

Memorandum



Date: July 24, 2007
To: Honorable Chairman Bruno A. Barreiro
and Members, Board of County Commissioners
From: George J. Burgos
County Manager
Subject: Construction Sequencing Plan for NW 87 Avenue
from NW 154 Street to NW 186 Street

Agenda Item No. 12(B)1

BACKGROUND

At the April 10, 2007, Governmental Operations and Environment Committee, the construction contract award for a roadway project along NW 87 Avenue from NW 162 Street to NW 170 Street was deleted from the ratification agenda, in order to allow the Public Works Department (PWD) to develop a plan to construct the entire NW 87 Avenue corridor from NW 154 Street to NW 183 Street as depicted in the People's Transportation Plan (PTP).

At the May 8, 2007 meeting of the Board of County Commissioners (BCC), a resolution was passed directing the County Manager to develop a construction sequencing plan to improve NW 87 Avenue between NW 154 Street and NW 186 Street, and report back with a proposal within 60 days. The directive was for the project to commence at the northern end of the corridor and proceed south towards NW 154 Street, be designed to ensure its efficient completion, cause the least disruption to area residents, maximize the use of lanes to maintain traffic flow, and accommodate all aspects of construction by sequencing the construction work.

Additionally, at the July 10, 2007 meeting of the BCC, a resolution will be presented relating to the acquisition of land required for the subject corridor, designating it a public necessity and allowing PWD to employ appraisers and take all appropriate actions to acquire the required property.

The aforementioned project which entails the construction of a 4-lane roadway along NW 87 Avenue from NW 154 Street to NW 186 Street was included as part of the Major Highway and Road Improvements, as identified by Commissioner Seijas in the PTP Ordinance. At the inception of the PTP program, priority was given to those projects with no right-of-way acquisition required. Since not all of the right-of-way along this corridor was available for the aforementioned improvements, the progress of the construction was impacted to allow for the time required to accomplish the acquisition process.

Presently, NW 87 Avenue is 2-lanes from NW 162 Street to NW 164 Street; 4-lanes from NW 164 Street to NW 166 Terrace; and 2-lanes from NW 166 Terrace to NW 186 Street. No roadway exists from NW 154 Street to NW 162 Street. The Public Works Department (PWD) constructed the western 2-lanes and installed localized drainage from NW 164 Street to NW 166 Terrace. Therefore, since there is a gap from NW 154 Street to NW 162 Street, a lack of continuity exists along the corridor.

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Although it is advantageous and beneficial to adjacent communities to construct continuous roadway corridors at one time in order to minimize disruption to area residents, due to the lack of required right-of-way and pending development in the general area, PWD proceeded to initiate the design and construction of this corridor in several phases. Other portions of the corridor were to be constructed in future phases as the rights-of-way would become available.

Thus, in the year 2004 PWD initiated the design and construction of the western 2-lanes of NW 87 Avenue from NW 162 Street to NW 170 Street in order to complete the first segment of the corridor. Said project funded by Road Impact Fee District 3, with prior year funds allocated for this roadway, was bid and awarded through the Expedite Ordinance.

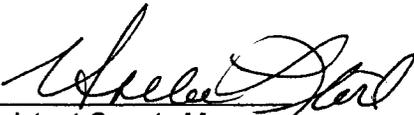
However, since the project was not ratified by the BCC, the Notice to Proceed has not been issued to the contractor. Therefore, in order to implement the construction in accordance with the above noted resolutions, the aforementioned contract needs to be terminated by the County for convenience.

CONSTRUCTION SEQUENCE

In an effort to expedite the construction of this important corridor, PWD will proceed to prepare a Master Plan with in-house staff, as well as the necessary contracting documents to develop a design-build package for bidding and construction. The design-build package will include the requirement of starting the construction from the north and progressing to the south to NW 154 Street. Although the design-build process has not been utilized previously by PWD, it has been used successfully by the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT), the private industry and other County Departments. This process is designed to save time and will serve as a template for utilization in future PWD roadway projects.

To further expedite the project, the design-build contract documents will be developed by PWD in parallel with the right-of-way acquisition process required for this project.

PWD is confident that the plan described above will ensure efficient completion, cause the least disruption to area residents, maintain traffic flow, and accommodate all aspects of construction.


Assistant County Manager