

# RPC Freight Roundtable



**Regional Planning Commission**  
October 2015

# Highlight on RPC Freight Projects

- & Florida Bridge and Roadway
- & Port of St. Bernard Proposed Access Road
- & I-12 @ US 51 Interchange
- & US 90 Ramp Improvements
- & Ramp Metering Improvements

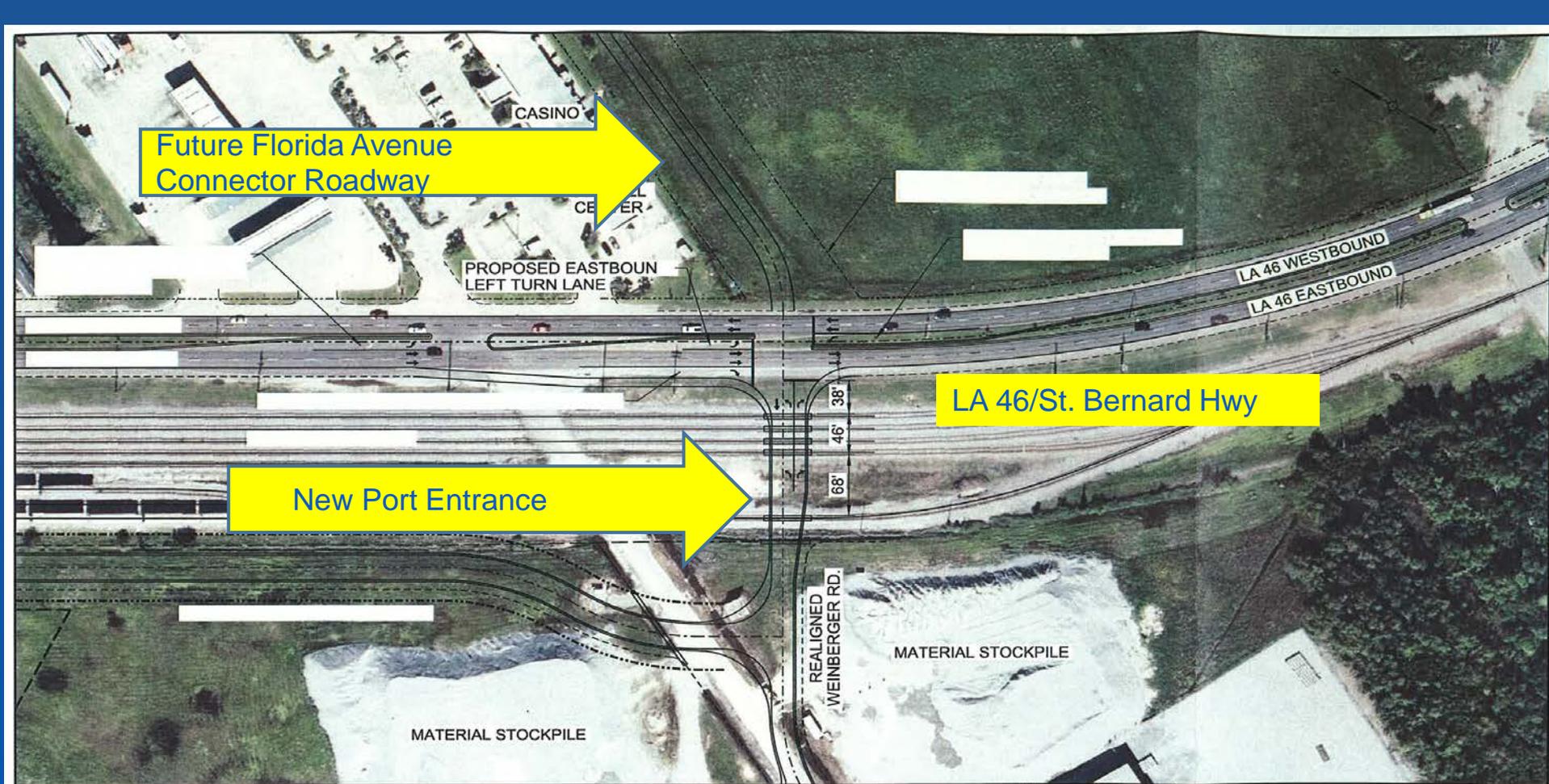
# Florida Avenue Bridge/ Extension



- TIMED Program Original Funding
- Elysian Field to Paris Rd.
- DOTD negotiating fees with Arcadis for Environmental Review (EA/EIS)

## Florida Avenue Bridge/Extension

# Port of St. Bernard Access Roadway



Aligns with new Florida connector



# Port of St. Bernard







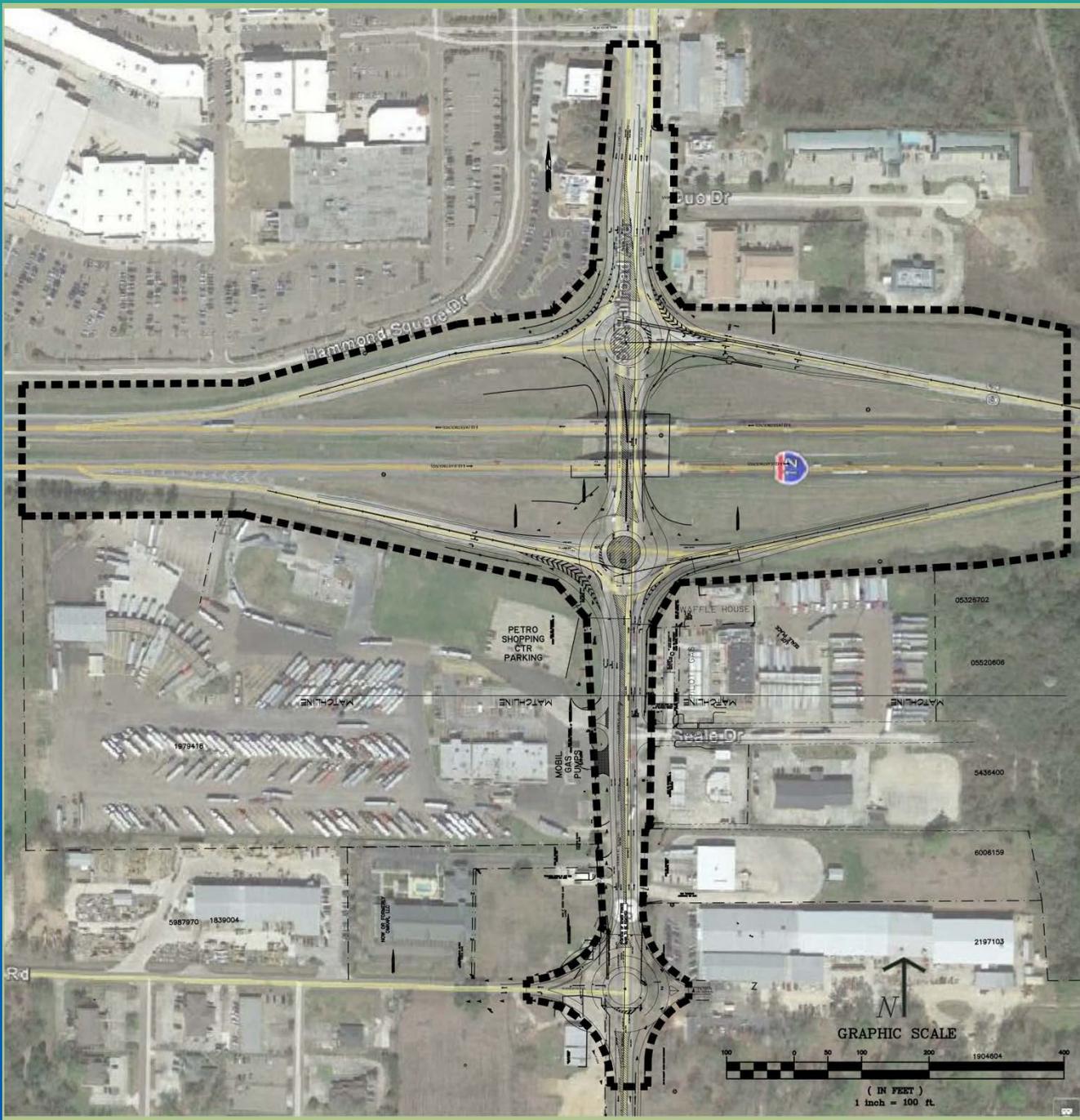




- In-Design (AECOM)
- 2017-18 Construction
- \$1.5M

Port of St. Bernard Access Rd.

# I-12 @ US 51 Interchange Improvements





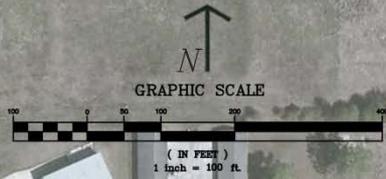


Truck Apron Should Be Different Color Material than Adjacent Planting

Club Deluxe Drive

HWY 51 Round-A-Bout with Art Centerpiece

Splitter Island Planting 30" Max Height at Maturity



## CONCEPT STATEMENT

Envision and create a comprehensive plan that addresses the entire visual environment of the Interstate interchange. The plan should be bold in its approach, creative, and developed to showcase Hammond's Arts, History, Culture, and Progressiveness.

We feel that to develop a truly comprehensive master plan, the project must go beyond just a "landscape" treatment of the area. There are many other design considerations that we must explore in planning the new interchange environment, such as:



### Color

Most interchanges are devoid of color, as is ours in Hammond. The addition of landscaping will add seasonal color, but it must be taken further to introduce color year-round. The installation of art that employs bold colors, as well as the possibility of painting the horizontal overpass support beams....or how about painting murals on the sloped concrete embankments beneath the overpass bridges. New Mexico overpasses do both and with great success, why can't we?



### Landmarking

The use of appropriately scaled art will serve in "landmarking" the interchange. Examples throughout the US show properly scaled modern art used as landmarking.

### Texture

The introduction of materials into the design should be chosen to add texture to the visual environment....stamped/colored concrete at the round-a-bouts will create texture and define areas as different uses. The addition of low walls and the types of materials chosen will create "texture". For instance, the addition of "trellis" like attachments to the bridges or bridge supports with colorful vines would mimic the great bridges of the Northeast. Creative employment of materials can add another layer to the visual environment, and help create a unique sense of place.



### StoryTelling

In New Mexico, the DOT employs artistic shapes (stair-step designs taken from Native American weavings) and geometry along with other Native American symbolism to fix a place in your memory. We can employ this through careful identification of our local history and heritage.



### Lighting

Bold lighting of the landscape and art pieces is a requirement, and provisions in the initial construction must be made for this future installation. Why not consider lighting the overpass in a creative way? ....up-light the bridge supports, or if other creative applications are added to the bridge, light them as well. Lighting should take into consideration the driving public and not interfere with the motorist's ability to drive, illuminating only the intended target.



### Pattern

Consider creating a repeating pattern of shapes or symbols as you near the intersection. Creating symbols that build in intensity as you approach the intersection would be dramatic and exciting. Adding color and lighting would make it even more so.

### Landscaping

Softening the surrounding environment with the use of landscaping is paramount...screening of the truck stops, creating vistas and focal points, creating shade... There are many opportunities to create exciting and bold landscapes around the interchange. Employing sensitivity to maintenance is a must.....large mass plantings and



### Architectural Showpiece

Employing the eight concepts above with creativity will create an intersection design that funnels you through such a distinctive design that you create a "destination" drive... or an "I'd like to drive through that" experience. All these things working together can create a showpiece, as a "gateway" to Hammond.



- Under Construction
- Completion 2016
- \$6.9M
- Possible Sculpture competition to address Visual Environment

I-12 @ US 51 Interchange

# US 90 Ramp Improvements



# US 90 Ramp Improvements



# US 90 Ramp Improvements

- 75% complete
- Mid November 2015 completion
- Lengthen Claiborne Ave/Superdome on-ramp & restripe I-10 West to 3 lanes
- \$3.6M

## US 90 Ramp Improvements

# “Hospitality Zone” Ramp Meters

- US90Z Lake bound @ Loyola, Baronne St. and Annunciation St.
- US 90Z River bound @ Magazine St., Baronne St. and Earhart Blvd.
- 19 Traffic Signals modified
- Fiber Optic to the RTMC

“Hospitality Zone” Ramp Meters