

# NEWS



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## **Glynn County Board of Commissioners Facilitates Compromise with Little Buffalo Creek Bridge Replacement**

**Glynn County, GA** – The Glynn County Board of Commissioners (BOC) has received word from the Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) that a change has been made in the plans for the State Route (SR) 32/99 Little Buffalo Creek Bridge Replacement project. Following a Public Information Open House on April 9 and an online appeal for community feedback, GDOT has responded by incorporating a temporary on-site detour bridge into the project plans.

Commissioners Clark, Neal, Rafolski and Tostensen have been actively seeking an alternative solution to the original project plan that called for a 27.2-mile offsite detour for approximately nine months during construction. They attended the open house and met with GDOT officials following the project announcement. Public safety response time, school bus routes, and hardship on the current residents were listed as concerns for the planned detour.

“We listened to the voices of our citizens. Their concerns encompassed various critical issues, including school bus routes, economic impacts, emergency services, and evacuation routes during hurricanes,” emphasized Commissioner Walter Rafolski.

GDOT acknowledged the need to “ensure traffic remains open and uninterrupted during the project's construction phase” in a letter to the BOC. They will also be considering the environmental footprint of the project as they continue the planning process.

BOC Chairman Wayne Neal expressed satisfaction with the resolution saying, “I am very pleased with the new direction GDOT is taking for the detour. This was a combination of our community, our public safety officials and the Board of Commissioners working together to find a solution that meets the needs of the residents and commuters.”

The State Route (SR) 32/99 at Little Buffalo Creek project is proposed to replace the existing bridge to meet current design standards for load-carrying capacity. Construction is slated to begin in 2027.

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