

From: [Gary Scott](#)
To: [Planning Commission](#)
Subject: Widening of Laurel Road-Is it needed now?
Date: Monday, November 14, 2022 1:45:49 PM
Attachments: [Laurel Road Study.pdf](#)

Caution: This email originated from an external source. Be Suspicious of Attachments, Links and Requests for Login Information

To the Members of the Board of Commissioners:

This email relates to the widening of Laurel Road from Knights Trail Road to Jacaranda Boulevard, and where it is currently placed on the road improvement priority list.

A number of traffic studies have been done over recent years where this segment of road was included in the study. In each of those studies it was found that the current traffic volume on this segment of road was well below the road's traffic capacity. In no study was it found that the current traffic volume was even more than 50% of the road's capacity. The relevant traffic studies that I was able to locate are as follows:

The Comprehensive Plan Amendment Traffic Analysis performed by Kimley Horn and dated December 2019. That study found that the current traffic volume to capacity ratio for this segment of road was .29.

The Northeast Venice Neighborhood Transportation Study performed by Kimley Horn and dated July 2019. That study found that the current traffic volume to capacity ratio was .38.

The Nokomis Groves Traffic Impact Analysis performed by Kimley Horn and dated September 2022. That study found that the current traffic volume to capacity ratio was .46.

The Laurel Road Study performed by the Transportation Planning Division of Sarasota County and dated September 2019. This report, which is attached, was prepared as a result of a request made by the City Council on June 11, 2019. This study adopted data from a Traffic Impact Analysis performed by Kimley Horn in May 2019. **The Laurel Road Study concluded that traffic on Laurel Road from Knights Trail Road to Jacaranda will exceed its capacity and will need to be widened between 2039 and 2040.** (See pg. 5 of Study)

Undoubtedly at some point in the future this segment of Laurel Road will need to be widened from two lanes to four lanes but I am not convinced that that time has arrived. The road is currently being traveled at a volume well below its capacity, and at least one study concluded that its capacity will not be exceeded for over 15 years.

Perhaps there are other road repair projects that are deserving of a priority higher than this segment of Laurel Road at this time. Thank you.

Gary Scott . 156 Pesaro Drive, North Venice. 307-630-3624

From: [Roger Effron](#)
To: [Planning Commission](#)
Cc: [Kelly Michaels](#)
Subject: Public Comments for PC agenda item
Date: Sunday, November 13, 2022 9:15:57 AM

Caution: This email originated from an external source. Be Suspicious of Attachments, Links and Requests for Login Information

To: Members of the City of Venice Planning Commission

This communication addresses your agenda item, "Annual Update of the Capital Improvement Schedule," presented by Roger Clark, Director, Planning and Zoning.

The primary reason for the letter is to acknowledge and support a proposed change to the City's CIS that currently have Pinebrook/E. Venice Intersection Improvements as Number 1 and Laurel Road Widening as Number 2 on the list. We all believe that the Laurel Rd Widening should be the Number 1 priority for the City with the Pinebrook/E.Venice interchange Number 2.

We also support the changes proposed by the Central Venice Coalition in April 1922 to redesign Pinebrook Road from Laurel Road to Venice Ave providing traffic mitigation measures and leaving it as a two-lane road rather than widening it to four lanes.

The three organizations noted below are in full support of this proposed changes.

Thank you for your consideration and we look forward to your approval of this request.

Lew Perry

Venetian Golf and River Club (VGRC) Property Owners Association

Roger Effron,
President, VGRC Community Association

Dick Longo
Steering Committee Member, Central Venice Coalition

From: [Ruth Cordner](#)
To: [Planning Commission](#)
Subject: Widening of Laurel Road-what is the urgency?
Date: Tuesday, November 15, 2022 8:48:26 AM

Caution: This email originated from an external source. **Be Suspicious of Attachments, Links and Requests for Login Information**

Good Morning

I see on today's agenda the Laurel Road widening project is ranked as the 2nd highest priority of 20 projects.

The Nokomis Groves Traffic Impact Analysis performed by Kimley Horn and dated September 2022, indicates the current traffic volume to capacity ratio was .46.

It is concerning that the Commission has this project ranked so high on the agenda. In the spirit of transparency, please respond with an explanation/rationale for this unusual ranking?

Thank you in advance for your time and consideration. I look forward to hearing from you.

Best Regards,
Ruth Cordner
Venice City Resident

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN: CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT SCHEDULE FISCAL YEARS 2023 - 2027

Table 7A : Transportation - Roadway Improvements

CC Ranking	PC Ranking	Current CIS Ranking	Project Name	Project Description	Funding Source	Fiscal Year 2023	Fiscal year 2024	Fiscal Year 2025	Fiscal Year 2026	Fiscal Year 2027	Five Year Total
		1	Pinebrook Road and E.Venice Ave. (V/C 1.16)	Intersection Improvements at Venice Ave. and Ridgewood Intersections and optimize signal timing.	County Funds, Grant Funds and Mobility Fees Collected in the City of \$5.6 Million						\$0
		2	Laurel Rd. from Knights Trail Rd. to Jacaranda (V/C 1.32)	Design and Engineering for the Widening to 4 lanes	County Funds and Mobility Fees Collected in the City of \$1 million						\$0
		3	Pinebrook from Edmondson to E.Venice (V/C 1.02)	Widen to 4 lanes							\$0
		4	I-75 SB Ramps and Laurel Road intersection (V/C 2.86)	1)Add 2nd SB LT lane and a shared THRU/RT lane 2) Add 2nd WB LT lane and additional receiving SB laneage 3) increase cycle from 110 to 160 seconds							\$0
-	-	5	Main Sarasota Memorial Hospital Entrance at Pinebrook Rd. (V/C 2.20)	Signalize Intersection	Sarasota Memorial Hospital and Mobility Fees	-	-	-	-	-	\$0