

OCTOBER 14, 2008 – WORKSHOP

The Board of County Commissioners, Walton County, Florida, held a workshop on Tuesday, October 14, 2008, at 3:10 p.m., at the South Walton Annex regarding improvements on CR 395 and CR 30A.

The following Board members were present: Commissioner Larry Jones, Chairman; Commissioner Scott Brannon; Commissioner Kenneth Pridgen; and Commissioner Cindy Meadows. Mr. Ronnie Bell, County Administrator, and Mr. W.C. Henry, County Attorney, were also present.

Mr. Greg Graham, Engineering Manager, gave a brief PowerPoint presentation for the different alternatives for this project. He stated there have been many complaints received for excessive delay and safety of the intersection. There is \$563,000 in the Property Fair Share account and \$800,000 in the General Revenue account for the funding of this project. Moore Bass Consulting and Glatting Jackson are two firms that have done an analysis of the intersection alternatives. Alternatives identified were to do nothing and leave it as it is, add turn lanes at the existing intersection, construct a roundabout, construct a roundabout with slip lanes, or construct a signalized intersection with turn lanes. The two alternatives preferred were the roundabout with slip lanes or the signalized intersection with turn lanes. Mr. Graham briefly explained the designs, maintenance, and aesthetics of the two preferred alternatives.

Commissioner Meadows questioned the cost for the two preferred project alternatives. Mr. Graham stated that \$750,000 is estimated in the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) for the cost of the improvement to the intersection. Commissioner Meadows questioned if the vehicles, pedestrians, and bicyclist would be safer with an improved

intersection. Mr. Graham stated that a new intersection would be safer. Commissioner Meadows questioned where the mast arms would be located with a signalized intersection. Mr. Graham stated that two mast arms would be needed but was not sure of the exact location.

Discussion continued regarding the stormwater for the two alternatives and the road access for the houses located to the south of a roundabout design.

Mr. Jim Martelli, Moore Bass Consulting, stated that the homeowners are interested in what the county has to propose and they are willing to come to an agreement. He reminded the Board that the right-of-way would be used and the travel lane is going to be much closer to those houses to the south. There are also large oak trees to consider if expansion of pavement is made.

Commissioner Meadows stated it would be helpful to have a table to compare the pros and cons, and estimated cost of each alternative. She stated it would help to know what would be less expensive, take less time to complete, and has the least amount of impact on the environment.

Chairman Jones suggested getting some information regarding the offset roundabout which would be safer for those houses to the south.

Chairman Jones stated that Mr. Graham could provide information on the pros and cons of the alternatives to the Board in another workshop or the item could be put on the agenda for action.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 3:40 p.m.

APPROVED _____
Larry Jones, Chair

ATTEST _____
Martha Ingle, Clerk of Court