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NORTHEAST 15TH AVENUE MOBILITY PROJECT

CREATING A SAFER AND MORE CONNECTED FORT LAUDERDALE

Northeast 15th Avenue serves as a critical connection for neighbors, businesses and commuters between Sunrise Boulevard north into Wilton Manors. Recognizing the need for safety improvements, the Lake Ridge Civic Association played a vital role in advocating for changes to better protect pedestrians, cyclists and drivers. Their vision includes adding crosswalks, landscaped medians, bike lanes and raised intersections to slow traffic and enhance overall safety. This vision has been strongly supported by Commissioner Steven Glassman and Mayor Dean J. Trantalis throughout the process to get to implementation funding.

Michael Albetta, president of the Lake Ridge Civic Association, expressed pride in the community’s role in shaping the project, saying “[We are] proud to have had the opportunity to collaborate with transportation and mobility experts to implement solutions that made sense for our residents and positively impacted our neighborhood. We look forward to the continued relationship and permanent solutions.”

What started as a neighborhood-driven initiative in Lake Ridge has expanded into a broader mobility project spanning from Sunrise Boulevard to the South Fork of the Middle River, including Poinsettia Heights. The Transportation and Mobility Department has worked closely with residents to develop a comprehensive vision for improving safety and efficiency along Northeast 15th Avenue together.

Additional features were incorporated within the Poinsettia Heights neighborhood such as raised intersections at Northeast 14th Street and Northeast 17th Court, as well as raising crosswalks at the roundabout at

Northeast 18th Street. The Poinsettia Heights Board shared that “the 15th Avenue Project will significantly improve the quality of life and the safety of the residents of Poinsettia Heights, as well as the children who attend the Bennett Elementary School and the Sunrise Middle School, which are both located in our neighborhood.”

Before finalizing designs, the City implemented a pilot project using temporary materials to test proposed changes between Sunrise Boulevard and Northeast 13th Street. The results were clear: the introduction of median islands, bike lanes and crosswalks made a difference. Before installation, 60 percent of drivers exceeded the speed limit. After the changes, that number dropped dramatically to just 1 percent of drivers exceeding the speed limit.

But not all features worked successfully. The removal of the northbound right- turn lane from Northeast 15th Avenue to Northeast 13th Street generated concerns from residents, leading the City to create a project to restore the turn lane later this year. This highlights the value of the pilot program, allowing visions to be tested and adjustments before permanent construction begins.

The success of the pilot project helped secure a grant through the Broward Metropolitan Planning Organization’s Complete Streets and Other Localized Initiatives Program for the permanent installation.

As the next phase in advancing the vision, a meeting was held with the residents along the corridor in March to review the vision and provide input on preferred solutions and existing challenges to further define the high-level

vision to be better prepared for design.

As Fort Lauderdale continues to invest in smarter, safer streets, the Northeast 15th Avenue Mobility Project stands as a model for thoughtful, data-driven transportation planning



District 2 Commissioner Steven Glassman addresses a community meeting about the Northeast 15th Avenue Mobility Project on March 26.

