

**CITY OF PALMETTO
CITY COMMISSION WORKSHOP MEETING
May 21, 2018
4:30 PM**

Elected Officials Present:

Shirley Groover Bryant, Mayor
Jonathan Davis, Vice Mayor, Commissioner-at-Large 1
Tamara Cornwell, Commissioner-at-Large 2
Harold Smith, Commissioner, Ward 1—(arrived at 5:02 p.m.)
Tambra Varnadore, Commissioner, Ward 2
Brian Williams, Commissioner Ward 3

Staff Present:

Mark Barnebey, City Attorney
Jim Freeman, City Clerk
Allen Tusing, Public Works Director
Scott Tyler, Chief of Police
Amber LaRowe, Assistant City Clerk

Mayor Bryant called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m.

1. CMNAA PRESENTATION

Lawrence Massey, Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) Systems Planning Administrator, Brent Lacy, VHB, Greg Moore, VHB, and Patty Hurd, Kittleson & Associates, made a presentation to the City Commission on the Central Manatee Network Alternatives Analysis (CMNAA) that has been done. A copy of the presentation is attached to and made a part of the minutes. The study area included Manatee County, City of Palmetto, and City of Bradenton. The goals of the study were to reduce congestion, enhance mobility for all users, make it consistent with the future vision and enhance community cohesion.

The CMNAA study results included operational improvements for downtown City of Bradenton, ADA accessibility improvements, sidewalk connectivity, access to transit, complete streets corridors, and DeSoto Bridge options for the long term. The needs of the DeSoto and Green Bridge were discussed. Long term recommendations for the project development and environment study include corridor selection, alignment identification, bridge type with the number of lanes (at a minimum 6 total lanes) and community support. The DeSoto Bridge is currently programmed for Fiscal Year 2022/2023 and remains the number one priority for the region.

Neighborhood bicycle/pedestrian recommendations were discussed with nine community neighborhood project sheets develop for proposed bicycle improvements and proposed sidewalk improvements. The area identified in the City of Palmetto were West Palmetto, East Palmetto, Lincoln Estates, and Sanctuary Cove.

Palmetto Trail Opportunities discussed include linking Lincoln Memorial Academy to Lincoln Community Park and leverage existing Martin Luther King Trail and planned improvements to Washington Park. Plans on improving the tunnel under US 41 were mentioned.

The upcoming meetings regarding the CMNAA will be on May 22nd at the Board of County Commissioners Meeting, May 23rd at the City of Bradenton Council Meeting and on June 18th at the Sarasota/Manatee Metropolitan Planning Organization Meeting (MPO). There is an online survey (that will also be linked to the City of Palmetto website) where residents can take the survey until the June 18th presentation at the MPO meeting.

Discussion ensued regarding the right turn lane onto 3rd Avenue West from the Green Bridge in Bradenton. It is scheduled to begin fall 2018 with work to be done overnight during the least amount of traffic; to disrupt very little of the morning and evening rush hours.

In regard to the SUNTrail as shown on the CMNAA presentation headed north over the Green Bridge and east along Riverside Drive to 7th Street to connect to US 301, Commissioner Williams opined that, before anything is done, there needs to be a vote taken to make the trail route final.

Commission thanked FDOT for the presentation and all the information.

2. SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER DISCUSSION

Chief Tyler explained that the School Board and the City have negotiated reimbursements for the three School Resource Officers (SRO). The School Board will be reimbursing the City 70 percent of the cost for the three officers to include personnel expenses (salary, benefits, etc.) and operating expenses (gas, vehicle, uniforms, etc.).

In regards to charter schools in the City, right now there is no requirement that a charter school have a school resource officer. If any of the charter schools would like an officer supplied by the City of Palmetto Police Department, then a negotiation between the City and the charter school will have to be done separately outside of the School Board's SRO reimbursement.

3. SKYWAY HALF MARATHON DISCUSSION

Shane Henry, facilitator for the Skyway Half Marathon 2019, made a presentation on the Skyway Half Marathon he is proposing for January 1, 2019. He discussed bussing runners from the Convention Center and Tropicana Field to the starting line on the Skyway Bridge.

Commissioner Davis exited at 5:32 p.m. and returned at 5:37 p.m.

Mr. Henry explained that the traffic count, per FDOT, for 2018 south over the Skyway Bridge was 1,908 vehicles; Mr. Henry will be responsible for reimbursing FDOT for the tolls lost for the duration that the Bridge is closed for traffic headed south.

The run will finish at Blackstone Park and shuttles will be taking people back to their cars, if parked, at the Convention Center and at Tropicana Field.

Commissioner Williams expressed his concerns with traffic for the event and is not in favor of it at this time.

Commissioner Smith is pleased with the event and is in favor of it.

Commissioner Varnadore would like Mr. Henry and staff to meet and discuss the event and how the City can make it work with the County as well. Commission agreed with Mrs. Varnadore and asked that after the meeting, the information be brought back to the Commission. Mayor stated a discussion can take place during the Department Head meeting.

Mayor Bryant noted that this discussion is also on the 7:00 p.m. meeting; the consensus of the Commission was to remove it from 7:00 p.m. agenda.

Mayor Bryant adjourned the meeting at 6:04 p.m.

Minutes approved: June 4, 2018

James R. Freeman

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City Clerk