



PONTE VEDRA BEACH
Citizens Traffic Task Force

Citizens Traffic Task Force Newsletter

Summer 2023

The Citizens Traffic Task Force Board includes representatives from:

The Ponte Vedra Municipal Service District

The Ponte Vedra Community Association

Sawgrass Master Association

Ponte Vedra Coalition

The Palm Valley Community Association

The Plantation at Ponte Vedra Beach

Sawgrass Players Club Master Association

Marsh Landing Master Association

Ponte Vedra Lakes Owners Association

CTTF Asks Legislative Delegation for \$3.0 Million, Receives \$6.0 Million

As a result of the CTTF's continuing efforts to gain state funding for roadway improvements in Ponte Vedra Beach, the State of Florida Fiscal Budget for 2023-2024 now contains \$6 million intended to fund all of the design and engineering costs associated with intersection improvements to the Sawgrass Village, Tournament Players Boulevard and Solano Road intersections on A1A.

The tentative development schedule suggests that the Engineering/Design contract would be awarded in early 2024 and would take about two years to complete. One contract award is expected for all three intersections, though the intersections would be addressed one at a time. Public information meetings would start in the Fall of 2024 or Spring of 2025.

The CTTF thanks State Senator Travis Hutson, and Representatives Cyndi Stevenson, Paul Renner and Bobby Payne, for making this appropriation possible.

Results of New CTTF Ponte Vedra Beach Traffic Survey Are In

Just released results from the 2023 Citizens Traffic Task Force Survey show strong support for design improvements to several key intersections along A1A in Ponte Vedra Beach but mixed results for other proposed roadway changes. The CTTF Traffic Survey solicited responses through the email lists of the Homeowners and Community Associations that are represented on the CTTF, a survey link that appeared in the Ponte Vedra Recorder, and the email lists of the Parent Teacher Organization's (PTOs) at our local schools. In total, the CTTF received 2,090 responses to the survey.

A summary of the results from the 2023 survey shows:

- A clear majority (80%) **favor** the intersection improvements at Sawgrass Village Drive and A1A.
- A clear majority (80%) **favor** the intersection improvements at Tournament Players Boulevard and A1A.
- A slight majority (56%) **favor** the widening of SR A1A (2 to 4 lanes) from Mickler Road to Fairfield at Ponte Vedra Beach.
- A majority (63%) **oppose** replacing the roundabout at CR 210 and Mickler Road with a signalized intersection.
- A slight majority (56%) **favor** the widening of Palm Valley Road (from 2 to 4 lanes) from the Palm Valley Bridge to the roundabout.
- A slight majority (54%) **favor** the widening of Mickler Road (from 2 to 4 lanes) from the roundabout to A1A.

Due to the current backlog of higher priority road improvement projects in Northeast Florida and St. Johns County, no action is expected to be taken on the three potential road widening projects for at least the next five to ten years and no construction would begin without public meetings to solicit community input.



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Construction to Complete the Palm Valley Road Sidewalk Has Begun

Phase 1 of the Palm Valley Road sidewalk project, which includes the section of Palm Valley Road from Landrum Lane to Canal Boulevard is now “Under Construction” and will be completed by the end of Summer. Phase 2, to address the section of Palm Valley Road from Canal Boulevard to A1A, is in the Design stage, and will be put out for bids by the end of August with construction expected to be completed in Summer 2024. The Palm Valley Road sidewalk project, which includes construction to fill in gaps in sidewalk and associated drainage infrastructure, is designed to improve mobility and safety for residents living along and near Palm Valley Road from Landrum Lane, north to A1A.

Update on Improvements to the SR A1A and Mickler Road Intersection

Funding for improvements to the Mickler/A1A intersection was approved by the St. Johns County Board of County Commissioners in June and construction is expected to start in late Summer/early Fall. The initiative will add one additional eastbound left-turn lane, construct a new westbound left-turn lane, and construct a second northbound through lane from just south of the intersection north to Crossroad Lakes Drive.

Update on County Road 210 and Mickler Road Roundabout

According to recent traffic counts, volumes at the roundabout have decreased since 2019, and the potential failure of that intersection is not now as critical as it was pre-pandemic. However, the proposed future intersection design will be completed soon and the St. Johns County Public Works Dept. plans to disseminate factual information to the public through a website and other means to help educate residents and avoid disinformation. That process will be followed by a public meeting sometime next year.

Multi-Use Path on East Side of A1A From JTB to Solano Road Discussed

Residents living in developments East of A1A in the area of Avenue C, have asked the CTTF to look into the possibility of constructing a multi-use path on the East side of A1A from Avenue C all the way south to Solano Road. In discussions with County staff and the Florida Department of Transportation, the CTTF learned that there are right of way, environmental, and above all cost issues that make funding a new two-mile sidewalk unlikely given that there is already a sidewalk on the west side of A1A. Nonetheless, it was suggested that interested residents should write to their County Commissioner and the Public Works staff with their request and justification. A possible alternative might be the construction of a short sidewalk from Ave. C to the light at Ponte Vedra Lakes (with a signalized crosswalk) so the existing sidewalk on the West side of A1A could be used. This option might have a better chance of gaining approval and funding.

The Citizen’s Traffic Task Force Newsletter is produced in collaboration with St. Johns County’s Public Works Department. St. Johns County is dedicated to providing the highest level of service to the residents in Ponte Vedra Beach. For more information regarding upcoming projects, visit www.sjcfl.us. To contact the CTTF, email cttfboard@yahoo.com.