

17th Street Mobility Plan Working Group, 4th Meeting “Enforce Truck Routing to the Port Using Eller Drive”

Monday, November 27, 2017

Fort Lauderdale City Hall | 8th Floor Cafeteria

The meeting was focused on approaches to enforcing truck use, particularly petroleum tankers, of Eller Drive. Natacha Yacinthe stated that approximately 2,000 trucks, of which about 75% are petroleum tankers, utilize Spangler Boulevard (Marina Mile/SR84/SE 24th St) each day. Natacha also emphasized that the port needs to balance the cruise passenger experience, particularly along Eller Drive, with the heavy freight traffic. She also stated that the issues with internal port roadways are related to congestion rather than capacity, especially when considering the “human element” of security gate processing times.

Access and Incentivization

The group discussed the following approaches to incentivizing access via Eller Drive:

- Limiting Spangler Boulevard from 24 hour access while increasing access to Eller Drive to 24 hours per day (complete)
- Modify the lane configuration at Spangler Boulevard to allow only one turn lane out of Port Everglades
- Outreach to truck drivers has also occurred at a more informal level (complete)
- Truck routing signage directed at truck drivers
- Modifying routes through Google Maps or other GPS systems, particularly those used by truck drivers
- Modifying signal timing to make truck access outside of Eller Drive inconvenient
- Truck washing vouchers for those who follow truck routes
- Creation of an ordinance to restrict truck use over City R.O.W.

Representatives of Village East stated that they would like the above solutions to balance access to I595 via SR84 for non-commercial vehicles as well as voiced concerns related to vehicular backup on Miami Road as solutions will impact access to and from Village East.

Completed Studies

The existence of two studies was raised, one aimed at petroleum tanker routing on the statewide highway system (C20 Study, FDOT) and another study that focused on how ports are accessed statewide (Bluetooth Study, FDOT). It was determined that a letter to relevant agencies, including Broward County, Broward MPO, and FDOT, would be sent from the City requesting any other related studies.

Truck Routing Ordinance

Commissioner Rogers strongly recommended that the City continue to pursue a citywide truck routing ordinance and he would determine how to direct the City Attorney to begin that process. Certain elements of the proposed truck routing ordinance that were discussed included impacts to fire safety/response times/access, truck weight limits, and time-based restrictions.

Signal Timing

It was determined that the City would send a request to Broward County and FDOT to study the signal timing of the 17th Street Corridor post-Irma with special emphasis on delay at SE 15th Avenue. Jonathan Ford clarified that this study could be performed under an already open FDOT task order with a relatively quick turnaround time. FDOT will also study the lane alignment and signal timing at the intersection of SR84 and US1 to reduce the signal length existing Spangler Drive and to optimize north and south vehicular movement. This is anticipated to be completed by January.

CONSESUS ITEMS

N/A

ACTION ITEMS

1. Request all studies relating to Port Everglades and 17th Street from FDOT, Broward MPO, and Broward County

Note: A professional note taker will provide detailed meeting minutes as well as an audio recording. Please request to Robert Modys at rmodys@fortlauderdale.gov if you would like a copy of either one.

2. Draft letter to request that signal timing within the 17th Street Corridor be reviewed with an emphasis on SE 15th Avenue and the intersection of SR84 and US1
3. Draft letter to request that the Secretary of FDOT District 4 accelerate funding of a 17th Street Active Management System
4. Champion the option of a flat-rate cab fare with Broward County
5. Determine ways to improve the connection between Andrews Avenue and US1, especially at SR84 and SE 30th Street