



Florida Department of Transportation

SR 520 Corridor Planning and Concept Development Study

April 5, 2016 Visioning Meeting Summary

Introduction

A visioning team meeting for the SR 520 Study was held on April 5, 2016 in the council chambers at Cocoa City Hall. The purpose of the meeting was to obtain input on the preliminary scenario plans for the corridor from the key stakeholder group that will guide the needs assessment and other elements of the study.

Meeting attendees included Steve Belden, Steven Biel, George Toler, and Ed Wegerif from the City of Cocoa; Susan McGrady from the Cocoa CRA; Allan Chapman from the Historic Cocoa Village Merchants Association; Cocoa residents Stan Bowers, Bob Harvey, Richard Isom, Jim Jacobs, Craig Retelle and Bill Terrell; Judy Pizzo and Lorena Cucek from FDOT; and Nick Lepp and David Nelson from Renaissance Planning.

Project Overview and Scenarios Discussion

The meeting began with a short presentation that summarized the project background, context and process, and introduced the preliminary short- and mid/long-term scenarios. After the presentation, the project team solicited input from the stakeholder group on the scenario concepts. Comments included:

- The BRT alignment needs to shift south – as it is shown now, it goes through Magnolia Plaza (and gazebo), and Harrison Street between Brevard Avenue and Delannoy Avenue is one way with a tight turn that buses couldn't maneuver
- On-street parking along King and Willard Streets could also be used as loading zones to pull deliveries off the smaller and tighter Cocoa Village streets
- Digital radar signs should be used intermittently – if they are permanent, drivers will get used to them and ignore (or test for speed)
- Roundabout helps divert driver's line-of-sight coming off bridge, which helps slow vehicle speeds
- Construction of the boardwalk is scheduled for the next two years
- By decreasing lanes from three to two, drivers are forced to make better decisions on lane choice based on destination, decreasing weaving and speeding
- There are traffic signal timing issues on U.S. 1 near SR 520. Often times, vehicles have to stop at consecutive blocks for red lights within a short distance (i.e. at Peachtree Street, Forrest Ave, and Dixon Boulevard). Unless timing is sequenced better, many vehicles will turn at King Street to avoid slow progress on US 1.
- Existing loading zone plan is not utilized efficiently or enforced in the Village

- Is Brevard Avenue too narrow for two lanes? Should it be designated for one lane of traffic? The lanes seem very pinched when there is on-street parking on both sides of the road. Drivers often drive in the middle of the two lanes.
- Can there be a new option for King and Willard Streets that includes a bike lane (5' lane plus 2' buffer)?
- Can bike lanes be added on the bridge? Can bike lanes be attached or cantilevered to the side of the bridge? [follow-up discussion about age and condition of bridge and possible loading and weight issues]
- Peachtree Street should be a preferred bike route and the crossing at Forrest Avenue should be easier
- Bikes are encouraged to take Florida Avenue now
- Bus parking is planned on Riveredge Boulevard between Harrison Street and King Street (will be able to accommodate two large sightseeing vehicles)
- Can the intersection of U.S. 1 and SR 520 be redesigned northbound so that the rightmost lane is through/right turn and another left turn lane is added

Community Meeting

A community meeting / open house will be held on April 28, 2016 from 5:00-7:00pm to present the preliminary scenarios and receive public comment. The meeting will be held at the Civic Center on Delannoy Avenue. All persons present at this visioning meeting were invited to attend and provide valuable input on the project.

Next Steps

The consultant team will present the preliminary scenario plans at the Cocoa City Council meeting on April 12, 2016.

The project team will then begin technical analysis and evaluation of the preliminary scenarios and develop refined / final concept plans. The final concept plans will form the basis for implementation strategies and priorities.

Meeting Attendees

The following people attended this meeting:

Steve Belden	sbelden@cocoaf1.org
Steven Biel	sbiel@cocoaf1.org
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