

Rep. Charlie Stone

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Mike Dew, Secretary Florida Department of Transportation 605 Suwanee Street Tallahassee, FL 32399-0450

Rebecca Bolan, P.E. PMP, Project Manager Florida's Turnpike Enterprise Post Office Box 613069 Ocoee, FL 34761

Re: Florida's Suncoast Parkway Connector

Dear Secretary Dew and Ms. Bolan,

Please accept my thanks for the many hours you and your team have put into the Coastal Connector project. I'm sure it's not easy to define a route that won't disrupt any community but the current proposed routes through Marion County are all too disruptive for further consideration. As any of them are today, our Equine and Agriculture industries in both Marion County and our State would greatly suffer.

Seeing that the intent is to provide a Connector from Tampa to Jacksonville I urge you to meet with both state and local Marion County officials, along with those industry leaders to find a new path that will minimize the impact on these industries, if the path must come through Marion County, at all. There must be a better way and I have confidence that it can be found.

Thank you for your consideration. I look forward to working closely with your team in the future.

Warm regards,

Charlie Stone

State Representative

> Joint Select Committee on Collective Bargaining (Alternating Chair) Agriculture & Natural Resources Appropriations
Subcommittee (Vice Chair) Education Committee Government Accountability Committee Government Operations & Technology
Appropriations Subcommittee Insurance & Banking Subcommittee Oversight, Transparency & Administration Subcommittee