span the entire lakefront and consist of a set of wildlife underpasses and guidewalls similar to the successful design utilized on Paynes Prairie. Such a system will divert wildlife away from the travel lanes to safe passage beneath the highway. The ecopassage will not only make the highway safer for wildlife and protect the Lake Jackson ecosystem, it will improve motorist safety and enhance the aesthetic character and public enjoyment of the area.

I congratulate the FDOT, elected officials, and all cooperating agencies in their current efforts to resolve the effects of U.S. 27 on Lake Jackson and strongly encourage the expeditious creation of a permanent ecopassage.

We are counting on you to help the people of Florida protect the environment upon which we all depend.

Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

Laurie Squire

Kostrzewa, Jack

From: greg.vickery@dot.state.fl.us
Sent: Monday, March 24, 2003 10:43 AM
To: sugarloafmt@msn.com
Cc: parwez@mail.co.leon.fl.us; barrettb@talgov.com; kostrzej@talgov.com;
edward.prescott@dot.state.fl.us; gene.martin@dot.state.fl.us; regina.battles@dot.state.fl.us;
jerry.jenkins@dot.state.fl.us; wehowell@pbsj.com; tommy.barfield@dot.state.fl.us;
mary.weekley@dot.state.fl.us; tommie.speights@dot.state.fl.us; Olivia.Youse@dot.state.fl.us
Subject: Support for Lake Jackson Ecopassage
Importance: High

Florida Department of Transportation
District Three Administration Building
Office of the District Secretary
Post Office Box 607
Chipley, Florida 32428-0607

Ms. Joyce A. Stefancic
Internet E-mail Address
sugarloafmt@msn.com

RE: U.S. 27 at Lake Jackson

Dear Ms. Stefancic:

I have received a copy of your recent letter requesting the Department to consider funding and constructing a permanent wildlife barrier along the subject facility north of Tallahassee. Thank you for the opportunity to provide assistance.

The issues noted in your letter were reviewed, and the following comments are provided for your reference. We suggest the County propose the barrier as a project for potential federal enhancement funding via the Tallahassee-Leon County Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO). The project must be prioritized by the MPO and included in their Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP) in order for the Department to pursue federal funding.

In conclusion, we look forward to partnering with Leon County, Tallahassee-Leon County Metropolitan Planning Organization, FDEP and other interested parties to accomplish a study to recommend the most appropriate design for this endeavor. Presently, we are in the process of developing all the pertinent agreements associated with beginning the study effort. We believe the enhanced relationships produced from this project will prove invaluable as we work together toward providing an efficient transportation system for the citizens of Leon County.

Thank you for your interest in transportation. If you have any questions concerning this matter, you may contact our office toll-free at 1-888-638-0250, extension 205.

Sincerely,

/s/ H. E. Prescott

H. E. Prescott, P.E.
District Secretary

Handled by:

Greg Vickery

Office of the District Secretary

Toll-free: 1-888-638-0250, extension 529

(850) 638-0250, extension 529

Suncom 767-1529

FAX (850) 638-6159 / Suncom 769-6159

mailto:greg.vickery@dot.state.fl.us

Kostrzewa, Jack

From: Humans Creations [humancreations@prodigy.net]

Sent: Saturday, June 26, 2004 7:16 PM

To: Winchester, Dan; Kostrzewa, Jack

Subject: Please Support Ecopassages!

Please do all you can to support the desperately needed systems of Ecopassages.

Not only will this help wildlife survive, it will also help humans by preventing accidents from people trying to avoid the animals and running into each other.

Ecopassages are the logical answer. They are the humane answer. Ecopassages are the right thing to do

I am in Missouri and wish we had them here. The carnage in some areas here is gruesome.

Please lend your support to this important project. Maybe if you all do this, my backward state will follow your example.

Remember, that "all evil needs to succeed is for good men to do nothing."

Sincerely,
Ms. D. Stötler

Kostrzewa, Jack

From: greg.vickery@dot.state.fl.us
Sent: Tuesday, September 24, 2002 11:35 AM
To: getien@aol.com
Cc: parwez@mail.co.leon.fl.us; barrettb@talgov.com; kostrzej@talgov.com;
edward.prescott@dot.state.fl.us; gene.martin@dot.state.fl.us; regina.battles@dot.state.fl.us;
jerry.jenkins@dot.state.fl.us; wehowell@pbsj.com; tommy.barfield@dot.state.fl.us;
mary.weekley@dot.state.fl.us; tommie.speights@dot.state.fl.us; Olivia.Youse@dot.state.fl.us
Subject: U.S. 27 at Lake Jackson
Importance: High

Florida Department of Transportation
District Three Administration Building
Office of the District Secretary
Post Office Box 607
Chipley, Florida 32428-0607

September 23, 2002

Ms. Georgia Tien
634 Iana Street
Kailua, Hawaii 96734

RE: U.S. 27 at Lake Jackson

Dear Ms. Tien:

I have received your recent e-mail, dated September 22, 2002, requesting the Department to consider funding and constructing a permanent wildlife barrier along the subject facility north of Tallahassee. Thank you for the opportunity to provide assistance.

The issues noted in your letter were reviewed, and the following comments are provided for your reference. We suggest the County propose the barrier as a project for potential federal enhancement funding via the Tallahassee-Leon County Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO). The project must be prioritized by the MPO and included in their Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP) in order for the Department to pursue federal funding.

We anticipate the construction cost of the barrier to total approximately \$250,000. However, a second letter received from Mr. Matthew Aresco, FSU Department of Biological Science, indicates the cost of the proposed project could potentially exceed \$3 million. Presently, we are exploring any alternative funding sources that could be applied to this type project.

Thank you for your interest in transportation. If you have any questions concerning this matter, you may contact our office toll-free at 1-888-638-0250, extension 205.

Sincerely,

/s/ H. E. Prescott

H. E. Prescott, P.E.
District Secretary

Handled by:

Greg Vickery

Office of the District Secretary

Toll-free: 1-888-638-0250, extension 529

(850) 638-0250, extension 529

Suncom 767-1529

FAX (850) 638-6159 / Suncom 769-6159

mailto:greg.vickery@dot.state.fl.us

-----Original Message-----

From: getien@aol.com

Sent: Sunday, September 22, 2002 12:58 AM

To: tom.barry@dot.state.fl.us

Subject: US Hwy 27 Ecopassage

634 Iana Street
Kailua, HI 96734
20 Sept. 02

Dear Thomas Barry, Jr., Secretary

I am writing to express my concern over the high wildlife mortality that occurs along the portion of US Highway 27 that crosses northwest Lake Jackson in Leon County, Florida. US Highway 27 is a virtually impassable migration barrier to turtles and other wildlife and the road mortality rate and attempted crossings here of turtles is higher than has been documented anywhere else in the North America. The loss of large numbers of adult turtles to road mortality is not sustainable and can lead to rapid depletion of populations that will ultimately undermine the proper functioning of the entire lake ecosystem.

I strongly support the creation of an ecopassage along the 3000-foot section of U.S. Highway 27 that crosses Lake Jackson. The ecopassage should consist of a series of wildlife underpasses connected by a set of wildlife guidewalls, similar to the system recently constructed at Paynes Prairie (near Gainesville, FL) on US Highway 441. Such a system would divert wildlife away from the travel lanes to safe passages beneath the highway. The ecopassage will not only make the highway safer for wildlife and protect the Lake Jackson ecosystem, but it will improve motorist safety (by reducing vehicle collisions with wildlife) and enhance the aesthetic character and public enjoyment of the area.

I am asking that you use your authority to secure funding for this worthy project. I am counting on you and the Florida Department of Transportation

to stop the unnecessary killing of Florida wildlife on US Highway 27 and help the people of Florida preserve Lake Jackson. Thank you for your attention to this important issue.

Sincerely,
Georgia Tien



Florida Department of Transportation

JEB BUSH
GOVERNOR

1074 Highway 90
Chipley, Florida 32428

THOMAS F. BARRY, JR.
SECRETARY

Post Office Box 607
Chipley, Florida 32428-0607

Ms. Kelsey Tinsman
The School of Arts and Sciences
3208 Thomasville Road
Tallahassee, Florida 32308

RE: U.S. 27 at Lake Jackson

Dear Ms. Tinsman:

I have received a copy of your recent letter requesting the Department to consider funding and constructing a permanent wildlife barrier along the subject facility north of Tallahassee. Thank you for the opportunity to provide assistance.

The issues noted in your letter were reviewed, and the following comments are provided for your reference. We suggest the County propose the barrier as a project for potential federal enhancement funding via the Tallahassee-Leon County Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO). The project must be prioritized by the MPO and included in their Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP) in order for the Department to pursue federal funding.

In conclusion, we look forward to partnering with Leon County, Tallahassee-Leon County Metropolitan Planning Organization, FDEP and other interested parties to accomplish a study to recommend the most appropriate design for this endeavor. Presently, we are in the process of developing all the pertinent agreements associated with beginning the study effort. We believe the enhanced relationships produced from this project will prove invaluable as we work together toward providing an efficient transportation system for the citizens of Leon County.

Thank you for your interest in transportation. If you have any questions concerning this matter, you may contact our office toll-free at 1-888-638-0250, extension 205.

Sincerely,

H. E. Prescott, P.E.
District Secretary

cc: Mr. Parwez Alam, County Administrator, Leon County
Mr. Gene Martin, P.E., District Director of Production, FDOT District 3
Ms. Regina Battles, P.E., District Environmental Management Engineer, FDOT District 3
Mr. Tommy Barfield, P.E., District Production Engineer, FDOT District 3
Ms. Jean Weekley, Urban Planning Office, Midway Operations, FDOT District 3
Mr. Tommie Speights, District Public Information Director, FDOT District 3
Mr. Greg Vickery, Administration, FDOT District 3

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Florida Department of Transportation

JEB BUSH
GOVERNOR

1074 Highway 90
Chipley, Florida 32428

THOMAS F. BARRY, JR.
SECRETARY

Post Office Box 607
Chipley, Florida 32428-0607

Mr. August Tripp
The School of Arts and Sciences
3208 Thomasville Road
Tallahassee, Florida 32308

RE: U.S. 27 at Lake Jackson

Dear Mr. Tripp:

I have received a copy of your recent letter requesting the Department to consider funding and constructing a permanent wildlife barrier along the subject facility north of Tallahassee. Thank you for the opportunity to provide assistance.

The issues noted in your letter were reviewed, and the following comments are provided for your reference. We suggest the County propose the barrier as a project for potential federal enhancement funding via the Tallahassee-Leon County Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO). The project must be prioritized by the MPO and included in their Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP) in order for the Department to pursue federal funding.

In conclusion, we look forward to partnering with Leon County, Tallahassee-Leon County Metropolitan Planning Organization, FDEP and other interested parties to accomplish a study to recommend the most appropriate design for this endeavor. Presently, we are in the process of developing all the pertinent agreements associated with beginning the study effort. We believe the enhanced relationships produced from this project will prove invaluable as we work together toward providing an efficient transportation system for the citizens of Leon County.

Thank you for your interest in transportation. If you have any questions concerning this matter, you may contact our office toll-free at 1-888-638-0250, extension 205.

Sincerely,

H. E. Prescott, P.E.
District Secretary

cc: Mr. Parvez Alam, County Administrator, Leon County
Mr. Gene Martin, P.E., District Director of Production, FDOT District 3
Ms. Regina Battles, P.E., District Environmental Management Engineer, FDOT District 3
Mr. Tommy Barfield, P.E., District Production Engineer, FDOT District 3
Ms. Jean Weekley, Urban Planning Office, Midway Operations, FDOT District 3
Mr. Tommie Speights, District Public Information Director, FDOT District 3
Mr. Greg Vickery, Administration, FDOT District 3

11 Other Word 2002 Lem/WILDLIFE BARBERS.d11.doc

July 2, 2004

To: Mr. Jack Kostrzewa, Acting Director
Leon County Planning Dept.

Dear Mr. Kostrzewa,

We are writing to express our support for Ecopassages.
What a wonderful idea to help save turtles in your county! If this plan is fully funded and carried out, hopefully it will be an encouragement to other states to follow this great example.

Sincerely,

Susan & Hubert van Wyck.

Susan and Hubert van Wyck

PO Box 1167

Washington, CT 06793



Florida Department of Transportation

JEB BUSH
GOVERNOR

1074 Highway 90
Chipley, Florida 32428

THOMAS F. BARRY, JR.
SECRETARY

Post Office Box 607
Chipley, Florida 32428-0607

Ms. Sue Wachtel
2808 Southpointe Lane
Tampa, Florida 33611

RE: U.S. 27 at Lake Jackson

Dear Ms. Wachtel:

I have received a copy of your recent letter requesting the Department to consider funding and constructing a permanent wildlife barrier along the subject facility north of Tallahassee. Thank you for the opportunity to provide assistance.

The issues noted in your letter were reviewed, and the following comments are provided for your reference. We suggest the County propose the barrier as a project for potential federal enhancement funding via the Tallahassee-Leon County Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO). The project must be prioritized by the MPO and included in their Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP) in order for the Department to pursue federal funding.

In conclusion, we look forward to partnering with Leon County, Tallahassee-Leon County Metropolitan Planning Organization, FDEP and other interested parties to accomplish a study to recommend the most appropriate design for this endeavor. Presently, we are in the process of developing all the pertinent agreements associated with beginning the study effort. We believe the enhanced relationships produced from this project will prove invaluable as we work together toward providing an efficient transportation system for the citizens of Leon County.

Thank you for your interest in transportation. If you have any questions concerning this matter, you may contact our office toll-free at 1-888-638-0250, extension 205.

Sincerely,

H. E. Prescott, P.E.
District Secretary

cc: Mr. Parwez Alam, County Administrator, Leon County
Mr. Gene Martin, P.E., District Director of Production, FDOT District 3
Ms. Regina Battles, P.E., District Environmental Management Engineer, FDOT District 3
Mr. Tommy Barfield, P.E., District Production Engineer, FDOT District 3
Ms. Jean Weekley, Urban Planning Office, Midway Operations, FDOT District 3
Mr. Tommie Speights, District Public Information Director, FDOT District 3
Mr. Greg Vickery, Administration, FDOT District 3

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Kostrzewa, Jack

From: ally ward [lilromeolover3@yahoo.com]

Sent: Monday, July 14, 2003 11:26 AM

To: KostrzeJ@talgov.com

Subject: Lake Jackson Ecopassage

From: Ally Ward

4187 High St

McFarland, WI 53558

Date: Monday, July 14, 2003

Dear:

Lake Jackson Ecopassage Project Manager
Tallahassee-Leon County Planning Department (MPO)
City Hall, 300 S. Adams Street
Tallahassee, FL 32301

I wish to express my enthusiastic support for the construction of a permanent ecopassage along U.S. 27 at Lake Jackson. The highway forms an impassable barrier to turtles, frogs, snakes, and other wildlife and negatively impacts the ecology of the lake ecosystem. The area has the highest documented road mortality and attempted crossings of turtles that has ever been recorded worldwide.

The ecopassage should span the entire lakefront and consist of a set of wildlife underpasses and guidewalls similar to the successful design utilized on Paynes Prairie. Such a system will divert wildlife away from the travel lanes to safe passage beneath the highway. The ecopassage will not only make the highway safer for wildlife and protect the Lake Jackson ecosystem, it will improve motorist safety and enhance the aesthetic character and public enjoyment of the area.

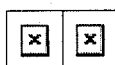
I congratulate the Florida Department of Transportation, Leon County, other elected officials, and all cooperating agencies in their current efforts to resolve the effects of U.S. 27 on Lake Jackson and strongly encourage the expeditious creation of a permanent ecopassage.

We are counting on you to help the people of Florida protect the environment upon which we all depend.

Thank you very much.

Sincerely,
Ally Ward

Ally Ward



Do you Yahoo!?
SBC Yahoo! DSL - Now only \$29.95 per month!

7/14/03

Kostrzewa, Jack

From: Nicole Walsh [nicole.walsh@aviary.org]
Sent: Tuesday, July 08, 2003 3:35 PM
To: KostrzeJ@talgov.com
Cc: turtles@lakejacksonturtles.org
Subject: Lake Jackson Ecopassage

Dear Secretary Abreu-

The proposed permanent ecopassage along U.S. 27 at Lake Jackson seems like the most basic and common sense action that anyone can take to save a part of Florida's diverse wildlife, not to mention making the road safer for travelers. Since the problem itself was manmade to begin with (i.e. constructing a busy highway to intersect a lake system teeming with wildlife), it only makes sense to invest the time and money to install a barrier to prevent further devastation of turtles, frogs, snakes, otters and other wildlife. Florida's economy is largely supported by tourism. I can't imagine anyone wanting their region to be known for having the "highest documented road mortality ever recorded worldwide" for turtles, or anything else, for that matter. Please show your support of Florida's already stressed wildlife populations by helping to correct the original lack of construction foresight.

Thank you for your concern in this matter, and any expeditious action you can take to ensure the creation of the permanent ecopassage.

Sincerely,

Nicole Walsh
2236 Hayson Avenue
Pittsburgh PA 15216

Nicole Walsh
Development Associate
National Aviary
Allegheny Commons West
Pittsburgh, PA 15212-5248
412-323-7235 x 220

To Whom it May Concern,

My name
is Charlie Watts. I am a 16 year old
male who also cares for and devotes
time towards the preservation of our
Earth's true natural resources... animals!
I live in Pensacola, Florida, where
everyday I try my best to save
endangered Florida Box turtles from
highway deaths. It sickens me
that others are not concerned about
this as much as I am. If I had
the money, I would spend 3.5
million dollars to build an ecopassage
in the Lake Jackson area, for I
know what will happen if we don't
decay of the earth. Turtles, frogs, alligators,
and other amphibious creatures are just as
important to this Earth as we are, whether
we like it or not, and it is our responsibility
as intelligent creatures to save those that don't
know better. Well I hope this helps, whether a
little or alot. I did my part, now
you do yours!

~~Charles~~
~~Charlie Watts~~

PLANNING DEPARTMENT
LAHASSE/LEON COUNTY

03 JAN 28 AM 10:23

RECEIVED



Florida Department of Transportation

JEB BUSH
GOVERNOR

Post Office Box 607
Chipley, Florida 32428-0607

1074 Highway 90
Chipley, Florida 32428

THOMAS F. BARRY, JR.
SECRETARY

October 22, 2002

Ms. Ellie Whitney
745 Hunter Street
Tallahassee, Florida 32303

RE: U.S. 27 at Lake Jackson

Dear Ms. Whitney:

I have received a copy of your recent letter, dated October 9, 2002, requesting the Department to consider funding and constructing a permanent wildlife barrier along the subject facility north of Tallahassee. Thank you for the opportunity to provide assistance.

The issues noted in your letter were reviewed, and the following comments are provided for your reference. We suggest the County propose the barrier as a project for potential federal enhancement funding via the Tallahassee-Leon County Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO). The project must be prioritized by the MPO and included in their Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP) in order for the Department to pursue federal funding.

In conclusion, we look forward to partnering with Leon County, Tallahassee-Leon County Metropolitan Planning Organization, FDEP and other interested parties to accomplish a study to recommend the most appropriate design for this endeavor. Presently, we are in the process of developing all the pertinent agreements associated with beginning the study effort. We believe the enhanced relationships produced from this project will prove invaluable as we work together toward providing an efficient transportation system for the citizens of Leon County.

Thank you for your interest in transportation. If you have any questions concerning this matter, you may contact our office toll-free at 1-888-638-0250, extension 205.

Sincerely,

so,
H. E. Prescott, P.E.
District Secretary

cc: Mr. Parwez Alam, County Administrator, Leon County
Mr. Gene Martin, P.E., District Director of Production, FDOT District 3
Ms. Regina Battles, P.E., District Environmental Management Engineer, FDOT District 3
Mr. Tommy Barfield, P.E., District Production Engineer, FDOT District 3
Ms. Jean Weekley, Urban Planning Office, Midway Operations, FDOT District 3
Mr. Tommie Speights, District Public Information Director, FDOT District 3
Mr. Greg Vickery, Administration, FDOT District 3

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JANET WILSON
9055 EAGLES RIDGE DRIVE
TALLAHASSEE, FL 32312
850-668-2782
E-MAIL: ROBJANWILSON@AOL.COM

Copy

August 1, 2003

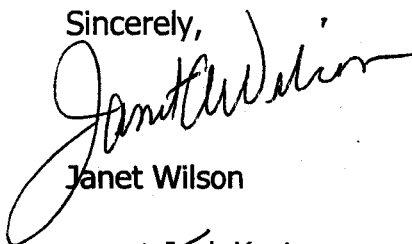
José Abreu
Secretary of Transportation
Florida Department of Transportation
605 Suwannee Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0450

Dear Mr. Secretary:

This letter respectfully requests your consideration to support funding for the construction of a permanent ecopassage along U.S. 27 at Lake Jackson. The highway forms an impassable barrier to turtles, snakes and other wildlife. Additional background information regarding the necessity of this ecopassage is available at www.lakejacksonturtles.org.

Thank you.

Sincerely,



Janet Wilson

cc: Jack Kostrzewa
Lake Jackson Ecopassage Alliance, Inc.

RECEIVED
03 AUG -5 AM 8:16
TALLAHASSEE/LEON COUNTY
PLANNING DEPARTMENT

From: Victoria Wagile

Date: August 4, 2003

To: Jack Kostrzewa

Dear Jack Kostrzewa:

I wish to express my enthusiastic support for the construction of a permanent ecopassage along U.S. 27 at Lake Jackson. The highway forms an impassable barrier to turtles, frogs, snakes, and other wildlife and negatively impacts the ecology of the lake ecosystem. The area has the highest documented road mortality and attempted crossings of turtles that has ever been recorded worldwide.

The ecopassage should span the entire lakefront and consist of a set of wildlife underpasses and guidewalls similar to the successful design utilized on Paynes Prairie. Such a system will divert wildlife away from the travel lanes to safe passage beneath the highway. The ecopassage will not only make the highway safer for wildlife and protect the Lake Jackson ecosystem, it will improve motorist safety and enhance the aesthetic character and public enjoyment of the area.

I congratulate the Florida Department of Transportation, Leon County, other elected officials, and all cooperating agencies in their current efforts to resolve the effects of U.S. 27 on Lake Jackson and strongly encourage the expeditious creation of a permanent ecopassage.

We are counting on you to help the people of Florida protect the environment upon which we all depend.

Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

Victoria Wagile (former resident of Florida for 21 years)

RECEIVED
03 AUG - 8 AM 8:09
PLANNING DEPARTMENT
LEON COUNTY

From: Amanda Williamson

190 Highland Drive

McDonough, GA 30253

Date: 07/07/03

To: Leon County Commissioners, State Agencies, and Legislators

To Whom It May Concern:

I wish to express my enthusiastic support for the construction of a permanent ecopassage along U.S. 27 at Lake Jackson. The highway forms an impassable barrier to turtles, frogs, snakes, and other wildlife and negatively impacts the ecology of the lake ecosystem. The area has the highest documented road mortality and attempted crossings of turtles that has ever been recorded worldwide.

The ecopassage should span the entire lakefront and consist of a set of wildlife underpasses and guidewalls similar to the successful design utilized on Paynes Prairie. Such a system will divert wildlife away from the travel lanes to safe passage beneath the highway. The ecopassage will not only make the highway safer for wildlife and protect the Lake Jackson ecosystem, it will improve motorist safety and enhance the aesthetic character and public enjoyment of the area.

I congratulate the Florida Department of Transportation, Leon County, other elected officials, and all cooperating agencies in their current efforts to resolve the effects of U.S. 27 on Lake Jackson and strongly encourage the expeditious creation of a permanent ecopassage.

We are counting on you to help the people of Florida protect the environment upon which we all depend.

Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

Amanda Williamson