



Legislation Text

File #: 160192., **Version:** 1

NW 1st Avenue Streetscape: Project Update (B)

NW 1st Ave, between NW 16th St and NW 20th St, is an important mixed-use corridor located a block away from the University of Florida and the Ben Hill Griffin Stadium. The NW 1st Ave Streetscape project has been a top priority Community Initiative for the College Park / University Heights (CPUH) redevelopment area, and is part of the District's approved work plan and budget for FY15-16.

Since 2012, the project team has been extensively involving the local community in the project development. Through stakeholder engagement, the design team developed a desired scope of improvements and created a conceptual street layout. 15% and 50% Construction Documents sets were approved by the CRA Board in April and September 2014, respectively. In November 2015, CRA Boards approved engineering and design contracts to complete the design and permitting for the full scope of the project, including two separate efforts: *NW 1st Ave Project 1: Underground Infrastructure and Roadway Improvements*, and *NW 1st Ave Project 2: Utility Conversions and Streetscape Improvements*. In 2016, the project team has been coordinating with stakeholders to finalize the proposed design, including holding four stakeholder meetings dedicated to each of the four project blocks, numerous one-on-one stakeholder meetings, and many cross-departmental meetings with City staff.

To complement the physical impact of the streetscape project and to support local businesses, CRA staff developed a draft marketing and communications plan and three time-limited façade improvement incentive programs for the Midtown area. These proposed plans were presented to forty property and business owners at a Stakeholder Meeting that took place on June 29th. At today's meeting, staff will present these proposed programs to the CRA Board, for discussion and approval.

An amount of up to \$40,000 will be dedicated to the *Midtown Architectural Assistance Program* from the NW 1st Avenue project account.

An amount of up to \$400,000 will be dedicated to the *Midtown Façade Grant Program* and *Residential Paint Program* from the NW 1st Avenue project account.

CRA Executive Director to CRA Board: 1) Approve the proposed *Midtown Architectural Assistance Program and Application* as presented subject to approval by the CRA Attorney; 2) Approve the proposed *Midtown Façade Grant Program and Application* as presented subject to approval by the CRA Attorney; and 3) Approve the proposed *Midtown Residential Paint Program and Application* as presented subject to approval by the CRA Attorney.