

2025 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 260

BY REPRESENTATIVE TAYLOR

A RESOLUTION

To urge and request the Department of Transportation and Development (DOTD) to evaluate and install pedestrian crosswalks at certain intersections along United States Highway 61 to improve road conditions and promote safety.

WHEREAS, Airline Highway is a major corridor for St. John the Baptist Parish; and

WHEREAS, intersections at Carrollwood Drive, Belle Point Boulevard, and Belle Terre Boulevard in LaPlace have become concerning due to high accident rates and fatalities; and

WHEREAS, St. John Parish is actively pursuing complete street improvements along Belle Terre Boulevard; and

WHEREAS, streetscape improvements for United States Highway 61 in St. John the Baptist Parish may be put out to bid earlier than expected, thanks to record-breaking funding from the DOTD; and

WHEREAS, the DOTD has secured funding for streetscape improvements along Airline Highway in St. John the Baptist Parish; and

WHEREAS, improvements are urgently needed on Airline Highway because it is a heavily traveled, aging route and serves as a primary evacuation corridor in the state; and

WHEREAS, Airline Highway is considered one of the most dangerous thoroughfares in the LaPlace area; and

WHEREAS, numerous conflict points exist along the highway, including traffic signals that encourage motorists to speed to beat the lights, contributing to collisions; and

WHEREAS, in early 2023, a public open house with the DOTD was held to discuss the proposed removal of certain traffic signals, resulting in the removal of only one signal; and

WHEREAS, improving Airline Highway will facilitate better access for motorists and local businesses, especially during peak hours such as lunch; and

WHEREAS, street improvements are necessary not only for motorists but also for pedestrians who frequently travel along the highway; and

WHEREAS, located along Airline Highway are schools, senior living facilities, and shopping centers in LaPlace, creating significant pedestrian traffic; and

WHEREAS, pedestrian safety improvements, including the addition of clearly marked crosswalks and enhanced pedestrian signalization, are essential to reduce accidents and protect vulnerable users; and

WHEREAS, the installation of well-designed pedestrian crosswalks with appropriate signage and signal timing will improve safety and mobility for pedestrians along Airline Highway.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby urge and request the Department of Transportation and Development to evaluate and install pedestrian crosswalks at certain intersections along United States Highway 61 to improve road conditions and promote safety.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Transportation and Development shall at a minimum include in its evaluation the intersections of United States Highway 61 at Carrollwood Drive, United States Highway 61 at Belle Point Boulevard, and United States Highway 61 at Belle Terre Boulevard in LaPlace, Louisiana.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the DOTD shall submit a written report detailing its findings to the House Committee on Transportation, Highways and Public Works by August 1, 2026.

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