

MEMORANDUM

Agenda Item No. 5(F)

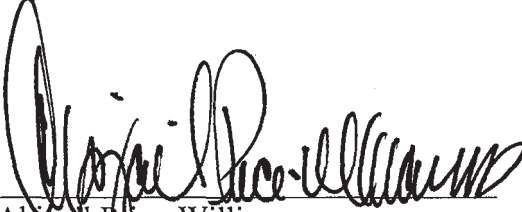
TO: Honorable Chairwoman Audrey M. Edmonson
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

DATE: May 5, 2020

FROM: Abigail Price-Williams
County Attorney

SUBJECT: Resolution authorizing the
construction of intersection
improvements on Old Cutler
Road at SW 67 Avenue, SW 136
Street, SW 152 Street, and SW
184 Street

The accompanying resolution was prepared by the Transportation and Public Works Department and placed on the agenda at the request of Prime Sponsor Commissioner Daniella Levine Cava.



Abigail Price-Williams
County Attorney

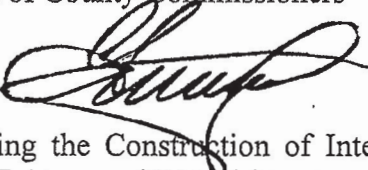
APW/uw

Memorandum



Date: May 5, 2020

To: Honorable Chairwoman Audrey M. Edmonson
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

From: Carlos A. Gimenez
Mayor 

Subject: Resolution Authorizing the Construction of Intersection Improvements on Old Cutler Road at SW 67 Avenue, SW 136 Street, SW 152 Street and SW 184 Street

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Board of County Commissioners (Board) approve the attached resolution authorizing intersection improvements on Old Cutler Road through the construction of four (4) traffic circles at the intersections of SW 67 Avenue, SW 136 Street, SW 152 Street and SW 184 Street (Project). The objective of the Project is to develop feasible improvements from an operational, safety and roadway design perspective in order to make traffic flow smoothly at all the intersections and along the entire roadway network on Old Cutler Road. The proposed improvements will not detract from the historical features of the road and will enhance safety for area residents and other users.

Scope

The Project is located within District 7, which is represented by Commissioner Xavier L. Suarez, and District 8, which is represented by Commissioner Daniella Levine Cava.

Fiscal Impact/Funding Source

Although there is no fiscal impact associated with this authorization to proceed with the planned safety improvements, the cost for future contracts for the construction is estimated at \$4,565,754.00. Funding for these improvements will be from Road Impact Fee District 5. The maintenance operations will be funded through the Department of Transportation and Public Works (DTPW) General Fund Allocation at an estimated yearly cost of \$3,536.35.

Track Record/Monitor

The design phase of the Project will be assigned to Leandro Oña, P.E., Chief, Highway Division, DTPW. The construction phase of the Project will be assigned to Rene Idarraga, P.E., Chief, Construction Division, DTPW.

Background

Old Cutler Road is a 14.9 mile stretch of highway that is one of the oldest roadways in the southern part of Miami-Dade County. This roadway was constructed prior to the turn of the 20th century. The northern terminus of the road is Cartagena Circle, at the edge of the Coral Gables waterway, which connects LeJeune Road, Sunset Drive, Ingraham Highway and Cocoplum Road. Old Cutler then winds its way south through the cities of Coral Gables, Pinecrest, Palmetto Bay, Cutler Bay and ends in unincorporated Miami-Dade County.

The State legislature designated Old Cutler Road as a Florida Historic Highway in 1974 and Miami-Dade County adopted Section 9-2 of the Miami-Dade County Code (Code) to preserve this roadway by prohibiting the widening or expansion of Old Cutler Road from its presently paved right-of-way unless such limited expansion of intersection is for the purpose of assuring safe travel. Prior to the Board authorizing an expansion, the Code provides that a public hearing must occur with reasonable notice by publication.

Throughout the years, development in the southern area of Miami-Dade County has caused Old Cutler Road to become extremely congested, with many residents east of US-1 preferring to utilize this winding country-style roadway. In order to alleviate traffic congestion and address safety concerns and as Old Cutler Road is a minor arterial road, the Village of Palmetto Bay commissioned a traffic study in June 2019, which was revised in October 2019, to evaluate intersection improvements at seven (7) signalized intersections along Old Cutler Road from SW 67 Avenue to SW 184 Street. The objective of this study was to develop feasible improvements from an operational, safety and roadway design perspective in order to make traffic flow smoothly at all the intersections and throughout the entire roadway network on Old Cutler Road within the municipalities of Pinecrest, Palmetto Bay and Cutler Bay.

Crash data for the period between January 01, 2015 and December 31, 2017 was obtained from the University of Florida's Signal Four Analytics for the seven (7) signalized intersections on Old Cutler Road within the limits included in the October 2019 study. In addition, the Miami-Dade County Police Department provided crash data specifically related to pedestrian and bicycle incidents for the study period that were included as part of the analysis.

A summary of the crash types for each intersection in the influence area for the three years analyzed are listed in Tables 8 through 13 pages 17, 18 and 19 of the study. According to the FDOT Highway Safety Improvement Program Guidelines, the influence area is approximately 250 feet from the center of the intersection to each side of the segment. For purposes of the crash analyses, the intersections of Old Cutler Road at SW 136th Street and at SW 67th Avenue were analyzed together since they are approximately 450 feet apart. From the information obtained a total of 230 crashes were reported within the project limits for the three-year period. The highest crash locations are on Old Cutler Road at SW 136 Street and SW 67 Avenue, SW 152 Street, and SW 184 Street. The annual averages of accidents at these intersections are 21 crashes, 19 crashes and 11 crashes, respectively.

According to the United States Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration, roundabouts provide lasting benefits and value as they are often safer (not only for vehicles, but for pedestrians and bicyclists) and more efficient than conventional intersection design. The curvature of a roundabout results in lower speeds (generally 15-25 mph) that lessens the severity of an accident. Most significantly, according to the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials Highway Safety Manual, roundabouts also reduce the number of crashes where people are seriously injured or killed by 78 percent to 82 percent when compared to conventional stop-controlled and signalized intersections.

From the October 19, 2019 traffic study, when comparing the existing signalized intersections and the Consultant's Alternative 3, which suggests construction of the four traffic circles as the preferred option, there is a significant increase in average delay on all legs of the intersections. The existing Level of Service (LOS) rose an average of two significant grades levels. Therefore, the proposed circles provide not only a benefit to traffic flow by improving the functionality of the intersections, but also provide a significantly safer intersection.

Based on the intersection LOS and roadway network analysis, it was determined that replacing four signalized intersections with two-lane roundabouts would result in better operating performance for Old Cutler Road. The Project includes the construction of four traffic circles at the intersections of Old Cutler Road and SW 67 Avenue, SW 136 Street, SW 152 Street and SW 184 Street. The remaining three intersections along Old Cutler Road within the Village of Palmetto Bay where a two-lane roundabout is not feasible will remain as signalized intersections.

Based on this information, DTPW recommends approval under Section 9-2 of the Code with respect to safety improvements along Old Cutler Road within the Project limits.



Jennifer Moon
Deputy Mayor



MEMORANDUM
(Revised)

TO: Honorable Chairwoman Audrey M. Edmonson
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

DATE: May 5, 2002

FROM: 
Abigail Price-Williams
County Attorney

SUBJECT: Agenda Item No. 5(F)

Please note any items checked.

- "3-Day Rule" for committees applicable if raised
- 6 weeks required between first reading and public hearing
- 4 weeks notification to municipal officials required prior to public hearing
- Decreases revenues or increases expenditures without balancing budget
- Budget required
- Statement of fiscal impact required
- Statement of social equity required
- Ordinance creating a new board requires detailed County Mayor's report for public hearing
- No committee review
- Applicable legislation requires more than a majority vote (i.e., 2/3's present ____, 2/3 membership ____, 3/5's ____, unanimous ____, CDMP 7 vote requirement per 2-116.1(3)(h) or (4)(c) ____, CDMP 2/3 vote requirement per 2-116.1(3)(h) or (4)(c) ____, or CDMP 9 vote requirement per 2-116.1(4)(c)(2) ____) to approve
- Current information regarding funding source, index code and available balance, and available capacity (if debt is contemplated) required

Approved _____ Mayor
Veto _____
Override _____

Agenda Item No. 5(F)
5-5-20

RESOLUTION NO. _____

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CONSTRUCTION OF
INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS ON OLD CUTLER ROAD
AT SW 67 AVENUE, SW 136 STREET, SW 152 STREET, AND
SW 184 STREET

WHEREAS, Section 9-2 of the Code of Miami-Dade County prohibits the widening or expansion of Old Cutler Road from its presently paved right-of-way except for the purpose of assuring safe travel; and

WHEREAS, Section 9-2 of the Code permits the Board of County Commissioners to permit the limited expansion of intersections on said Old Cutler Road for purposes of assuring safe travel on Old Cutler Road, after public hearing, with reasonable notice by newspaper publication; and

WHEREAS, in order to improve the operation along Old Cutler Road the Department of Transportation and Public Works (DTPW) has approved the construction of four traffic circles at the intersections of Old Cutler Road and SW 67 Avenue, SW 136 Street, SW 152 Street, and SW 184 Street; and

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners has conducted a public hearing as required by Section 9-2 of the Code, and desires to accomplish the purposes outlined in the accompanying memorandum, a copy of which is incorporated herein by reference,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, that:

Section 1. The foregoing recitals are incorporated in this resolution and are approved.

Section 2. This Board finds that the expansion of Old Cutler Road as set forth in the accompanying memorandum is necessary in an effort to assure safe travel along Old Cutler Road.

The foregoing resolution was offered by Commissioner _____, who moved its adoption. The motion was seconded by Commissioner _____ and upon being put to a vote, the vote was as follows:

- | | |
|--------------------------------|----------------------|
| Audrey M. Edmonson, Chairwoman | |
| Rebeca Sosa, Vice Chairwoman | |
| Esteban L. Bovo, Jr. | Daniella Levine Cava |
| Jose "Pepe" Diaz | Sally A. Heyman |
| Eileen Higgins | Barbara J. Jordan |
| Joe A. Martinez | Jean Monestime |
| Dennis C. Moss | Sen. Javier D. Souto |
| Xavier L. Suarez | |

The Chairperson thereupon declared this resolution duly passed and adopted this 5th day of May, 2020. This resolution shall become effective upon the earlier of (1) 10 days after the date of its adoption unless vetoed by the County Mayor, and if vetoed, shall become effective only upon an override by this Board, or (2) approval by the County Mayor of this resolution and the filing of this approval with the Clerk of the Board.

MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA
BY ITS BOARD OF
COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

HARVEY RUVIN, CLERK

By: _____
Deputy Clerk

Approved by County Attorney as
to form and legal sufficiency.



Lauren E. Morse