



PUBLIC KICK-OFF MEETING  
– November 12, 2024

# NW 17<sup>th</sup> Ave PD&E Study



**Jimmy Morales**, Chief Operations Officer  
Office of Mayor Daniella Levine Cava





**Eileen Higgins**, District 5 Commissioner  
Chair of the Miami-Dade County  
Transportation, Mobility, and Planning  
Committee (TMPC)



**Misty Brown**, Chief of Staff to  
**Keon Hardemon**, District 3 Commissioner  
Miami-Dade County



# RECOGNITION OF PUBLIC OFFICIALS

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**Miguel Angel Gabela, District 1**  
Commissioner  
City of Miami



**Eulois Cleckley**, Director and CEO  
Department of Transportation  
and Public Works (DTPW)

### Presenters:

- **Yvette Holt** - *Public Involvement Consultant, Holt Communications, Inc.*
- **Gabriel Delgado, P.E.** - *Project Manager, Miami-Dade County Department of Transportation and Public Works - Highway Division*
- **Rick Crooks, P.E.** - *Consultant Project Manager, EAC Consulting, Inc.*
- **John Izquierdo, P.E., PTOE** - *Traffic Consultant, Gannett Fleming, Inc.*
- **Henri Sinson, P.E.** - *Bascule Bridge Consultant, Hardesty & Hanover, LLC.*
- **Nicole Carter** - *Environmental Consultant, Stantec, Inc.*



- Meeting Guidelines
- Project Overview
- Purpose and Need
- Existing Conditions
- Study Process and Timeline
- Environmental Considerations
- Public Involvement
- Question and Answer Session

**In an effort to maintain a safe and respectable forum, we ask that participants abide by the following during the designated Q&A portion.**

**Violators are subject to removal from the meeting.**

- All participants' microphones will remain muted, unless it is their turn to speak
- Raise hand to ask a question
- Profanity or inappropriate language will not be tolerated
- When speaking, be mindful of background noises
- Speaking time is limited to two minutes
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Property Owner/Tenant  
Notifications



Emails to  
project contact list



Miami-Dade County  
DTPW Project Website



Florida Administrative  
Register



Newspaper  
Advertisements



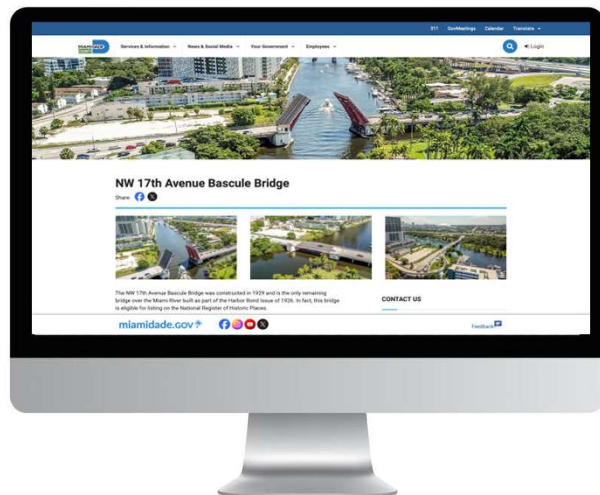
Social Media



# HOW TO VIEW PROJECT INFORMATION

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Today's Presentation and Additional information is available for review on the project website – <https://www.miamidade.gov/global/transportation/public-works/nw-17-ave-bridge.page>



SCAN HERE



## Miami-Dade County

Complies with various Non-Discrimination Laws and Regulations, including Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964

**Public participation at this Public Meeting is encouraged and solicited without regard to race, color, national origin, age, sex, religion, disability or family status.**

Persons wishing to express any concerns about Title VI may do so by contacting:

**Nathaniel Surrancy**  
[Nathaniel.Surrancy@miamidade.gov](mailto:Nathaniel.Surrancy@miamidade.gov)  
786-469-5405

**Melissa Scott**  
[Melissa.Scott@miamidade.gov](mailto:Melissa.Scott@miamidade.gov)  
305-375-4531

## **Federal-State Partnership**

### **FDOT's Office of Environmental Management as Lead Federal Agency**

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

## **State-County Partnership**

Interlocal Agreement between FDOT and Miami-Dade County and dated 12/12/23

Coordination with the Greater Miami Expressway Agency

## **United States Coast Guard (USCG)**

Cooperating Agency

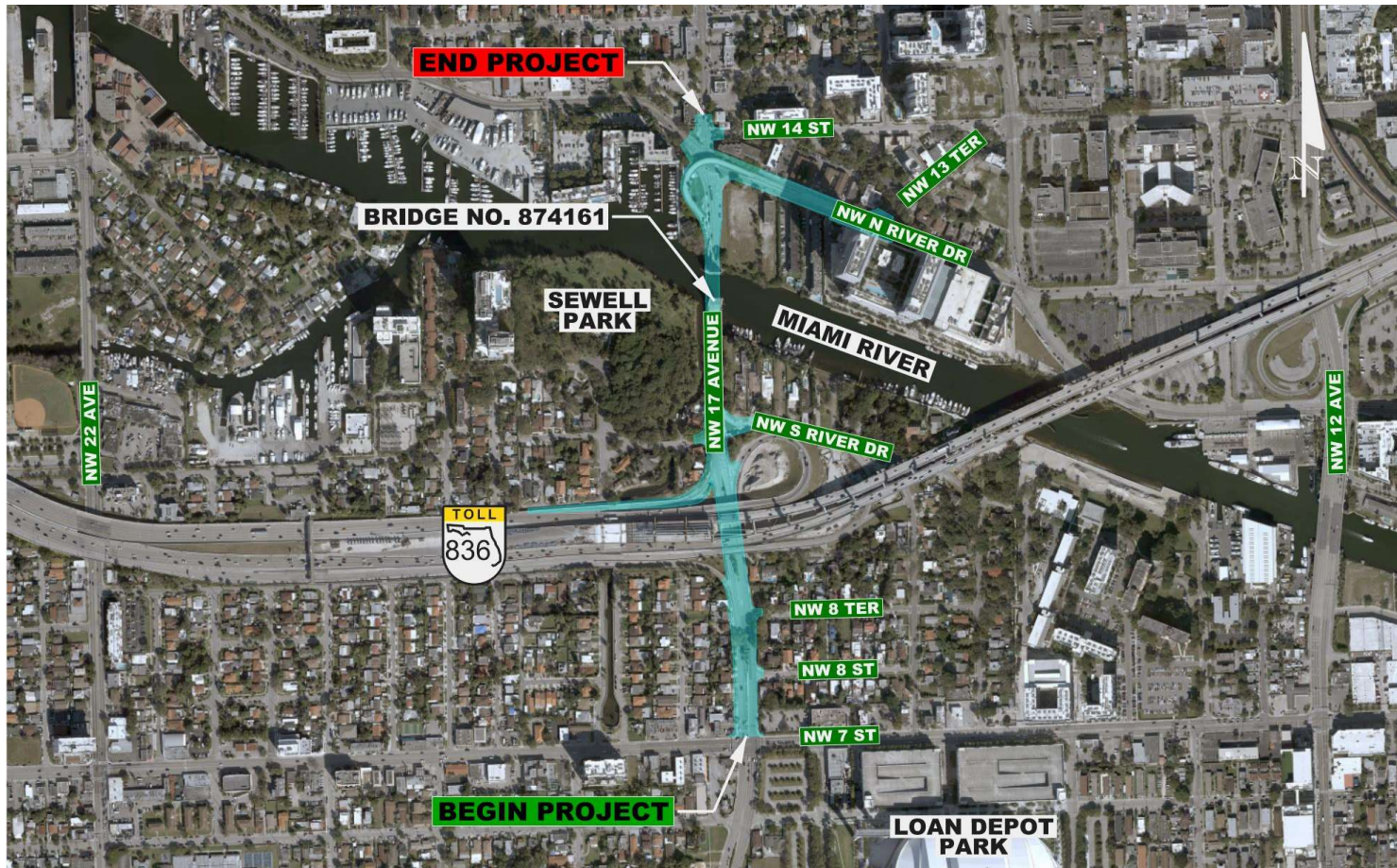
## **United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE)**

Participating Agency



# PROJECT LIMITS

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This project involves the potential improvements to the NW 17th Avenue Bascule Bridge over Miami River and the 0.5-mile segment of NW 17th Avenue extending north from NW 7th Street to NW 14th Street in the City of Miami, Miami-Dade County.

Also included is the entrance ramp to westbound SR 836/Dolphin Expressway from NW 17th Avenue, and NW North River Drive from NW 17th Avenue to NW 13th Terrace.

The bridge provides access to the westbound ramp of the SR 836/Dolphin Expressway, an emergency evacuation route. The bridge is also one of two access points from the south side of the Miami River to the Hospital/Civic District on the north side of the river between NW 17th Avenue and I-95.

## PURPOSE & NEED

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The purpose of the NW 17th Avenue Bascule Bridge over Miami River project is to **address its operational reliability** as well as **identified functional deficiencies through potential alternatives, such as replacement or rehabilitation**. Additional objectives are to **improve traffic** on NW 17th Avenue for all modes and improve navigational traffic on the Miami River.



### Roadway & Bridge Deficiencies

Improve Operational Reliability & Function



### Transportation Deficiencies

Accommodate Projected Travel Demand



### Modal Interrelationships

Improve Pedestrian, Bicycle & Navigational Traffic



### Safety

Improve Safety Conditions



# BRIDGE REPAIRS HISTORY

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Originally Constructed in 1928. The age and deteriorated condition of the bridge has resulted in continuous repairs to keep it operational.

## Recent Repairs

- 2007 - A major emergency rehabilitation closed the bridge for six months
- 2014 - An operational drive system failure closed the bridge for two months
- 2014 to 2023:
  - Two separate incidents with the hydraulic motors/planetary gearboxes
  - One incident with a hydraulic motor
  - A vessel strike on the control house side
- 2023 – North leaf counterweight emergency replacement closed the bridge for 9 months

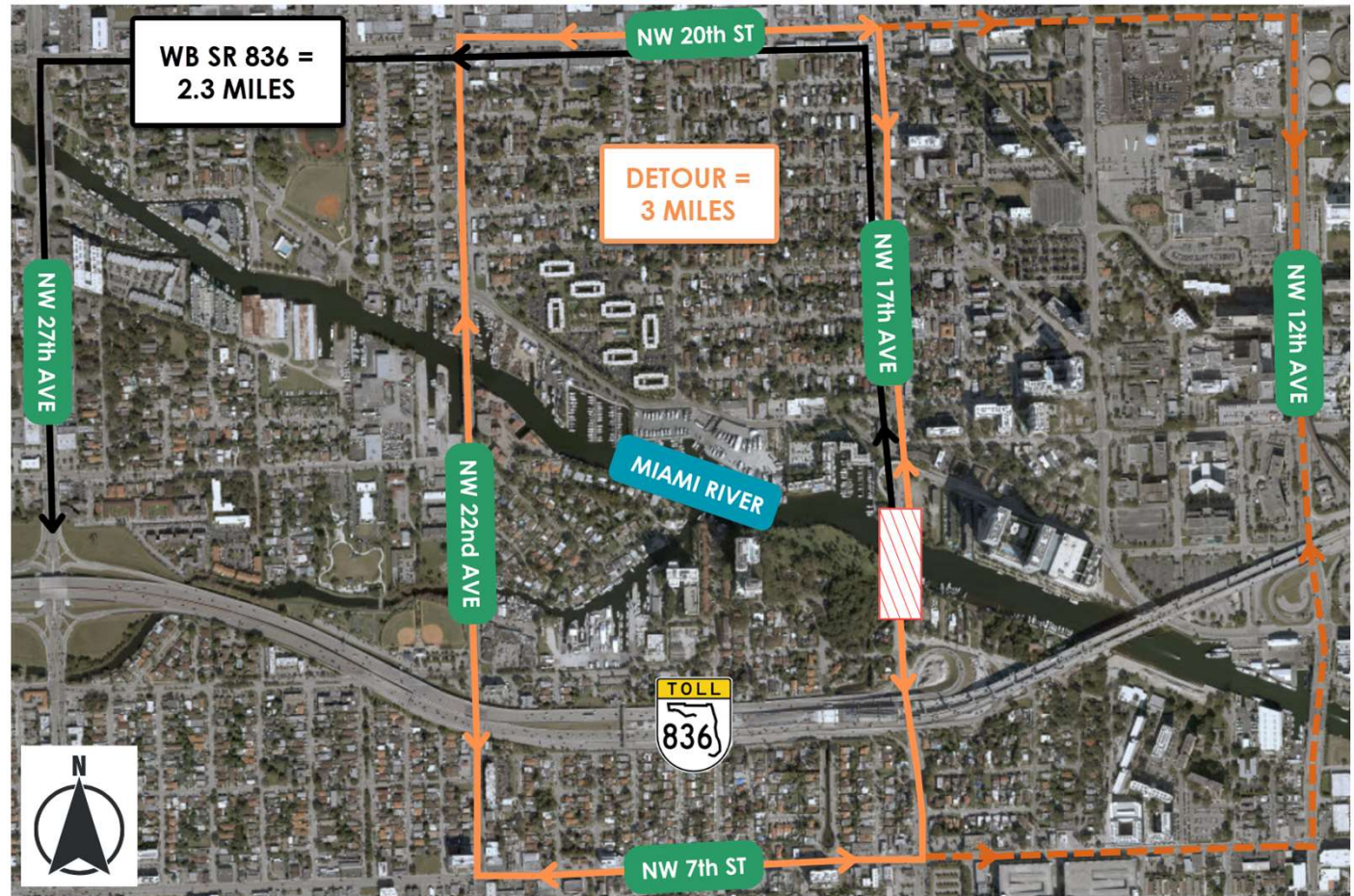




# BRIDGE CLOSURE DETOURS

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- Bridge closures result in significant detours due to the limited crossing of the Miami River and SR 836 WB Access
- The main detour routes are shown, but the entire roadway system is affected.
- The complete detour from one side of the bridge to the other is 3 miles.
- Pedestrians and bicyclists are particularly affected



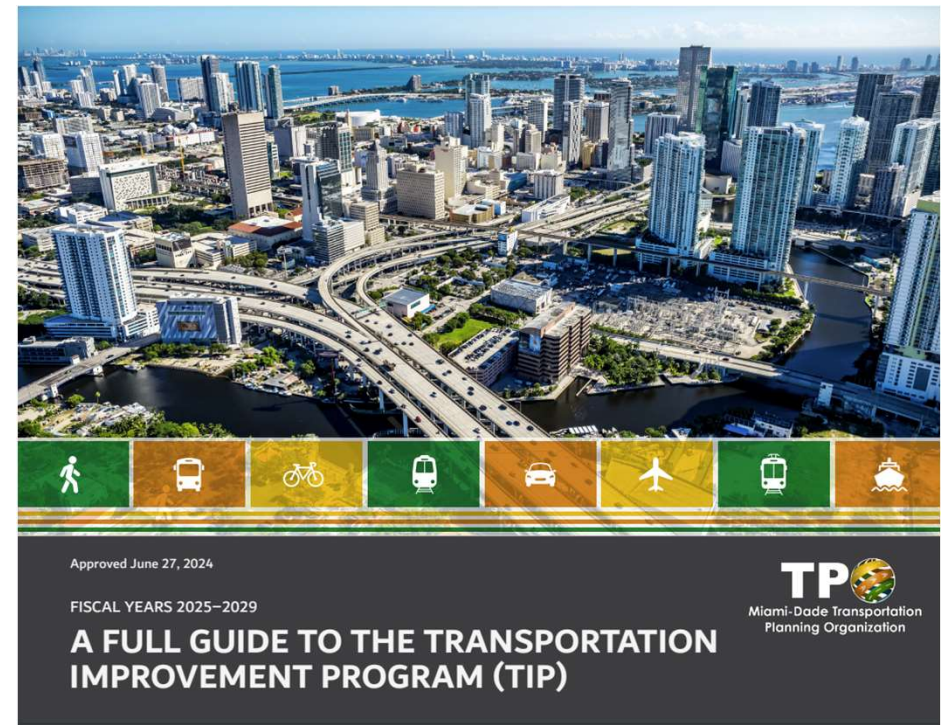
## PROJECT PRIORITY IN LOCAL & REGIONAL PLANS

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The project is included in the Miami-Dade Transportation Planning Organization's (TPO) 2050 Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) as a priority 1 project.

The project is listed in the Miami-Dade TPO's 2025-2029 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).

Local funding in the DTPW section of the TIP for PD&E, Design and Partial Construction totals \$12.114 million.





# SUFFICIENCY RATING

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NW 17<sup>th</sup> Ave Bascule Bridge Sufficiency Rating: 45.2  
(As of 1/31/2024)

## What is a Sufficiency Rating?

- A method established by the Federal Highway Administration to evaluate the health of a bridge.
- Ratings are used to help determine whether a bridge should be repaired or replaced.
  - Bridges with Sufficiency Ratings below 50 are eligible for Federal Highway Bridge Program funding as a replacement.
  - Bridges with Sufficiency Ratings between 50 and 80 are eligible for Federal Highway Bridge Program funding for rehabilitation

## A low Sufficiency Rating does not mean the bridge is unsafe

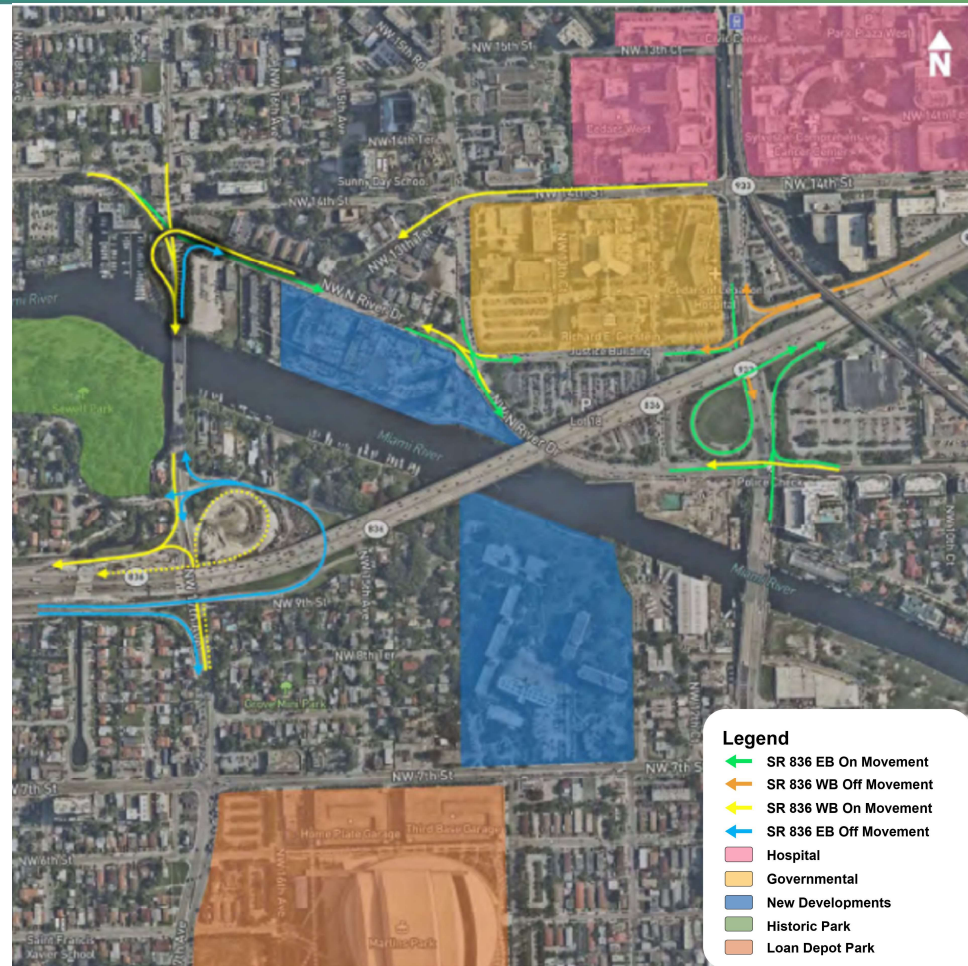
- NW 17<sup>th</sup> Ave Bridge's Functional Obsolescence contributes to its low sufficiency rating



## EXISTING CONDITIONS – TRAFFIC DEFICIENCIES

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The NW 17<sup>th</sup> Avenue and NW 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue interchanges operate as a complimentary pair, with NW 17<sup>th</sup> Avenue providing access to and from the west only, and NW 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue providing access to and from the east only. Because of this, traffic flows to/from SR-836 are dominant during peak daily periods.





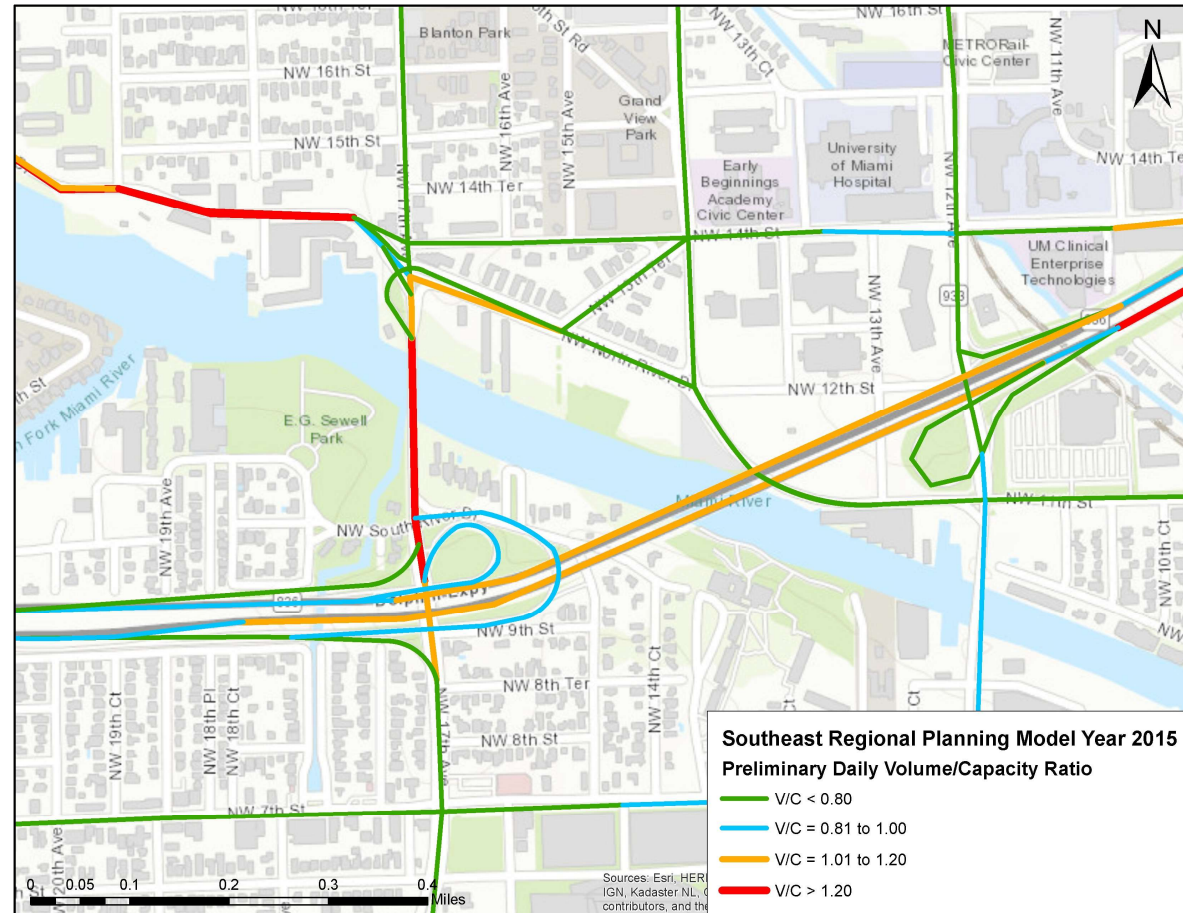
## EXISTING CONDITIONS – TRAFFIC DEFICIENCIES

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Southeast Regional Planning Model (SERPM), developed and adopted by Florida Department of Transportation, has the ability to model base year 2015 and future year 2045.

For base year 2015, the traffic near the NW 17th Ave bridge is already congested based on volume/capacity (V/C) ratios.

- Extremely Congested ( $V/C > 1.2$ )
  - NW 17th Ave Bridge
  - NW N River Dr west of NW 17th Ave
- Roadway Failure ( $V/C > 1.0$ )
  - SR 836
  - NW N River Dr east of NW 17th Ave
- Approaching Roadway Failure ( $V/C > 0.8$ )
  - SR 836 Ramps to 17th Ave
  - NW 12th Ave



## EXISTING CONDITIONS - ROADWAY

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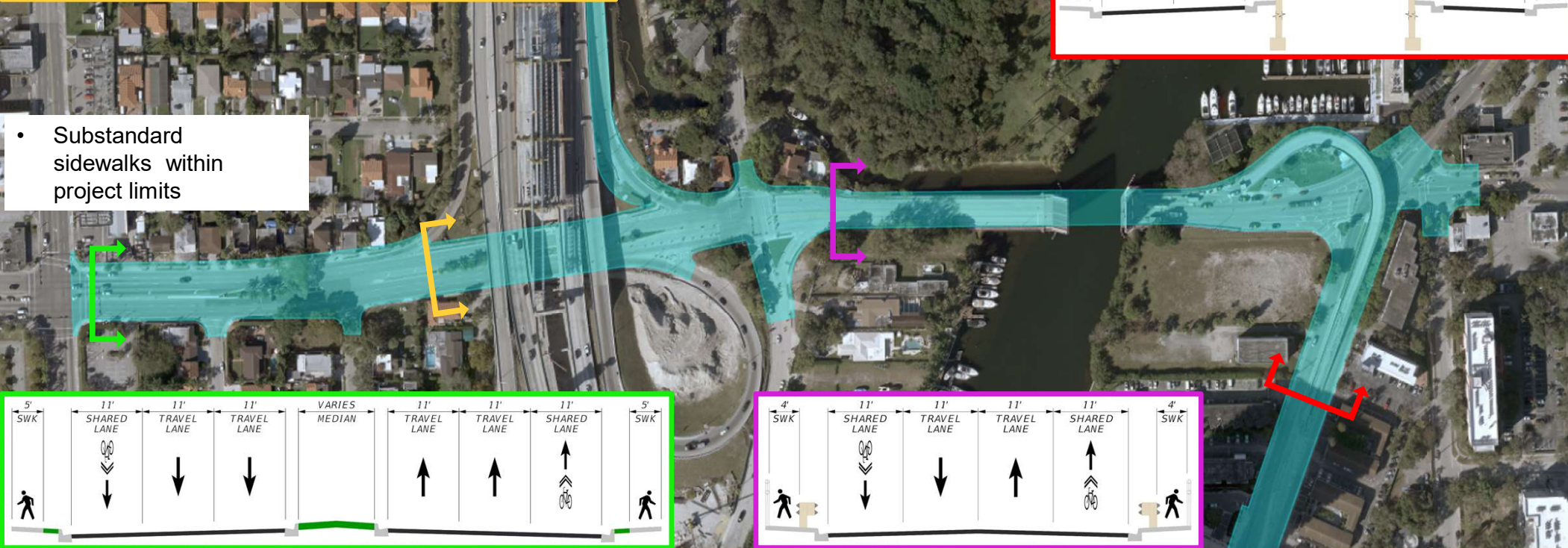
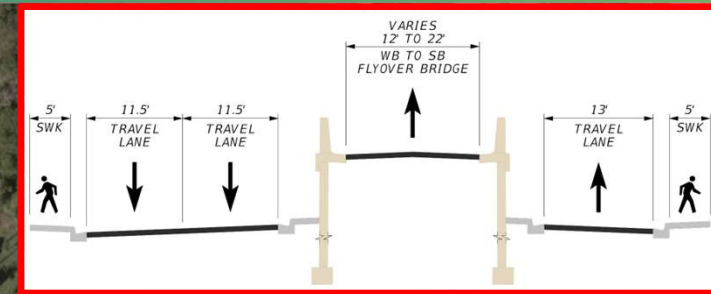
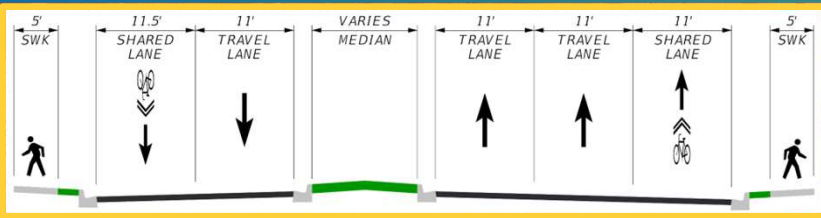
- An emergency evacuation route
- Provides access to SR 836 Expressway as well as the Hospital/Civic District



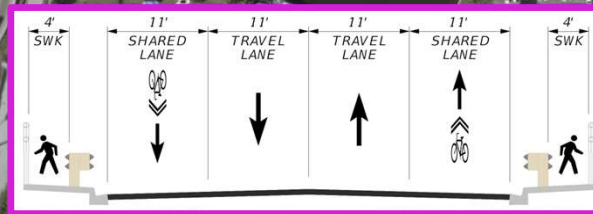
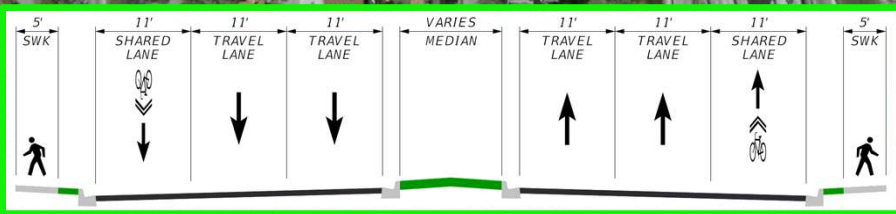


# EXISTING CONDITIONS - ROADWAY

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- Substandard sidewalks within project limits





# EXISTING CONDITIONS

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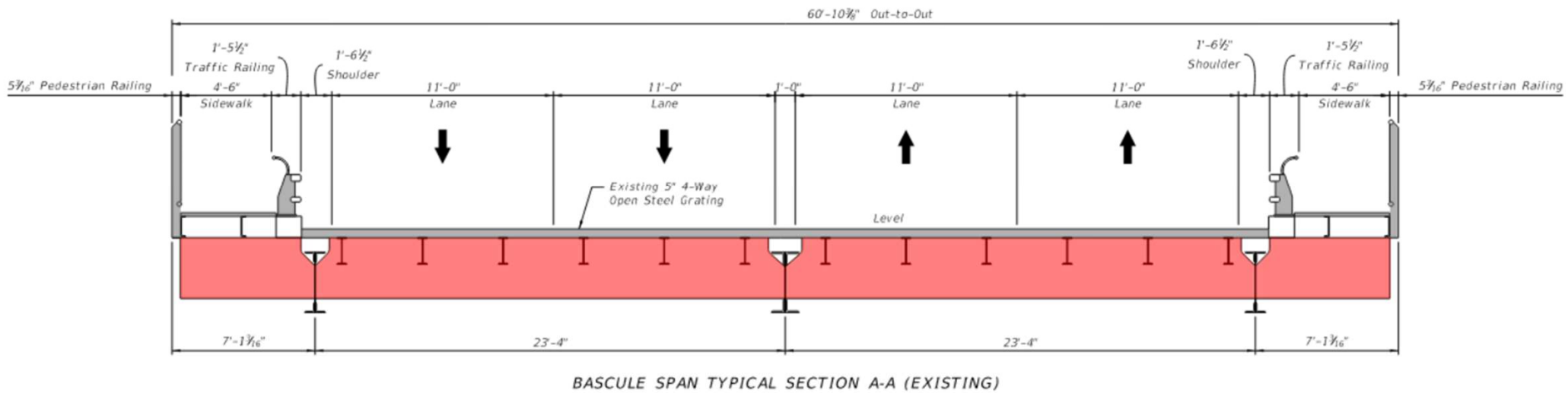
# EXISTING CONDITIONS

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# EXISTING CONDITIONS – TYPICAL BRIDGE SECTION

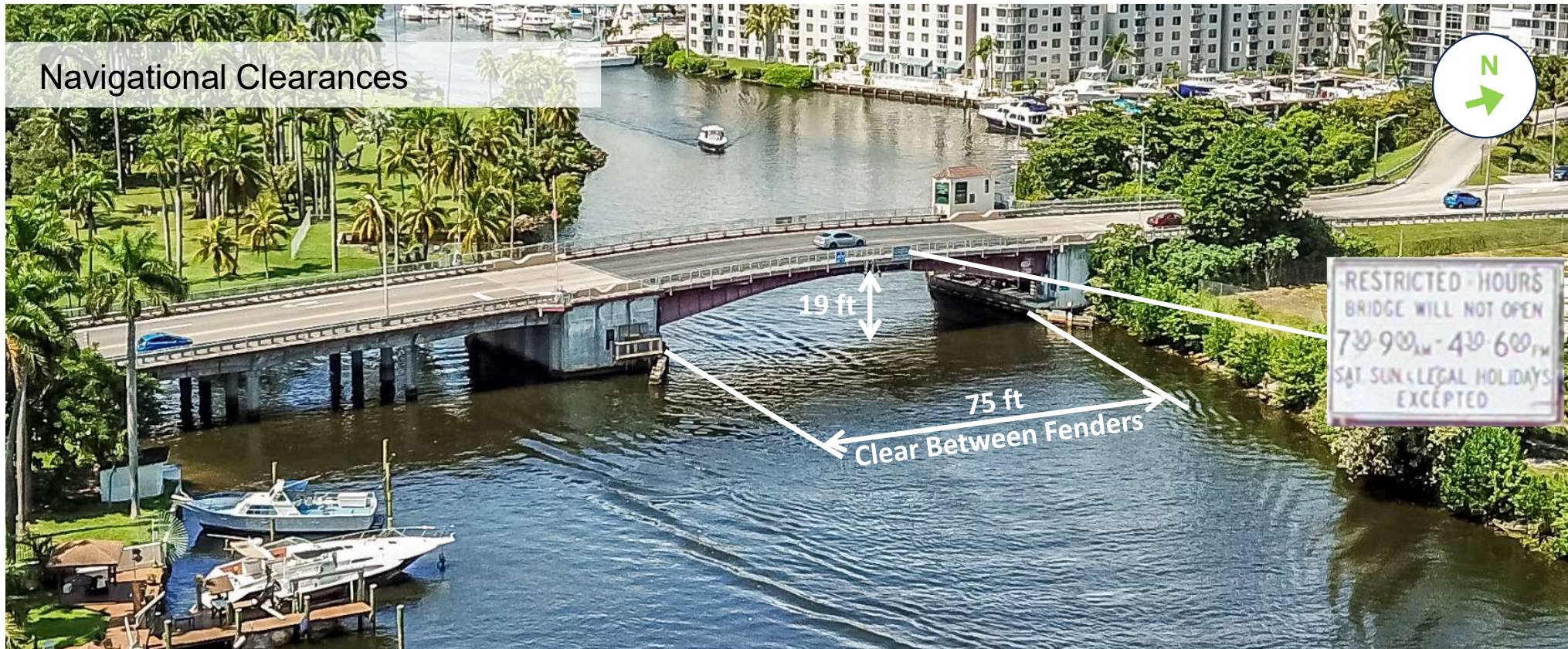
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# EXISTING CONDITIONS

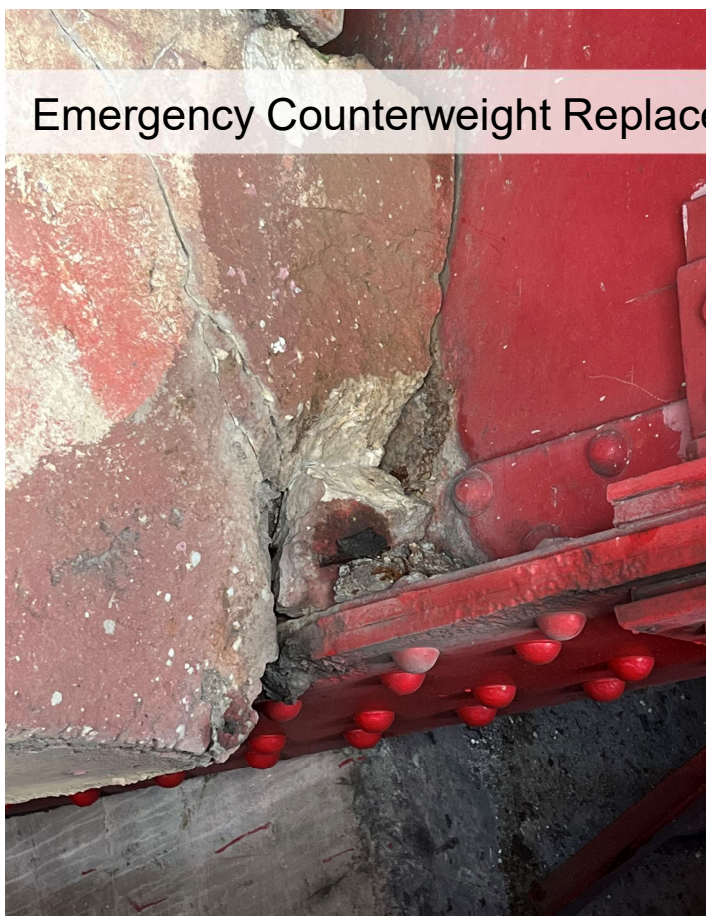
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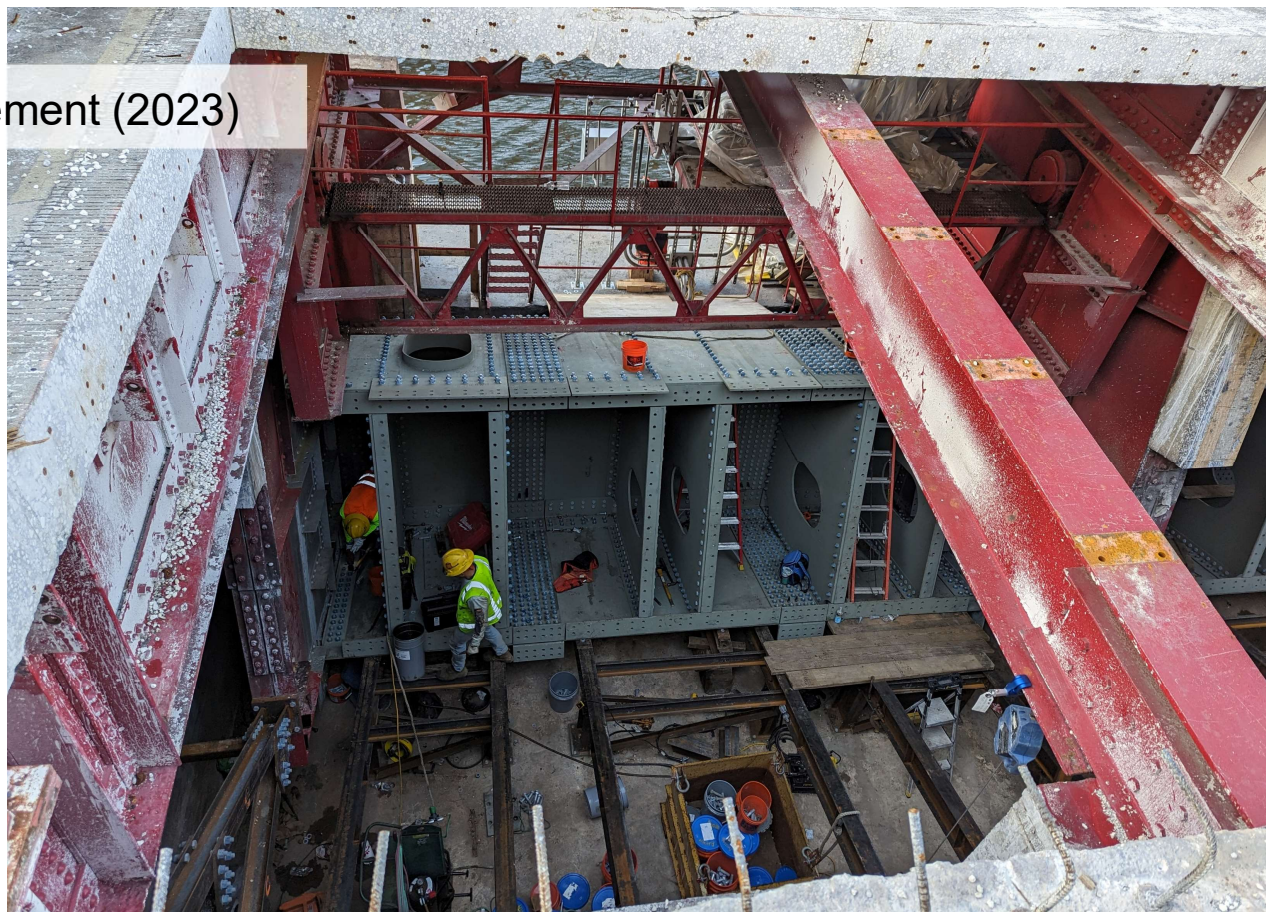


## EXISTING CONDITIONS

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Emergency Counterweight Replacement (2023)



# TRANSPORTATION PROJECT DELIVERY PROCESS

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.....▶ CONTINUOUS AGENCY & PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT .....

**PHASE 1**  
Planning

**PHASE 2**  
PD&E Study

**PHASE 3**  
Design

**PHASE 4**  
Right of Way  
Acquisition

**PHASE 5**  
Construction

**PHASE 6**  
Maintenance

WE ARE HERE

## **Evaluate:**

Engineering Alternatives

Environmental Impacts (Social, Cultural, Natural, & Physical Resources)

## **Comply with:**

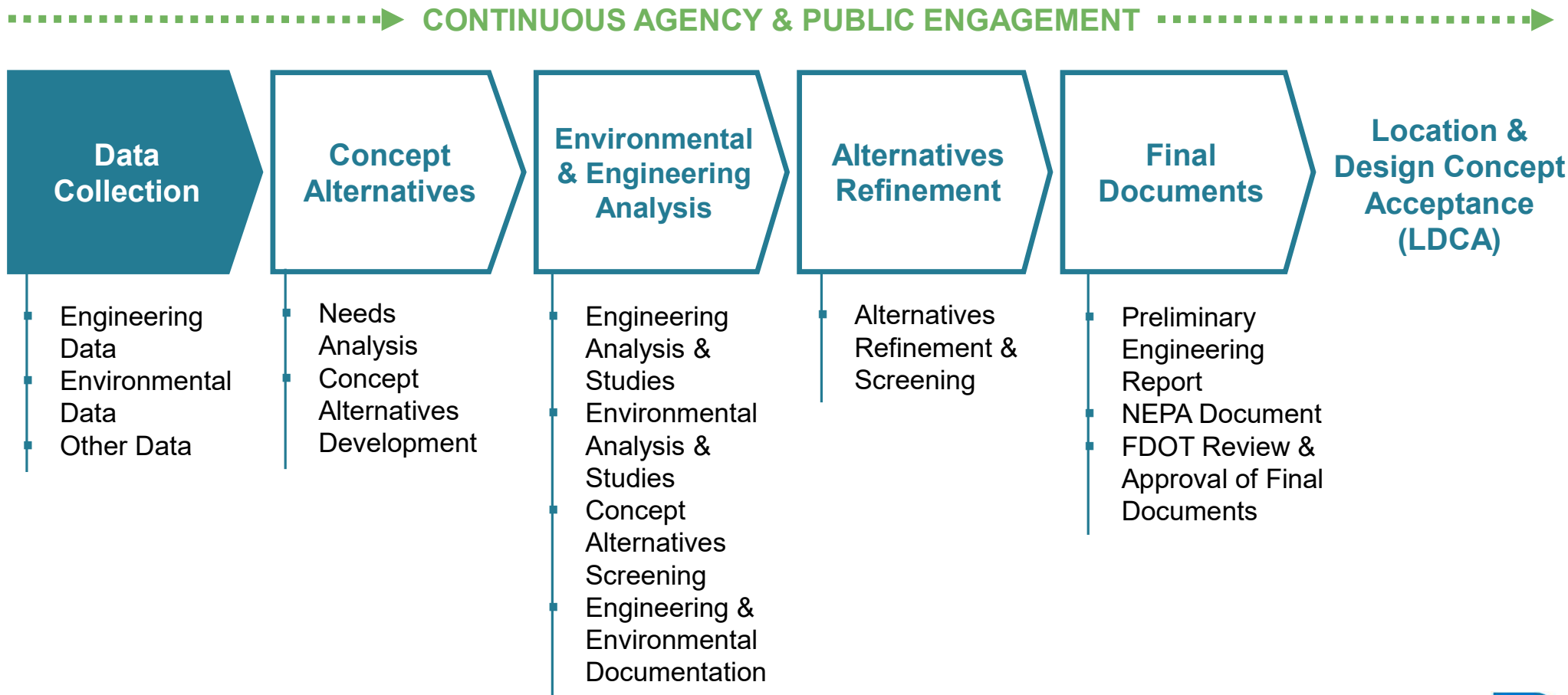
National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)

Federal & State Environmental laws

Requirements for Federal Funding

# PD&E STUDY PROCESS

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## No Action (or No Build) Alternative

- No improvements are made
- Serves as baseline for comparison of other alternatives

## Transportation System Management and Operations (TSM&O) Alternative

## Rehabilitation / Repair Alternative

- Serves as a baseline for comparison of the need to rehabilitate / repair to replacement alternatives

## Build Alternatives

- *Several Options to be explored*

## Alternatives Refinement

▼ Alternatives Development

▼ Alternatives Screening

▼ Alternatives Meeting

*Alternatives Presented to Public*

▼ Refine Alternatives

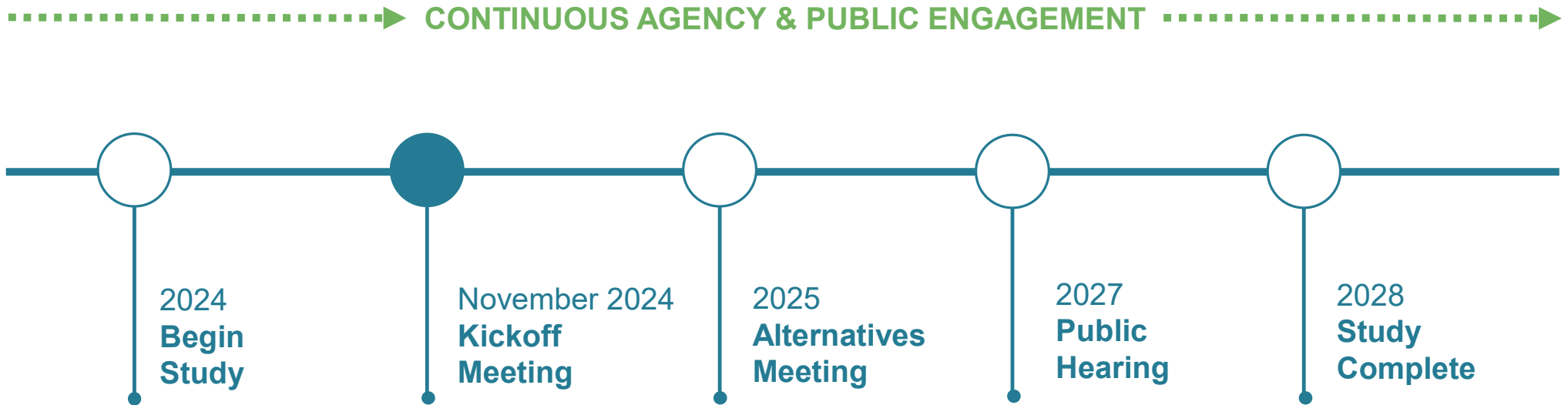
▼ Alternatives Development

▼ Public Hearing

*Preferred Alternative Identified*

# PROJECT TIMELINE

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# Environmental Considerations

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- Natural Resources
- Social Resources
- Physical Resources
- Cultural Resources
- Anticipated Class of Action: Environmental Assessment

*Efficient Transportation Decision Making Summary Table*

## Degree of Effect Legend

N/A	N/A / No Involvement
1	Enhanced
2	Minimal
3	Moderate
4	Substantial
5	Potential Issue

## Alternative #1

Published: 09/27/2024 Reviewed from 04/16/2024 to 05/31/2024)

Social and Economic							Cultural and Tribal			Natural					Physical					
Social	Economic	Land Use Changes	Mobility	Aesthetic Effects	Relocation Potential	Farmlands	Section 4(f) Potential	Historic and Archaeological Sites	Recreational and Protected Lands	Wetlands and Surface Waters	Water Resources	Floodplains	Protected Species and Habitat	Coastal and Marine	Noise	Air Quality	Contamination	Infrastructure	Navigation	Special Designations
2	1	2	1	2	2	N/A	3	3	2	3	3	3	3	3	3	2	3	3	3	3

# NATURAL RESOURCES

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## Wetlands & Other Surface Waters

Miami River

Lawrence Canal

Biscayne Bay Aquatic Preserve-  
Outstanding Florida Waters (OFW)

## Essential Fish Habitat

Spiny lobster and snapper-grouper  
complex

## Required Surveys

Florida bonneted bat survey

Benthic survey

Terrestrial survey

## Federal & State Protected Species and Habitats

American crocodile; Florida  
bonneted bat; Piping plover;  
Everglades snail kite; Eastern  
indigo snake; Sea turtles;  
Corals; Nassau grouper;  
Smalltooth sawfish; Giant  
manta ray

Wood stork Core Foraging  
Area

West Indian manatee Critical  
Habitat



## SOCIAL RESOURCES – COMMUNITY FEATURES

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### Religious Centers

New Apostolic Church

### Group Care Facilities

Camillus House, Inc.- Dormitory  
Lincoln Marti #14 Private School

### American Indian Lands & Native Entities

Embassy of the Miccosukee Tribe of  
Indians of Florida  
Miccosukee Caves

### Marinas & Parks

River Run Yacht  
Club and Marina  
Serenity On The  
River Marina  
Grove Mini Park  
Grove Park  
Sewell Park  
NW 16th Avenue  
Park



Lawrence Waterway and Sewell Park

*Sociocultural Effects Analysis will be conducted*

## Contamination Evaluation

Underground Storage  
Tanks

Hazardous Waste Sites

Potential Asbestos  
Containing Materials, Lead-  
Based Paint, or Metal  
Based

Phase I/Contamination  
Screening Evaluation will  
be conducted

## Noise Study

Moderate impacts are  
anticipated

Noise Study will be conducted

## Air Quality

Minimal impacts  
during project  
construction

Contamination



Florida Department of Transportation  
Copyright 2024

## **Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act is applicable**

- Cultural Resource Assessment Survey (CRAS), Effects Case Study, Consultation, Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) anticipated
- CRAS is currently underway
- Archaeological fieldwork has started
- Historic Resources Area of Potential Effects (APE) – Preferred Alternative influences the APE and number of resources to be documented

## **Known National Register Eligible and Listed Resources**

- NW 17<sup>th</sup> Ave Bridge
  - Part of the Harbor Bond Issue of 1926. The last remaining bridge constructed as part of this infrastructure effort.
  - Eligible for its historical associations with the Community Planning and Development of the City of Miami, and
  - Eligible in the area of Engineering as a historic bascule bridge and its Mediterranean Revival influenced design elements.
- NW North River Drive Flyover
  - 1969 Bridge Eligible in the area of Engineering as an early example of a reinforced continuous concrete boxed beam flyover bridge
- Grove Park Historic District (may be within or adjacent to APE; will have to determine based on alternative)

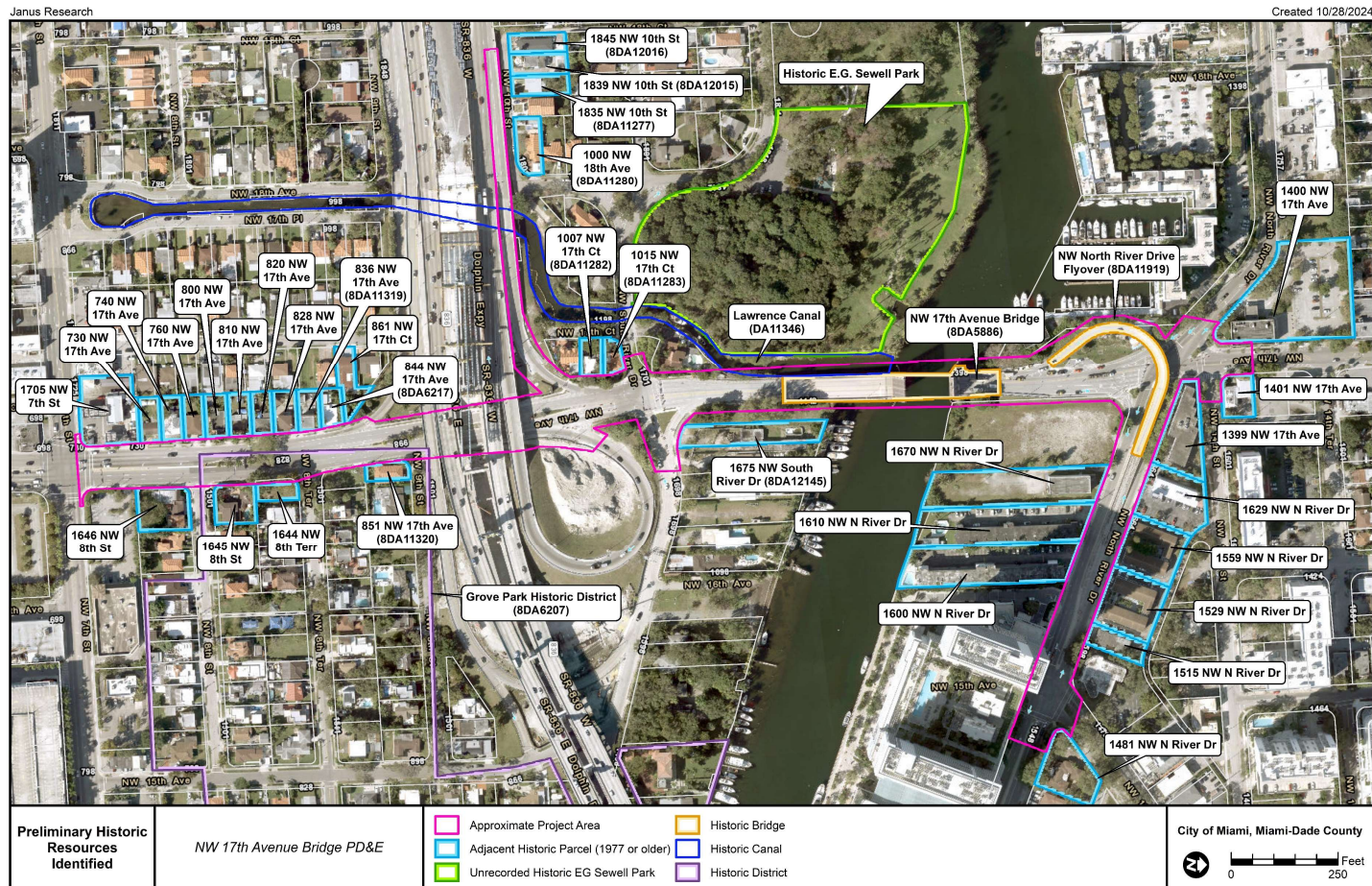
## **Section 4(f)**

- Park Impacts
- Historic Bridge Impacts - Likely Programmatic Evaluation



# PRELIMINARY HISTORIC RESOURCES MAP

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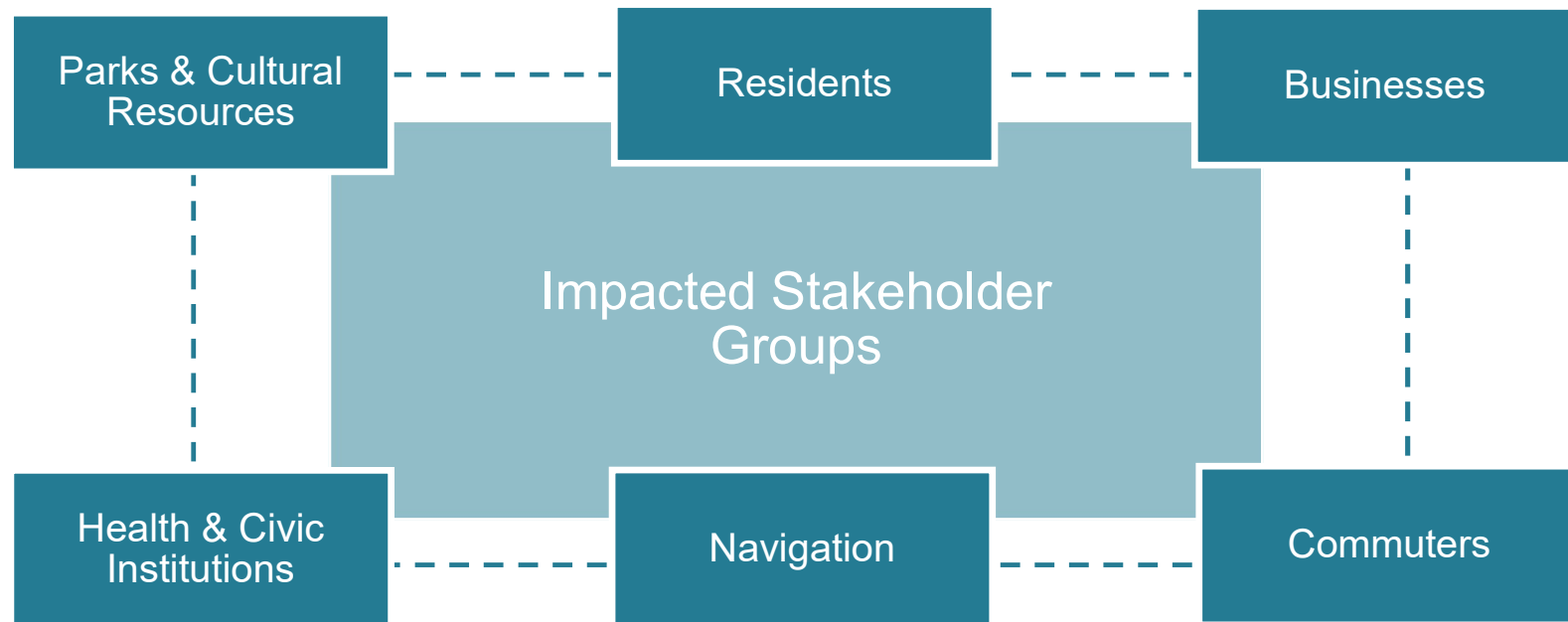
## GOAL

Execute comprehensive **proactive public involvement** that informs the public and provides opportunities for meaningful participation that gathers **feedback for the technical team** to consider as the potential project alternatives are developed.



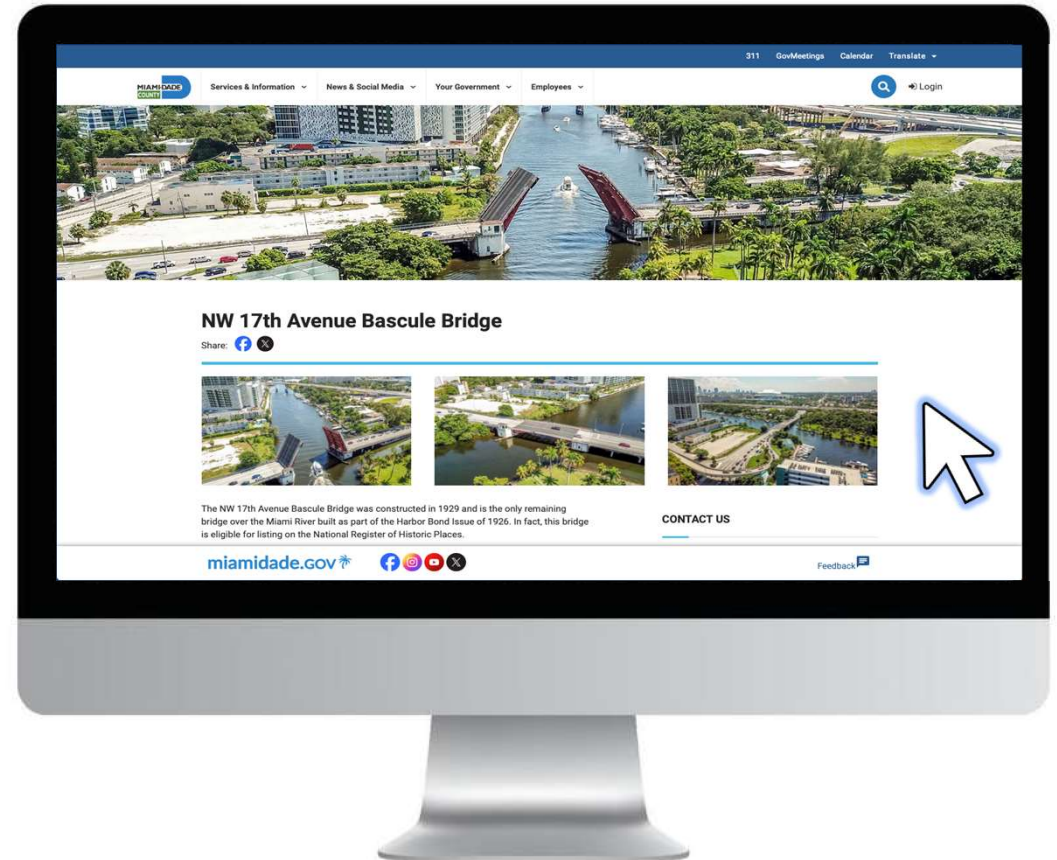
## KEY ISSUES

Historic significance of the Bascule Bridge and the Flyover Bridge  
Environmental and Navigational Impact to the Miami River  
Connectivity for residents, commuters, and emergency responders  
Mitigation of construction impacts



## Opportunities for Participation

- Public meetings, workshop, and a public hearing
- Small group presentations and one-on-one meetings
- Project Advisory Group (PAG) and Cultural Resource Committee (CRC)
- Email - [17AveBridgeStudy@miamidade.gov](mailto:17AveBridgeStudy@miamidade.gov)
- Phone - 786-714-2792
- Project Website:  
<https://www.miamidade.gov/global/transportation/public-works/nw-17-ave-bridge.page>





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### EMAIL

17AveBridgeStudy@miamidade.gov



### PHONE

786-714-2792

**Any additional questions or concerns?  
Email or call us!**



***PUT IT  
DOWN***

***FOCUS ON  
DRIVING***