



*The Venice of America*  
**John P. "Jack" Seiler**  
MAYOR

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March 5, 2014

The Honorable Secretary Ananth Prasad  
Florida Department of Transportation  
605 Suwannee Street  
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0450

RE: US-1 (SUNRISE BLVD) RRR PROJECT – 428726-1-52-01

Dear Secretary Prasad:

The City of Fort Lauderdale respectfully requests that bicycle lanes be included in the Resurfacing, Restoration & Renovation (RRR) project for the segment of State Road 5/US-1 (Sunrise Boulevard), from Searstown to the project's eastern limits (NE 17<sup>th</sup> Way). The neighbors of this project have requested that bicycle facilities be included as a part of this project. The City and Broward County have submitted several requests to FDOT District 4 for bicycle lanes and at this time FDOT has declined to include designated bicycle lanes on this critical east-west transportation connection within the city.

The City is requesting that this project be designed in compliance with the FDOT's Plans Preparation Manual (PPM) requiring the project engineer address pedestrian and bicyclist needs by providing designated bicycle facilities. The segment of the roadway meets the standards in Chapter 25 of the PPM to allow for a designated bike lane.

It has been stated that the existing and projected volumes along the roadway, coupled with the accident information and a perceived possible increase of bicyclists traveling against traffic were the reasons FDOT has decided against adding designated bicycle lanes.

We continue to assert that narrowing the travel lanes to accommodate designated bicycle lanes, versus adding signage for bikes sharing the road (sharrow), will improve the safety of all modes of transportation by providing dedicated spaces for each user. Dedicated bike lanes will give visual cues to motorists that bicycles are using the right-of-way as well as give the bicyclist a proper place to ride.

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There are bicycle riders along this roadway using the sidewalk to ride instead of the roadway because of the lack of adequate space. Providing a designated bicycle lane to riders will not only improve their safety but also the safety of pedestrians walking on the substandard sidewalks obstructed by utilities within this segment. The 36 design variations granted on this project for Horizontal Clearance, with clearances as small as 2.1', clearly illustrate the substandard condition of the existing sidewalks.

This RRR project provides an opportunity to show the commitment of FDOT towards implementing Complete Streets strategies designed to improve the multimodal connectivity of Florida's streets. Designated bike lanes will make a significant improvement to safety along this corridor, as well as create an important connection in the bicycle network within Fort Lauderdale.

We urge you to consider the accommodation of dedicated bicycle lanes within this project. Our City is committed to improving the safety for all users of roadways to allow for multimodal transportation options. Southeast Florida is ranked among the most dangerous places for bicyclists and together we can work to make our roads safer. We look forward to your positive response.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Lee Feldman, City Manager at (954) 828-5959.

Sincerely,



John P. "Jack" Seiler  
Mayor

c: Lee Feldman, City Manager  
Susanne Torriente, Assistant City Manager  
Diana Alarcon, Director of Transportation & Mobility  
James Wolfe, FDOT District 4, Secretary  
DeWayne Carver, FDOT Bicycle & Pedestrian  
Coordinator Gerry O'Reilly, P.E., FDOT District 4,  
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