FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Board of County Commissioners

November 13, 2026

Okaloosa County Announces SR 85 Public Information Meeting

Okaloosa County, Florida – Okaloosa County, in coordination with Eglin Air Force Base (AFB), invites the public to attend a public information meeting regarding the State Road (SR) 85 Realignment Project Development and Environment (PD&E) Study. The in-person meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 17, 2026, at 5:30 p.m. at the Okaloosa County Administration Building (Board Chambers) - 1250 N. Eglin Parkway, Shalimar, FL. Okaloosa County is leading the PD&E Study and serves as the project proponent. Eglin AFB is serving as the lead federal agency and will be providing final study approval.

The purpose of the PD&E Study is to identify the most appropriate location for realigning SR 85 farther to the west on Eglin property and to evaluate the potential transportation, environmental, and community impacts associated with that realignment. The project is needed to support future mission expansion at Eglin AFB while also addressing the long-term transportation needs of the region.

In-Person Public Information Meeting:

Date: Tuesday, November 17, 2026
Time: 5:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.
Location: Okaloosa County Administration Building (Board Chambers), 1250 N. Eglin Parkway, Shalimar, FL

Participants will have the opportunity to view a presentation, project displays, speak with project team members, and submit comments or questions via a comment box. There will be no formal presentation or open forum for public discussion. All meeting materials, including the presentation, will be available on the project website, www.myokaloosa.com/sr85realignment.

Okaloosa County is sending notices to nearby property owners, business owners, interested persons, and organizations to provide the opportunity to offer comments and express their views regarding this project and the proposed improvements.

Public participation is solicited without regard to race, color, national origin, age, sex, religion, disability, or family status. Persons wishing to express their concerns relative to Okaloosa County compliance with Title VI may do so by contacting Mindy Kane, Okaloosa County Title VI/Nondiscrimination Coordinator, at 850-609-7074 or by email at mkane@myokaloosa.com.

Persons who require special accommodations under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) or persons who require translation services (free of charge) should contact Scott Bitterman at (850) 689-5772 at least seven (7) days prior to the meeting. If you are hearing or speech impaired, please contact us by using the Florida Relay Service, 1-800-955-8771 (TDD) or 1-800-955-8770 (Voice).

If you have any questions or comments about the SR 85 Realignment PD&E Study, please contact the Okaloosa County Project Manager Scott Bitterman by phone at (850) 689-5772, by email at sbitterman@myokaloosa.com, or U.S. mail at 1759 South Ferdon Boulevard, Crestview, FL 32536.

For media inquiries, contact Public Information Officer Nick Tomecek by phone at (850) 651-7321, or by email at ntomecek@myokaloosa.com.

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FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER NICK TOMECEK AT 850.651.7321
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