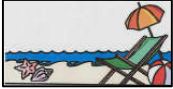


**JULY - AUGUST 2016 SUMMER EDITION OF THE OKALOOSA I
ISLAND LEASEHOLDERS
NEWSLETTER, THE OIL LANTERN**
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OKALOOSA ISLAND LEASEHOLDERS ASSOCIATION, Inc.



P.O. Box 4323
FT WALTON BEACH,
FL 32549

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

JULY – AUGUST 2016 SUMMER SPECIAL

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SPECIAL NOTICE: The Association does not hold regular meetings in the months of July and August. The next meeting is Monday, Sept 12.



The OIL Lantern



THE NEWSLETTER OF THE OKALOOSA ISLAND LEASEHOLDERS ASSOCIATION, Inc

P.O. Box 4323, Fort Walton Beach, FL 32549, Editor: Jim Simpson, (850) 585-2116
Association Website: www.oilaweb.com

FIRE DEPT REPORTS 130 RESPONSES IN MAY 2016

Fire calls.....10
False Alarms.....17
EMS/Rescue/MVA ... 91
Other.....12

(117 reported for May 2015)

AND 130 RESPONSES IN JUNE 2016

Fire calls.....10
False Alarms.....17
EMS/Rescue/MVA ... 91
Other.....12

(172 reported for June 2015)

New OILA Board Members for the 2016 to 2019 Term

Lynn Dominique, Vice President – owner of Bayside Answering Services, Bayside Airport Shuttle; co-owner of Revive Media and Escape Zone 60, lives at Islandwood Condominium.

Kim Haines - appointed to fill Jill Higgins term. Currently serves as Welcome Wagon Chairman, full-time student, part-time counselor, resides on Sailfish Drive.

Dean Hanson - enjoys the best of two worlds...condo living at Surf Dweller and summers in Minnesota. He takes the time to become knowledgeable and engaged about local issues and looks forward to working with the board and achieving objectives.

John Reinhold - owner of Destin Sunrise Marine, past president of Emerald Coast Foundation, long time resident of Dolphin Avenue

Carol Schoolcraft - nurse manager at Destin Surgery Center, active in the Mardi Gras Club, resides on Tarpon Drive

Continuing Board Members: **Dave Hancock**, President & **Jim Hendricks**, Board Member
Continuing Treasurer/Newsletter Editor: **Jim Simpson**
Continuing Webmaster: **Robert (Bob) Sietz**



OKALOOSA COUNTY SHERIFF LARRY ASHLEY ADDRESSES THE LEASEHOLDERS AT THE JUNE 13, 2016 MEMBERSHIP MEETING



Okaloosa County **Sheriff Larry Ashley** spoke to the Leaseholders at the membership meeting on June 13. Due to a spike in recent shootings on the Island (one at the Green Frog and two at the Red Rose) there is a lot of concern about public safety. There were 10 shooting in Okaloosa County in 2015. **Sheriff Ashley** advised that the Red Rose incidents were still under investigation and pointed out that much of the violence is related to drugs and prostitution. He advised that the Red Rose was taking measures – metal detectors and staff being physically present full time inside the premises during business hours – as steps to mitigate the problems. He also noted that one of the main crime fighting tools is the immediate presence of law enforcement and went on to explain how the Sheriff’s Office had just recovered the same funding level it had in 2007 when the budget was cut 20%. During the three years (2009 to 2012) following this cut he pointed out that violent crime increased 93%. Due to this cut, the Sheriff’s Office had to cut personnel which reduced the number of deputies present and visible in the communities. As a matter of perspective, he pointed out that there were 10 homicides in Okaloosa County in 1998 and that crime in Okaloosa County has decreased by 13.7% from 2013 to 2014. The Leaseholders thank **Sheriff Ashley** for taking the time to talk to us.



A Message From Your District 2 Commissioner, Carolyn Ketchel

Email: cketchel@co.okaloosa.fl.us

Phone: 850.651.7105 Fax: 850.651.7142

Address: 1220 N. Eglin Parkway, Suite 100
Shalimar, FL 32579



More Than You Ever Wanted to Know About Flushing a Toilet

When we flush our toilets or run water in our shower most of us do not consider what it takes for this to occur. We pay our bills each month and do not stop to consider the amazing process of treatment of raw wastewater.

But first some good news: **In the 5-year rate plan, rates remain fixed with no increase the first 2 years. For the final 3 years, rates increase 2.5 percent per year.** This rate plan is well below even modest increases, for several reasons. Normally we would have above 3.5 percent rate increase each year. Yet, thanks to a win-win partnership with other entities like Eglin Air Force Base and the City of Fort Walton Beach, revenue has increased. All in all, 6 aging wastewater treatment plants (without nutrient removal) have been decommissioned, and Okaloosa County now provides wastewater treatment to the following areas at the state-of-the-art Arbennie Pritchett Water Reclamation Facility: **County services areas, City of Fort Walton Beach service area, Eglin Main Base, 7th Special Forces Group, Duke Field, and Camp Rudder. These partnerships have produced both environmental and financial benefits.**

In addition, the County has received approximately **\$7.5 million in grants** and appropriations over the past few years. This funding will be spent on major capital projects, where otherwise, higher rate increases would have been sought to pay for those projects. Examples of these grant-funded projects include: new water mains and hydrants in a neighborhood, new water supply main to Okaloosa Island, rehabilitation of the sewer system, a new water tank, and a reclaimed water project.

I recently made time to visit the Arbennie Pritchett Water Reclamation Facility. I wanted to share with you what I discovered. The **Arbennie Pritchett Water Reclamation Facility (APWRF)** was commissioned in 2009 to replace the old and outdated Garniers WRF. The APWRF is known as a conventional 4-stage activated sludge facility with a current permitted capacity of **10 Million Gallon per day (MGD)**. Current average *daily flows (ADF)* through the facility are 7 MGD. The APWRF consists of pretreatment, biological process, **ultraviolet disinfection (UV)**, Rapid infiltration basins (RIB's) for effluent disposal, reuse water for irrigation and bio-solids dewatering and removal.

Raw wastewater entering in to the APWRF contains extreme amount of organic and inorganic material (garbage and grit). The inorganic material must be removed before entering the biological process. This is achieved by pretreatment. Pretreatment is the headworks of the APWRF and consist of screening and grit removal to take out the inorganics.

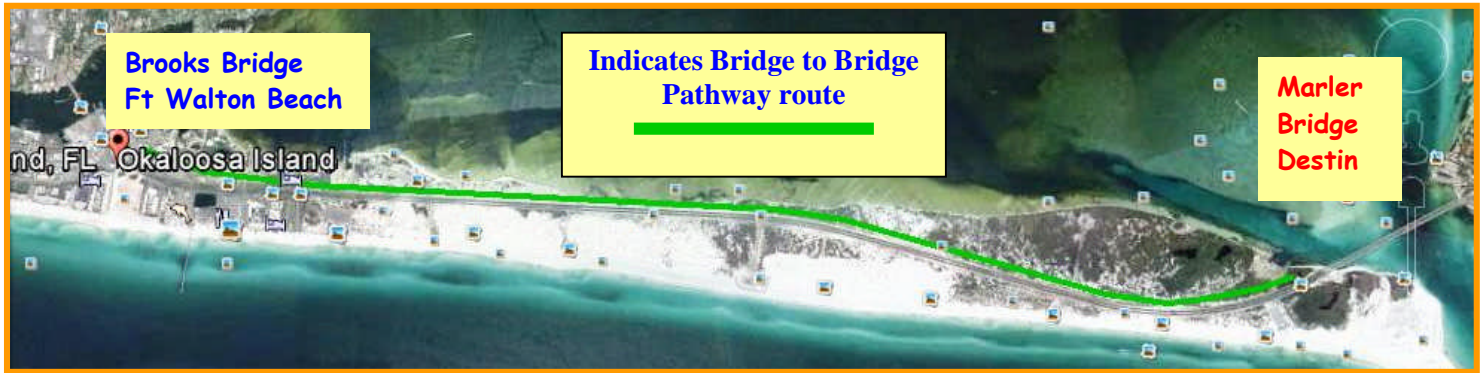
The nutrient (organics) rich wastewater is then applied to the biological process where high volumes of aquatic micro-organisms (AMO's) feed on and 'break down' the organics, removing ammonia and nitrates, which are major pollutants of the environment. This is accomplished in two 2.34 million gallon (MG) tanks commonly known as oxidation ditches. The oxidation ditches are designed and engineered to provide an ideal environment for the biological mass of AMO's to thrive and reproduce. This process allows the biological mass to separate and settle by natural gravity. The settled bio-mass is recycled back to a filtration system, chlorinated to high level disinfection, and then to the Fort Walton Beach Golf Course for irrigation purposes only.

A by-product of the process is known as bio-solids. This excess must be strategically removed to keep a constant balance of AMO's in the system. There the thickened bio-mass is stored and eventually dewatered with a device known as a centrifuge which produces a dewatered product labeled Class B bio-solids. This class B bio-solids is transported to farmland in parts of northwest Florida and south Alabama and used for soil remediation and fertilizer.

The **Russell Stephenson WRF (RSWRF)** was commissioned in 1992 to serve the southwest area of Okaloosa County from Hurlburt Field on Highway 98 to the Okaloosa/Santa Rosa county line. The RSWRF is known as a conventional 2 stage activated sludge facility and has a permitted capacity of 1 MGD. Current ADF through the facility is approx. 450,000 gallons/day. It is similar in design to the APWRF. The RSWRF has pretreatment, oxidations ditches and clarifiers. Bio-solids produced at the RSWRF are transported in liquid form to the APWRF's digester. **Joe Jones** is responsible for the impressive operation of this older facility and his work to maintain the facility in immaculate condition.

We thank **Jeff Littrell**, Director of the Okaloosa County Water and Sewer System. He was recently recognized for 20 years of service with Okaloosa County. We also thank **Mark Wise**, Deputy Director and **Darren Alford**, Wastewater Operations Manager and the many employees who work with the Water and Sewer Department to make this process possible so that we properly treat wastewater and maintain a sustainable environment.

BULLETIN: Endorsement by the Daily News of the Bridge (**Brooks**) to Bridge (**Marler**) Bike Path - a Project Initiated by the Okaloosa Island Leaseholders Association (OILA).



Northwest Florida Daily News Editorial Published on Sunday, June 26, 2016

Bike path is an idea whose time has come

Some ideas make so much sense you wonder why they weren't thought of before. That was our reaction to the news Okaloosa County is looking at a bike path on Okaloosa Island from Brooks Bridge to Marler Bridge in Destin.

To recap, Daily News staff writer Kari Barlow reported on June 9 the Okaloosa County Commission voted to spend \$102,000 on preliminary design plans and an environmental assessment of a bicycle path that would be detached from U.S. Highway 98 and run the length of Okaloosa Island between the two bridges. Such a path would require the approval of Eglin Air Force Base, the National Park Service and the Florida Department of Transportation.

It goes without saying there's a reason U.S. Highway 98 is called "Bloody 98." The stretch between Gulf Breeze and South Walton is notorious for its carnage, both vehicular and pedestrian. People on foot or riding bicycles take their lives in their hands when they navigate 98, and the result is often fatal. Just a month ago the Daily News reported on the toll claimed by that road over the past year. In seven instances pedestrians or bicyclists were either killed or injured.

That's partly due to the lack of sidewalks or bicycle paths. As it stands now, bicyclists on Okaloosa Island are allotted a thin ribbon of asphalt on the edge of the highway. Even if drivers are paying perfect attention, that's still a dicey proposition. An ill-timed gust of wind could result in a bicyclist's death, never mind the drivers who are talking on their phones or worse, texting.

The county's plan calls for a detached path running along the north side of U.S. 98, which would take walkers and bicyclists out of harm's way. Finally, a way to make Bloody 98 a little less bloody. Another benefit: The recreational opportunities such a path might offer boggle the mind. When the City of Fort Walton Beach built its Fitness Trail at Ferry Park an instant demand was created for safe places to walk. A bike path would create a similar demand and might even lead to the creation of new businesses and cut down on traffic congestion.

We hope all parties sign off on the proposed path so that one day, it becomes safe to walk or ride a bicycle on Okaloosa Island.



OKALOOSA ISLAND FIRE DEPT PROVIDED SUPPORT FOR THE DESTIN (WEST JETTIES) 4TH OF JULY FIREWORKS

The Okaloosa Island Fire Department provided Fire and Life Safety support during the 4th of July fireworks show at the West Jetties on Okaloosa Island.

The duties included providing fire suppression and medical support if needed, and maintaining a safety perimeter.

Photo on the left is the West Jetties launch location for the Destin 4th of July fireworks.



ARCHITECTURAL COMMITTEE REPORTS FOR JUNE & JULY 2016 for permits submitted to them for consideration. The following information provided by the Architectural Committee.

SPECIAL NOTICES: 1) The Committee meets every Thursday from 9:00 am to 9:30 am at the Tourist Development Center building. 2) ASK BEFORE YOU ACT.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Block</u>	<u>Lot(s)</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Owner/Contractor</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Recommendation</u>
June 16	8	470	813 Tarpon Drive	Fairprice Industries.	Build a Boat Dock	In compliance
June 16	3	112	369 Bluefish #2	Robert C. MacIntryre	Occupational License	In compliance
July 7	3	97	354 Billfish #105	Stephanie Bovender	Occupational License	In compliance
July 14	12	One portion of Block 12	1216 Santa Rosa Blvd	Elias Marty	Occupational License for Unnamed Tattoo Parlor	In compliance
July 21	7	396	719 Sailfish Dr	Billy Johnson	Repair & Restore Existing Sea Wall	In compliance
July 21	5	219	510 Dory Ave	Richard C. Johnson III	New Residence Construction	In compliance
July 28	12	5	1239 Siebert	FWGV LLC	Construction Trailer for Gulf Place Restaurant	In compliance



Jason and Alicia Lamp



WELCOME WAGON REPORT

It has been our pleasure to welcome new neighbors this summer... and we have many more visits planned. The good news is the residences that are selling are owner/occupied.

Welcome to **Michael Rendos** on Tarpon Drive, to **Jason & Alicia Lamp** (photo on the left) on Sailfish and to **Bob & Lisa Henry** on Dorado.

If you know of newcomers that would appreciate a visit from the Welcome Wagon OR if you have gift cards or coupons to donate, please give one of us a call.

Kathy Foster, fosterpk@gnt.net , 244-4490

Kim Haines, kimhaines@live.com , 490-7947

Carmen Parker, roofs4living@yahoo.com , 243-4611

Maryl Bednar, bednardon@aol.com , 243-8359



ISLAND RAINFALL FOR JUNE & JULY 2016: JUNE 5.00 INCHES; JULY 4.0 INCHES

June 4..... **1.0** inches June 16... **0.4** inches
 June 5..... **0.5** inches June 17... **0.1** inches
 June 6..... **0.4** inches June 30...**1.4** inches
 June 15.... **1.2** inches

Average Rainfall for June **6.0** inches
 Variance to Average..... **- 1.0** inches

July 1.....**0.2** inches July 23....**0.5** inches
 July 12.....**0.6** inches July 24....**0.7** inches
 July 17.....**1.6** inches July 26....**0.4** inches

Average Rainfall for July..... **8.5** inches
 Variance to Average..... **- 4.5** inches

Aug Avg Rainfall.....**7.2** inches
 Aug Record High.....**103° F** (1980)
 Aug Record Low**59° F** (1989)
 Aug Avg Water Temperature..... **85° F**

Sept Avg Rainfall.....**7.2** inches
 Sept Record High.....**102° F** (1954)
 Sept Record Low**37° F** (1967)
 Sept Avg Water Temperature..... **85° F**

YTD Variance to Avg..... **- 3.0** inches
 Rainfall Year-to-Date.....**36.8** inches
 Avg Annual Rainfall**65.1** inches

DID LEPRECHAUNS “PINE STRAW” THE PALM TREES IN THE SANTA ROSA BLVD MEDIANS?



One evening in June we retired for the night and when we awoke the next day all the palm trees in the 26 medians on Santa Rosa Blvd had pine straw necklaces. Was this landscaping done by the “Pine Straw Leprechauns” while we slept?

While it is fun to fantasize that little green Irishmen did the work; the reality is that this landscaping project was a joint effort funded by the Island Garden Club and the Leaseholders Association. ARC of the Emerald Coast (formerly Horizons) purchased and applied the pine straw.

JOIN THE LEASEHOLDERS! LET YOUR OPINIONS BE HEARD!

FOR A MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION CLICK ON THE ASSOCIATION’S WEBPAGE:

WWW.OILAWEB.COM

OR

CONTACT JIM SIMPSON AT (850) 585-2116 OR BY EMAIL AT:

SANLEANNA@COX.NET



OKALOOSA ISLAND FIRE DEPT FIREFIGHTERS, CAPT RAY STRAWN AND ASST CHIEF KEVIN CARVALHO RECOGNIZED AT THE RED, WHITE AND BLUE CELEBRATION AT HARBORWALK VILLAGE

Senior Airman Christine David from the 96th AMXS sings the National Anthem on the stage at Harborwalk Village during the *Red, White and Blue Celebration* where the Okaloosa Island Fire District was honored for their service in the community as first responders. **Assistant Chief Kevin Carvalho** and **Captain Ray Strawn** were presented with a commemorative coin as part of the weekly celebration the Destin group coordinates to honor members of the military and first responders in the area throughout the summer.

(left to right) Capt Ray Strawn (halo over his head), Asst Chief Kevin Carvalho, Chief Robert Tilley, SRA Christine David



INFORMATION ABOUT ZIKA FEVER

Zika fever is a mild febrile illness caused by a mosquito-borne virus similar to those that cause dengue and West Nile virus infection. It has been identified in several countries in Central and South America, Mexico, and the Caribbean since 2015. Outbreaks have previously been reported in Africa, Southeast Asia, and The Pacific Islands. Local transmission has been reported in Puerto Rico, but not elsewhere in the United States. Cases of Zika fever have been reported in travelers returning to the United States.

UPDATE: July 29, 2016: Four individuals in Miami-Dade and Broward counties have been infected with the Zika virus by local mosquitoes, Florida health officials said Friday. These are the first known cases of the virus being transmitted by mosquitoes in the continental United States.

Zika fever is acquired through the bite of an infected mosquito, including the same mosquitoes that can transmit dengue and chikungunya. Perinatal and sexual transmission have also been reported.

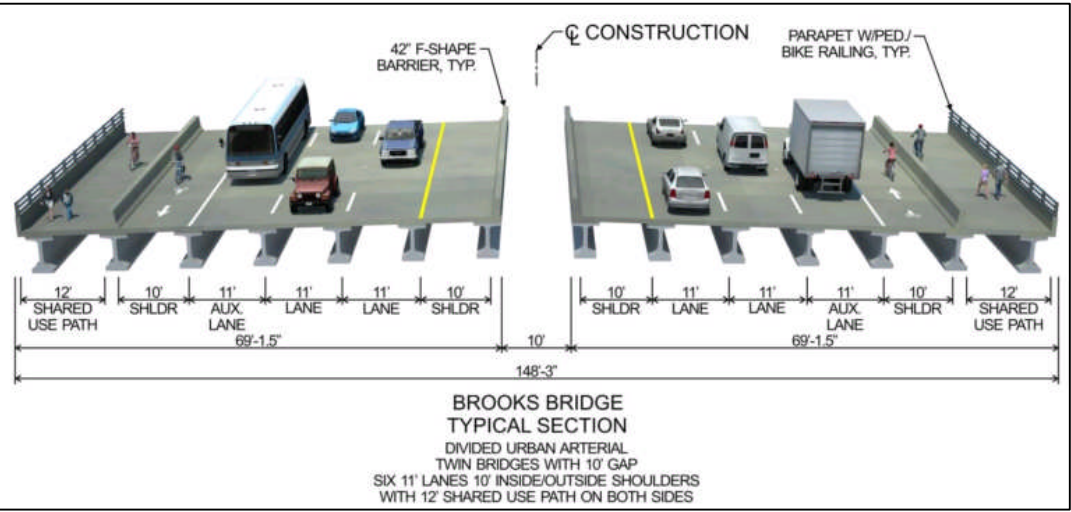
Only about 1 in 5 people infected with Zika virus are symptomatic. Zika fever is a mild illness. Severe disease requiring hospitalization is uncommon. Signs and symptoms of Zika fever may include: acute onset of low-grade fever, rash, joint pain, conjunctivitis (reddening of eye), body aches, headache, eye pain, and vomiting. Treatment is symptomatic since there is no specific treatment against the virus. Illness typically resolves within a week.

The Ministry of Health of Brazil has reported an increase in the numbers of newborns with microcephaly in areas experiencing Zika virus outbreaks. Further studies are being conducted to investigate this concern. There are many causes of microcephaly in babies, including genetic abnormalities, environmental factors, and some infections acquired during pregnancy.

OKALOOSA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS PASS RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT THE FOLLOWING FDOT ALTERNATES & ALIGNMENTS FOR REPLACING BROOKS BRIDGE

At their July 19, 2016 meeting, the Okaloosa County Board of County Commissioners unanimously approved a resolution to support the following alternatives and alignments for the replacement of Brooks Bridge as presented by FDOT:

Typical Bridge Section: Alternative A, which proposes a wider bridge section to accommodate more pedestrian and bicycle traffic with a twelve (12) foot wide shared use path.

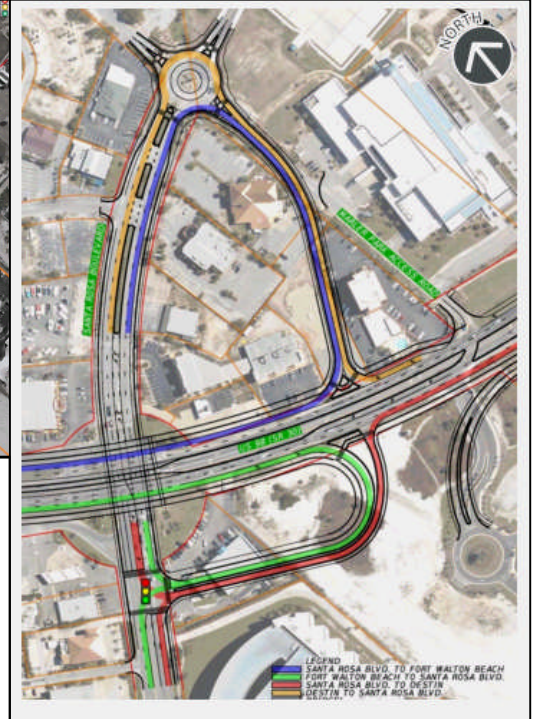


Proposed Bridge Alignment: Left Alternative, which proposes to construct the new bridge structure to the north of the existing bridge structure; this alternative has the least impact on properties with the City of Fort Walton Beach.

<p>Pros</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Does not impact Brooks Street Landing building ▪ Longer distance to obtain 65' navigational clearance ▪ Able to maintain 10' gap between structures over land and water 	<p>Cons</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ No driveway entrance from US 98 WB to Publix shopping center ▪ Greater encroachment onto Publix shopping center parcel ▪ Rear driveway entrance adjacent to Prop's Brewery will be difficult to maintain (might impact building overhang)

**OKALOOSA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS PASS RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT THE FOLLOWING
FDOT ALTERNATES & ALIGNMENTS FOR REPLACING BROOKS BRIDGE (continued)**

Santa Rosa Boulevard Intersection: Option C, which eliminates the existing traffic signal at this intersection on Okaloosa Island and improves traffic flow.



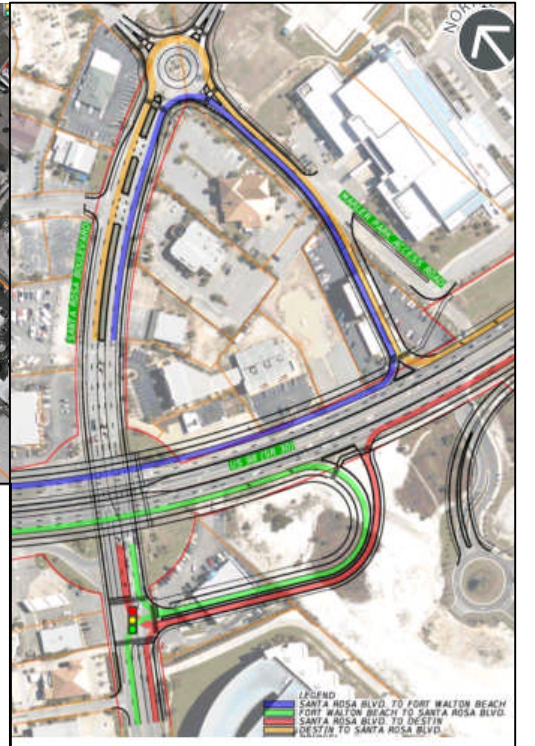
Public Feedback / Potential Design Refinements

- Eliminates signal on US 98
- Potential for an acceleration lane from SRB to US 98 EB
- Access to and from hotels
- Access to and from ECCC loading dock

Legend

	Santa Rosa Blvd to Ft Walton Beach
	Ft Walton Beach to Santa Rosa Blvd
	Santa Rosa Blvd to Destin
	Destin to Santa Rosa Blvd

Santa Rosa Boulevard Intersection: Option D, which eliminates the existing traffic signal at this intersection on Okaloosa Island and improves traffic flow.



Public Feedback / Potential Design Refinements

- Eliminates signal on US 98
- Potential for an acceleration lane from SRB to US 98 EB
- Access to and from hotels
- Access to and from ECCC loading dock

Legend

	Santa Rosa Blvd to Ft Walton Beach
	Ft Walton Beach to Santa Rosa Blvd
	Santa Rosa Blvd to Destin
	Destin to Santa Rosa Blvd