

Summary of Englewood Community Redevelopment Area (CRA) Advisory Board Project Priorities:

The CRA Advisory Board met on April 11, 2016 and discussed the project sheet in the CRA Plan and offers the following projects for discussion at the joint Board of County Commission workshop on May 2. They are as follows:

1. **Dearborn Street Improvements:** this project was designed as part of the Low Impact Design (Stormwater) project, but was tabled as we had 2-3 property owners in the 400 block of W. Dearborn Street that were not in favor as they felt the work would be done in season and disrupt their business. Funding was also a question at that time. The plans were shelved. Capital projects staff is reviewing those plans to see what types of changes would be necessary in order to move that project forward. There are pieces of those plans that could stand alone such as:
 - a. Additional on-street parking which is project PI-3 of the CRA Plan;
“PI-3 – Develop and Implement Parking Improvements for the Englewood Town Center” – Description: Create Off-Street Parking Development in the Downtown Core.
 - b. Expanding and enhancing the street scape which is project PI-4 of the CRA Plan;
“PI-4 – Expand, Enhance and Maintain Streetscape Improvements” – Description: Develop a comprehensive streetscape enhancement plan for the Town Center.
 - c. Wayfinding Signage which is project PI-5 of the CRA Plan;
“PI-5 – Prepare a Wayfinding Plan and Install Gateway and Directional Signage into the Town Center” – Description: Design and install wayfinding signs.

It may be possible to add some of the elements above without doing the entire length of W. Dearborn Street from SR 776 to Old Englewood Road. Staff could begin work on this project immediately, make contact with the property owners, obtain voluntary easements where necessary and update the plans with a current cost estimate. The cost estimate three years ago was approximately \$5,000,000.00. The CRA Advisory Board felt that this project would receive the highest priority as it is almost ready to go out for bids.

The next four projects were given equal importance:

2. **Sidewalks, lighting and parking in the Residential, Commercial Transition Overlay District (RCTOD).** This area is mostly north of Dearborn Street between Elm Street and Old Englewood Road. A small portion exists around Green Street and W. Dearborn. A

Item 2.

map showing the area is attached. The CRA Advisory Board also requested to add Wentworth Street from Old Englewood Road east to the Bay as the Royal Palm Marina is an asset that needs to be promoted. These projects fall under project PI-6 of the CRA Plan.

“PI-6 – Expand and Enhance Sidewalks, Bicycle Lanes and Trail Systems in the CRA” – Description – Improve sidewalk, lighting, landscaping and make drainage enhancements in the Town Center where applicable.

The parking portion of these projects would be covered by the PI-3 above as this area is also within the Town Center.

- 3. Preservation of historic structures.** The CRA Advisory Board would like the survey of historic structures completed and identify any properties which might be in jeopardy of being demolished. They would like to find property where these buildings could be relocated. Projects PPR-3 and NA-3 of the CRA Plan address this priority.

“PPR-3 – Preserve historic character of Olde Englewood Village” – Description – Identify and Promote Historic and Cultural Resources.”

“NA-3 – Create a Historic Home Relocation/Affordable Housing Program” – Description – Preserve historic homes and character of the community and expand affordable housing options in Englewood.

- 4. Redevelopment of South McCall Road.** The CRA Advisory Board would like to consider expansion of the Main Street Overlay District north on McCall Road to Wentworth and south on McCall Road to Virginia Avenue. This would include additional sidewalks, lighting, landscaping and addressing drainage issues. Parking could also be incorporated if desired by those merchants along McCall Road. South of Virginia (in the more residential area) to the intersection of SR 776, they would like to consider a RCTOD overlay and to continue the sidewalks and lighting to provide another entryway to Dearborn Street. This work is identified in project CID-6 of the CRA Plan.

“CID-6 – Facilitate the Redevelopment of the South McCall Corridor” - Description – Promote the creation of a high-quality, moderate-density, mixed-use district.

- 5. Research development opportunities for the 20 acre site located between Elm Street and McCall Road.** The CRA Advisory Board would like to research the best use of the property – possibly a Park with trails and Dog Park. The property was originally purchased to use for the Dearborn Street stormwater project was determined not to be suitable for that project. It was subsequently placed on the surplus list, but staff has

been notified by Real Property that the potential for housing or any construction is slim as the property contains mostly wetlands and possibly eagle's nests and other native species. Project CID-4 speaks to this project.

“CID-4 – Expand and Enhance Existing Public Parks and Facilities “– Description – Upgrade Indian Mound Park off Winson Avenue.

- 6. Support the implementation of a SCAT bus route to Englewood Beach.** The Advisory Board is especially interested in enhancing SCAT service to the Englewood area, including a route to Englewood Beach as parking is very limited. A workshop/open house is scheduled for April 13, 2016 at the Englewood Chamber of Commerce to allow residents to discuss their needs with representatives from SCAT. Project PI-7 addresses this issue.

“PI-7 – Support Alternative Modes of Transportation throughout the community” – Description – Encourage the establishment of a water taxi/ferry on Lemon bay to Englewood Points of Interest.

- 7. Unimproved Roads.** The last project discussed by the CRA Advisory Board was construction or unimproved roads in the CRA. The consensus of the board was **not** to move forward with a project to improve these roads. As noted above, there are several projects which would provide a much higher return on the investment. There are approximately 4.1 miles of unimproved roads within the CRA boundaries. Staff has researched the location of the unimproved roads and most are located several blocks away from the downtown core.