

Other information relevant to the proposed donation of ROW

Number of additional west lanes that traffic planners believe are needed west of SW 34th Street.

V-P Poppell told the Focus Group that six additional east-west traffic lanes were “envisioned” as needed west of SW 20th Avenue. Here is what happened when he made the same statement during the 20 Feb 2003 MTPO meeting [transcribed from the video tape of the meeting].

UF V-P Ed Poppell:

“One of the options was to four lane Hull Road extension; one of the options was to four lane SW 20th; one of the options was to two lane SW 24th. All that said, when you look at all the options, everyone who was visioning some almost eight years ago now (because the MTPO started this conversation in 1995), the vision was to hopefully add six lanes of new road in that area (and if you go back and look at the documentation) and today we are only talking about adding two lanes because since that time, if you look at the updated Charrette proposal now, we don’t have the right-of-way money to purchase the four-lane Hull Road extension. We could not afford I don’t think the right-of-way on SW 20th because of all the commercial development on either side of the road. So we are left with SW 24th and I think that’s why its critical that we reflect on our vision and update it now, some seven or eight years later, to take those things into account. Thank you.”

City Commissioner (and MTPO Chair) Warren Nielsen:

“Mr. Poppell, just a point of clarification on the total of lanes. We worked on the Charrette together. Let’s get that, I think I miscounted, or something. Originally, the proposal, the choices we had before the Charrette was to extend Hull Road as a four lane and, or (there was an OR) expand SW 20th to four lanes, and in addition to that (that was the basic, those were the basic two items on the table), the Charrette came up with SW 24th as an added component at that time. Is that your recollection?”

V-P Poppell:

“No but, if you look at 1A and 1B, in the end when the Charrette concluded, I think we had proposed a four-lane Hull Road and a two-lane SW 24th.”

Commissioner Nielsen:

“No, no that wasn’t true. I think Mr. Sanderson can help us out on that one. Just a point of clarification.”

NCFRPC Transportation Director Marley Sanderson:

“Yes. The SW 20th Avenue Charrette, as adopted by the MTPO (I’m thumbing now to page 35 in your packet) did approve acquiring four lanes of right-of-way for a Hull Road extension. Keep in mind I said four-lane’s worth of right-of-way, but the final stage of the Charrette plan was to construct a two-lane Hull Road only if needed. So essentially that is how the 20th Avenue Charrette speaks to Hull Road extension. Buy four lanes of right-of-way, do all the Charrette elements; see how traffic works; if there is a lot of congestion and things aren’t working, then the final phase, Phase 3, is to construct a two-lane Hull Road extension.

Additional evidence that the minimum number of lanes in the proposed extension is four.

Letter from V-P Poppell to T. J. Walker

(hardcopy dated 21 Mar 2003; e-mail copy dated 24 Mar 2003):

“Another benefit [of the ROW donation] is the east/west road connector. Gainesville and Alachua County are attempting to grow and revitalize the east side of Gainesville. Plan East Gainesville has been developed, presented, and accepted by the MTPO. A connecting road east to west is one of the essential needs identified in this plan. In this plan is a “bus rapid transit” proposal, which will require thoroughfares that will accommodate RTS buses traveling from the east to the west and west to the east. The SW 24 th connector to Archer Road is critical to this eastside plan, as are the four-lanes. Today, even though mass transit is successful and desirable, the frequent stops of buses on our two-lane roads create the most frustrations for our motorists.”

Evidence that the minimum width of ROW that UF will propose to donate is 100 feet.

The extension has been proposed as part of a four-lane east-west traffic corridor.

For its property fronting on Hull Road west of 34th Street, UF is observing a 150-foot ROW.