

## APRIL 06, 2004– WORKSHOP

The Board of County Commissioners, Walton County, Florida, held a Workshop to discuss traffic concurrency on Tuesday, April 6, 2004 at 3:30 p.m. at the South Walton Courthouse Annex.

The following Board members were present: Larry Jones, Chair, Tim Pauls, Vice-Chair, Commissioner Lane Rees, Commissioner Kenneth Pridgen, and Commissioner Ro Cuchens. Mr. Ronnie Bell, Interim County Administrator, and Attorney Gary Vorbeck, Director of Legal Services, were also present.

Chairman Jones called the meeting to order. Mr. David Smith, County Engineer, addressed the Board and presented each commissioner with a notebook containing information regarding the traffic concurrency system in Walton County. Mr. Smith reviewed and explained in detail each document contained in the notebook.

Mr. Smith further explained the methodology for analyzing traffic concurrency. Discussion was held regarding maximum allowable service volumes on each segment of CR 30-A and how capacity can be increased through the use of frontage roads. Mr. Smith also spoke about how the area of impact for a proposed development shall be determined.

Currently there are several impacted segments of roadway that have either met concurrency or are close to meeting concurrency. Public Works recommended that the county take a tiered approach to working through this issue. They recommended the following approach be considered to address the current issues with concurrency:

- Consider any proposals resulting from the April 6, 2004 public meeting. The proposals should be reviewed considering long term viability, comprehensive plan conformance and concurrency system compliance.
- Consider hiring a more local firm to perform traffic concurrency review. Traffic concurrency review should be expanded to any impacted section of roadway. Currently this would include the affected portions of Hwy 98, Hwy 331, Hwy 90, and CR-30 A. The selected firm should be available to discuss the reviews at planning board and BCC board meetings on an as needed basis. The selected firm would replace Tipton.
- Consider hiring a second consultant to review the current concurrency system and impacted segments. This consultant should be an expert in the field of traffic engineering. The consultant would review and recommend changes to the system currently being used by the County. The consultant chosen could present a report of findings and recommendations to the Board.
- Consider having the second consultant (expert) perform an automatic second review of any project recommended for denial by the firm selected to perform concurrency review. This review would be more detailed and would include any recommendations that could potentially improve the proposed developments changes for meeting concurrency requirements.

Mr. Smith stated that these recommendations could be implemented in short order. Public Works recommended proceeding with the above recommendations.

After a lengthy discussion was held regarding the recommendations, the floor was opened to public comments. The following members of the audience commented on the traffic concurrency issues: Mr. Ben Hammock, Mrs. Beverly Kraska, Mr. Craig Thurman, and Mr. Richard Fowlkes.

Motion by Commissioner Pauls to approve the second recommendation from Public Works as it is presented in the notebook to hire a local firm to perform traffic concurrency analysis and to ask staff to prepare a RFQ. Commissioner Rees second the motion. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Jones Aye, Rees Aye, Pauls Aye, Cuchens Aye, and Pridgen Aye.

Motion by Commissioner Pauls to add the recommendation to review the impacted segment areas to the scope of services that is being prepared for the analysis of 30-A. Also, to have real counts for traffic concurrency on 30-A.

After a lengthy discussion, it was the general consensus of the Board to further review the issue. Each Commissioner was encouraged to present their suggestions and recommendations to Mr. Russ Barry, Public Works Director. Mr. Barry will present the scope of services to the Board at a later date.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:55 p.m.

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_  
Larry D. Jones, Chairman

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Martha Ingle, Clerk of Court