



Town of Lake Park
Public Workshop re: Lake Shore Dr.
Town Hall Commission Chambers
535 Park Avenue, Florida 33403
Wednesday, February 25, 2009 7:40 p.m.

The Town Commission met for the purpose of a Public Workshop on Wednesday, February 25, 2009 at 7:40 p.m., Present were Mayor DuBois, Vice-Mayor Daly, Commissioners Balius, Carey, and Osterman, Town Manager Maria Davis, and Town Clerk Vivian Lemley.

Mayor DuBois led the Pledge of Allegiance.
Town Clerk Vivian Lemley performed the Roll Call.

DISCUSSION:

Possible Closure of Lake Shore Drive between Greenbriar and Foresteria Drive to Tie Kelsey and Lake Shore Parks Together

John Downs, Consultant Engineer with Calvin, Giordano, & Associates introduced himself and gave a PowerPoint presentation (see Exhibit "A") regarding Lake Shore Drive improvements. He showed a picture of Lake Shore Drive as it exists today. He explained that they propose to raise Lake Shore Drive approximately one foot and to add an exfiltration trench to the project. He stated that one option was to close Lake Shore Drive from Foresteria Drive south to Greenbriar on the north which would expand the park to make it one large park that extends from U.S. Highway One to the Intracoastal. He stated that he was explaining the options and that ultimately the residents would be making the final decisions. He showed a map (see Exhibit "B") of the proposed park.

Mr. Downs explained the drainage aspects of the proposed project which would include an exfiltration trench and pump station. The pump station would be used to take all of the water from the current Lake Shore Dr. drainage system and pump it into the exfiltration trench system which would ultimately allow it to go to a future outfall. The future outfall would not be built with the proposed project. It would be a future outfall for future drainage improvements in Lake Park. One of the existing outfalls would be used. He explained that the second alternative would be to have a raised pedestrian crosswalk to assist in slowing traffic down on Lake Shore Dr.

PUBLIC COMMENT OPEN:

A woman from the audience asked what the proposal would be for parking.

Mr. Downs explained that with the first option they would remove the existing parking lot that is currently facing Lake Shore Dr. He stated that the other existing parking lots would remain.

The woman stated that there would need to be additional parking and additional parking on the south side of the park.

Mr. Downs thanked her for her input and stated that the purpose of the workshop was to hear ideas and input from the residents.

Bill Hall, 401 Lake Shore Dr. – stated that residents were not pleased with closing off Lake Shore Dr. between the two parks. Closing off the road would send more traffic onto U.S. Highway One. He stated that the drainage in front of his building was non-existent and was very interested in what they proposed for drainage solutions.

Mr. Downs stated that they proposed to modify the drainage from Palmetto Drive to the north down to north of the Marina. He stated that he was not going to promise that water would never been seen on the road again because the area was heavily influenced by tidal fluctuations. The road could be raised as much as possible and promised that they would do the maximum amount possible to improve the drainage.

Bob Sheldon, 501 Lake Shore Dr. – stated that most residents want to retain Lake Shore Dr. He explained the various reasons it would be difficult to get around to U.S. Highway One should the road be closed.

Vice-Mayor Daly stated that there was a proposal to redevelop the area to the south which would keep the residents in buildings 301, 401 and 501 on Lake Shore Dr. from accessing Silver Beach Rd.

A woman asked if a traffic light could be placed at Date Palm Rd. and U.S. Highway One.

Mr. Downs stated that they would have to request permission from the state to install traffic lights.

Louanne Zieman, 810 Lake Shore Dr. – stated that she comes out to Lake Shore Dr. and goes south onto Silver Beach Rd. every day on her way to work. She stated it would be a nightmare for her to get out if Lake Shore Dr. were closed off.

Lynn Spriano, 801 Lake Shore Dr. – stated that the park would look more attractive if Lake Shore Dr. was closed. She stated that she did not see an issue with the traffic and there were other ways to get onto U.S. Highway One.

A man stated that he has lived at 801 Lake Shore Dr. for fourteen years and has seen the water come up over the road which made it hard to get out (but has only seen that happen twice a year). He stated that the improvements made to the park were beautiful and a tremendous improvement but he did not want a parking lot hedged up to the 801 building. He discussed the drainage issues and stated that he did not understand why they proposed to raise the road and implement a pump station.

Mr. Downs stated that they were proposing to raise the roadway a maximum of one foot to bring the roadway up out of the water table.

The gentleman asked what would be next to the 801 building.

Mr. Downs explained that there would be a small pump station which was basically a large manhole with two pumps.

Town Manager Maria Davis stated that the drawing was misleading as to where the proposed

trench would be. She explained that the trench would be underground.

Mr. Downs explained that the area was an exfiltration trench field which would have eight chambers running east and west with gravel on top. The pipes would be underground.

Stan Robin, 501 Lake Shore Dr. – stated that it was clear that the proposal was to improve drainage which he greatly appreciated, but he had questions regarding the closure of Lake Shore Dr. He stated that there were no studies to review what the benefits would be from closing Lake Shore Dr. besides the drainage improvements. He stated that the benefits and or issues with access to U.S. Highway One, the width of streets, the flow of traffic, the installation of traffic lights, and the timing of traffic lights.

Tom Pfeiffer, 801 Lake Shore Dr. - stated that he was a civil engineer and also a lifelong planner with the Army Corps of Engineers. He asked if Mr. Downs could explain the linkage between the drainage and rearranging the parking situation other than for the park improvements. He stated that he was very pleased with the park improvements thus far.

Mr. Downs explained that the parking lot as shown was primarily conceptual. Should the decision be made to close Lake Shore Dr. there would be an issue of no access to the existing parking lot that serves the tennis courts.

A man asked what the difference would be to the drainage by closing Lake Shore Dr.

Mr. Downs explained that the initial proposal to close Lake Shore Dr. was for beautification purposes. The project was initially brought to him as a drainage issue on Lake Shore Dr. He suggested the closing of Lake Shore Dr. as an improvement to the two parks by making into one beautiful park.

Tiffany, 510 Lake Shore Dr. - stated that she was not in favor of closing Lake Shore Dr. She uses Lake Shore Dr. every day to go to Northlake Blvd. in order to go to Florida Atlantic University. She does not like to go out onto U.S. Highway One because there was a heavy flow of traffic.

Stephen Hall, Vista Marina – stated that he understood people's objections to closing Lake Shore Dr. because of the inconvenience of getting onto U.S. Highway One. His concern was that Cypress Dr. was being used as a thoroughfare to Silver Beach Rd., which was not the intention of that street. It was used to tie in parking and beautify the Marina. He asked how this road could be used as a thoroughfare since it was not designed to be so.

Jerry Hall, Vista Marina - stated that she lived in a 10 unit condominium and she assumed that many of those residents present lived in the high rise condominiums. She suggested that they watch the traffic from their condo for two hours and they would be amazed to see the amount of traffic that uses Cypress Drive as a cut through to Silver Beach Rd.

Phil Wiard, 501 Lake Shore Dr. – stated that he was against the closing of Lake Shore Drive and has not seen any accidents or issues related to the traffic on Lake Shore Drive. He stated that the Town has been fortunate and not had many crime issues with the park. He stated there was easy access to the park for the police and he was concerned that closing the road would keep the deputies on U.S. Highway One instead of driving through to check on the park. He stated there

was a drainage problem and there was a manhole at Foresteria Drive and Lake Shore Drive and a tile culvert that runs out to the Intracoastal.

Mr. Downs agreed and showed Mr. Wiard where the other existing outfall was located on the map.

Mr. Wiard asked if it were possible to get the problem water that lies along the swales to the outfalls and use the existing outfalls to bring it out to the Intracoastal.

Mr. Downs explained the proposed project would use the existing outfalls to also improve the water getting out to the lagoon.

Mr. Wiard recommended keeping Lake Shore Drive open and pumping the drainage water out into the Intracoastal.

Carl, 510 Lake Shore Dr. – stated that blocking Lake Shore Drive would be dangerous during an evacuation.

Gentleman, 801 Lake Shore Dr. - asked if Park Avenue would be brought to the lake.

Mr. Downs explained that there would be a vista from Park Avenue looking east through the park.

Unidentified man - approached the projector screen and asked Mr. Downs what the traffic count on Lake Shore Drive was going in both directions.

Mr. Downs stated that he did not have the traffic counts with him.

The man asked what the width of the road was not including the parking spaces.

Mr. Downs stated that he did not have the measurements with him.

The gentleman asked Mr. Downs if a fire truck could fit through the roadway.

Mr. Downs stated that a fire truck could fit through the roads around Lake Shore Park.

The gentleman stated that the road would need to be a three or four lane road in order for fire trucks and ambulances to gain access.

Discussion ensued between the gentleman and Mr. Downs regarding road access around Lake Shore Drive and other surrounding areas.

Joanne Doll – stated that the audience and speakers needed to give Mr. Down’s respect while giving his presentation. She stated that fire rescue has come to her house often and there hasn’t been any problems for them gaining access. She stated that she did not want Lake Shore Drive closed.

Bob Fave, 801 Lake Shore Dr. - stated that he has resided in Lake Park for 37 years. He stated that he saw an improvement in the traffic when the Town closed the road at the barrier of Riviera

Beach and Lake Park that has restricted traffic tremendously and he praised the Commission for their decision to do that. He asked if the road would be closed permanently even if the improvements are made and leave Lake Shore Drive open. He stated that if not, residents from Singer Island would use Lake Shore Drive as an interstate and would cause a large traffic flow. He discussed the traffic issues and the questions and concerns brought up about traffic during the workshop.

Mr. Downs stated that he was not aware of any project on the board relative to south of their south limit which was the north property line of the Marina. He stated that the barrier on Silver Beach Road was not a project that he was currently working on.

Vice-Mayor Daly stated that there was a proposal to redevelop the Silver Beach Road area that Mr. Fave was referring to.

Discussion ensued between Mr. Fave and Vice-Mayor Daly regarding the proposed project for Silver Beach Rd.

Bob Brown, Columbus, Ohio – stated that he would be moving to 801 Lake Shore Drive in the future. He stated that the audience was unclear about the proposed pump station and drainage improvements. He asked Mr. Down's to clarify the drainage improvements.

Mr. Down's explained that the pump station would be a large manhole with some auxillary electric panels that would be hidden behind landscaping. The drainage field would look the same as it does today. There are a lot of shopping centers which use exfiltration systems under their parking lots. The exfiltration system would not be visible.

Unidentified woman - recapped the two proposals that were presented and stated that the majority of the audience wanted to keep Lake Shore Drive open.

Public Comment Closed

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Commission the workshop adjourned at 9:00 p.m.



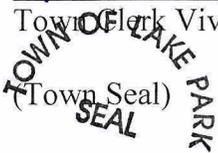
Mayor DuBois



Jessica Shepherd, Deputy Clerk



Town Clerk Vivian Lemley



FLORIDA
Approved on this 1 day of April, 2009