

CITY OF PALM BAY, FLORIDA
INFRASTRUCTURE ADVISORY AND OVERSIGHT BOARD
MEETING 2023-09

Held on Monday, the 25th day of September 2023, in the City Hall Council Chambers, 120 Malabar Road, SE, Palm Bay, Florida.

This meeting was properly noticed pursuant to law; the minutes are on file in the Public Works Department located at 1050 Malabar Road, SW, Palm Bay, Florida. The minutes are not a verbatim transcript, but a brief summary of the discussions and actions taken at the meeting.

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Thibert, Chairperson, at 7:00 PM.

ROLL CALL:

CHAIRPERSON:	Rebecca Thibert	Present
VICE CHAIRPERSON:	David Jones	Present
MEMBER:	Ann-Marie Fraser	Present
MEMBER:	Paul Edwards	Present
MEMBER:	Thomas Gaume	Present
MEMBER:	Terry Muller	Present
MEMBER:	Logan Luse	Present

ALSO PRESENT: Frank Watanabe, City Engineer; Christeen Sullivan, Construction Project Manager; John McCall, Roads Project Manager

ADOPTON OF MINUTES:

1. Meeting 2023-07; July 31, 2023

Motion by Chairperson Rebecca Thibert, seconded by Mr. Jones, to approve the minutes as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: (Non-agenda items only)

1. Bill Battin, resident, addressed the following items:
 - Commended the board for their service and requested that the board continue to be as active as possible, especially regarding the proposed annexation of Hield Road.

- Units 31 and 32 – recently paved roads were now being torn up for installation of water/sewer services for new development.

Mr. Jones asked for clarification of the procedures for developers when installing water/sewer lines on newly paved roads. Mr. Watanabe advised that staff coordinated with the Utilities Department on road project reviews as much as possible but could not delay the Road Paving Program.

Ms. Fraser questioned the effect on the life of a new road when it was cut for the installation of water and sewer. Mr. Watanabe said it was a matter of the quality of work but estimated a reduction of 5-10 years on the life of the road.

Mr. Edwards asked if there was a better way to open the road for utilities. Mr. Watanabe advised directional bores as the alternative, but this also had possible conflicts under the roadway.

Ms. Fraser asked if the developer had the ability to select the contractor that performed the work. Mr. McCall advised inspection staff to be on site during construction, but the builder selected its own contractors. Ms. Thibert advised the city could not dictate the contractors unless it was a city project. Ms. Fraser did not agree with the city having responsibility for maintenance for work with a contractor not chosen by the city. Ms. Thibert explained that the city had inspectors on site during the process and held them to the City's standards and would only accept the finished project once those standards had been met. Mr. Edwards asked if the work on Degroodt Road was to City standards. Mr. McCall said it was not, but staff were getting quotes from VA Paving to do the repairs. The costs for the same would be paid by the Utilities Department. Mr. Watanabe will bring this topic to the board at a future meeting.

Mr. Gaume asked about flexible pipes being installed. Mr. Watanabe advised that staff had to plan out further and bury extra conduit under the roads for future use. Ms. Thibert requested a presentation at a future meeting.

Mr. Gaume brought up the Hield Road annexation and when the request would be presented to City Council. Mr. Watanabe responded that it would be considered by Council on October 5, 2023. Mr. Gaume believed the project was for Starbucks and they were trying to avoid paying impact fees for entrance onto Minton Road.

Motion by Mr. Gaume to request that Council delay the item until a recommendation was received from this Board. Mr. Watanabe advised that the annexation request was a Planning and Zoning Board item and was not under the purview of this Board.

BUSINESS:

1. Update on the Malabar at SJHP traffic signal – Frank Watanabe, City Engineer

Mr. Watanabe provided an update on the progress of the traffic signal at the intersection of Malabar Road and St. Johns Heritage Parkway (SJHP). He advised that a consultant was hired to perform a lighting assessment as required by Brevard County (County). Mr. Watanabe showed pictures with all the required changes for the span wire system being installed. The plan was to have the new site plan submitted to the County for review by October 1st. The long-term plan would be for mast arms once development was completed in the area.

Mr. Gaume asked why crosswalks were being installed on Malabar Road if this was a temporary solution. Mr. Watanabe responded that the request was made by the County and staff supported the request for public safety purposes.

2. Update on the Road Paving Program – Frank Watanabe, City Engineer

Mr. Watanabe gave a brief history of the program and plans for moving into the next cycle of maintenance of rejuvenating. Rejuvenation would start in 2024, and the cost would be approximately \$2 million. He also discussed the micro surfacing of the three (3) test streets: Agora Circle, Mercury Avenue, and Thor Avenue as approved by the City Council. This would add 7 – 8 years of life to the streets in good condition. Mr. Watanabe also updated the Board with photos of Madden Avenue, Osmosis Drive, Americana Boulevard and Jupiter Boulevard being completed. To date, 355 out of 791 streets had been completed, and the program was going into its sixth year. The next bulk road paving would be Port Malabar Country Club Units 1-10. Waco Boulevard and Minton Road would be added to the current phase. Unit 44 would require more work than originally anticipated due to two-year time lapse and overall deterioration. The project was currently \$66 million in deficit but plans for micro surfacing would help to save costs.

Mr. Edwards asked if there would have been more savings if the City had used micro surfacing from the beginning. Mr. Watanabe said that micro surfacing was used in the past, but it caused divots in the roadway. However, the issue may have been in the mixture or weather temperature. Mr. Edwards questioned how the overage would be paid. Mr. Watanabe said that staff was working on reallocating of funds and putting money aside for these projects. The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) was also working on a new thinner overlay that, if approved, would save even more money for the project.

Mr. Jones asked if the current \$1 million that was set aside in the Road Maintenance Fund would be enough to keep up with the maintenance. Mr. Watanabe advised that approximately \$3 million per year was needed for maintenance.

3. Agenda requests for future meetings

- Presentation from Utilities Department on directional drilling
- Presentation from Growth Management Department of development reviews
- SJHP/Emerson Drive turn lanes update
- Fred Poppe Regional Park new entrance and road updates

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:07 PM.

Rebecca Thibert, Chairperson

ATTEST:

Ashley Hammond, Recorder