



DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

BUILDING | HISTORIC PRESERVATION | PLANNING & ZONING

PLANNING AND ZONING BOARD

Annual Infrastructure Improvement Hearing Report

Meeting	File No.	Application Type
August 18, 2020	N/A	Annual Infrastructure Improvement Hearing Report

Request

Review the public comments collected during the Annual Infrastructure Improvement Hearing process since June 2020 and recommend which projects should be forwarded to City Staff for evaluation and inclusion in 2020-2025 Capital Improvements Plan (CIP).

Background Information

The Planning and Zoning Board (acting as the Local Planning Agency) initiated the City's Annual Infrastructure Hearing on June 16, 2020. The hearing reviewed the CIP process and then comments were received from residents and stakeholders related to capital project needs within the city. This hearing began the public comment period. City staff has continued to gather public comments, mostly received via email (attached). Input was requested from the public through the following:

- Included on the front page on the City's Website under the News section (An average of 3,000 users who visit the site monthly.)
- Direct email notice to approximately 2,500 City email subscribers
- Posted on the City's Social Media accounts
- Notice to homeowner associations and condominium associations in the City
- Included on the Planning and Zoning Board agenda

This item is being processed pursuant to **Public Facilities Element, Objective PFE 1.1, Public Input and Involvement** of the adopted Comprehensive Plan, which states, "*Public information campaigns shall be used to provide public awareness of and encourage involvement in public improvement activities.*"

Policy PFE 1.1.2: *Conduct an annual infrastructure public hearing (in the winter months) to solicit public input to identify those geographic areas that are most in need of improvements and specific infrastructure needs for the purposes of identifying and prioritizing project funding and scheduling. The public hearings shall be advertised and held before the Planning and Zoning Board (Local Planning Agency).*

Policy PFE 1.1.3: *In conjunction with the annual infrastructure hearing, provide opportunities for public input on needed improvements using a variety of methods of engagement, such as, email, online surveys, contacting neighborhood and homeowner associations, holding roundtable discussions, hosting booths at public events, etc.*

The areas of concern and suggested improvements by the public provide the City with needed direction for planned projects or brings new attention to the identified areas of concern. As identified above, Staff has provided a variety of opportunities for the public to submit their comments and suggestions. It is noted that while the Comprehensive Plan specifies that the hearings be held in the winter months, Staff was unable to do so due to the meeting delay caused by Covid-19.

Project Description

Suggestions gathered from the public responses are summarized by specific topic areas below. Suggested improvements that are already underway or programmed in the current CIP are noted.

- 1) Roads/Streets.
 - a. Pavement Repair.

1. Palm Trail neighborhood: damage of roads (cracks, potholes, broken off pavement) by heavy trucks and equipment from continued development; repaving is needed
 2. North Swinton Avenue (entire span) appears to be neglected, and is heavily traveled
 3. Maintenance of intersection at North Swinton Avenue and NE 22nd Street
 4. SE / SW 10th Street plans for repaving
 - b. Sidewalks.
 1. Palm Trail neighborhood sidewalks are cracked along NE 7th Avenue and NE 1st Street; safety concerns cause pedestrians to walk in the road
 2. Clean and repair all paver brick sidewalks
 3. Sidewalks are safe for pedestrians along SE 5th Avenue due to vehicle speeds.
 4. Rio Del Rey Shores HOA opposes any potential plan for sidewalks in their community along SE 7th Avenue
 - c. Traffic Concerns, Markings, and Signals
 1. Four-way Stop Sign needed at NE 1st Avenue and NE 1st Street; current configuration causes traffic to backup when entering or exiting the Old School Square Garage (referred to email as Arts Garage)
 2. Traffic calming needed in Palm Trail neighborhood; drivers speed and skip stop signs
 3. NE 4th Street: add a right-turn lane onto NE 6th Avenue
 4. Dangerous along SE 5th Avenue south of East Atlantic Avenue; there have been many crashes that have hit the iPic theater, and traffic drives too fast.
 5. Improve signage along NE and SE 5th and 6th Avenues to alert drivers to the one-way driving direction
 6. Provide a better downtown bypass with semaphores installed at each cross street from NE / SE 5th Avenue to Swinton Avenue, resurfacing to allow higher speeds, and improved visibility
 7. Improve, repair, or replace the warning signals at pedestrian crossings along A1A, especially Atlantic Dunes Park between Casuarina Road and East Atlantic Avenue
 8. Swinton Avenue: Hashed striping allows for passing; should remain a solid double yellow line to not allow passing.
- 2) Multimodal pathways
- a. Plans to add bicycle lanes in and around the downtown area
- 3) Flooding/Stormwater
- a. Palm Trail neighborhood: Drainage concerns from water flowing onto private properties
 - b. Rio Del Rey, SE 8th Court/SE 10th Street; inadequate drainage into the Intracoastal Waterway.
 - c. SE 10th Street drain needs to be cleaned out
- 4) Other Suggestions
- a. Fix the elevators in the City parking garages
 - b. Replace “unsightly” trash containers
 - c. Sewage concerns regarding what happened in Fort Lauderdale to make sure it does not also occur in Delray Beach
 - d. Repair of the existing reclaimed water system
 - e. Expansion of the reclaimed water system to be citywide
 - f. Improve and add amenities to Knowles Park, including the landscaping, parking area, restrooms, and recycling facilities

Public and Courtesy Notices

X Notices were provided to the public as follows:

- Emailed to approximately 2,500 City email subscribers
- Posted on the News section of the city’s website (Average 3,000 monthly users)
- Posted on the City’s Social Media Accounts
- Homeowner and Condominium Associations
- Delray Beach Downtown Development Authority (DDA)
- Greater Delray Beach Chamber of Commerce

X Public Notice was posted to the City’s website on August 7, 2020.