

TOWN OF PALM BEACH

Information for Town Council Meeting on: April 3, 2023

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: March 27, 2023

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Town 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, a 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.

At the December 13, 2022 meeting, staff provided an additional briefing. At the conclusion of the briefing, Town Council requested a letter from Mayor Danielle Moore be sent to the Governor stating the Town's position on the FDOT improvements. At this time, the Town has not received a response from the Governor.

State Road A1A from Emerald Way to Royal Palm Way

Staff presented an update of the FDOT project from Emerald Way to Royal Palm Way at the February 14, 2023 meeting. FDOT has been working with Town staff for the last several months on this project within the Town limits. FDOT held a public meeting on this project February 7, 2023. The Town's primary objections were to the additional stripping of pavement between the parking and the driving lane and the inclusion of pavement marking for bicyclist throughout the corridor. Town Council requested Mayor Danielle Moore to send a letter to the District Four Secretary of FDOT. This letter was sent March 2, 2023. Staff has continued to work with FDOT on this project. Staff has received assurances that the additional markings between the parking and the travel lanes will be removed.

Subsequent to this letter, Mayor Moore received a response from the District Four Secretary reiterating that the pavement markings for bicyclist are required.

Staff has received the Memorandum of Agreement from FDOT which outlines the shared cost for upgrades to the mast arms and additional sidewalk between Brazilian Avenue and Royal Palm Way. Staff is presently reviewing the cost estimates and the agreement language. These should be presented to Town Council for consideration at the May meeting.

State Road A1A from Ibis Way north to Emerald Way

Included in the letter dated March 14, 2023 from the District Four Secretary, a new project was identified. This project had not been mentioned in any previous discussions or presentations. This is the section of A1A that would connect the above two (2) projects. The letter indicates the design is scheduled to begin in the spring of 2023. Construction is programmed for the fall of 2025.

Royal Palm Bridge Painting

The Royal Palm Way bridge painting is scheduled to begin May 2023. Staff will work with FDOT to minimize impacts to traffic across the bridge.

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.

Attachment

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