



**CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE**  
**City Commission Agenda Memo**  
**REGULAR MEETING**

**#18-1084**

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

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

**DATE:** November 6, 2018

**TITLE:** Resolution in Support of the Florida Department of Transportation's  
Project to Add a Lane to the Existing Southbound US1 / I-595 On-ramp

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**Recommendation**

It is recommended that the City Commission adopt a resolution in support of the Florida Department of Transportation's (FDOT) project to 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. Due to concerns from property owners in the vicinity of the intersection of SE 28<sup>th</sup> Street and US1, the portion of the project that involved changes to the intersection of SE 28<sup>th</sup> Street and US1 has been eliminated.

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 (Exhibit 1).

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.

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 – March 26, 2018 – FDOT Presentation

Exhibit 3 – SE 17<sup>th</sup> Street Working Group March Meeting Summary

Exhibit 4 – Resolution

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Prepared by: Robert Modys, Transportation and Mobility

Interim Department Director: Julie Leonard, Transportation and Mobility