

MEMORANDUM

To: The Honorable Board of County Commissioners
From: Ron Schulhofer, Public Works Director
Date: October 6, 2017
Subject: **Project Status Report**
44th Avenue Roadway Projects



To keep the Board of County Commissioners (BoCC) informed, this Executive Summary has been created to address the ongoing status of the various phases of the 44th Avenue Roadway Project.

Scope of Project:

The segment of 44th Avenue East from US 41 to 15th Street East is designed as a three-lane divided roadway with sidewalks and streetlights. The segments from 15th Street East to 45th Street East are designed as a four-lane divided roadway with landscaped medians, bike lanes, sidewalks and streetlights. The segments from 45th Street East to Lakewood Ranch Boulevard will be designed as a four-lane divided roadway, with landscaped medians, bike lanes, sidewalks, and will include two bridges.

44th Avenue East US 41 to 19th Street Court East

This segment was completed on November 28, 2015.

44th Avenue East – 19th Street Court East to 30th Street East

Design/Permit Status: Complete

Land Acquisition: Complete

Schedule:

The BoCC approved the project award to E.T. Mackenzie on November 3, 2015. Notice to Proceed (NTP) was issued January 4, 2016. The main portion of the project along 44th Avenue and the roundabouts on 38th Avenue East are substantially complete.

Current Construction Activities:

All construction has been completed in this segment of 44th Avenue along with the roundabouts on 38th Avenue East. Signals at US 301 and 30th Street East have been activated and opened to traffic.

Public Works Department
Project Management Division
1022 26th Avenue East, Bradenton, FL 34208-3926
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Work at US 301/38th Avenue East intersection has begun. The signal at this location has been removed and removal of paved medium is in progress. Upon completion of work at 38th Avenue East / US 301, the project will receive a final lift of asphalt and striping.

44th Avenue East - 30th Street East to 45th Street East

Design/Permit Status: Complete

Land Acquisition: Complete

Schedule:

The BoCC approved the project award to Woodruff & Sons, Inc. on January 27, 2015, with the NTP issued shortly thereafter. The project is substantially complete with the exception of the signalization at 37th Street East.

Current Construction Activities

Construction has been completed from 30th Street East to 45th Street East, with the exception of the signal at 37th Street East. Upon completion of this work, the final lift of asphalt and striping will be completed.

Looking Ahead

There is a delay at the 37th Street East intersection due to a FPL pole which is too close to the new signal strain pole. Relocation of the FPL pole has been scheduled and should occur in November 2017. Signals will be erected immediately upon completion of that work.

44th Avenue East – from 45th Street East to 44th Avenue Plaza East (Braden River Crossing)

Design Status:

Coordination is ongoing between County staff and the consultant to address the design review comments and to incorporate several design revisions that are necessary to complete the 100% plans. The anticipated submittal of the final 100% plans is by the end of 2017.

Permit Status:

- An Environmental Resource Permit Application has been submitted to the Southwest Florida Water Management District (SWFWMD). SWFWMD had comments on the application submittal and provided a Request for Additional Information (RAI) to the consultant. Responses to the RAI are due in October. An extension may be required to include design revisions that are currently being finalized by the consultant.
- A Dredge/Fill Permit Application has been submitted as a joint application to the SWFWMD and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACOE). Intent to Issue was received

from the USACOE on April 18, 2017. The permit will be issued once the SWFWMD Environmental Resource Permit is issued.

- An Eagle Disturbance Permit that was prepared in coordination with the consultant on the adjacent project (44th Ave. E. – 44th Ave. Plaza E. to Lakewood Ranch Blvd.) was issued by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) on August 27, 2017. As of June, the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission no longer requires a state bald eagle disturbance permit as long as a federal permit is obtained from the FWS.
- An advance approval letter with an expiration date of September 2018 has been received from the U.S. Coast Guard for the bridge.
- A gopher tortoise technical memorandum is to be prepared prior to construction activities.
- A FEMA No-Rise Certification is pending County review and approval.
- The consultant has prepared Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) utility permit applications that will be submitted to the FDEP following County plan review and approval of the revised 100% plans.

Land Acquisition:

Appraisals, offers and preparation for eminent domain suits are ongoing for the 38 parcels that will be impacted by this project. As of September 28, 2017, 33 appraisal reports have been received, 32 offers have been delivered, 5 contracts have been executed and 8 offers have verbal agreements with the owners.

Schedule:

Submittal of the 100% plans is anticipated by the end of 2017. Permitting and land acquisition is anticipated to occur through 2018.

Current Activities:

The consultant is making the final revisions to the 100% design package. Permitting and land acquisition are ongoing. Florida Power and Light (FPL) is designing the relocation of transmission poles affected by the proposed roadway alignment over the Braden River.

Looking Ahead:

Land acquisition and permitting is anticipated to be completed by late 2018.

44th Avenue East – from 44th Avenue Plaza East (crossing I-75) to Lakewood Ranch

Design/Permit Status:

The project is being designed in two phases with Phase 1 extending from 44th Ave. Plaza E. to approximately 1,100 feet west of the Interstate 75 (I-75) right-of-way. Phase 2 includes the proposed I-75 overpass and extends easterly to Lakewood Ranch Blvd. The 75% Phase 1 plans are now being prepared with an anticipated delivery in the fall of 2017. The 30% Phase 2 design plans submittal is anticipated to be in late 2017.

The consultant (HDR) is continuing with regulatory permit coordination with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, Southwest Florida Water Management District, the Florida Department of Environmental Protection and the Florida Department of Transportation.

Land Acquisition:

Land acquisition needs will be determined as the design develops.

Schedule:

Anticipate 75% Phase 1 and 30% Phase 2 design submittals in late 2017.

Current Activities:

Regulatory permit coordination is ongoing. Field crews are conducting survey, environmental and geotechnical data collection. Possible mitigation sites are being evaluated by the consultant.

Preliminary engineering related to the roadway alignment along the south side of the existing South Lake at the Southeast Water Reclamation Facility (SEWRF) is currently being reviewed.

We are investigating the potential for the joint-use of several existing stormwater management ponds that are located adjacent to the proposed roadway corridor at the eastern limits of the project.

Looking Ahead:

Survey, environmental and geotechnical investigations will continue in the field, along with the ongoing design and plan development for Phase 1 and Phase 2.

Budget Status

Total Budget:

US 41 – Lakewood Ranch Boulevard	\$142,459,112.00
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Total Expenditures to Date:

US 41 – Lakewood Ranch Boulevard	\$56,453,265.03
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Funding Sources:

Gas Taxes, Road Impact Fees, Transportation Bonds, and \$1,530,150 FDOT contribution.

RS/ms/es

cc: Ed Hunzeker, County Administrator
Dan Schlandt, Deputy County Administrator
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JS
CM