



International Drive Resort Area Chamber of Commerce

I-4 / Sand Lake Road Interchange Oversight Committee

June 28, 2023

Meeting Purpose:	Weekly International Drive Resort Area Chamber of Commerce – I-4 and Sand Lake Road Interchange Oversight Committee Meeting #5
Meeting Date/Time:	Wednesday, June 28, 2023, 3:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Location:	Zoom Meeting
Attendees:	I-Drive: David Vallillo (Host), Maria Triscari FDOT: John Hatfield, Esther Montoya, Seta Koroitamudu, Ryan Flipse Orange County: Krista Taraszewski (OCTP), Blanche Hardy, Kelly Nowell, Alberto Vargas (Orange County Planning Manager), Rick Baldocchi (I-Drive Pedestrian Overpass Consultant) HNTB: Jim Moulton, Leeland Shelton Global-5: Katie Wigle, Mike Wacht

Agenda

1. Past Project Status:
 - a. FDOT to Review past 7-Days
 - i. Continued to mulch in Area 1.
 - ii. Continued I-4 median widening.
 - iii. Global-5 installed fence banners on Sand Lake Road in Areas 1 & 2.
 - b. Committees Comments & Suggestions
2. Future Project Status
 - a. FDOT to Review next 7-Days
 - i. Continue hauling Clearing and Grubbing vegetation debris from Areas and relocating into mulching in Area 1, 8 & 9.
 - ii. Begin C&G vegetation debris Mulching in Area 8 & 9.
 - iii. Continue I-4 median widening.
 - b. Committees Comments & Suggestions
3. Future Major Milestones
 - a. FDOT to Review next 14-21 Days
 - i. NO WORK July 1-5 for the July 4th Holiday. Suggest Cancellation of Meeting on July 5th.
4. Cleanliness Review
 - a. Committees Observations over past 7-Days



David: Earlier it was brought up that trucks may be entering and exiting the road, and we haven't heard anything since. Is there an update on that in regard to cleanliness impacts?

Ryan: Yes, we are still looking for a Sweeper Truck, but we are still looking at purchasing a rental sweeper truck in the meantime if it is needed.

5. Condition Review
 - a. Committees Observations over past 7-Days
 - b. (Fencing, Wraps, Barricades, Temp. Signage)
6. Gateway Enhancements
 - a. FDOT updates and Committees feedback
7. Old Business
 - a. Update for Micro-link from I-4 Beyond the Ultimate

Mike Wacht: Shares screen showing the webpage. It is hosted on the I4Beyond the Ultimate webpage.

David: The hotline number on the webpage. I think it would make sense to add that number to our standing agenda. If you are getting any comments regarding I-Drive, we would like to bring that to the attention of this committee during these meetings as well.

John Hatfield: You would like to be updated on public comments regarding this project and how we are addressing them?

David: Yes if they are coming through stakeholders that would be a priority. Since we are representing stakeholders.

John: Mike, we will put you as the spokesperson for that.

Mike: We are also developing our "Concierge email" which will provide a daily update on the nearby construction projects.

- b. Ponds and Fountain Possibilities- Under Design Engineer review
8. New Business
 - a. Next meeting 7/12/23.
9. I-Drive Pedestrian Overpass Discussion

Blanche Hardy: Shared screen showing renderings of pedestrian bridge concept.

The drone concept was the selected concept that we will be moving forward with. The towers are reminiscent of the design on the I-4 project. The consultant was tasked with being cohesive with the DOT design.

The interior will be constructed to DOT standards.

Maria Triscari: Is that a railing down at the bottom by the road?



Blanche: It is a type of wall with a concrete base with a clear material, probably not glass, but some sort of high-tech material. That will prevent pedestrians from running or going into the intersection. It is a safety project, and our goal is to get pedestrians off the road and onto the crossing bridge.

David: This is good to understand the aesthetics of it so we can have it be cohesive and flow with the gateway improvements at the intersection. Is there an ETA for when this project will advance?

Blanche: We have provided all of this info to FDOT. We have progressed to the next stage by interacting with the stakeholders. Our real-estate group will be contacting all property managers to discuss what will need to happen to build this structure.

On August 2, we will have a community meeting. We are finalizing that. We will send out flyers and public mailings. Then depending on how the real estate team moves on we are hoping to be done with the study by the end of the year. Of course, that depends on how this step goes. We would then go to the local planning committee, we will go back to them for public hearings, we will ask the board of county commissioners to find the project in compliance. Then we would go to design. We would need to procure a designer, which usually takes 6 months. Once we have the design, we have a lot of utilities in this corridor, so that will take 2-3 years roughly. Then prefabrication and construction. Compared to the time it has taken us to get here, it has gone very quickly.

David: So, you are talking about a timeframe of 2026-2027. John, where would the project at I-4 be at that point?

Ryan: Our schedule is showing completion in January 2025 although there is a contingency for weather so by 2026, we should be done. **

John: We would ideally not like overlap with this project. As we progress, we will work with the County to coordinate. We have had some issues with our pedestrian overpass where people want to climb out on structure, jump, etc. So just look at all access points where that might be possible to make sure that can't happen.

Blanche: We have worked very closely with FDOT, and they are part of our review group. We are very conscious of this.

10. Gateway Enhancements Discussion

David: Maybe we can discuss options that will help alleviate any future potential problems including swapping out areas with lots of grass with an aesthetic concrete design, so that way if the mowing isn't kept on top of, it doesn't look unkempt.

Alberto Vargas Orange County Planning Manager: We are here today reflecting on the vision plan because of the collaboration with everyone, FDOT has been a partner all along when we collaborated with them on the design of the interchange. Maintenance for any additional landscaping material is critical and important. We have identified a certain budget for maintenance. What we are discussing in terms of additional amenities, we originally had a limited budget with funding by FDOT and anything that was identified with the CRA where we had discussion of ponds and etc. – some of that as I recall



was cut back or eliminated because they did not match the allocated funds back then. Those could be some elements that would be further entertained now. Other elements that you have highlighted are low hanging fruits, amenities that could complement interconnectivity and pedestrian interconnectivity. We want to make it substantial that you have arrived – iconic for the area while still being a cohesive element. I think that is what I am hearing today. We need to look at all of those challenges, including funding etc. and then look at those low hanging fruit for a solution.

David: The only other area that I've heard from the committee was specifically related to signage for International Drive and as you pass through I-4 through I-Drive, there is no signage to let you know you have arrived. So, we have an opportunity to step up like Altamonte Springs and Maitland, so you know you are going through a special area. How can we weave that into this as well.

Alberto: I would love to hear from FDOT as well. I know that the elements that are part of the gateway would represent, just by pure nature of the design, would be an attention getter in every aspect. The subliminal representation of messaging is important as well as the literal messaging. We have arrived at a point where we have very specific designs for wayfinding and branding of the I-Drive district with a total of 180 pedestrian, vehicular and gateway signs.

But by the end of the calendar year, we anticipate the installation of the first phase of designs which is just over 60 of the 180 signs. Some of those are strategically planned so we can avoid areas under construction including I-4 and Kirkman road, etc. But I think what you are saying is that we need more signage along I-4 that you are arriving at I-Drive.

David: Yes, maybe not even on the intersection but further down that we have the opportunity to promote I-Drive.

David: We need to find out what the funding would be and where it would come from.

Maria: Maybe at the next meeting we can review and refresh where we are right now. To see what possibilities there are.

John: We are already in construction on this, so whatever we land on, the sooner we get it, the better. There may be procurement issues. Regarding your asks, first we have to make sure you are happy with it, then Orange County will have to OK it, and then I would have to bring in the people that Orange County already collaborated with FDOT on, to help collaborate with everyone.

David: Yes, we know time is of the essence. Maybe more of an enhancement rather than alteration is a direction we will likely have to go. We have to be realistic with the timing.

**Ryan: I apologize, our completion date is January 2027, I misspoke earlier. And then you still have to factor in any weather delays, etc.

John: Alberto, if you don't mind sending me that information regarding the list of people from the County originally involved.

Maria: If you could send it to me also, we can work on setting up a meeting with everyone.



11. Meeting Adjourned.