

# ALABAMA STATE EXPENDITURE PLAN (SEP)

## Project #22: Canal Road Improvements E. of SR-161

### Project Description/Summary

- a) This project consists of engineering and design and construction to promote community resilience and economic growth by addressing the hindrance of economic development on Canal Road east of and near the State Road 161 (SR-161) intersection in Orange Beach. Growth of businesses and the tourism industry in Orange Beach have led to increased traffic volumes, resulting in a need to enhance capacity and efficiency. This project will provide sufficient infrastructure improvements to allow the City of Orange Beach to safely address economic growth to benefit the local economy.

Activities also include the comprehensive administration of this grant, including, but not limited to, project development and oversight, contracting, and sub-recipient monitoring.

- a. **Need** - Canal Road east of SR-161 is an existing two-lane road that is the only access road serving the residents, businesses, and public facilities (elementary school, senior center, library, arts center, recreation center, etc.) east of the SR-161 intersection. Growth of businesses, and the tourism industry in Orange Beach have led to significant increases in traffic volumes and turning movements on this section of Canal Road, resulting in a need to increase capacity and efficiency by providing a dedicated center turn lane or some variation that allows dedicated left turns on Canal Road between SR-161 and Wilson Blvd. Any new developments immediately east of SR-161 are being denied approval because they would contribute to unacceptable levels of congestion and unsafe turning movements. Without the project, Orange Beach will be forced to deny economic development on Canal Road immediately east of the SR-161 intersection. This will hinder economic growth and limit the community's ability to improve economic resiliency.

**Purpose:** The purpose of the project is to provide significant infrastructure improvements to an existing road which is limiting economic growth in Orange Beach.

**Objectives:** The primary objective of this project is to:

- Design and construct the required infrastructure improvements to increase capacity on SR-161.
- b. The area benefitted by this project is located in the City of Orange Beach in Baldwin County.
  - c. This project is anticipated to begin on 7/1/19 and end on 12/31/20 (18 months).
  - d. This project will be implemented by the City of Orange Beach.

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- b) The project contributes to the overall economic recovery of the Gulf Coast by providing sufficient infrastructure improvements to allow the City of Orange Beach to safely approve proposed economic development projects that would otherwise be denied. The project would also encourage economic development that would lead to economic growth benefitting the local economy.

### Eligibility and Statutory Requirements

This activity is located in the Gulf Coast Region and is eligible for Spill Impact Component funding under Category #6 - Infrastructure projects benefiting the economy or ecological resources, including port (primary). Secondary activities include Category #4 - Workforce development and job creation. Because the primary activity is classified as infrastructure, the 25% infrastructure cap is applicable.

### Comprehensive Plan Goals and Objectives

This project is consistent with the following Comprehensive Plan goals:

- Goal 4: Enhance Community Resilience – Build upon and sustain communities with capacity to adapt to short- and long-term changes; and
- Goal 5: Restore and Revitalize the Gulf Economy – Enhance the sustainability and resiliency of the Gulf economy.

This project supports the following Comprehensive Plan objectives:

- Objective 5: Promote Community Resilience – Build and sustain Gulf Coast communities' capacity to adapt to short- and long-term natural and man-made hazards, particularly increased flood risks associated with sea-level rise and environmental stressors. Promote ecosystem restoration that enhances community resilience through the re-establishment of non-structural, natural buffers against storms and flooding.

### Major Milestones

- a) Milestone 1: Procurement of professional services for engineering and design
- b) Milestone 2: Complete preliminary engineering and design
- c) Milestone 3: Permitting
- d) Milestone 4: Complete final design
- e) Milestone 5: Construction
- f) Milestone 6: Project monitoring

### Success Criteria/Metrics/Outcomes

The anticipated outcome of the Canal Road Improvements project will be:

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- Design and construction of infrastructure improvements on Canal Road to enhance traffic flow

**Table 23. Proposed Projects Success Criteria/Metrics/Outcomes**

Activity	Anticipated Project Success Criteria/Metrics	Short-term outcome	Long-term outcome
Addition of a turning lane/infrastructure improvements to SR-161 in Orange Beach	Complete Bid process  Complete engineering and design  Obtain permits  Complete Construction	Added capacity to Canal Road  Increased jobs  Increased access for local businesses, residents, and tourists	Increased ability to promote and sustain economic development  Improved coastal resiliency

### Monitoring and Evaluation

- Submission of final E&D to ADCNR for review and approval
- Provide evidence to ADCNR that all required permits were obtained (including SHPO)
- Submit results of bid process to ADCNR prior to awarding contracts
- ADCNR will conduct periodic onsite reviews
- Submission of quarterly and final reports
- Post construction monitoring as required

### Best Available Science

A Best Available Science (BAS) review is required for programs and activities that would restore and protect the natural resources, ecosystems, fisheries, marine and wildlife habitats, beaches, coastal wetlands, and economy of the Gulf Coast. The primary focus of this project is to design and construct road improvements on Canal Road to improve traffic flow; therefore, BAS does not apply.

### Budget/Funding

- Estimated cost of the project and amount to be requested from Spill Impact Component Funds: \$1,903,718 (20-30% - Planning, 80-70% - Implementation). While it is noted that funding available under a grant award cannot exceed the

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amount described in the SEP for this project, the percentages listed in this section are estimated and will be more clearly cultivated in the grant application.

b) No other funding sources are anticipated at this

time. [Partnerships/Collaboration \(if applicable\)](#)

Not applicable at this time.

[Leveraged Resources \(if applicable\)](#) Not applicable at this time.

[Funds Used As Non-Federal Match \(if applicable\)](#) Not applicable at this time.

[Other](#)

Not applicable at this time.

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Figure 22. The Canal Road Improvements East of State Road 161 will be implemented in Orange Beach, Alabama.