

2025 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 340

BY REPRESENTATIVE CHASSION

A RESOLUTION

To urge and request the Department of Transportation and Development to study the feasibility of installing road safety measures and constructing new infrastructure, including pedestrian crosswalks, an overpass, flashing warning signals, and more visible road surface markings from Interstate 10 (I-10) and Interstate 49 (I-49) on Louisiana Highway 182 (LA-182) to the intersection of East Pinhook Road.

WHEREAS, street improvements are necessary not only for motorists but also for pedestrians who frequently travel along LA-182 and the East Pinhook Road intersection; and

WHEREAS, the National Association of City Transportation Officials recommends the use of crosswalks on streets with higher volumes, higher speeds, or more lanes; and

WHEREAS, marked crosswalks and pedestrian warning signs can improve safety for pedestrians crossing the road, but alone may not be sufficient for drivers to visibly locate crossing locations to yield to pedestrians; and

WHEREAS, to improve the safety of crosswalks, the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) suggests enhancing visibility of the crosswalks, installation of lighting, and sign and pavement markings; and

WHEREAS, according to the FHWA, the installation of rectangular rapid flashing beacons enhance pedestrian conspicuity and increase driver awareness at crosswalks; and

WHEREAS, the FHWA reports that approximately a quarter of traffic fatalities and a half of all traffic injuries in the United States occur at intersections; and

WHEREAS, according to the Texas A&M Transportation Institute, grade separation through the use of overpasses on areas with high volume traffic relieves congestion and improves safety for pedestrians and drivers; and

WHEREAS, LA-182 is a major corridor in Lafayette Parish, with approximately seventy thousand drivers on the highway per day; and

WHEREAS, located along LA-182 are hotels, businesses, restaurants, churches, and shopping centers, creating significant pedestrian traffic; and

WHEREAS, there are currently no crosswalks, flashing warning signals, or visible road surface markings along LA-182 near I-49 and I-10; and

WHEREAS, according to The Current, a non-profit news organization serving Lafayette, the list of pedestrian and bike-rider deaths is substantial on LA-182; and

WHEREAS, the Center for Analytics and Research in Transportation Safety's data on Lafayette reports that there was a one hundred sixty-eight percent increase in fatal or serious injury accidents from 2019 to 2023; and

WHEREAS, beginning in January 2025, the Department of Transportation and Development began a rehabilitation project on the section of LA-182 from the railroad junction to the I-10 and I-49 Interchange; and

WHEREAS, this project does not include improvements related to pedestrian safety; and

WHEREAS, according to The Daily Advertiser, a newspaper in Lafayette, fifty-four car accidents occurred on West Pinhook Road over the course of eighteen months; and

WHEREAS, the current road surface markings at the intersection of LA-182 and East Pinhook Road are faded and barely visible; and

WHEREAS, there are no flashing warning signals or other signage at the intersection of LA-182; and

WHEREAS, the installation of well-designed pedestrian crosswalks with appropriate signage and signal timing will improve safety and mobility for pedestrians along LA-182 near I-49 and I-10; and

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 study the feasibility of installing road safety measures and constructing new infrastructure, including pedestrian crosswalks, an overpass, flashing warning signals, and more visible road surface markings from I-10 and I-49 on LA-182 to the intersection of East Pinhook Road.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Transportation and Development 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