



CHARLOTTE COUNTY PUBLIC WORKS

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"To exceed expectations in the delivery of public services"

MEMORANDUM

DATE: March 16, 2004
TO: Bruce Loucks, County Administrator
FROM: Dale Armstrong, P.E., County Engineer
SUBJECT: Transportation Issues In Murdock Village

Charlotte County does not have an over-abundance of collector and arterial road systems. In fact it is difficult planning for future traffic growth because the existing basic arterial-collector network will not handle the future traffic demands. It is crucial, therefore, that the few existing identified key transportation corridors must be improved in any future development.

Murdock Village has two such corridors that are important to future transportation system planning and development. These corridors are Flamingo Boulevard and Toledo Blade Boulevard. Both of these roads are part of the county-wide arterial-collector network.

Flamingo Boulevard is part of the Edgewater-Flamingo corridor, that is part of a belt route system to by-pass US -41. This corridor is currently in the county CIP (Capital Improvement Program) as a phased development that is planned for four lanes. The eastern section of Edgewater is already four lanes, from Harbor to US-41. The northern half of this belt route is Veterans Boulevard, which will be under construction in the summer of 2004 to expand the existing two-lane road to four lanes.

Toledo Blade is a direct connection to I-75 and a critical evacuation route. It is also scheduled for expansion to four lanes. The county is currently doing a PD & E (planning, development and engineering) study in cooperation with FDOT under a shared cost program, to identify the best methodologies for expansion of this corridor.

It is important that advancement of these two corridors be coordinated as far as the entrance and exit locations in and out of Murdock village. The exact road locations, within the village, is not as critical, as long as the flow of through traffic is not impeded.

The developer of Murdock Village will be expected to design these roads through the village property to meet the needs of the village as well as to accommodate the planned future traffic. The county will participate in the funding of the third and fourth lanes, through the CIP as funds are available. The County might want to consider allowing the developer to advance fund the County's expected contribution of the third and fourth lanes of these segments in exchange for impact fee credits.

Minimum design standards for these and all other roads within Murdock Village must meet the County Standards for Urban Roads and Streets, including allowances for bicycle traffic.

Current County policy requires construction of sidewalks along any new road or street construction. Sidewalks will be required on both sides of roads and streets and where necessary to accommodate pedestrian flow from residential to commercial and business locations.