

City of Gainesville

City Hall 200 East University Avenue Gainesville, Florida 32601

Legislation Text

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SW 62nd Boulevard Update (B)

This is a request for the City Commission to hear an update on the 4-lane extension for SW 62nd Boulevard. **ESTIMATED STAFF ORAL PRESENTATION 5 MINUTES**

In October of 2015 the MTPO prioritized the construction of a 4-lane SW 62nd Blvd extension between SW 20th Ave and SW 43rd St as the top priority project under the Surface Transportation Program (STP), and allocated up to \$9 million towards the project. Funds may be available between FY21- FY25. The cross-section for the project was adopted by the MTPO in 2008, including provisions for bicycle, pedestrian and transit facilities; the project also includes a 4-lane bridge over Hogtown Creek.

Working with FDOT staff to identify potential opportunities for constructing this project in phases, they have recommended moving forward with a two-lane project in Segment B to fill in the gap between Clark Butler Boulevard and the current end of the 62nd Street just south of SW 20th Avenue. Under this option the full right of way width would be acquired along this segment. The estimated cost for a two-lane with full bridge alternative is approximately \$20 million plus right of way cost. The estimated cost of a two-lane phased bridge alternative is \$12 million plus right of way cost.

FDOT has two funding opportunities: the Transportation Regional Incentive Program (TRIP) with \$3,000,000 available for the district, and the County Incentive Grant Program (CIGP) with \$4,000,000 available for the district. Both funding opportunities require a match. The funds would be available in FY21 and could be combined with STP dollars.

In March 2016 the US DOT announced a new cycle of the TIGER grant, and a FASTLane grant opportunity. SW 62nd Blvd may be eligible for the FASTLane grant as a "small" project, which allows for the funding of pre-construction activities, such as acquisition of right-of-way; the application is due on 04/14/2016. The TIGER grant requires that the project be 'shovel-ready' for construction, therefore SW 62nd Blvd is not eligible and not competitive, as the grant requires total expenditure of construction funds by 9/30/2024.

A total of \$9 million is allocated in the MTPO Cost Feasible Plan between FY21-FY25 for this project. In addition, there is \$1,000,000 available through contributions to the Transportation Management Program Area. If both grants are successful, the total amount of funds potentially available for the project by FY21 would be \$17 million. Currently there are no funds allocated for this project in the City's Capital Improvement Plan.

The City Commission: 1) hear a presentation; and 2) authorize the City Manager or designee to pursue funding for implementation of a phased two-lane alternative to fill the gap.

Alternative Recommendation: 1) authorize the City Manager or designee to continue to pursue funding for the implementation of the full 4-lane cross-section.