

NEAL COMMUNITIES

Where You Live Matters

To: The Honorable Ron Feinsod, Mayor
Members of Council, City of Venice

From: Pat Neal

Date: January 2, 2020

The following is a summary of the report which I would like to make at the Council on January 14, 2020 (as you discussed on December 10, 2019):

1. Two meetings with Sarasota County:

After listening to Mr. Lavalley's positive comments about a public/private partnership for the widening of Laurel Road and the Council's agreement, I had a meeting with Spencer Anderson, Sarasota County Engineer and subsequently with Johnathan Lewis, Sarasota County Administrator.

2. Sarasota County Staff is agreeable:

- a. Both were optimistic and cooperative about creating a public/private partnership for the widening of Laurel Road.
- b. Both were agreeable to using City of Venice available mobility fees based on the city's direction.

3. Funds available now:

- a. Spencer said that he could allocate up to \$400,000 City of Venice fees toward the preliminary and final engineering of Laurel Road
- b. Spencer met with Kathleen Weeden, City of Venice Engineer and Linda Senne, Finance Director, and I understand that she has already reported to the Council that \$400,000 was available.

To move this project to the next step, the Council would need to to authorize this expenditure to Sarasota County.

4. Then Neal will develop financial options:

We (Neal) will develop options for financing Laurel Road construction once we have the design at 30% (in order to create a construction estimate):

- Surtax #4 (November 2022)
- State Infrastructure Bank
- CIG-P (County Incentive Grant Program)
- Direct appropriation from line 1989A (primary gas tax)
- Economic Development Funds
- Municipal Service Benefit District

5. Right of way and utilities not estimated:

No figure which I have discussed to date accounts for (includes) the value (cost) of right of way or relocation of utilities (the huge water line and likely the electric utilities on the south side and perhaps an old county lift station which I believe is headed for “retirement”).

6. Our team has successfully built roads under 4 of the above options.

7. Action step requested:

At the Venice City of Council meeting, January 14, 2020, please authorize Sarasota County to spend up to \$400,000 toward design of Laurel Road and to authorize Sarasota County to spend any additional funds that may be available after the funding of Pinebrook/Venice Intersection for the completion of Laurel Road.