



Memorandum

Memorandum No: 23-090

Date: June 30, 2023

To: Honorable Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Commissioners

From: Greg Chavarria, City Manager 
Greg Chavarria (Jul 3, 2023 06:31 EDT)

Re: SE 15th Avenue Dual Left Turn Lanes at Las Olas Boulevard and at Broward Boulevard

On March 8, 2023, during the City Commission conference meeting, City staff presented an update on Las Olas initiatives, which included a dual left turn at Las Olas Boulevard and SE 15th Avenue. Since that time, staff has advanced the project and has initiated efforts for Broward Boulevard and SE 15th Avenue. Below is an update on each of these efforts.

Southbound SE 15th Avenue at Las Olas Boulevard: City staff completed the design efforts and recently received three construction proposals. The proposals were significantly higher than anticipated, with a low bid of \$123,317 and a high bid of \$173,794. Based on recent projects with similar scope, City staff expected the scope of work to be around \$50,000 for construction.

City staff plan to bifurcate the scope of work into two separate efforts to leverage an existing contract with lower item costs for the roadway improvements. For the signalization aspects, City staff are evaluating potential next steps which include preparing an informal quotation as well as reviewing existing Broward County Traffic Engineering Division agreements for Piggyback opportunities. City of Fort Lauderdale policies require that the City Commission reject bids for the existing solicitation. Staff will prepare an agenda item for City Commission consideration at an upcoming City Commission meeting.

Northbound SE 15th Avenue at Broward Boulevard: The FY23 General Fund Operating Budget allocated \$100,000 for the Las Olas Mobility project. Given the continual feedback of excessive congestion on SE 15th Avenue and its impacts on Las Olas and the surrounding neighborhoods, City staff recommend utilizing the funding for a dual left turn at Broward Boulevard and SE 15th Avenue. A budget amendment will be presented to the City Commission on July 5, 2023, to transfer the operating funds into the existing Traffic Improvement Community Investment Project.

City staff anticipates that the design would take approximately eight (8) months for the feasibility/design/permitting aspects to be completed. The plans will need to be approved by Broward County before construction or implementation could occur. City and County staff have already modeled turning movements and believe that there is adequate Right-Of-Way for dual turning lanes. The construction costs are unknown at this time, but City staff anticipates that additional funding may be needed to complete the construction of this initiative.

If you have any questions, please contact Ben Rogers, Director of Transportation and Mobility, at brogers@fortlauderdale.gov

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