

TOWN OF PALM BEACH

Information for Town Council Meeting on: August 9, 2022

TO: Mayor and Town Council

VIA: Kirk W. Blouin, Town Manager

FROM: H. Paul Brazil, P.E., Director of Public Works

RE: Update on Florida Department of Transportation Projects within the Town of Palm Beach

DATE: July 22, 2022

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff was requested to provide an update of Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) projects within the Town of Palm Beach.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Town staff has been in contact with FDOT on several efforts within the Town. Below is an update on each project.

South Ocean Boulevard between Ibis Way and Lake Avenue

At the May 10, 2022 Town Council Meeting, staff presented an evaluation of the proposed FDOT project for improvements on South Ocean Boulevard from Lake Avenue to Ibis Way. As a result of the Town Council discussion, the attached letter from Mayor Danielle Moore was sent to the FDOT Project Manager on May 31st expressing the Town's position on the project. On June 2nd, staff and Town Council members attended a Public Meeting held by FDOT which presented the aspects of this project to the public. At this meeting, Jason Debrincat, Senior Project Engineer, read the Mayor's letter into the record. Staff has requested numerous updates on the status of the project since the meeting but have been unsuccessful. Staff will continue to pursue an update from FDOT.

South Ocean Boulevard and South County Road from Southern Boulevard to Royal Palm Way

FDOT has been working with Town staff for the last six (6) months on another project within the Town limits. This project is a maintenance project, and the limits of the project are from just south of Southern Boulevard to Royal Palm Way, which includes several improvements along with standard milling and resurfacing of the FDOT roadway.

- Replacement of the sidewalk from Brazilian Avenue to Royal Palm Way, which will include the privately owned sidewalk as long as property owners sign agreements with FDOT. The Town has long sought FDOT to replace this sidewalk. Former Mayor Gail Coniglio met on site several times over the last six (6) years requesting FDOT replace these sidewalks. FDOT is requesting the Town pay for the portion of the sidewalk outside of the right-of-way.
- Replacement of mast arms at the intersection of Royal Palm Way and South County Road.

- Replacement of mast arms at Worth Avenue, Hammond Avenue, and Peruvian Avenue will be replaced with decorative mast arms. At the appropriate time, staff will present renderings of the intersections for Town Council review.
- Streetlights will be modified to LED lights using existing poles.

FDOT has requested the use of Town Council Chambers in November for a Public Meeting to present 60 percent plans to the residents and address questions. Staff will assist FDOT with this meeting. The present schedule for this work is to begin construction in April of 2024.

South County Road between Royal Palm Way and Royal Poinciana Way

As part of the Undergrounding Project, the Town has requested that FDOT participate in replacing the sidewalk along South County Road between Royal Palm Way and Royal Poinciana Way. FDOT staff indicated that the initial review of the sidewalks did not support full replacement. Staff is continuing to work with FDOT to seek cooperation on the sidewalk replacement.

Royal Palm Way bridge painting is scheduled to begin September 7, 2022. Staff has requested this be delayed to May 2023. FDOT staff responded that the contract had been awarded and a delay would not be issued. Mayor Danielle Moore, subsequent to the June Town Council meeting, sent a letter requesting the painting be delayed. At this time, staff has not received any notification of the schedule for the bridge painting.

FUNDING/FISCAL IMPACT

If approved by Town Council, funding for upgrades such as decorative mast arms in place of FDOT standard mast arms will come from the Capital Improvement Plan Budget as part of the Pavement Management Program. These will be limited to cost difference of standard FDOT mast arms and decorative mast arms. The cost will also include the additional private sidewalk between Brazilian Avenue and Royal Palm Way.

Attachments

cc: Carolyn Stone, Assistant Town Manager
Eric Brown, P.E., Assistant Director of Public Works
Patricia Strayer, P.E., Town Engineer
Mark Bresnahan, Recreation Director