



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

FROM: Greg Chavarria, City Manager

DATE: April 16, 2024

TITLE: Resolution Supporting the Advancement of the Preferred Alternative
Concept for the SE/SW 17th Street Mobility Hub Project - **(Commission
District 4)**

Recommendation

Staff recommends the City Commission adopt a resolution supporting the Preferred Alternative Concept for the SE/SW 17th Street Mobility Hub project between US1/Federal Highway to SW 9th Avenue and its advancement into the design phase.

Background

The Broward Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) completed a Complete Streets Master Plan (CSMP) to guide future investments by creating a prioritized list of projects based on technical, data-driven analysis, and community input. The focus of the plan is to create a safe and balanced transportation system, encouraging healthier communities, and increasing the economic vitality of the region. The CSMP was adopted by the MPO Board on February 14, 2019.

SE/SW 17th Street between US1/Federal Highway and SW 9th Avenue was identified as a high-ranking project in the CSMP which is under the jurisdiction of the City of Fort Lauderdale. City staff conducted several preliminary outreach activities with Croissant Park, Poinciana Park, and Harbordale to develop the initial concepts to become funding eligible through the MPO. This preliminary concept was endorsed by the City Commission on May 2, 2023 (CAM 23-0418).

In June 2023, the City was notified that the MPO had identified Federal Transit Administration funding for the project.

In October 2023, City of Fort Lauderdale and the Broward MPO entered a Metro Transportation Engineering & Construction Cooperative (MTECC) Interlocal Agreement (ILA) that allows MTECC to manage transportation projects. As a requirement of the ILA, additional agreements are needed for each project to define the roles, responsibilities and any local funding requirements associated with MTECC management/service fees.

The first phase of the project was the further development of the proposed concept endorsed by the City Commission and a potential second alternative into a final Preferred Alternative. This included stakeholder outreach including public meetings on January 11, 2024 and March 13, 2024. Additionally, there have been meetings with a city department stakeholder group, Broward County staff stakeholder group, and various individual stakeholder property owners along SE/SW 17th Street.

Through the outreach process, a preferred alternative (Alternative One), was chosen by consensus of the stakeholders. The preferred alternative, Alternative One, is attached as Exhibit 1 which is divided into four segments including:

- Segment 1 - SW 9th Avenue to SW 4th Avenue - completes sidewalks, implements traffic calming through raised intersections at SW 8th Avenue and SW 6th Avenue, and realigns the eastbound approach to SW 4th Avenue.
- Segment 2 - SW 4th Avenue to Andrews Avenue – maintains the existing number of travel lanes at a reduced width, moves curbs inward to add raised separated bike lane inside of existing tree line, retains existing sidewalks and trees outside the existing curb, adds a raised intersection at SW 3rd Avenue with crosswalks, and reconfigures the median at the SW 2nd Avenue intersection to improve safety.
- Segment 3 - Andrews Avenue to SE 3rd Avenue – removes the underutilized right turn lanes in each direction to be able to move curbs in to add raised separated bike lane inside of existing tree line, lengthens the westbound left turn lane at Andrews Avenue, and adds a raised intersection at SE 1st Avenue with crosswalks.
- Segment 4 - SE 3rd Avenue to US1/Federal Highway – maintains the existing number of travel lanes, moves curbs inward to add raised bike lanes, adds a new crosswalk at SE 4th Avenue, narrows the median opening at the eastbound left turn lane island into Whole Foods.

Detailed information is provided in Exhibit 2.

The MPO requires City Commission support by April 30, 2024, to move the project into formal design in the new fiscal year starting on July 1, 2024. Design is anticipated to begin by the end of 2024 and last approximately 18 months, with construction to follow.

Resource Impact

There is no fiscal impact associated with this action. Design and construction will be funded by the MPO and managed by MTECC.

In a future year following the completion of construction, funding will be needed for maintenance any new features including but not limited to, pavement markings, lighting, landscaping, decorative pavement on raised intersections, new sidewalk area, and raised

bike lanes.

Strategic Connections

This item is a *2024 Commission Priority*, advancing the Transportation and Traffic initiative.

This item supports the *Press Play Fort Lauderdale 2029 Strategic Plan*, specifically advancing:

- The Infrastructure and Resilience Focus Area, Goal 4: Facilitate an efficient, multimodal transportation network.

This item supports the Advance Fort Lauderdale 2040 Comprehensive Plan specifically advancing:

- Infrastructure Focus Area
- Transportation and Mobility Element
- Goal 2: Obtain the highest possible value and utility from investments in the City's Transportation Network

This item advances the *Fast Forward Fort Lauderdale Vision Plan 2035: We Are Connected*.

Attachments

Exhibit 1 – SE/SW 17th Street Project Area

Exhibit 2 – Preferred Alternative Preliminary Concept Plans

Exhibit 3 – Resolution

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