

PUBLIC INFORMATION WORKSHOP

TECHNICAL MEMORANDUM

**KORESHAN BOULEVARD EXTENSION
FROM THREE OAKS PARKWAY
TO BEN HILL GRIFFIN PARKWAY**

LEE COUNTY PROJECT #5021

Lee County, Florida

Prepared for:
Lee County Board of County Commissioners
Department of Transportation
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PUBLIC INFORMATION WORKSHOP

TECHNICAL MEMORANDUM

KORESHAN BOULEVARD EXTENSION

**From Three Oaks Parkway
To Ben Hill Griffin Parkway**

LEE COUNTY PROJECT NO. 5021

The Lee County Department of Transportation held a Public Information Workshop to display various alignments for the extension of Koreshan Boulevard east from Three Oaks Parkway to Ben Hill Griffin Parkway. An overpass is proposed across Interstate 75. Interchange ramps are not proposed for this project.

The workshop was held on Tuesday, November 19, 2002 from 5 to 7 p.m. at the Three Oaks Middle School cafetorium, 18500 Three Oaks Parkway in Fort Myers. The purpose of the workshop was to present the various alignments for the Koreshan Boulevard extension and to obtain public comments. The proposed improvement of Three Oaks Parkway from Corkscrew Road to Alico Road was also displayed at the meeting. Over 180 people signed in as attending the workshop. Copies of the sign-in sheets are attached as Appendix A.

Letters announcing the workshop were mailed on November 5, 2002 to persons with property lying within 300 feet of the proposed alternatives. A quarter-page advertisement announcing the workshop was published in the November 8, 2002 edition of the News-Press. The Lee County Department of Public Resources transmitted a press release to local media on November 8, 2002. As a result of the press release two articles were generated one in the Naples Daily News and one in the News-Press. Two variable message boards were placed within the project limits for a period of one week prior to the workshop to inform the traveling public. Copies of the notification letter, quarter-page display advertisement, mailing list, and the newspaper articles for the workshop are included in Appendix B.

The workshop format was an open house style that allowed attendees to view displays with the various alignments plotted on aerial photographs of the project area. Representatives of the Lee County Department of Transportation were available to assist the public in understanding the aerial displays and to answer questions. A project handout, that summarized the project to date, and a comment sheet were offered to the public at the registration table. In addition, a brochure about the Lee County MPO and their planning process was available. Copies of the public workshop handout, comment sheet, and the MPO brochure are included in Appendix C.

The public was provided with comment forms in order to have their opinion recorded as public record. A total of 21 comment sheets were returned either at the workshop or

during the 14-day period following the meeting. The comments were analyzed and a response was developed. The numbers in parentheses indicate the number of times the same or similar comments were submitted. Copies of the comment received are included in Appendix D.

**WRITTEN COMMENTS RECEIVED AT THE NOVEMBER 19, 2002
PUBLIC INFORMATION WORKSHOP FOR KORESHAN BLVD. EXTENSION**

- Comment:** Alternate 9 would be best for the extension of Koreshan Blvd.(4)
Response: Thank you for your comment and your interest in the project.
- Comment:** Alternate 6 would be the best.(2)
Response: Thank you for your comment and your interest in the project.
- Comment:** Include a traffic signal at the intersection of Koreshan Blvd and Cypress View Drive.(2)
Response: The placement of traffic signals will be reviewed by Lee County.
- Comment:** How will the drainage ditch along the west side of I-75 be changed?(2)
Response: There are no changes to the ditch proposed for this project.
- Comment:** Will there be any access to Koreshan Blvd. between Three Oaks Parkway and I-75?(2)
Response: Due to the proposed grade, no access point is planned between Three Oaks Parkway and I-75.
- Comment:** How will the drainage from the elevated Koreshan Blvd. be handled? Will there be ponds for the storm water?(2)
Response: Ponds will be used for storm water treatment.
- Comment:** Since Koreshan Blvd. will divide the Richards property please provide a bridge span for a road under Koreshan Blvd. to connect the two parcels of property.(2)
Response: There are currently no plans to construct a span to travel under the proposed Koreshan Blvd. extension to and from the Richards property.
- Comment:** Widen the pedestrian area on the bridge to 12 feet. Six feet is too narrow.
Response: Six feet is the standard width used for a pedestrian walkway bordered by a barrier wall on a bridge. In addition, a 12-foot shoulder will be provided on the bridge to accommodate bicyclists. A five-foot paved shoulder will be provided on the roadway.
- Comment:** Alternate 9 would be best for the extension of Koreshan Blvd. Why not build the approaches on piles instead of fill?
Response: Construction of the approaches on piles would not be cost effective.

Comment: Build some kind of pipes under the proposed road to allow for the flow of water so as not to further deteriorate the wetlands immediately south of the proposed road.

Response: Bridges will be constructed to allow the flow of water under the proposed roadway.

Comment: Please construct a cage on the bridge over I-75 to prevent the throwing of objects on to the interstate.

Response: Current standards require the construction of a fence system that will address this issue.

Comment: Do not build the Koreshan Blvd. extension. It's an additional cost for such a short distance. It's not necessary because it is too close to Corkscrew Rd./US 41 and Alico Rd.

Response: The Koreshan Blvd Extension project is being completed to alleviate the future traffic congestion at the Corkscrew Road and Alico Road interchanges with Interstate 75 and it is also a condition of the Miromar and TNT Developments of Regional Impact.

Comment: I am generally in favor of the proposed Koreshan Blvd. extension.

Response: Thank you for your comment and your interest in the project.

Comment: I am looking forward to Koreshan Blvd. being built.

Response: Thank you for your comment and your interest in the project.

Comment: Request that the design be modified to eliminate the canal relocation from our property on the south side of the road. Prefer that retaining walls be used on the approaches. Request a full median opening to serve the properties on both sides of the new roadway. Provide dual left-turn lanes from Ben Hill Griffin Parkway northbound to Koreshan Blvd. westbound.

Response: These requests will be reviewed during the design phase. Directional median openings will be provided to serve the Miromar and TNT developments.