

COTS October Meeting 10/15/2018

Spanish Point

Elaine Trentacoste (Facilitator) called the meeting to order at 3 pm.

First order of business: Congratulate COTS for succeeding with a Commissioner's "YES" vote to install a 5 foot wide multi use sidewalk on Bay Road. The sidewalk will begin at entrance to Park Trace Community and end at Old Venice Road. The funds for the sidewalk were achieved through an "operational partnership" and the project was passed unanimously by the Sarasota County Board of Commissioners October 9, 2018.

It should be noted that *several* active COTS members were instrumental in guiding this initiative from inception to Commissioners' vote. Ron Grinnell and Todd Logan were especially dedicated to the endeavor. Ron spoke on behalf of COTS 3 times supporting this sidewalk initiative at Commissioners' meetings.

The Bay Road cut through (Roundabout) is scheduled to open in November, 2018. However, currently no date given for beginning sidewalk. County first has to clear infrastructure requirements (right of way, Frontier moving lines, etc)

US 41 Traffic Pattern is changing almost daily. Pattern updates are sent to COTS members as soon as Elaine has from FDOT. Sarasota County road work schedule currently not available, or sporadic, as department is undergoing reorganization. Discussed: Alternate routes.

Discussed: Blackburn Pont Intersection Traffic light. Challenge of turning South from Old Venice Road. The Timing for the traffic light at this intersection is variable and monitored by the camera eye at the intersection. **AGENDA ITEM NOVEMBER MEETING:** COTS initiative: Address the light timing and issues with the turn arrows BEFORE the proposed alignment of the intersection May well involve County (Old Venice Road is a county road) and FDOT. Initiative needs to be outlined.

AGENDA ITEM DECEMBER MEETING: US 41/New Publix/Congestion at Habitat Blvd median opening. After some discussion, COTS will monitor the median crossing for safety reasons. To establish a data base, COTS will plan a "traffic watch" at US 41 and Habitat in January 2019. Initiative details and dates to be decided by the group in December.

Presented: Colonial Oaks subdivision is trying to re-instate Traffic Calming with the County. The HOA hired a consultant and presented findings at the October Board of Commissioners meeting. Traffic Calming was abandoned by the County in 2007. Since then the County has recommended communities (subdivisions) contact the sheriff's office for increased enforcement. COTS will follow the progress of Colonial Oaks in its pursuit of traffic calming methods for Colonial Oaks Blvd and offer support in their endeavor. (Speed Tables are not considered effective and can be dangerous, Colonial Oaks is pursuing other traffic calming means)

Next Meeting: November 19, 2018 3 pm Spanish Point Classroom. All residents of Osprey are invited. Please forward this meeting synopsis to your Community Associations for publishing in newsletters: digital or printed.