

NOKOMIS CENTER REVITALIZATION

Project: COLONIA LANE GATEWAY AND STREETScape (TR-4)

Project Type: County and State

Project and Background Description:

Develop a streetscape plan for Colonia Lane that includes decorative streetlights, decorative street and directional signs, paver bricks in the roadway, and landscaping. Enhance the pedestrian access at the intersection of Colonia Lane and U.S. 41 and at locations along Colonia Lane. Evaluate options for a pedestrian path under the bridge at Dona & Roberts Bay.

Vibrant commercial areas have a unique sense of identity, in character with the surrounding area. They are a place where people feel comfortable shopping or strolling. The intersection of Colonia Lane and U.S. 41 is a focal point for the Nokomis Center. It is the entryway to the Colonia Lane industrial and commercial area to the east and the gateway to Nokomis from the City of Venice in the south. Streetscape elements will improve the appearance of the U.S. 41 intersection and the Colonia Lane commercial areas. Enhanced pedestrian access will encourage walking within the Nokomis Commercial Center. Decorative low-level streetlights, landscaping, and bicycle parking racks will provide a pleasant environment for the pedestrian. Directional signs will direct motorists to appropriate business ingress and egress and help reduce cut-through traffic caused by planned median closures. These signs can be decorative, consistent with the historic character of the Nokomis Commercial Center. Enhanced pedestrian access, including a pedestrian underpass at the U.S. 41 Shakett Creek Bridge, offers additional options for pedestrians and bicyclists. Funding for streetscape and gateway elements need to be identified in the Public Works Capital Improvements Program (CIP). Funding options include grant funds or property owners establishing a Public Improvement District (PID) to assist with paying for streetscape improvements, such as decorative streetlights. Creation of a PID will allow the County to make the improvements before receiving all necessary funding. All funding options must be coordinated with the Colonia Lane road project.

Preliminary Cost Estimates:

Paver Brick Pattern @ U.S. 41	\$ 150,000
Paver Brick Pattern @ Railroad Tracks and Ravenna Street	\$ 20,000
Decorative Streetlights 35-42 (@ \$2,000 - 2,500 each additional)	\$ 86,000
Decorative Signs (3 @ \$2,500 each)	\$ 7,500
<i>Total Estimated Cost</i>	<i>\$ 263,500</i>

Potential Funding Source(s): Community Development Block Grant, Transportation Efficiency Act. Public Improvement District

Implementation Time Frame: Mid term, two to five years

Responsible Parties: Public Works Road Construction, Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT)

Steps Required to Implement:

- Hold neighborhood workshops to identify appropriate concept plans for streetscape and gateway improvements.
- Coordinate with FDOT to determine if improvements at U.S. 41 can be constructed when FDOT widens the road in Fiscal Year 2003.
- Determine with FDOT what pedestrian enhancements can be constructed at the intersection.
- Work with business owners in the Nokomis Center to locate directional signage to area business parking.
- Coordinate to improve pedestrian safety and solve parking conflicts at the U.S. 41 intersection.
- Evaluate if adjacent property owners' are interested and are able to share funding for decorative street lighting and relocating electric and communication cables underground or behind adjacent business.

Issues Requiring Further Analysis/Action:

1. Coordinate with Public Works Transit to install transit shelters in the Nokomis Commercial Center.
2. Evaluate options and seek funding for a pedestrian underpass at the U.S. 41 bridge over Shakett Creek.
3. Evaluate opportunities for cross and shared access improvements between existing businesses.

