



LAUDERTRAC



TRANSPORTATION UPDATE FORT LAUDERDALE

Tracking Progress on Commission Priorities for 2020

October/November 2020

IMPROVEMENTS ON THE WAY

Federal Highway and Henry E. Kinney Tunnel Project

The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) is undertaking a capital improvement project to repair and rehabilitate the Henry E. Kinney Tunnel and parts of US 1 / Federal Highway in order to meet the latest federal, state, and local standards and guidelines for architecture, structural, mechanical, electrical, and life safety. FDOT will begin construction in summer 2021 and the project is expected to be completed by winter 2023. The proposed improvements include upgrading the ventilation system, LED lighting, tiling, power systems, generators, stormwater pumps, and pavement resurfacing.

The project also enhances safety and mobility along the US 1 / Federal Highway corridor. FDOT will be installing an Adaptive Traffic Signal Control (ATC) system, which will capture real-time traffic data to optimize signal operations (such as signal timing, phasing, and servicing) in order to improve traffic flow and decrease congestion. FDOT will be creating an Intelligent Transportation System (ITS) that will include CCTV camera and traffic sensors, warning gates, and dynamic message boards to alert drivers of upcoming delays or closures.

Tunnel Top Park

The City has partnered with FDOT to extend the tunnel's length to allow for a public gathering space, referred to as Tunnel Top Park. The proposed project would create a 117-foot extension of the tunnel top on the north side of Las Olas Boulevard to provide additional area for a new pedestrian plaza that will include landscaping, pedestrian lighting, irrigation, seating, and more. The reconstruction of the intersection of Las Olas Boulevard at SE 6 Avenue will raise the intersection with decorative pavement, add additional traffic and pedestrian lighting, and connect the new Tunnel Top Park with the existing Laura Ward Plaza.

Construction for the rehabilitation of the Henry E. Kinney Tunnel and the new Tunnel Top Park will require phased temporary road closures of northbound or southbound US 1 / Federal Highway to safely maintain traffic in the area. FDOT anticipates very limited full closure periods of the Henry E. Kinney Tunnel. Detours routes with proper signage will be set up during any closure of US 1 / Federal Highway. Lane closures along Las Olas Boulevard are expected for the reconstruction of the intersection of SE 6 Avenue.

The construction cost for the entire project is \$26 million, with the City contributing \$10.6 million in Park Bond funds for the new construction of the Tunnel Top Park. For additional information, please visit bit.ly/KinneyTunnelProject.

