



International Drive Resort Area Chamber of Commerce

I-4 / Sand Lake Road Interchange Oversight Committee

August 9, 2023

Meeting Purpose:	Weekly International Drive Resort Area Chamber of Commerce – I-4 and Sand Lake Road Interchange Oversight Committee Meeting #10
Meeting Date/Time:	Wednesday, August 9, 2023, 3:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Location:	Zoom Meeting
Attendees:	I-Drive: David Vallillo (Host), Maria Triscari, Fernando Ching, Joshua Wallack FDOT: Esther Montoya, Seta Koroitamudu, Ryan Flipse, Thornton Williams Orange County: Krista Taraszewski (OCTP), Brian Sanders (OCTP), Carter Gresham (OC Planning), Marcos Bastian (OC Planning) HNTB: Jim Moulton, Leeland Shelton Global-5: Katie Wigle, Mike Wacht

Agenda

1. Past Project Status:
 - a. FDOT to Review past 7-Days
 - i. Hauling of mulch from the project.
 - ii. Continued I-4 median widening.

Ryan Flipse: The last contract day will be moving back due to weather days. It will probably be around fall 2027.

On the 3-Week Look-Ahead Schedule, we are working on constructing some of the pre-work for a future bridge. There will be no impact or closures that will affect you.

David Vallillo: What area will that be in?

Ryan: Area 3. We are also still working in the median on I-4 for the next few weeks. If anything changes, we will keep everyone informed.

- b. Committees Comments & Suggestions
2. Future Project Status
 - a. FDOT to Review next 7-Days
 - i. Placing embankment materials in Area 3 in preparation for loop ramp work.
 - ii. Continue I-4 median widening. Will begin base installation this week.



iii. Ongoing mowing.

Ryan: Our contractor's mowing subcontractor walked away from the contract this week, so we have reached out and we are giving them contacts. At FDOT we have asset maintenance contractors that typically would be working on I-4 anyways, so we are giving the contractor who would normally do this area, and also the team that would handle the north. Hopefully between the two of them we will have a solution. We are taking this very seriously. We have about four projects that will be active on I-4 very soon. Daryl Carter Parkway is to the west right now. Our contractor will reach out to them for their mowing people since they handle their own mowing. We will have an update by next Monday on the solution.

David: There is a crew that maintains this area? Is it typical that when you start construction, why do you no longer use that crew?

Ryan: When we start a contract with a contractor, they take ownership of that area. This is a design build project, but when its design bid build we have mowing incorporated. It is the contractor's responsibility. We are going to be very aggressive in the next two days to get this taken care of.

Ryan: Mike, did we get any contact from the public?

Mike Wacht: No

- b. Committees Comments & Suggestions
- 3. Future Major Milestones
 - a. FDOT to Review next 14-21 Days
 - i. No major milestones for this period.

Ryan: Behind the Whole Foods area needs mowing. Our banners may start to take a beating from the heat and the weather, so we will stay on top of that.

David: I drove by recently and thankfully there were no banners flying around or anything negative that was noticeable.

- 4. Cleanliness Review
 - a. Committees Observations over past 7-Days
- 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. Micro-link from I-4 Beyond the Ultimate is live.
 - b. Ponds and Fountain Possibilities- Under Design Engineer review



- c. Sweeper Truck Status- No update on the status of truck purchase other than Lane is still looking for a vehicle. FDOT/CEI has requested pricing for a rental truck until a permanent sweeper can be purchased. Hand Sweeping will be performed if truck is unavailable.
- 8. New Business
 - a. Central Florida Hotel & Lodging Association Presentation
 - i. Wednesday, August 9th, 4 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.
 - b. Upcoming Holiday- Labor Day; the Friday, Saturday, and Sunday immediately preceding Labor Day September 1-4
 - c. Next meeting 8/16/23.
- 9. Meeting Adjourned.

Gateway enhancements:

Esther Montoya: We were able to meet with the County yesterday. We are continuing to work on this, but this is something that needs a lot of research. We are listening and we are doing everything that we can do to meet your expectations, but we have to work within our guidelines. There is still a lot of coordination that needs to happen.

David: We've been talking about raised beds to prevent panhandling. But we have some pictures here that will show a little bit more. We will share these pictures with you, but we want this to be put on record that this is what we are thinking of.

Esther: These are great pictures, if you could send them to us, we will work with them.

Joshua Wallack: *Shares screen with rendering of his proposed solution to change the retention pond to be a parking lot with retention and exfiltration storm drains underneath.* This design is more useful, utilitarian, and easier to maintain and easier to keep beautiful than a pond. It will be good for businesses in the area. This shows a surface parking lot. We would be the ones to provide the capital to enhance this, we would be privately funding this. We are stepping forward with the funds to do this because there is a greater good for this. Marcos is also online with the 2040 vision plan; I think it would be wonderful for these businesses to have parking close by. We think this is the best use of this property, we know it will not ever be built into a building or property.

David: In the 2040 vision plan the issue of parking was identified as an upcoming issue. So, this fulfills that. We are attempting to find solutions for a win-win with the public sector and the private sector that could benefit everyone.

Joshua: Think of the years of maintenance that you won't have if you just left it a retention pond and need to have it mowed and maintained versus, having our landscaping team take ownership. We would like to discuss this with the appropriate FDOT person to get this to happen.



David: I think it would be good to consider this as a different project than the other gateway enhancements, since it is such a large project. And it may need to be fast tracked depending on the engineering requirements. So, we would like to add this on as an additional item to our discussion points during these meetings.

Esther: I put this request under goal three. We are doing research on the capacity that we need for the underground system, so we are already starting research. We have limited access right-of-way, which falls into the jurisdiction of FHWA, because it is a private approval, they typically don't approve this type of thing. Hopefully by next week we can give you a visual to show you the areas that we can work around. We need to look into some sort of construction agreement since you are saying you will pay for it, so we will need to go through our legal team. But we will update you once we know more.

Joshua: Let's find the right mechanism that can make this happen. I know maintenance crews are not allowed to spray weed killer within 30 feet from a water line of a retention pond. So, no matter how well we are maintaining the pond, eventually there's only so much you can do with weeds by the water line.

Esther: It will have to be some sort of lease between the Department and the property owners. Because we are still introducing water, we will need to maintain access and maintenance of that system.