



OCTOBER 2013

City approves major Dixie Highway makeover

Progresso crime-fighting plan to be crafted; North Beach land-use meeting scheduled

Taking the "highway" out of Dixie Highway.

The Fort Lauderdale City Commission finalized plans to rebuild the road through the **Middle River Terrace** neighborhood so it is safer and more attractive.

The travel lanes will be narrowed, and bike paths added alongside wide swales, crosswalks and more sidewalks. But the most important part is that the City Commission committed to constructing the traffic calming components, such as a roundabout and raised intersections. This should make the roadway safer for everyone.

The work between Northeast 13th Street and the south fork of the Middle River is expected to get underway in 2016. It will link up with other planned improvements in Wilton Manors.

The commission's decision represents the culmination of more than a year of discussion between residents, city officials and regional transportation planners over how best to upgrade the aging corridor and reduce the danger of speeding traffic.

By working together, we were able to ensure that crosswalks and other traffic-calming measures were fast-tracked to coincide with the rest of the project.

The plan is for green-painted bike lanes and textured, patterned asphalt crosswalks and raised intersections. The 4-foot bike lanes will be

constructed on each side of the road. Alongside them will be wide 11-foot bioswales and 5-foot sidewalks.

Elsewhere in District 2, we've received good news about a traffic safety measure that the **South Middle River** neighborhood has needed for many years.

Broward County has agreed to reduce the speed limit on Northeast 4th Avenue to 30 mph from the city limits south to Sunrise Boulevard. That will mirror the speed limit on the street through the neighboring Wilton Manors business district.

In addition, we will meet with the South Middle River Civic Association on Oct. 22 to unveil what we have long been hoping for regarding the latest progress and developments paving the unimproved sections of Northwest 14th and Northwest 15th Streets west of Andrews Avenue.

I hope to see many of you there.

The Florida Department of Transportation will soon begin construction on five bridges in the **Las Olas Isles and Sunrise Key** area. The bridges on Fiesta Way, Royal Palm Drive, Nurmi Drive, Isle of Venice and Sunrise Key will be replaced.

Traffic lanes and sidewalks will be widened, while historic bridge urns and pedestals on the Las Olas Isles bridges will be reused. Demolition is set for mid-November to early December.

We recently joined officials from the Police Department and Code

Enforcement for a neighborhood town hall forum in **Progresso Village** to discuss problems residents are facing. Of most concern was a spate of break-ins and thefts.

The Police Department promised to draft an action plan to increase its presence in the area.

We're planning to host a public workshop for Nov. 16 at 10 a.m. at the Hilton Fort Lauderdale Beach to discuss zoning and long-range land-use planning in the **North Beach Residential Area** neighborhood. Residents want to maintain the NBRA's village-type atmosphere, so a discussion is critical given the recent wave of development.

The city paid for an extensive strategic plan for the beach several years ago from internationally renowned Sasaki & Associates, but it was never incorporated into our land-use regulations. The Sasaki plan envisioned the NBRA as a low- to mid-rise neighborhood rather than a place for more high-rise condos and hotels.

The workshop will help create a community consensus on the area's future that we will then take back to the City Commission.

Sincerely,

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Participate in Fort Lauderdale

The city provides a wealth of ways that you can have a voice in how city government operates. There are advisory boards that help improve city parks, discuss education issues, review historic preservation cases and promote economic development.

We're seeking candidates from District 2 to fill vacancies on several boards:

- Aviation Advisory Board, which advises the City Commission on operations at the Fort Lauderdale Executive Airport.
- Community Appearance Board, which helps recognize residents who have improved their community by beautifying their property.
- Community Services Board, which reviews applications for Community Block Grant allocations involving public service activities and for funds directed to housing opportunities for people with AIDS.
- Education Advisory Board, which advises the City Commission on education-related matters and schools in the city.
- Historic Preservation Board, which implements the city's historic preservation regulations.
- Parks, Recreation and Beaches Board, which advises the city about the operation and maintenance of its park facilities and beaches.
- Sustainability Advisory Board, which advises the city regarding environmental sustainability and recommends strategies for conservation and energy efficiency.
- Utility Advisory Committee, which advises the commission on activities of the utilities in the city and ensures city franchise agreements are being met.

Most boards meet once a month. If you are want to know more about these possibilities, go to the City Clerk's web site at www.fortlauderdale.gov/clerk/boards.htm.

You will also find an application there to submit if you are interested.

Please also let our office know of your interest by emailing commission assistant Scott Wyman at swyman@fortlauderdale.gov.



Commissioner Trantalis joins residents of Flagler Village for the recent groundbreaking of their community garden.



Commissioner Trantalis joins other officials at the ribbon-cutting of the new Fire Station 46 at 1515 NW 19th St.



Commissioner Trantalis speaks at the "Courage to Remember" Holocaust Exhibit sponsored by the Foundation for California at Saint Thomas Aquinas High.