

2022 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 251

BY REPRESENTATIVES WRIGHT, DEVILLIER, FISHER, FRIEMAN, HODGES,  
LARVADAIN, MACK, MUSCARELLO, STAGNI, AND WHEAT

A RESOLUTION

To urge and request the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development to study transportation options on Louisiana Highway 22 through Madisonville to alleviate traffic and to increase the capacity over the Tchefuncte River.

WHEREAS, St. Tammany Parish is one of the fastest growing parishes in the state of Louisiana with a population that has almost quadrupled since the 1970s; and

WHEREAS, as residential growth along the Louisiana Highway 22 corridor in St. Tammany and Tangipahoa parishes has increased, traffic has increased and continues to worsen; and

WHEREAS, the highway congestion in western St. Tammany Parish has been a major, ongoing issue for residents and commuters and highway projects are needed to catch up with the growth in the area; and

WHEREAS, for years, the Louisiana Highway 22 swing bridge over the Tchefuncte River has opened on call to boat traffic every half an hour, causing traffic jams for hours; and

WHEREAS, under the new schedule, the Louisiana Highway swing 22 bridge now opens on call to boat traffic every hour, instead of every half an hour, which provides a little relief yet still does not alleviate the problem; and

WHEREAS, while opening the swing bridge to allow a boat through may only take up to ten minutes, this delay can happen multiple times a day causing traffic to back up for miles; and

WHEREAS, the fast-paced residential growth in the western St. Tammany area combined with the slow-paced traffic congestion near the Louisiana Highway 22 swing bridge over the Tchefuncte River at Madisonville is not conducive to economic growth and creates rising frustration amongst residents and commuters from neighboring areas; and

WHEREAS, creating more transportation options near Louisiana Highway 22 through Madisonville, such as public-private partnership projects, tolling, projects involving the Causeway Commission, and increasing the capacity over the Tchefuncte River, would create safer routes for emergency evacuations, decrease daily traffic jams, reduce the amount of time for commuters, and increase the traffic flow allowing for the stimulation of economic development in one of the fastest growing parishes in the state of Louisiana, St. Tammany parish.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby urge and request the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development to study transportation options to alleviate traffic, such as public-private partnership projects, tolling, projects involving the Causeway Commission, and increase the capacity over the Tchefuncte River, near the Louisiana Highway 22 swing bridge over the Tchefuncte River at Madisonville.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development shall submit a report detailing the results of its study to the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana no later than February 1, 2023.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the secretary of the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES