



# Alachua County Board of County Commissioners

Rodney J. Long, *Chair*  
Mike Byerly, *Vice Chair*  
Cynthia Moore Chestnut  
Lee Pinkoson  
Penny Wheat

**Administration**  
Randall H. Reid  
*County Manager*

RECEIVED

September 26, 2003

SEP 25 2003

ALACHUA COUNTY  
BOARD OF CO. COMMISSIONERS

## MEMORANDUM

To: Chair Long, Commissioners, Byerly, Chestnut, Pinkoson and Wheat  
From: Randall H. Reid, County Manager *RHR*  
Subject: S. W. 62<sup>nd</sup> to Archer Road Improvements

A meeting was held today, September 26, 2003, with Mr. Butler and Mr. Reller to discuss a meeting held earlier within the week with Congressional and State Legislators. At this meet they discussed seeking Federal funds for four laning sections of S.W. 62<sup>nd</sup> to Archer Road. The result of this meeting, we are told, was an agreement in which Congressman Stearns' office would submit a grant for federal funding for this roadway. County staff will be seeking information from Congressman Streams on the specific format and information he needs for the City and County to provide to his office.

The County staff will cooperate with this effort and bring it before the County Commission at the earliest date possible. This is to provide you with the information we have to-date and to alert you to our involvement in this effort and its future appearance on an agenda.

I have attached the minutes from this meeting for your information.

RHR/smb

Attachment

Cc: Richard Drummond, Growth/Planning Dir  
Michael Fay, Acting Public Works Director



MEETING AT PROPERTY MANAGEMENT OFFICE – SEPTEMBER 24, 2003

ATTENDEES:

COPIES TO:				
SCB	JB	BR	KR	SD
				JB

Senator Rod Smith

- Mike Martha (Aide to Rod Smith)
- Glenel Bowden (District Director for Congresswoman Corrine Brown)
- Mary Johnson (District Aide for Congressman Cliff Stearns)
- Aage Schroeder (District Director, FDOT)
- Ken Morefield (Deputy Secretary, FDOT)
- Tony Domenech (City Commissioner)
- Teresa Scott (City of Gainesville)
- Bruce DeLaney (University of Florida)
- Jim Quincey (attorney)
- Bob Reller
- S. Clark Butler

SUBJECT: Completion of road from SW 24<sup>th</sup> up to SW 62<sup>nd</sup> Street and across SW 34<sup>th</sup> Street to Archer Road to complete the across-town road.

NOTES:

This is not a state road so DOT cannot fund it other than through a grant program. The county and city grants have existing funds that could be used to relieve existing traffic congestion on other roads. Funds might be available from SIG or from TOPS program if it is funded.

This road is very positive from the state view in that it will relieve current congestion on I-75 during peak hours caused by local traffic using I-75 as there is no other way across town that is not overly congested.

The state could help with the SJRWMD regarding the length of the bridge required over the wetlands. Current bridge is designed exorbitantly and cost could be reduced. The first thing is to get federal funds allocated.

BOTTOM LINE:

*Senator*

Rod Smith will spearhead the process. These are the things that must happen:

- + Rod will set up meeting with Cliff Stearns – who will introduce the request for funds in Washington with Corrine Brown’s support
- + Upon securing federal funding for road and bridge...
- + DOT will do 50% match of funds and can do borings under highway


It was agreed by all parties that whether Butler Enterprises builds or not, this road is needed for Alachua County/City of Gainesville. Rod Smith pointed out that we must not let this become a Butler road, and he also stated that it should be designed as a 4-lane road and bridge.

*Butler Enterprises*

COMMERCIAL DEVELOPERS

*Butler Plaza* Property Management Office  
 3223 S.W. 35th Boulevard  
 Gainesville, Florida 32608  
 (352) 376-5225  
 (352) 376-9441 FAX

**MEMORANDUM**

DATE: September 29, 2003  
 FROM: Bob Reller   
 TO: S. Clark Butler  
 CC: Deborah Butler  
 RE: SW 24<sup>th</sup>-SW 62<sup>nd</sup> Connector Earmarked Funds

In response to Cotton Fletcher's telephoned request, I gave him the following estimate of the cost for the subject road:

Phase I (SW 24<sup>th</sup> from SW 43<sup>rd</sup> east to SW 34<sup>th</sup>) \$11,200,000 already funded

Phase II (SW 62<sup>nd</sup> / SW 24<sup>th</sup> from SW 20<sup>th</sup> to SW 43<sup>rd</sup>): \$14,000,000

Phase III (SW 24<sup>th</sup> from SW 34<sup>th</sup> east to Archer Road): \$6,000,000

**Total funds required in addition to those already funded \$20,000,000**

The federal earmark request is: \$12,500,000

The FDOT 50% match is: 6,250,000

Other sources including ROW donation and private sector: 1,250,000

**Total sources of funds \$20,000,000**



## **Federal Transportation Funds Request for SW 24<sup>th</sup> Avenue – SW 62<sup>nd</sup> Boulevard Connector in Gainesville, Florida**

The request is to earmark \$12,500,000 in federal transportation funds to enable the completion of the design and construction of that road known as "The SW 24<sup>th</sup> Avenue-SW 62<sup>nd</sup> Boulevard Connector" to be built as a four lane facility from Archer Road west to SW 20<sup>th</sup> Avenue in Gainesville, Florida.

One mile (from SW 43<sup>rd</sup> Street east to SW 34<sup>th</sup> Street) of this approximately 2.5 mile facility has already been funded by FDOT, the University of Florida, local government and private sector sources.

The earmarked funds would be combined with state, local government and private sector resources to design and build the sections to the east and west of the one that has already been funded, namely SW 62<sup>nd</sup> Boulevard from SW 20<sup>th</sup> Avenue to SW 43<sup>rd</sup> Street and SW 24<sup>th</sup> Avenue from SW 34<sup>th</sup> Street to Archer Road.

Construction of this complete facility as a four lane road will:

- Relieve congestion on Interstate 75 caused by local traffic
- Relieve traffic at the most congested intersection in Gainesville: SW 34<sup>th</sup> Street and SW Archer Road
- Create the East-West Connector envisioned in Plan East Gainesville thereby providing the only east-west connector in Gainesville south of University Avenue
- Complete the road grid system first conceived in the 1997-1998 city/county charrette
- Promote privately funded economic development that will bring 3000-3500 new jobs to Gainesville

September 26, 2003