

Minutes of Hiatus Road Improvements Meeting/June 8, 2004

Present for the Town of Davie:

Mayor Tom Truex

Councilmember Susan Starkey

Assistant Town Administrator Ken Cohen

Opening comments were made by Mr. Cohen. These included an overall Hiatus Road project overview, with accompanying visuals.

Councilmember Starkey gave an historical overview of the upcoming improvements and how they were negotiated.

Then followed a question/comment/response period.

Questions/Comments expressed by residents:

- * Increased traffic will make Hiatus Road even more dangerous for children, especially those who must walk to school bus pick-up locations.
- * FPL poles are placed in inconvenient and sometimes dangerous locations.
- * When Hiatus opens north from I-595, how much additional traffic can we expect on Hiatus?
- * Since the Town Council approved the GL Homes project, the Town should have budgeted or planned for the money to deal with the increase in traffic, especially 26th Street. (Councilmember Starkey responded that she had been told by Staff to wait to deal with 26th Street after the GL Homes Hiatus Road improvements had been made.)
- * Speed limit difference of 45mph north of 26th Street, and 35mph south. Who has the authority to decide/change speed limits? Could the speed limit be changed, if only during times of construction?
- * What kinds of improvements will be made on Hiatus Road south of the GL Homes property? Will they be consistent with what will be done by GL Homes?
- * What will be done to limit damages currently being created by equestrian traffic on yards/sidewalks on east side of Hiatus at Lawson Isles?
- * What assurances can be given that Hiatus Road will be kept a 2-lane street?
- * Something needs to be done at Orange/Hiatus intersection. People aren't always stopping at the sign. Could something be put in the road to slow them down, and/or more signage/lights.

- * Council should develop a comprehensive master plan for all of Hiatus Road so that future development must conform to the master plan.
- * GL Homes has created this additional traffic, and thus, should pay for more improvements than has currently agreed to. (Councilmember Starkey responded that she will meet with GL Homes again and request additional improvements to be paid for by them.)
- * Since GL Homes has moved the canal to the west, could that westward movement be continued south from their property to Orange Drive? (Councilmember Starkey and Mr. Cohen responded that the town does not own that property and therefore does not own the right-of-way.)
- * If GL Homes will be installing brick pavers in Hiatus Road at certain locations, what about having brick pavers installed in Hiatus Road at the entrance to every development on Hiatus? (Further discussion ensued about how much upkeep and replacement there is with brick pavers.)
- * Could we have more police presence along Hiatus Road until the calming devices are in place, in order to slow down the speeders?
- * Could 26th Street be made a dead-end street where it meets Hiatus? (Discussion ensued, in which many residents expressed disapproval. The Mayor discussed how dead-ending streets usually resulted in displaced traffic elsewhere, which did not resolve the problem.)
- * What is the possibility of having stop signs at 26th Street? (A discussion ensued, in which it was stated that the county would not permit stop signs at that location, and that Hiatus Road is meant to be a non-stop road.)
- * Is there enough room for a roundabout at 26th Street? What about taking part of the Math Iglar property in order to construct a roundabout? (In ensuing discussion, a resident said he had spoken to Lori Parrish, who informed him that it would be permissible to use part of the Math Iglar property for safety reasons. Same resident said he had measured the area, and there was enough room. The resident also stated that he had spoken to a resident whose property borders Hiatus at 26th, and he was willing to cede some of that land to a roundabout.)
- * There was discussion about decreases in accidents and deaths when a roundabout has been created. Some concerns expressed by residents were appropriate lighting, size large enough for horse trailers and other large vehicles, and how pedestrian and equestrian walkways are incorporated into a roundabout.
- * How would the roundabout be paid for? Should we insist that Home Dynamics incur the cost? (Discussion ensued, in which it was stated that there are funds of \$150,000 for calming devices.)

- * A resident stated she had asked Lori Parrish if the Math Iglar property could contain the roundabout, and was told no. Councilmember Starkey reminded the residents that the meeting to discuss plans for the park was the following evening, and the idea of the roundabout should be kept in mind when planning the park.
- * A resident stated that he had installed the roundabouts in SW Ranches, and that they were not working. A discussion ensued about the size of those roundabouts, compared to the size the Town has installed at Shot gun Road.
- * What alternatives are there to a roundabout at 26th Street? (Councilmember Starkey responded that she would ask Staff to put together any other suggestions, as well as a plan/drawing for a roundabout in that location.)
- * Will there be sidewalks on the east side of Hiatus Road?

The Mayor spoke briefly, in which he thanked the residents for their interest, and stated the importance of resident input and understanding of resident rights when a site plan is up for approval. He stated that while nothing is "100% certain", the consideration of a roundabout at Hiatus and 26th Street is a serious priority.

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