

NOKOMIS CENTER REVITALIZATION

Project: PUBLIC TRANSIT IMPROVEMENTS (TR-9)

Project Type: County

Project and Background Description:

Install transit amenities such as bus shelters, benches and bicycle racks at appropriate locations in the Nokomis Center along the U.S. 41 mass transit route. Expand transit service to Albee Road, Colonia Lane, Albee Farm Road and Laurel Road but seek alternatives to a fixed route system such as flexible route system. Develop mini-transfer stations for the system so passengers can transfer to buses along the fixed route. Combine sites for mini-transfer stations with park and ride locations. Consider using transit shelter prototypes created by University of South Florida architecture students for the design of covered transit shelters in the Nokomis Center.

The County is evaluating options for expanding its mass transit service including the potential for developing flexible route systems. The flexible systems do not rely on fixed bus stops along the route, but need mini-transfer stations at locations where the flexible system meets the fixed route. Possible locations for mini-transfer stations in the Nokomis Center include the intersections of U.S. 41 and Albee Road, Nippino Trail, Laurel Road and Venetia Bay Park. The latter two locations are just outside the Nokomis Center, but would serve residents living in the area. All would provide direct access to County transit service. These locations should also be developed for other alternate transportation such as park and ride and possibly coordinated with any new public parking for the Nokomis Center.

Preliminary Cost Estimates:

Land Acquisition for Mini Transfer Station	TBD
Transit Benches (8 @ \$250 ea)	\$ 2,000
Covered Decorative Shelters (4 @ \$15,000 ea)	\$ 60,000
Covered Plain Shelters (3 @ \$7,500 ea)	\$ 22,500
Parking (20 @ \$9,00 ea)	\$ 18,000
<i>Total Estimated Cost</i>	<i>\$102,500</i>

Potential Funding Source(s): County Transit Funds, Transportation Efficiency Act of the 21st Century (TEA-21), LAMAR Transit Advertising, Individual Business

Implementation Time Frame: Mid to long term, two to ten years and beyond.

Responsible Parties: Public Works Transit, Metropolitan Planning Organization, FDOT Park and Ride Program

Steps Required to Implement:

- Determine applicability of a flexible route system for the Nokomis Center, including areas proximate to Laurel Road, Albee Road, Albee Farm Road and Colonia Lane.
- Identify appropriate locations for mini-transfer stations.
- Seek funding to acquire property and to develop the mini-transfer station.
- Hire for engineering design and permitting for covered transit shelters.
- Seek funding and install bicycle racks at transit stops in high-density residential areas.

Issues Requiring Further Analysis/Action:

1. Coordinate with the Metropolitan Planning Organization to evaluate the need for park and ride locations within the Nokomis Center.
2. Evaluate options for coordinating new public parking in the Nokomis Center with transit service.

