



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

FROM: Lee R. Feldman, ICMA-CM, City Manager

DATE: March 4, 2014

TITLE: MOTION – Authorizing Submission of a Letter to be signed by the Mayor
to FDOT Secretary Prasad Requesting Bicycle Lanes on SR-5/US-1
(Sunrise Boulevard)

Recommendation

It is recommended that the City Commission authorize the submission of a letter to be signed by the Mayor to the Secretary of the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) requesting that designated bicycle lanes be included as a part of the Restoration, Resurfacing & Reconstruction (RRR) project located along SR5/US1 (Sunrise Blvd.) between Searstown and NE 17th Way.

Background

FDOT is currently in the process of designing the resurfacing of SR5/US1 from Broward Boulevard to NE 17th Way (Sunrise Boulevard section).

On August 13, 2013 the FDOT held a public meeting at Artserve to discuss the project with the community. Through this outreach, neighbors expressed the concern with the proposed bicycle accommodations being a 13 foot outside lane with shared lane markings (sharrows) between Searstown and NE 17th Way.

Since that public meeting, City staff has been requesting FDOT District 4 include designated bike lanes along this segment to no avail. The City has requested that the 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 based on posted speeds to reduce lane widths to allow for a designated bike lane. The continued response has been that FDOT will not install designated bike lanes here due to the high traffic volumes and high number of accidents, and their desire to retain 11' lanes in this area.

Staff believes that narrowing the travel lanes to accommodate designated bicycle lanes will improve the safety of all modes of transportation by providing dedicated spaces for

each user. Dedicated bike lanes will give a lane to bicyclists so that motorists will be aware of where bikes will be, as well as help take bikes off of the sidewalks in this area improving pedestrian safety as well.

Fast Forward Fort Lauderdale identifies becoming a Connected Community as the number one priority of our neighbors. Advocating to our partners in FDOT and Broward County to have that same commitment to Complete Streets by providing safe transportation alternatives within all projects is critical to realizing our vision.

Resource Impact

None.

Strategic Connections

1. This item helps advance the *Fast Forward Fort Lauderdale* vision of **We are 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.

Attachment(s):

Exhibit 1 – Letter to FDOT Secretary Prasad

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