



TO: Honorable Mayor & Members of the
Fort Lauderdale City Commission

FROM: Lee Feldman, ICMA-CM, City Manager

DATE: June 3, 2014

TITLE: Resolution authorizing an application for a Lane Elimination to the Florida
Department of Transportation on Powerline Road

Recommendation

It is recommended that the City Commission adopt a resolution authorizing the submittal of Powerline Road to Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) for a Lane Elimination from the existing six travel lanes to four travel lanes to improve the safety of the roadway, including the addition of a designated buffered bicycle lane.

Background

FDOT is planning a Restoration, Resurfacing, Rehabilitation (RRR) project along Powerline Road from Sunrise Boulevard to NW 29th Street in Wilton Manors. As a part of this project, city staff has asked that FDOT reallocate the paved area to improve safety for all users by providing a dedicated buffered bike lane and reducing the number of vehicle travel lanes that pedestrians need to cross along the corridor.

Powerline Road is a prime candidate for a lane elimination. This is based on the current roadway being significantly under capacity, limited large-truck traffic, existing intersections to remain the same level of service after reducing lanes, abutting land uses being primarily residential and built-out, and schools and park located along the roadway.

City staff has conducted neighbor outreach with the adjacent neighborhood associations of South Middle River Civic Association (February 6, 2014 and May 27, 2014) and Lauderdale Manors Homeowners Association (January 28, 2014 and May 1, 2014) to present the proposed project and receive feedback. South Middle River Civic Association was in favor of the application and Lauderdale Manors was concerned about ensuring that traffic congestion was not increased. City staff has also reached out to Wilton Manors to coordinate on the portion of the project that crosses into their city to complete the connectivity across our boundary.

Resource Impact

The City is required to fund the traffic analysis needed to apply for the Lane Reduction. The Task Order for this analysis was approved by Commission on February 28, 2014 to be conducted by T.Y. Lin International under Task Order #4 in the amount of \$45,288.

If approved by FDOT, the project will be constructed by FDOT as a part of their RRR project planned for this roadway at no cost to the City.

Strategic Connections

1. This item helps advance the *Fast Forward Fort Lauderdale* vision of **Being Connected**, where neighbors can move seamlessly and easily through a safe transportation system where the pedestrian is first.
2. This item is a *Press Play Fort Lauderdale Strategic Plan 2018 Initiative*, included within the **Infrastructure Cylinder of Excellence**, specifically advancing:

Goal 1: Be a pedestrian friendly, multi-modal city.

Objective 1: Improve transportation options and reduce congestion by working with agency partners.

Objective 2: Integrate transportation land use and planning to create a walkable and bikeable community.

Initiative 4: Develop bike amenities.

Initiative 6: Develop and implement the Connectivity Master Plan to improve accessibility.

Objective 3: Improve pedestrian, bicyclist, and vehicular safety.

Initiative 1: Implement traffic calming mechanisms to increase safety through environmental design.

3. This item is in compliance with the *Complete Streets Policy*. The project will add bike lanes to Powerline Road as well as improve the pedestrian environment by reducing the number of vehicle lanes that a pedestrian needs to cross.

Attachments:

EX 1 – Resolution

EX 2 – Lane Elimination Application

Prepared by: Karen Mendrala, Livability Planner

Department Director: Diana Alarcon, Transportation & Mobility