

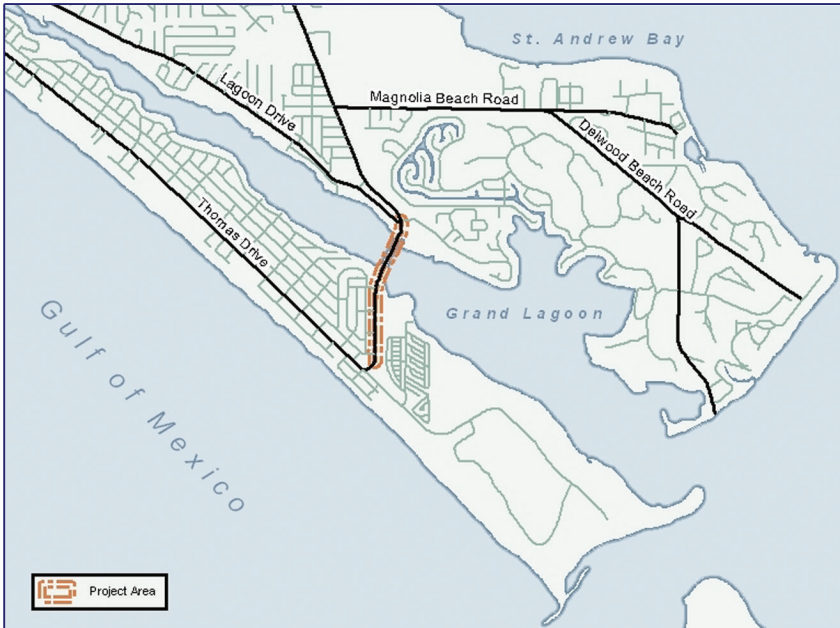


GRAND LAGOON PROJECT

Financial Project ID No. 415069-1-38-01 • Federal Aid Project No. BRF3 001 B
A FDOT Local Agency Program (LAP)



Funding for this construction project is from federal grants and the 2009 economic stimulus bill.



PROJECT LOCATION

The Grand Lagoon Project consists of, but is not limited to, the following:

- Complete removal of the existing bridge and associated approach slabs and seawalls
- Construction of a detour temporary truss bridge on the west side of the existing bridge
- Widen Thomas Dr. to a five-lane roadway from North Lagoon Dr. to Bristol St. with bike lanes and sidewalks
- Construction of a new 250-foot bridge that includes widening the waterway under the bridge to 218 feet

BRIDGE DESIGN

The bridge will feature the following:

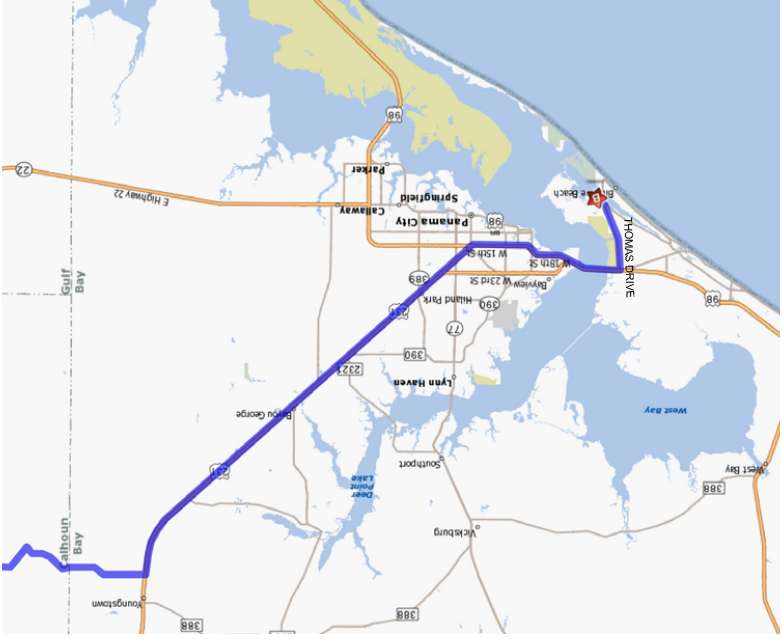
- Three span structure
- Five lanes
- Bike lanes
- Sidewalks
- Lighting under the bridge
- Built on the existing bridge footprint
- Horizontal navigation channel width of 69 feet and 4 inches



Grand Lagoon Project

Construction Contractor: C.W. Roberts Contracting, Inc.
Construction Engineers and Inspectors: Metric Engineering, Inc.

5550 North Lagoon Drive
Panama City Beach, FL





The Bay County Board of County Commissioners
cordially invites you to the
Grand Lagoon Project
Ground Breaking Ceremony

Thursday, October 1, 2009
10:00 a.m. Central Time
Captain Anderson's Restaurant
Captain's Room
5550 North Lagoon Drive
Panama City Beach, FL

R.S.V.P. to Lynn Cherry
lcherry@cdc-s.com or
(850) 215-4651



PRESS RELEASE

Sept. 28, 2009

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lcherry@cdc-s.com

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

POST OFFICE BOX 1818
PANAMA CITY, FL
32402

COMMISSIONERS:

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COUNTY MANAGER

Grand Lagoon groundbreaking to be held Thursday

Bay County will host a groundbreaking ceremony for the Grand Lagoon project at 10 a.m. Thursday, October 1, 2009 at Captain Anderson's Restaurant, Captain's Room. General comments will occur inside the restaurant followed by the traditional ground breaking outside.

Funding for this construction project is from a federal grant and the 2009 economic stimulus bill.

"We are thrilled to begin this long anticipated project," said Bay County Commission Chairman Jerry Girvin.

The eighteen month Grand Lagoon project includes a new 250-foot bridge, which includes widening the waterway under the bridge to 218 feet. The project will also widen Thomas Drive to a five-lane road from North Lagoon Drive to Bristol Street.

At the bridge center span, the maximum navigation channel width is 72 feet between the piers. The new bridge is a three-span structure and features two northbound lanes, two southbound lanes, bike lanes, and sidewalks.

Traffic will be rerouted to a temporary two-lane bridge on the west side of the current bridge. The construction sequence will be scheduled to minimize traffic delays and the economic impact on Panama City Beach's tourist season. Capacity and access to businesses and residences will be maintained to the extent that is practical through controlled construction scheduling.

The improved bridge and roadway will drain by a combination of closed and open drainage systems with water quality treatment provided in roadside swales and exfiltration pipes. A drainage swale to accommodate stormwater will be placed along the east side of the roadway between Beach Drive and Trelawney Avenue.

The road widening and bridge construction has already begun with relocation of Gulf Power utilities.

Grand Lagoon Ground Breaking Agenda and Commissioner Girvin Script

Agenda

10:00 – 10:10	Welcome and introduction of elected officials	Chairman Girvin
10:10 – 10:15	Secretary of the FDOT Stephanie Kopelousos	
10:15 – 10:20	Jerry Smithwick representing Congressman Boyd	
10:20 – 10:25	Representative Jimmy Patronis	
10:25 – 10:30	General Thank you's	Chairman Girvin
10:30 – 10:35	Closing Comments	Chairman Girvin

Chairman Girvin Script

10:00 – 10:10	Welcome and introduction of elected officials	Chairman Girvin
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Commissioner Girvin Comments: Welcome and thank you for being here. My name is Jerry Girvin and I have the distinct honor as serving as your Chairman of the Bay County Commission. The project that brings us together today has been a long time in coming. There are many citizens and groups who have been working on a new bridge for Grand Lagoon for several years. We applaud their efforts and are thankful for their steadfastness.

I would like to introduce our elected officials present.

(They wave their hand and don't speak.)

- Those serving on the Bay County Commission
 - Mike Nelson, District 1
 - George Gainer, District 2
 - Bill Dozier, District 3
 - Mike Thomas, District 5
- Representative Jimmy Patronis
- Jerry Smithwick representing Congressman Allen Boyd
- Gayle Oberst, Mayor of Panama City Beach
- Any that I missed?
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

Other distinguished guest includes:

- Secretary of the FL DOT Stephanie Kopelousos
- Ed Smith - Bay County Manager
- Richard Jackson – Panama City Beach City Manager
- (Note possible ARRA Representative coming with FDOT)
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

This is a \$15 million construction project funded from several federal grants and the 2009 economic stimulus bill. This funding will allow us to have wider lanes, side walks, bike lanes, and open Grand Lagoon’s navigational channel. This is indeed a great project and we are excited to get things started.

Now I would like to introduce the Secretary of the FL Department of Transportation of Stephanie Kopelousos

As Secretary Kopelousos makes her way up here; I would like to express our appreciation for her relentless support for this project.

- Secretary Kopelousos was appointed Secretary of the Florida Department of Transportation in 2007.
- She brings more than a decade of professional experience in state and federal public policy with an emphasis in transportation.
- She served in several capacities prior to becoming Secretary. She was FDOT's Chief of Staff providing strategic direction and day-to-day management of the agency since 2005.
- She was a really good friend to Bay County when she served as the primary federal liaison for the Florida Departments of Transportation and Community Affairs in Washington, D.C. from 2001 to 2005.
- She was a Legislative Assistant to Congresswoman Tillie Fowler, representing Florida's 4th District where she concentrated on transportation and emergency management policy.
- Ladies and Gentleman I give you Secretary Kopelousos

10:10 – 10:15 Secretary Kopelousos

Commissioner Girvin Comments: Thank Secretary Kopelousos for her comments and introduce Jerry Smithwick. Due to Congress being in session, Congressman Allen Boyd is not able to be here. However, Jerry Smithwick, his legislative aide and right hand man is here. I would like to ask Jerry to come forward and share with us a few words on behalf of Congressman Boyd.

10:15 – 10:20 Jerry Smithwick

Commissioner Girvin Comments: Thank Jerry for his comments and introduce Representative Jimmy Patronis. Representative Patronis played an active role; without his guidance and assistance the project may have never occurred. Now I would like to introduce District 6 State House of Representative Jimmy Patronis.

10:20 – 10:25 Representative Jimmy Patronis

Commissioner Girvin Comments: Thank Representative Jimmy Patronis for his comments.

10:25 – 10:30 General Thank you's Chairman Girvin

Commissioner Girvin Comments: As you can imagine this project was made possible by the time and talent of many. Some are here today. I would like to recognize those who played a key role in helping the county get here today and those who will help carry the project forward.

- Lyn Banks – Representing the Friends of Grand Lagoon and for their active role in supporting this project
- Bay County Chamber of Commerce
- Mark Lauckner and Kathryn Ortaga – Parsons Brinckerhoff
- FL Department of Transportation District 3
- George Roberts – C.W. Roberts Contracting
- Doug Cauley – Metric Engineering
- Bay County Public Works Department

10:30 – 10:35 Closing Comments Chairman Girvin

Commissioner Girvin Comments: We are now ready to proceed with the road widening and bridge construction. C.W. Roberts Contracting Company will serve as the contractor and Metric Engineering will serve as the construction engineers and inspectors. There is a hand out available today that provides an overview of the project. A web site for the project will be developed to keep area residents and businesses informed of the construction progress.

In just a few minutes we will adjourn and proceed outside for the traditional ground breaking shovel pictures. We will go back behind the building and near the road for pictures.

Thank you Patronis family for opening up the restaurant and providing this lovely space to us.

Thank you once again for celebrating the construction of Grand Lagoon bridge and road widening project.