



CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE
City Commission Agenda Memo
REGULAR MEETING

CAM #18-0537

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

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

DATE: June 19, 2018

TITLE: Resolution in Support of the Florida Department of Transportation's Project
to Reconfigure SE 28th Street and US1 and to Add a Lane to the Existing
Southbound US1 / I-595 On-ramp

Recommendation

It is recommended that the City Commission adopt a resolution in support of the Florida Department of Transportation's (FDOT) project to reconfigure the intersection at SE 28th Street and US1 and add a lane to the existing southbound US1 / I-595 on-ramp.

Background

The City Commission endorsed the SE 17th Street Mobility Master Plan on June 20, 2017 which included a recommendation to widen the I-595 on-ramp from southbound US1 to help alleviate congestion on US1. The SE 17th Street Working Group, charged to move implementation strategies forward, identified this action item as a priority. Through the collaborations created with the planning process and the working group, this implementation strategy has been moved forward by FDOT.

FDOT completed a concept plan of improvements to the intersection of SE 28th Street and US1, as well as the addition of a lane to the on-ramp onto I-595 from US1 in order to improve southbound traffic flow on US1. The improvements were presented at the March 26, 2018 meeting of the SE 17th Street Working Group where the group endorsed the proposal with a request that FDOT make efforts to expedite the design and construction, due to its significant positive impact on congestion within the study area.

The improvements at the intersection of SE 28th Street and US1 will reconfigure the geometry of the intersection to a standard 4-legged intersection by removing direct access to US1 from SE 6th Avenue. Access to the US Post Office would be maintained via SE 28th Street and removal of excess asphalt from reconfiguring the intersection would result in the addition of green space (Exhibit 1). Staff will work with FDOT to potentially enhance the landscaping in this area to improve the gateway for those traveling to and from the City of Fort Lauderdale, especially from Fort Lauderdale-Hollywood International Airport.

The on-ramp to I-595 from US1 south is nearly at capacity today, in the evening peak rush hour, with nearly 2,000 vehicles per hour utilizing this ramp. The additional on-ramp lane from southbound US1 to I-595 would consist of the addition of several concrete piers to expand the overpass, as well as milling and resurfacing, striping, and signage.

The improvements are anticipated to double the capacity of the on-ramp and help to significantly reduce the vehicle congestion that impacts US1 southbound within the City. It is anticipated that the improvements at the intersection of US1 and SE 28th Street would be completed first and would reduce the delay at that intersection by 24%, with the widening of the on-ramp providing additional larger reduction in delay and congestion.

This project is currently in the concept development phase with design scheduled to begin in 2020 and construction in 2022. The total cost estimate is \$6 million including design, permitting and other costs which would be funded completely by FDOT. Although a resolution of support is not necessary to move the project forward, it is an important component to help advance a project to funding and construction and express the importance of this project to the City of Fort Lauderdale.

Resource Impact

There is no fiscal impact associated with this action. Design and construction will be funded by FDOT.

Strategic Connections

This item is a *Press Play Fort Lauderdale Strategic Plan 2018 initiative*, included within the Infrastructure Cylinder of Excellence, specifically advancing:

- Objective 1: Improve transportation options and reduce congestion by working with agency partners
- Objective 3: Improve pedestrian, bicycle, and vehicular safety

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

Attachments

Exhibit 1 – FDOT Preliminary Design Concept

Exhibit 2 – Resolution

Prepared by: Robert Modys, Transportation and Mobility

Department Director: Diana Alarcon, Transportation and Mobility