

**LETTER of APPLICATION for
COUNTY INCENTIVE GRANT PROGRAM**

Project Name: Veterans Memorial Parkway Extension

Florida Intrastate Hwy System

State Hwy System

✓ Local

(a) Applicant: Volusia County

Project Contact Person:

Name: Bill Gray, P.E.

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Project Co-Contact Person:

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(b) Project Description: (Please use Additional Sheets)

(1) What type of project is being proposed? e. g., road capacity, ITS, traffic operations, safety, pedestrian, bicycle, aviation, transit, port, bridge, resurfacing, etc. (Describe in detail). Include detailed description of the purpose of the project for improving traffic flow and reducing traffic congestion on the state highway system.

The proposed project is to construct the Veterans Memorial Parkway Extension approximately one mile as a 4-lane divided urban road from Graves Avenue north to SR 472 to add additional capacity. This project will link the existing Veterans Memorial Parkway, on the south, to the existing Martin Luther King Parkway. This project will ensure that such features as intersection modifications, geometric improvements and/or curve corrections, left turn lanes, and sidewalks are included as part of the extension of the Veteran's Memorial Parkway. (Refer to attached Veterans Memorial Parkway Plans Package.)

The Federal Functional Classification of the Veterans Memorial Parkway is a Rural Major Collector. The Veterans Memorial Parkway will relieve congestion Interstate 4, SR 472, and US 17-92.

This project will protect or have a positive environmental impact. To minimize water pollution due to highway runoff retention ponds will be built. Improved traffic flow and reduced delays on the state highway system have a positive environmental impact on emissions and energy consumption.

(2) Provide map-showing location of project with termini noted.

A detailed project location map with project termini noted has been included

(c) Is Project in the FDOT's Five-Year Work Program? YES ✓ NO

(1) If Yes, FIN #: N/A

(d) Certification letter from the chief fiscal officer of Volusia County that sufficient matching funds are available. See attached letter. (If municipality is co-sponsor, also attach letter from city fiscal officer.)

Refer to attached letter from Volusia County Fiscal Office.

(e) Project Phases

(1) Identify below if the following work has been completed on the project, who performed or will perform the work, and project schedule.

Work Type	Has this phase been completed? Yes/No	Who performed or Will perform Work? Responsible Agency	Project Schedule
Planning (Phase 1X)	Yes	Volusia County	Complete
Project Development Environmental Assessment Study (Phase 1X)	N/A		
Design (Phase 2X)	No	Volusia County	FY 99/00 & 00/01
Right of Way Acquisition (Phase 3X)	No	Volusia County	N/A
Environmental Permitting	No	Volusia County	FY 99/00 & 00/01
Construction (Phase 4X)	No	Volusia County	FY 2003/2004
Construction Engineering Inspection	No	Volusia County	FY 2003/2004
Other	N/A		

(f) Expenditures to date for each project phase and current cost estimate for each project phase.

Work Type	State Funding	Local Funding	Total Funding	Expenditure Status
Planning (Phase 1X)		10,000	10,000	Paid
Project Development Environmental Assessment Study (Phase 1X)				N/A
Design (Phase 2X)	0	150,000	150,000	Paid 75%
Right of Way Acquisition (Phase 3X)	0	0	0	To be Donated by Property Owner
Environmental Permitting	8,750	16,250	25,000	Estimate
Construction (Phase 4X)	700,000	1,300,000	2,000,000	Estimate
Construction Engineering Inspection	49,000	91,000	140,000	Estimate
Other				N/A
Total Requested	\$757,750 (32.7%)	\$1,557,250 (67.3%)	\$2,315,000	

(g) Consistency with Florida Transportation Plan, MPO and Local Plans Government Comprehensive Plan

(1) Is this project consistent with the Florida Transportation Plan?

Yes. The proposed project conforms to Goal #1 of the 2020 FTP, which states that we shall provide safe transportation for residents, visitors and commerce.

1. In addition to adding the needed extension, the project will involve intersection modifications, alignment corrections, and left turn lanes.
2. The proposed project will improve emergency preparedness and response by allowing emergency vehicles to make timely arrivals to their destinations with less congestion and impedance on the roadway. During emergency evacuation, this project will improve mobility of evacuating residents, and will facilitate better connections to identified emergency evacuation routes.

The proposed project conforms to Goal #4 of the 2020 FTP, which states that we shall provide travel choices to ensure mobility, sustain the quality of the environment, preserve community values and reduce energy consumption.

1. The proposed project will provide paved shoulders that can be used as bicycle lanes to provide mobility choices other than the automobile.
2. The proposed project will provide a 5-foot sidewalk for pedestrian use.
3. The proposed project will cause a minimal impact on the environment.

(2) Is this project consistent with the Comprehensive Plan of the Volusia MPO?

Yes. The project is in the adopted MPO's 2020 Cost-Feasible component of the Long-Range Transportation Plan. Also refer to the attached Resolution from the Volusia County MPO. In addition, the following from the current Long-Range Plan supports this project:

1. Improved roads will have outside lanes not less than twelve feet to support bicycle mobility.
2. The proposed project will provide a 5-foot sidewalk, thus contributing toward the MPO's pedestrian plan circulation.

(3) Is this project consistent with the Local Government Comprehensive Plan?

Yes. The proposed project conforms to the following Volusia County Comprehensive Plan related goals, objectives and policies:

1. *Policy 2.1.1.4* – Volusia County shall establish strategies to facilitate local traffic to use alternatives to the Florida Intrastate Highway System (FIHS) to protect its interregional and intrastate functions. This project will attract local trips and will relieve congestion on Interstate 4, SR 472 and US 17-92.
2. *Policy 2.1.1.9* – Volusia County shall expend County transportation funds in a manner that encourages compact urban development. This proposed project is located in an urban area identified for intensive growth with the nearby Southwest Activity Center and various other businesses coming to the area.
3. *Policy 2.1.1.23* – Volusia County shall coordinate with the Volusia County MPO to develop a Countywide Bicycle and Pedestrian Systems Plan. This project will provide 12 foot shoulders for the safe mobility of bicycles. It will also provide a 5-foot sidewalk for pedestrians.
4. *Policy 2.1.2.1* – The Transportation Element shall be coordinated with the Future Land Use Element to ensure compatibility between land use and the Thoroughfare Roadway System necessary to support it. The project area is targeted for near future intensive urban growth.
5. *Policy 2.1.2.10* – Volusia County has developed and will maintain land use regulations that will provide for the safe and efficient movement of local traffic and will discourage through traffic on residential streets. This project will emphasize this policy.
6. *Policy 2.2.1.1* – Where possible, Volusia County shall direct major transportation system improvements away from environmentally sensitive areas. This project is not located in an environmentally sensitive area.

(h) If project is not located on the state highway system, justify how the project will alleviate the need for construction or improvements to the state highway system by reducing traffic congestion, and quantitatively estimate the improved through traffic capacity and/or increased level of service afforded the affected state highway.

The proposed project will link the Martin Luther King Jr. Beltway to the existing Veteran's Memorial Parkway to complete a continuous roadway system from US 17/SR 600 at its northern terminus to Saxon Blvd., a distance of approximately 10 miles. Most of this beltway parallels Interstate 4 (I-4) and, due to the length of the facility, it will provide relief to both I-4 and US 17/92 (SR 15/600). The existing level of service (LOS) on I-4 is LOS "D" while the FDOT LOS standard is LOS "C". Presently, the LOS on US 17/92 is also at LOS "D" with a LOS standard of "C". The improvement is anticipated to add an additional capacity of 35,000 vehicles per day, which will improve the LOS on both of the parallel facilities.

(i) **Other relevant information necessary to assure compliance with the eligibility requirements and to meet the ranking criteria: (Use additional sheets if necessary.)**

(1) The extent to which the project will encourage, enhance, or create economic benefit.

Trucks are the primary means for moving goods in Volusia County. Because these trucks use out roadways, congestion and delays increase the cost of moving the product and ultimately the cost of the product itself. The recent reliance on “Just-In-Time” delivery of parts and supplies means that shipments must be made more often, and they are more time-sensitive, since large inventories are no longer maintained on site. Any significant interruption to the transportation network could interrupt the production flow and the ability to conduct business.

This project is located near the Southwest Activity Center DRI and a number of new businesses. The DRI is forecasted to bring a mixture of land uses to increase economic viability in Volusia County. Traffic generated from the Activity Center alone will require a Frontage Route to Interstate 4 to avoid negatively impacting its level of service.

The economic benefits from relieving congestion on the state highway network and the additional capacity on Saxon Boulevard reduced travel delay, vehicle operating cost savings and productivity improvements, external cost savings (e.g., improved traffic flow and reduced delays have a positive environmental impact on emissions and energy consumption), and enhanced business efficiency/productivity by reducing overall travel time or by providing a consistent travel time).

(2) The likelihood that assistance would enable the project to proceed at an earlier date than the project could otherwise proceed.

Assistance on this project will allow the construction phase to advance one (1) year ahead into FY 2001/2002.

(3) The extent to which assistance would foster innovative public-private partnerships and attract private debt or equity investment.

Public-private partnership will be formed between Volusia County and Property Owner in order for land to be donated to Volusia County.

(4) The extent to which the project uses new technologies, including ITS, which enhance the efficiency of the project.

Volusia County currently has ITS elements (Closed Loop Signal System) deployed along this corridor at the intersection of Kentucky and SR 472. The ITS elements will be reinstalled and/or maintained during this roadway widening project.

(5) The extent to which the project helps to maintain or protect the environment.

This project will protect or have a positive environmental impact. To minimize water pollution due to highway runoff retention ponds will be built. Improved traffic flow and reduced delays on the state highway system have a positive environmental impact on emissions and energy consumption.

(6) The extent to which the project includes transportation benefits for improving intermodalism and safety.

INTERMODALISM

This project will incorporate the provision of transit service along the corridor. As development escalates and comes to fruition, we plan to provide attractive and accessible transit facilities that are accessible by foot, bicycle or automobile. The project's sidewalks and paved shoulders will help assist in this.

SAFETY

Presently, traffic that wishes to proceed south on the existing section of Veteran's Memorial Parkway (VMP) from SR 472 have to drive south on Kentucky Ave., a two lane county collector, then turn west on Graves Ave. to access VMP. This route creates a more hazardous situation at the intersection of Kentucky Ave. and Graves Ave. as compared to the proposed, continuous four lane facility.

(7) This project will be administered by a governmental entity other than the FDOT, document that this entity has the fiscal, managerial, environmental, and engineering capabilities to manage the project consistent with federal requirements and has been certified by the FDOT to perform the work.

Volusia County is LAP (Local Agency Program) certified, and therefore, the Volusia County Construction Engineering Service Group would perform all the work. Volusia County Road and Bridge will also maintain ALL items installed under this project.

(8) Can public or private support of the project be demonstrated? (Examples include: written endorsement, formal declaration, resolution, financial donations, or other appropriate means)

Volusia County, West Volusia Community Traffic Safety Team, and the Cities of DeLand, Deltona, and Orange City support this project. Letters of support and/or Resolutions have been attached to this application.

Attachments: County Council Resolution
Project Location Map
Plans Package
Volusia County Fiscal Certification
Volusia County MPO Resolution
Orange City Council Resolution
DeLand Resolution
West Volusia CTST Letter of Support