

CITY OF GAINESVILLE

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Public Works Department

INTER-OFFICE COMMUNICATION

July 28, 2000

To: Public Works Committee

From: Brian Kanely, Public Works Department BK

Subject: Traffic Operations & Parking Changes, SE 2nd Avenue and SE 2nd Place

The Public Works Department is recommending traffic operations and parking changes on SE 2nd Avenue and SE 2nd Place. These changes are as follows:

SE 2nd Avenue between South Main Street and SE 3rd Street

This is the section of SE 2nd Avenue adjacent to Union Street, Star Garage and Parking Garage, City parking lot #9 and Sovereign Restaurant. Two of these blocks were recently reopened to traffic as the construction for Union Street was completed. The traffic operations and parking change will consist of adding on street parallel parking on the north side of SE 2nd Avenue adjacent to the curb. The new roadway cross section will consist of one travel lane in each direction, one bicycle lane in each direction, a center lane for left turns and the new parallel parking lane adjacent to the curb on the north side of the street. The advantages of adding the parking lane are as follows:

- Provides additional parking in the SE quadrant of the downtown area.
- Provides additional space to install a loading zone in this area.
- The new cross section matches the proposed cross section for SE 2nd Avenue that was jointly developed by Public Works and the Florida Department of Transportation for implementation with the Main Street reconstruction project (3 lane project).
- The new cross section is consistent with the proposed streetscape design for this section of SE 2nd Avenue.

SE 2nd Place between SE 1st Street and SE 3rd Street

This section of SE 2nd Place is adjacent to Union Street, Sun Center and Arlington Apartments (immediately east of the Hippodrome Theater). The traffic operations and parking change will designate this two block section of SE 2nd Place one way eastbound and add on street parallel parking on the north side of the street (adjacent to Union Street). The new roadway cross section will consist of one eastbound travel lane and a parallel parking lane adjacent to the curb on the north side of the street. The intersection of SE 2nd Place and 1st Street will also be converted to an all way stop in conjunction with the new bulbout to be constructed on the northwest corner of this intersection. This will

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improve pedestrian safety at this intersection. The advantages of the one way street and on street parking are as follows:

- Provides additional parking in the SE quadrant of the downtown area.
- Provides additional space to install a loading zone in this area.
- Will assist the Police Department with enforcement of parking regulations on this street.

SE 2nd Avenue and 1st Street Intersection

The Public Works Department has also reviewed the intersection of SE 2nd Avenue and 1st Street with respect to four-way stop control. For this intersection to operate safely as a four way stop, it is essential that east and westbound motorists on SE 2nd Avenue be able to see the stop signs. Due to the width of SE 2nd Avenue, stop signs need to be installed on the right and left hand side of the travel lanes. This can be accomplished best by installing medians on SE 2nd Avenue. Although the installation of medians on SE 2nd Avenue is being considered in conjunction with the streetscape design, there are not plans for any medians to be installed on SE 2nd Avenue in the immediate future. Therefore it is not practical to convert this intersection to four-way stop control at this time. Public Works is aware of the need for pedestrian treatments at this intersection and will be reviewing all options as the streetscape design proceeds.

These traffic operations and parking changes have been coordinated with the Fire/Rescue Department, Downtown Redevelopment Advisory Board and with the developers of Union Street. The Public Works Department will install the necessary traffic signs and markings.

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