

2024 Regular Session

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 136

BY REPRESENTATIVE TAYLOR

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To urge and request the Department of Transportation and Development to study the road conditions on particular roadways that intersect with United States Highway 61.

WHEREAS, Airline Highway is a major corridor for East Baton Rouge Parish; and

WHEREAS, Carrollwood Drive, Belle Point Boulevard, and Belle Terre Boulevard have become concerning intersections due to the accident rates and fatalities; and

WHEREAS, St. John Parish is working towards a complete street improvement along Belle Terre Boulevard; and

WHEREAS, United States Highway 61 streetscape improvements in St. John the Baptist can go out to bid earlier than expected due to record-breaking funding from the Department of Transportation and Development; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Transportation and Development has received funding for streetscape improvements for Airline Highway; and

WHEREAS, street improvements are needed on the highway due to it being heavily traveled, old aged, and a main evacuation route in the state; and

WHEREAS, Airline Highway is considered as one of the most dangerous intersections in Baton Rouge; and

WHEREAS, there are several conflict points along the highway, including red lights which cause motorists to speed to beat the lights which have resulted in collisions; and

WHEREAS, at the beginning of 2023, there was a public open house with the Department of Transportation and Development to discuss the proposed removal of the traffic signals which resulted in only one signal being removed; and

WHEREAS, improving this highway will be easier for people to access it as well as for local businesses during lunch hours; and

WHEREAS, not only are improvements needed for motorist, but also for pedestrians utilizing the streets; and

WHEREAS, Airline Highway consists of schools, senior living homes, and shopping centers which makes it common for traveling by foot to access these locations; and

WHEREAS, adding sidewalks, bicycle lanes, and efficient pedestrian call buttons will help alleviate accidents; and

WHEREAS, improvements to the highway will improve mobility and greatly reduce the number of severe crashes common to motorists and pedestrians utilizing the busy highway.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby urge and request the Department of Transportation and Development to study the road conditions on particular roadways that intersect with United States Highway 61.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Transportation and Development shall submit a report detailing its findings to the House Committee on Transportation, Highways and Public Works and the Senate Committee on Transportation, Highways, and Public Works by August 1, 2025.

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

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE