

MEMORANDUM

Date: April 25, 2016

TO: Town Commission

FROM: Dave Bullock, Town Manager

SUBJECT: Gulf of Mexico Drive (S.R. 789) Pedestrian Crosswalk Update

At the April 18, 2016 Regular Meeting the Town Commission held discussion regarding the proposed sidewalk extension from Broadway to Longboat Pass Bridge and a related crosswalk.

During that discussion, the recently installed crosswalks in other locations of the island were discussed.

The Town Manager was asked to place this subject on the May 2, 2016 Regular Meeting for further discussion and formal action if appropriate.



GMD Pedestrian/Bicycle Fatalities

- **Traffic Fatality April 13, 2005**
Car v. Bicyclist (Crossing Gulf of Mexico Drive) 1945 Gulf of Mexico Drive
- **Traffic Fatality January 27, 2012**
Vehicle v. Pedestrian
2295 Gulf of Mexico Drive



Crosswalk Chronology

- **June 21, 2012 – Request by Town for Pedestrian/Bicycle Safety Study**
- **July 1, 2013 – Pedestrian/Bicycle Safety Study Presented to Commission**
- **Peak Season 2013 – FDOT Study including Peak Season Pedestrian Crossing Volumes (1 day data)**



Crosswalk Chronology

- **End of 2013 – FDOT advises Town a 3-day Traffic Count will be Required**
- **Peak Season 2014 – Additional 2 days of counts performed**
- **December 10, 2014 – Updated Pedestrian/Bicycle Safety Study Presented to Town Commission**



Crosswalk Chronology

- **January 2016 – Crosswalks Installed**
- **February 5, 2016 – Pedestrian struck on Longboat Key at Country Club Shores crosswalk**
- **April 18, 2016 – Town Commission Deliberates Removal of Crosswalks**



CROSSWALKS











TOWN OF LONGBOAT KEY





Sidewalk Chronology

- **July 6, 2006 – Commission authorizes termination of FDOT LAP Agreements for accel/decel lanes and sidewalks**
- **September 21, 2006 – Commission supports CUTR (Center for Urban Transportation Study) Traffic Study**
- **September 21, 2006 – Staff seeks direction on completion of sidewalk projects**
- **October 19, 2006 – Commission consensus to complete CMS Projects including sidewalks**



Sidewalk Chronology

- **January 8, 2007– Resolution 06-17 passed Authorizing Local Funding Agreement and MOA with FDOT for Bike Path Project (extension of West side Gulf of Mexico Drive and East side both ends Longboat Key)**
- **October 6, 2008 – Resolution 08-27 passed Authorizing FDOT Utility Agreement to facilitate resurfacing and sidewalk additions in the west rights-of-way and turn lane widening.**



Sidewalk Chronology

- **April 24, 2009 – FDOT concluded costs to mitigate unavoidable impacts to environmental resources to allow north end west sidewalk were outside scope of project costs**
- **July 1, 2013 – FDOT Presentation of Pedestrian/Bicycle Safety Study – filling sidewalk gaps included in long-term projects**
- **January 21, 2014 – Commission consensus to submit a Transportation Alternative Grant application to MPO for North End sidewalk project**



Sidewalk Chronology

- **April 18, 2016 – Commission discussion on sidewalks and crosswalks forwarded to May 2 Regular Meeting**

TOWN OF LONGBOAT KEY



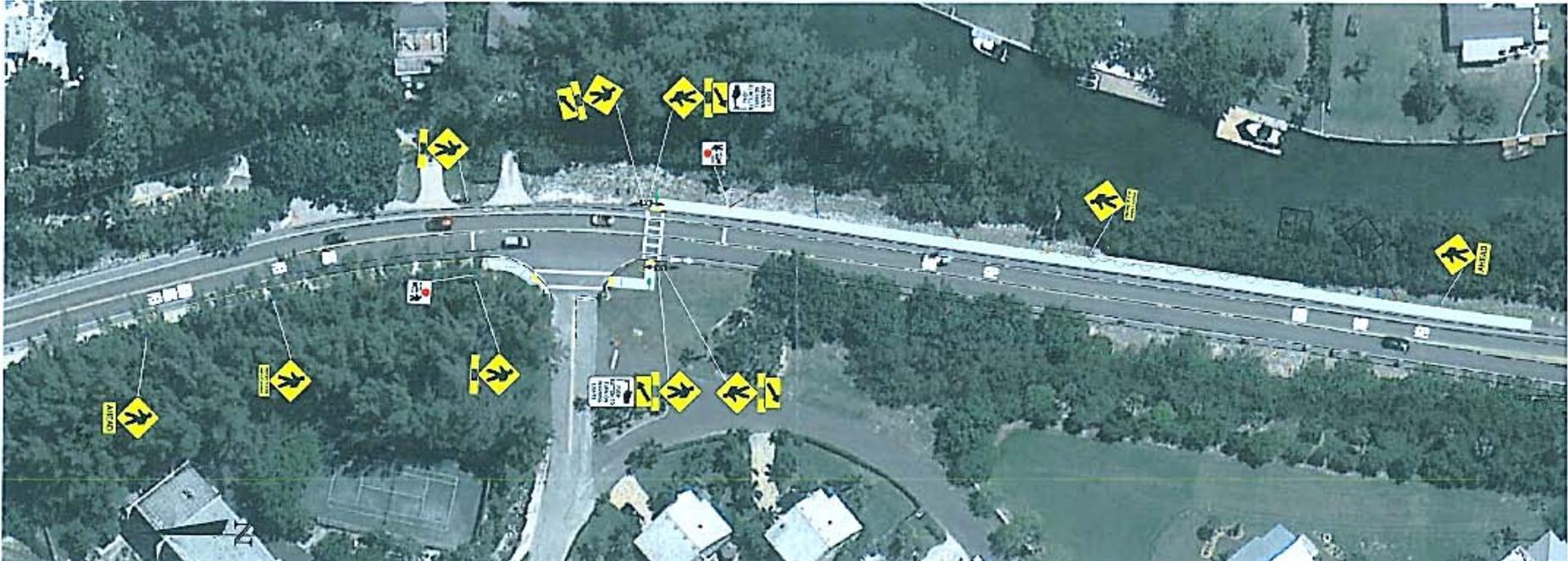
End Project

Begin Project

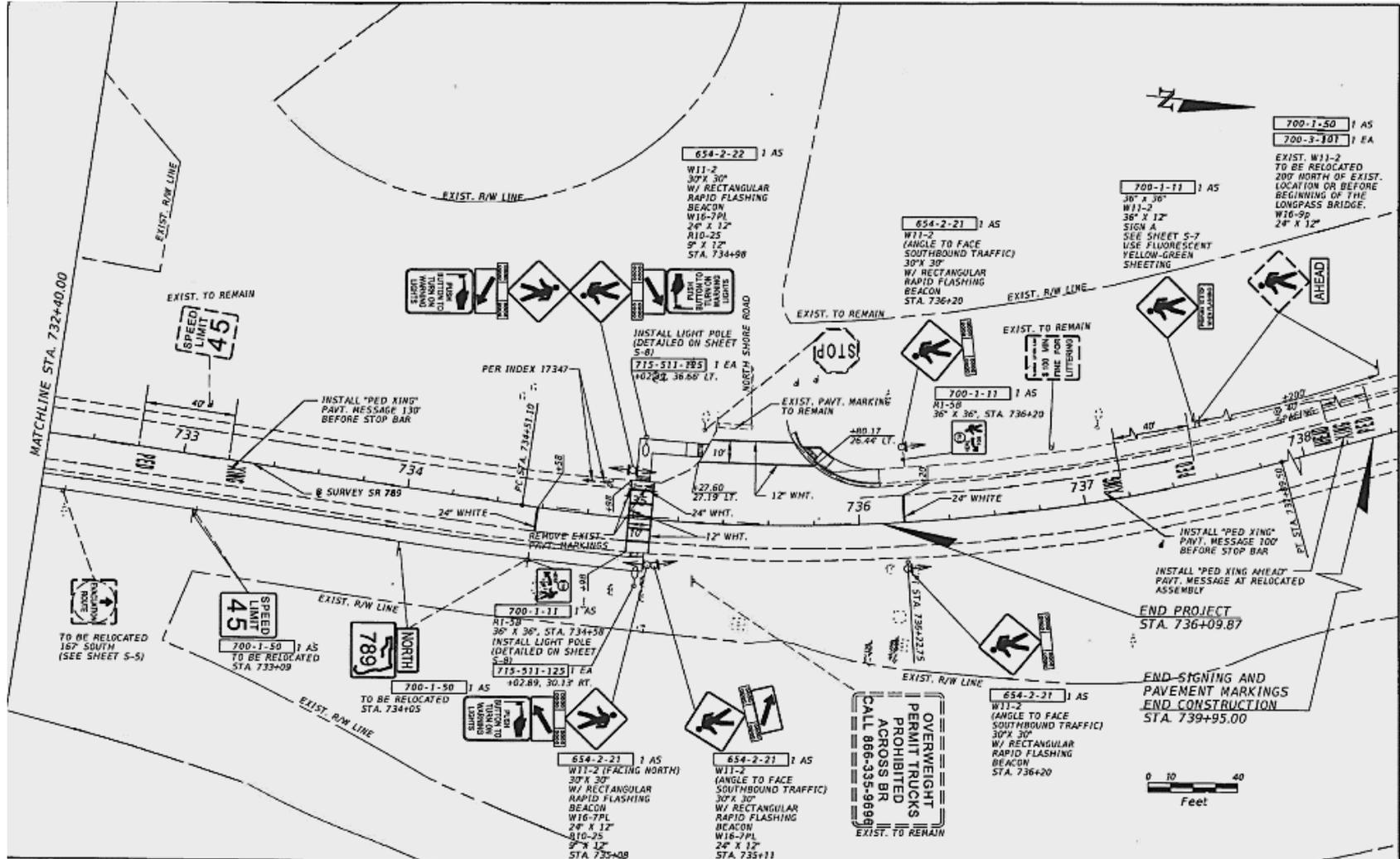
Jewfish Key

Bishops Bayou

Sister Key



TOWN OF LONGBOAT KEY



THE OFFICIAL RECORD OF THIS SHEET IS THE ELECTRONIC FILE DIGITALLY SIGNED AND SEALED UNDER ROLE EG015-23-004, F.A.C.

REVISIONS		DESCRIPTION		DBMP, INC.		STATE OF FLORIDA		SIGNING AND PAVEMENT MARKING PLAN		SHEET NO.	
DATE	DESCRIPTION	DATE	DESCRIPTION	941 LAKE BAYVIEW LANE, DELAND, FL 32814 PHONE: (407) 896-0394 FAX: (407) 896-0394 CERTIFICATE OF AUTHORIZATION NO. 2649 JUAN P. GANADO, P.E. 66001		ROAD NO.	COUNTY	FINANCIAL PROJECT ID		17	
						789	MANATEE	436986-1-52-01		5-6	



Florida Department of Transportation

RICK SCOTT
GOVERNOR

605 Suwannee Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0450

JIM BOXOLD
SECRETARY

February 22, 2016

Mr. Dave Bullock
Town Manager
Town of Longboat Key
501 Bay Isles Road
Longboat Key, FL 34228-3196

RE: Section 13090; Pedestrian Crosswalks along Gulf of Mexico Drive

Dear Mr. Bullock:

I am writing in response to your February 2nd letter regarding the recently installed crosswalks along Gulf of Mexico Drive. Our field meeting on February 10th was extremely helpful for all of us to better understand the concerns.

As you are aware, the crosswalks were installed after coordination with your staff and updates to the Town Commission. The department selected Rapid Rectangular Flashing Beacons (RRFB's) as a warning device at the crosswalks. The Federal Highway Administration recommends this treatment for pedestrian crosswalks based on their success in implementation to-date. This treatment has been used at numerous locations around the country and have proven to be effective with more than an 80% motorist compliance rate. The design of the crosswalks also included advance warning signs placed appropriately for the 45 mph posted speed along Gulf of Mexico Drive, a crossing sign with the RRFB's at the crossing, and high emphasis markings at the location.

We received concerns about the effectiveness of the flashers, particularly related to conflicts, because of inattentiveness of motorists. Motorists and pedestrians generally go through an adjustment period any time a change in traffic control occurs on the roadway. The RRFB's are warning beacons intended to act as warning devices to alert motorists of a pedestrian crossing the roadway, not as stop control. It is the responsibility of the pedestrian to make sure traffic is stopped prior to stepping into the roadway. Once the pedestrian is in the crosswalk, it becomes the responsibility of the motorist to stop for the pedestrian. In fact, during our field meeting the same was mentioned by a few pedestrians who used the crosswalk at the location of the recent crash. The citizens were happy to have a crosswalk and discussed the importance of ensuring traffic is stopped before proceeding to cross the roadway.

In the past two weeks we have been in discussions with your staff, some of your Commission members and citizens regarding these concerns. Safety along the roadways can only be achieved when engineering solutions are followed with education and enforcement to emphasize defensive

Mr. Dave Bullock
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driving and walking behaviors. We hired the Center for Urban Transportation Research (CUTR), with the University of South Florida, to implement their Walk Wise education campaign in the town, particularly adjacent to the crosswalks to educate users on the correct ways to use them. The department needs the Town of Longboat Key Police Department to partner with us and perform high visibility enforcement details to improve driver and pedestrian behavior.

We ordered additional flashers which will be mounted on the poles on the left side of the roadway to further enhance the crosswalks. The flashers will be received from the manufacturer toward the end of February and installation will occur soon after. We are planning to add an additional sign with supplemental sign that advise motorists to be prepared to stop when flashers are activated and the advisory pavement markings adjacent to the new sign. I would like to thank your staff for installing the educational sign by the pedestrian push button which activates the crosswalks. We mailed 1,000 tip cards detailing the proper use of RRFB's to your office for distribution. Also, the Walk Wise campaign will continue until all residents in the vicinity of the crosswalks have been informed of their correct and safe use.

I am confident the current treatment is appropriate for the location, along with education and enforcement will address the concerns brought forth to us. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me, or Randell Prescott, P.E. Director of Transportation Operations at (863) 519-2201.

Sincerely,



Billy L. Hattaway, P.E.
District Secretary

BLH:LKN:ad

cc: Mayor Jack Duncan, Town of Longboat Key
Longboat Key Town Commission
Juan Florensa, Public Works Director, Town of Longboat Key
Randell Prescott, P.E., Director of Transportation Operations
Chris Smith, Director of Transportation Development
L.K. Nandam, P.E., District Traffic Operations Engineer
Jennifer Stults, Intermodal Systems Development Manager
Roxann Lake, Intermodal Systems Development Community Liaison
Robin Stublen, Communication Specialist



End of Agenda Item