



U.S. Department
of Transportation
**Federal Highway
Administration**

1200 New Jersey Ave., SE
Washington, DC 20590

In Reply Refer to:
HCR-20

October 23, 2023

The Honorable Darren Soto
5800 Semoran Blvd
Bldg. A, Ste. B
Orlando, FL 32822

Dear Representative Soto:

Thank you for your inquiry communicating a request for assistance from Keith C. Laytham regarding the Central Florida Expressway (CFX) Authority Southport Connector Expressway Project. The Title VI complaint is currently under review with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) Office of Civil Rights (HCR).

The FHWA HCR received a complaint about this project alleging violations of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 on October 10, 2022. FHWA acknowledged receipt of the complaint by letter dated November 16, 2022. The complaint alleges that the Southport Connector Expressway Project would divide Poinciana and have other discriminatory effects on the predominantly minority community. Title VI prohibits discrimination based on race, color, and national origin under any program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance.

In accordance with its Title VI complaint procedures, FHWA is conducting a preliminary inquiry into the complaint to determine whether to accept the complaint for investigation, dismiss it, or refer it to another agency. We will provide an update when FHWA makes a determination.

I hope this information is helpful. If you have any questions regarding this matter, please feel free to contact Christopher Amy, Title VI Program Analyst for FHWA HCR, at



Sincerely,

Irene Rico
Associate Administrator
Office of Civil Rights