

#### PUBLIC MEETING WITH FDOT -150TH AVE PEDESTRIAN & VEHICLE TRAFFIC AGENDA

Wednesday, September 18, 2024 at 4:00 PM Commission Chambers, 300 Municipal Drive, Madeira Beach, FL 33708

This Meeting will be televised on Spectrum Channel 640 and YouTube Streamed on the City's Website.

#### 1. PUBLIC MEETING WITH FDOT - 150TH AVE PEDESTRIAN & VEHICLE TRAFFIC

A. Discuss/Review Traffic Flow-Signalized Intersections on 150th Ave

One or more Elected or Appointed Officials may be in attendance.



#### **MEMORANDUM**

**Date:** Sept 11, 2024

For: Sept 18, 2024, PUBLIC MEETING
From: Robin I. Gomez, City Manager

**Subject:** Discuss/Review Traffic Flow-Signalized Intersections on 150<sup>th</sup> Ave

#### **Background**

Recent and future redevelopments on Madeira Way and 150<sup>th</sup> Ave (Tom Stuart Causeway) from Gulf Blvd to approximately 401 150<sup>th</sup> Ave (Boca Vista Condos) have and will continue to impact the traffic flow/movements on these streets. The City wants to continue to ensure maximum safety for all vehicles, bicyclists, pedestrians, etc., in these areas.

#### **Discussion:**

The completion of the 2 new condos on 150<sup>th</sup> Ave along with the remaining redevelopment of the Town Center over-all project on 150<sup>th</sup> Ave and Madeira Way continue to prompt reviews of suitable and safe locations of existing and future pedestrian and signalized intersections. Currently, there is an existing signalized crosswalk on 150th Ave just to the East of Madeira Way - the only other traffic device is at intersection of 150th & Gulf Blvd. Various options to enhance traffic, pedestrian, bicycle and other traffic flow include:

- 1. Relocate existing signalized crosswalk just East of Madeira Way to the East at the entries to the new Condos on the North side of 150th Ave and the drive that leads to Madeira Cove Condos;
- 2. Convert existing signalized crosswalk to its previous configuration as a fully signalized intersection;
- 3. Convert existing signalized crosswalk to its previous configuration as a fully signalized intersection, plus add #1 above (2 signalized intersections within a few hundred feet)

Any option will require coordination and eventual review and approval by the Florida Department of Transportation.

Enclosed is a map showing the existing signalized pedestrian crosswalk just East of Madeira Way and the proposed location of a signalized traffic light.

Also enclosed is a resident rendition of the traffic movements at the intersection of the new condo and existing Madeira Cove condos.

#### **Fiscal Impact**

Cost of additional signage and movement of existing or addition of a signalized traffic system

WELLAS CO

# PUBLIC MEETING WITH FDOT 150TH AVE PEDESTRIAN & VEHICLE TRAFFIC



### COMMISSION CHAMBERS, 300 MUNICIPAL DR.

Come speak with FDOT representatives regarding potential requested safety improvements/enhancements to 150th Ave (Tom Stuart Causeway/SR 666) including additional signage, relocated signalized intersection, speed limit changes, and more.

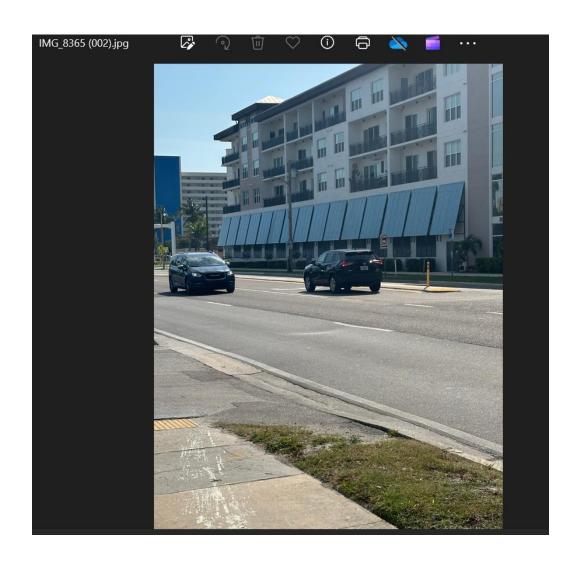




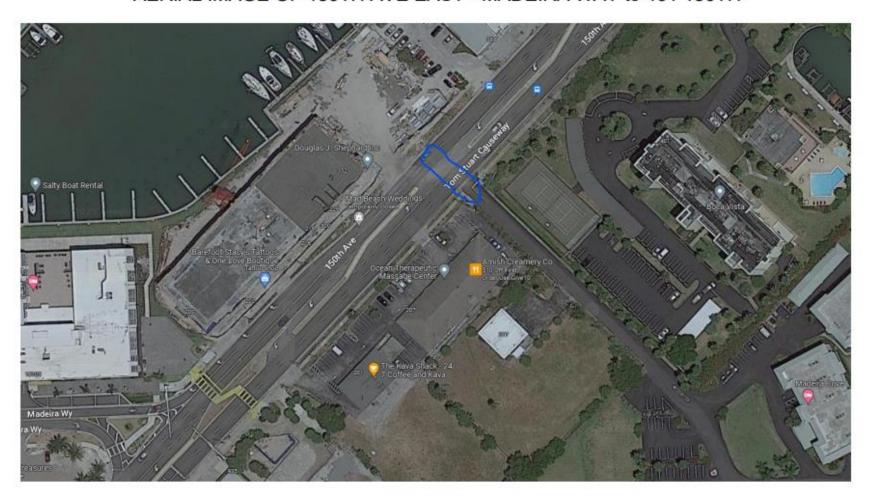




## IMAGES & MAPS OF 150<sup>TH</sup> AVE (SR 666) VEHICLE/PEDESTRIAN CONCERNS & SUGGESTED CHANGES, followed by 24 emails from residents at Madeira Cove, 399 150<sup>th</sup> Ave expressing concerns over the traffic situation(s) on 150<sup>th</sup> Ave (SR 666)



#### AERIAL IMAGE OF 150TH AVE EAST - MADEIRA WAY to 401 150TH



- 1. Existing signalized crosswalk on 150th Ave just to the East of Madeira Way only other traffic device is at intersection of 150th & Gulf Blvd
  2. POSSIBLE move existing signalized crosswalk East to the entries to the new Condos on the North side of 150th Ave and the drive that leads to
- POSSIBLE move existing signalized crosswalk East to the entries to the new Condos on the North side of 150th Ave and the drive that leads to Madeira Cove
- 3. POSSIBLE convert existing signalized crosswalk to its previous configuration as a fully signalized intersection, plus add #2 above

Coordinate with FDOT

#### More recent aerial showing the new driveway (N side of SR 666) across from the Madeira Cove Condo driveway entrance/exit:



From: Judy Cusack <<u>mskooz@aol.com</u>>

Date: April 18, 2024 at 8:26:51 AM EDT

To: jimrostek@gmail.com

Cc: BOD < board@madeiracove.com >

**Subject: Madeira Beach 150th Ave Traffic Concerns** 

Reply-To: Judy Cusack < mskooz@aol.com >

Mayor Rostek,

My husband Bob and I have lived in the Madeira Cove Condominium community for the better part of 14 years.

While we appreciate many of the approvements made in our lovely city, such as ROC Park, the 911 Memorial, and several restaurants and shops we enjoy walking to, we have concerns about the traffic patterns on the Tom Stewart Causeway itself.

The two new Condominium developments across from our driveway (while I believe an improvement over the run-down, 1960s-era, seedy-looking shops lining the entrance to Madeira Beach!), have caused some difficulty in entering and exiting our driveway. When driving westbound, it is hard to make a left into Madeira Cove when eastbound cars are attempting either a u-turn or left into the new condos, often blocking our view of oncoming traffic.

Exiting our driveway, especially trying to go left to the city center or to Gulf Blvd, is challenging. I personally don't like "sitting in the center," so I will almost always wait for all lanes of traffic to be clear before proceeding. I pity anyone sitting behind me, and appreciate their patience!

Since changing Madeira Way northbound to a right turn only, we've seen many vehicles take the right turn, then quickly cross the two lanes to make a uturn in order to travel east on the causeway. That strip of 150th between Gulf Blvd and the bridge is a speedway! The only break we seem to get is when a pedestrian triggers the traffic signal at Madeira Way.

We have mentioned that a "No turn on red" sign added to Gulf Blvd northbound at 150th Ave might help slow some of the traffic heading onto the Causeway, if there's anything you could negotiate with the powers that be. We also hope something could be done at our immediate entrance. Moving the Madeira Way light or adding a new one there is a big ask, we know, but at the very least, please do something about the u-turns.

Thank you for listening!

Judy Cusack

Madeira Cove

399 150TH AVE, #217C

609-432-5151

#### Begin forwarded message:

From: sidorsheila5 < sidorsheila5@gmail.com >

Date: April 18, 2024 at 7:58:14 AM EDT

To: jimrostek@gmail.com

Subject: Please help us rectify our negative traffic situation on 150th Ave in from of our condo, Madeira Cove. Any help would be appreciated

Sent from my iPhone. Jim Rostek

Begin forwarded message:

From: MS <<u>soleyms@yahoo.com</u>>
Date: April 17, 2024 at 5:55:22 PM EDT

To: jimrostek@gmail.com

Cc: Larry Roelofs <<u>lbroelofs@msn.com</u>> Subject: Accidents waiting to happen Reply-To: MS <<u>soleyms@yahoo.com</u>>

Dear Mr. Rostek -

My husband and I have lived at Madeira Cove for 20+ years and we second Larry Roelofs' views regarding how traffic near the Cove has become increasingly dense, rendering entry and exiting to/from our driveway extremely dangerous and difficult. At any time, there may be traffic exiting The Harbor Condos attempting a multi-lane left turn towards the bridge, cars from the Kava Shack strip mall swinging a far right to enter the U-turn lane across from our driveway, Madeira Cove residents waiting to enter/exit, and eastbound traffic from Gulf Boulevard joining the same U-turn lane because Madeira Way is now one way. The cars waiting to make that U-turn tend to lean as far right as possible to give themselves maximum turning radius in making their turns. To safely return home, we would have to wait till all the U-turn traffic clears since we have zero visibility to eastbound traffic in the other two lanes.

Whereas FDOT has its guidelines (including the number of casualties involved) for making traffic signal changes, we implore that City Hall help to plea the case for making the turn in front of Madeira Cove's driveway a left-turn-only lane (i.e., U-turns prohibited). This request is not intended to target any particular developer or development but to give all impacted parties safe and expedient access to their destinations. Thank you in advance for owning this issue and helping to preserve Madeira Beach as a piece of paradise for all its residents.

Yours Truly,

Mary Sun-Soley Madeira Cove Resident

Begin forwarded message:

From: Kim Draper < kddraper2020@gmail.com >

**Date:** April 18, 2024 at 8:45:46 AM EDT

To: jimrostek@gmail.com

Subject: 399 150th Ave Madeira Cove

Mayor Rostek,

I would like to share with you my concerns about the safety of the intersection at the entrance to 399 150th Ave, Madeira Cove Community.

As a member of this community, I do support the growth of our Madeira Beach community; however, that growth cannot be at the expense of public safety.

This intersection is dysfunctional and creates a public safety hazard.

Due to a change in traffic patterns to support the new development in Madeira Beach, this has done nothing, but create a traffic cluster for Madeira Cove. By changing the traffic pattern on Madeira Way (not allowing Gulf Blvd traffic, heading east, to turn onto Madeira Way), this moved all traffic wanting to go to Madeira Way down one block to the front of our community's entrance on 150th Ave. Now we have a steady flow of vehicles making U-turns to get to Madeira Way. What was intended to be a left hand turn into those new developments, has turned into a U-Turn traffic nightmare.

You can stand there yourself, and note the number of cars using that intersection as a U-Turn lane vs using that intersection to enter the new developments as intended. Please do something to help mitigate the risks associated with this intersection, and the dysfunctional traffic flow we encounter every time we enter or exit our community.

Thank you.

Kimberly Draper

Madeira Cove, #108

Begin forwarded message:

From: Peter Read < peterread@msn.com > Date: April 18, 2024 at 8:46:21 AM EDT

To: <u>jimrostek@gmail.com</u>

**Subject: Exit and entering Madeira Cove** 

Good Morning Mr. Mayor: I am a 23-year resident of Madeira Cove and not a kid anymore. I say this because I tend to feel danger more and I certainly have reservations every time I leave our property, the traffic travelling west is heavy and fast. If I am making a left turn, crossing the busy traffic it is a challenge and then on top of that I usually have to wait for U turners which adds to my fears. I have occasionally had to make that turn in stages, go right and then U turn later. Also, coming back into our driveway when cars are lined up to make the U turn west and blocking our view, we have to sit their ages to make sure we have a gap in oncoming traffic. The U turners can't see around me either, so it is a Mexican standoff. Please put a "No U turn" sign up there, let them turn a few 100 yards further up 150th.

Respectfully submitted.

Peter Read

Begin forwarded message:

From: Peggy Foster cpfoster612@gmail.com

Date: April 18, 2024 at 8:55:59 AM EDT

To: jimrostek@gmail.com

**Subject: Madeira Cove Traffic** 

Dear Mr Mayor,

I have lived in Madeira Cove for over 6 years. The traffic change has been extremely noticeable as the buildings across the street have gone up. I can't even begin to imagine the traffic when the buildings keep going up its unsustainable.

Then with Madeira Way closing especially on Wednesday it's a nightmare getting out of our driveway.

Then the most serious problem is trying to get in or out of our driveway when someone is u-turning back on to 150th. You just can't see to safely turn in to our driveway especially when they put way over to making the u-turn to clear they're swing back on to 150th.

I have also seen people turning left out of the turning lane and driving west into the eastbound lane to go into the strip mall to beat oncoming traffic.

Then you have trucks delivering parcels to the 2 new buildings across the street with no where to park so they block the street.

With people turning right off Gulf Blvd they actually speed up to prevent us from getting out of our driveway turning right or left!

I'm begging you to address this situation before someone is killed.

Many Thanks in advance for any consideration,

Peggy Foster

Madeira Cove Resident 301A

Begin forwarded message:

From: Jim Rostek < jimrostek@gmail.com > Date: April 18, 2024 at 9:20:14 AM EDT

To: Dale Rosko < rosko@verizon.net >

Cc: James Rostek < jimrostek@gmail.com >

Subject: Re: highway

I will be up monitoring the situation later today. Probably around rush hour. I am presenting all of the e-mails that have been sent to me, to the City Manager tomorrow. As there is power in numbers. Please spread the word to all your neighbors to e-mail me.

My city e-mail is <u>jrostek@madeirabeachfl.gov</u> My city cell is 727-439-5562, I welcome calls!

On Apr 18, 2024, at 8:47 AM, Dale Rosko <<u>rosko@verizon.net</u>> wrote:

MR.MAYOR I would like for you to look at the Madeira Cove entrance and just sit there for 30 mins. to see how many u turns are made there, most of us when we get a chance have no choice but to turn right and go way down and make and turn so we can come back toward the beach. I pray this will be changed before people are killed and hopefully its not a son or daughter of yours or the comms. i would like it if you could put a no u turn sign up and change Maderia ways traffic flow, thank you Dale Rosko

On Apr 18, 2024, at 8:41 AM, Tom < tdcroccaholdingsltd@gmail.com > wrote:

Hello Mayor Rostek

I am writing you today to outline the severe traffic issue on 150th Ave that it is getting worse and worse with each and every passing week.

We reside at 399 150th Ave in the Madeira Cove Condo Community. It has reached a point where we can barely get in and out of our own driveway. It has become so difficult and dangerous that we almost feel as if we are trapped. The anxiety and stress from this constant challenge is actually beginning to deter us from even trying to venture out at all.

#### PLEASE PLEASE PLEASE HELP!!!!

We can't continue like this. It's not fair that we must feel so anxious to get in and out from our own homes and it certainly isn't safe.

Preventative action must take place. Let's not wait for something tragic to occur in order for something to be done.

Regards

Tom Carvelli

Madeira Cove

On Apr 18, 2024, at 8:32 AM, loosecannon148@aol.com wrote:

Mr. Mayor my name is Gene Cannon I have been living in Madeira Cove for six years. I am a retired Police Officer from New Jersey, during my career I was assigned to the Bergen County Prosecutors Office Fatal Accident Investigation Unit for five years as a certified accident reconstructionist. I am a certified expert in court testimony. Since they put up the building across the street from our exit it is a nightmare to get in and out. Prior to the building it was hard enough to get out of our driveway, but now it a disaster waiting to happen. I believe putting some no U Turn signs would probably relieve some of the congestion. Not only would it make it easier to get out of both complex's, but might take some liability of the City should a fatal accident happen there.

Thank you for your time and feel free to call me.

Gene Cannon 201-390-0361

Sent from the all new AOL app for iOS

On Apr 18, 2024, at 8:12 AM, elaine Crouter < <u>elainecrouter@gmail.com</u> > wrote:

Mr. Mayor,

My husband and I are very concerned about the difficulty we have in entering our property when driving west on 150th Avenue. The difficulty is caused by a steady stream of traffic that is allowed at the Turn Right on the Red Light at Gulf Blvd and 150th. To make matters worse if a vehicle is trying to turn left when driving east and is waiting to turn left into the new residence buildings on 150th our vision is impaired and we are unable to see oncoming traffic. The only break we get is when someone stops the traffic at 150th and Madeira Way to walk across 150th. We suggest stopping the allowed right turn on red light at Gulf Blvd. and 150th before a horrible accident occurs.

Thank you, Elaine Crouter Madeira Cove 399 150th Ave. Madeira Beach. Sent from my iPad From: neilb@prairietool.net

**Date:** April 18, 2024 at 9:59:19 AM EDT

To: jimrostek@gmail.com

**Subject: Madeira Cove entrance** 

Jim;

I have a condo at Madeira cove and it is getting very challenging to get off and on 150<sup>th</sup> Ave.

After Condo's across the street were built the traffic has increased substantially.

It would be great if we could get a stop light put in before someone gets in a bad accident.

Thanks

Neil Bellikka

399 150<sup>th</sup> Ave.

Building A Unit 106

Madeira Beach FL 33708

On Apr 18, 2024, at 8:36 AM, Robert Burns <br/>
<br/>
Sob.burns1025@gmail.com> wrote:

Dear Mr. mayor,

I am following up on a letter sent to you from Mr. Larry Roelofs, longtime President of our condominium association. My wife and I have lived here year around since August of 2019. The issue of traffic on 150th Avenue, and more importantly the safety of our community members and occupants of the condo communities adjacent to Madeira Cove, is a very big and important issue. Ingress and egress to and from our communities poses significant risk of serious injury or even death due to traffic accidents should a number of contributing factors go unaddressed. The traffic patterns at our entrance are numerous, and all pose an element of significant danger. Mr. Roelofs and others on our Board prepared and presented a comprehensive overview of those traffic patterns and dangers to our city leaders more than a few years ago. Included in that presentation were also common sense recommendations to change traffic flow and minimize the danger. Apparently, someone or some persons concluded that the traffic flow issue is insignificant or not worthy of due consideration. We need your help to make changes in the traffic flow patterns before someone is seriously injured or even killed.

Another concern addressed in Mr. Roelof's letter is the amount of growth and development occurring in Madeira Beach. Tangentially, growth and development is contributing to the traffic safety issues at our Madeira Cove entrance. The number of residents has grown along 150th Avenue alone, west of the causeway drawbridge to Gulf Boulevard. Consequently, the amount of traffic using that span of highway has increased significantly. As a result, the risks at our condominium entrance has risen significantly. As an important aside, I must believe that, at some point in the near future, the infrastructure (water, sewer, streets, etc.) will be strained if not overwhelmed. The new Marriott "condo-tel" to be built on Madeira Way this year will surely add to the load on the city's infrastructure.

Mr. Mayor, please do not allow our concerns to go unaddressed. Please champion the changes that must happen to ensure the safety of our residents and the charm and allure that draws people from around the world to our city.

Thank You,

Bob Burns Madeira Cove Condominiums 399 150th Avenue

Begin forwarded message:

From: <a href="mailto:barbaraleblanc1@gmail.com">bate: April 18, 2024 at 10:07:26 AM EDT</a>
To: Jim Rostek <a href="mailto:jimrostek@gmail.com">jimrostek@gmail.com</a>
Subject: Re: 399 150th Ave road issues

The big issue seems to be the need to make a u-turn in order to access Madeira Way. When approaching from the Tom Stuart Causeway bridge, you cannot see if there is approaching traffic in order to enter our driveway due to the driver trying to make the u-turn. If I try to exit our driveway going toward Gulf Blvd, it can't be done if someone is making a u-turn in front of our driveway. Again, it would be safer to only allow a u-turn up farther by the Marina. Just my thoughts. Thank you for your response.

Sent from my iPhone

On Apr 18, 2024, at 9:33 AM, Jim Rostek < imrostek@gmail.com > wrote:

I will be up monitoring the situation later today. Probably around rush hour. I am presenting all of the e-mails that have been sent to me, to the City Manager tomorrow. As there is power in numbers. Please spread the word to all your neighbors to e-mail me.

My city e-mail is <u>irostek@madeirabeachfl.gov</u> My city cell is 727-439-5562, I welcome calls!

On Apr 18, 2024, at 7:45 AM, barbaraleblanc1@gmail.com wrote:

Good morning Mayor. We own a unit at Madeira Cove on 399 150th Ave and want to support the position put forward by Larry Roelofs in a recent letter sent to the City Manager recently. We have had increasing difficulty trying to enter and exit our community due to many vehicles making uturns. It is definitely an accident waiting to happen. With vehicles on both sides of 150th Ave trying to enter their driveways, safety is very much an issue. A ban on uturns there is necessary. There is an area by the marina entrance farther up the road where making a uturn would be much safer. Thank you.

Richard & Barbara LeBlanc Unit 118C Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Scott Pownall < captscottie@yahoo.com >

Date: April 18, 2024 at 10:32:42 AM EDT

To: jimrostek@gmail.com Subject: U- Turn on 150th

Dear Mr. Mayor, As a resident of Madeira Beach & of Madeira Cove I am very disappointed the way in which City & FDOT is handling the situation at Madeira Way & 150th which has become a major traffic & pedestrian hazard !!! Closing of Madeira Way was a major mistake, creating a nightmare of traffic issues in front if Madeira Cove with U turns, turning west on too 150th & God forbid the V.A., Madeira Beach Fundamental and Tom Stewart bridge is up at the same time.

As a retired career fighter we-were taught Safety First! But appears that with the city \$\$\$\$\$ are first. Respectfully Submitted Scott Pownall Sent from my iPhone

From: mewhitma@aol.com

Date: April 18, 2024 at 10:22:50 AM EDT

To: <u>iimrostek@gmail.com</u>, Mary Whitman <<u>mewhitma@aol.com</u>>

Subject: Safety on 150th traffic

Dear Mayor,

I'm sure you have been getting complaints about the traffic on 150th Ave, now that there are the two condo complexes are filling up on, not to mention all the U turns !!!!!!

I have been in, and witnessed many almost accidents attempting to enter and exit my Condo at Madeira Cove too many times to count. I have observed cars attempting to leave the two condo's across the street as the share the same exit trying to pull out heading either in the same direction, attempting to cross over to head in the opposite direction as cars are flying up 150th after taking the turn from Gulf Blvd. no one pays attention to the 35 mile sign!!!!!!

If a car stops to let someone out of their driveway from one lane another in coming car in the inside lane just keeps on driving ..

Too many close calls let alone the U Turn cars !!! No blinkers just a U turn so if you are attempting to exit as you think it's safe you are now in the middle of the lane not near the island and your car is sticking out sure to hit at some point!!!

#### Ridiculous !!!!!!!!!!!!!

When the bridge is up, the pile up is crazy, and everyone is in a big hurry once it's down then forget it .....

There could be at one time 2 cars attempting to exit the two condo's on one side one car attempting to leave from our driveway 2 cars coming from the Tom Stewart Bridge and two car coming from Gulf Blvd and there will be one day a 7 car pile up as someone is going to think they have time to pull out......

What's the solution ????????

You are our town leader you should set the tone for how we are safe not anyone else, Developers, FDOT, or Tallahassee!!

I have pictures to prove what I have been describing but I know you have already seen them as John Lipa and Larry Roelofs brought them to a meeting last year....

We had hoped you ,and city hall would attempt to get things in the works for our safety ,and all of Madeira Beach and our visitors by looking into this.. Now we are on the brink of a bad situation one day. Let alone the water and sewer tablets.....

Traffic lights at then end of each driveway as a car gets close similar to the walking lights on Gulf Blvd, NO U turns, signs in front of the driveways of 150th ave ...No illegal U Turn signs, put on no turn on red sign on the pole, not just the hight of the traffic light people go through that ALL the time on Madeira Way......

Please tell me someone hasn't already brought these solutions to your attention?

Looking forward to hearing from you Thank you, Mary Whitman Madeira Cove Resident

Begin forwarded message:

From: Pete Kapusta < pete.kapusta@gmail.com >

Date: April 18, 2024 at 10:55:33 AM EDT

To: jimrostek@gmail.com, jrostek@madeirabeachfl.gov

Subject: Urgent: Safety Concerns Regarding Driveway Access at Madeira Cove

Dear Mayor Rostek,

I hope this email finds you well. I live in Madeira Cove and am writing to bring to your attention to critical safety issues concerning the driveway access at Madeira Cove.

With the completion of the new condos across the street and the removal of the timed stoplight at Madeira Way, navigating in and out of our community has become increasingly challenging and hazardous.

When approaching our driveway from the direction of Publix over the causeway bridge, I frequently encounter difficulties while waiting in the left turn lane. The high-speed traffic from Gulf, often exceeding 50 mph, makes it perilous to make a left turn. Additionally, the lack of visibility due to a line of vehicles performing U-turns towards Gulf further exacerbates the situation. Many of these vehicles require 3-point turns to complete, creating additional obstacles amidst oncoming traffic. I find myself relying on the pedestrian walk signal at Madeira Way to create a brief gap in traffic, allowing me to safely enter our driveway.

Exiting Madeira Cove towards Gulf presents similar challenges, compounded by the steady flow of fast-moving traffic from the bridge. Waiting for a safe opportunity to merge often necessitates pausing in the median, posing a significant risk. As a result, many resort to turning towards Publix and executing a U-turn at the next available opportunity, rather than risking an extended wait for a break in traffic.

To address these pressing safety concerns, I strongly urge the installation of a timed stoplight and crosswalk at our driveway intersection. Additionally, implementing "No U-Turn" signage would help mitigate the dangers associated at the intersection.

I am happy to answer any questions you may have regarding this matter. Your prompt attention to these issues is greatly appreciated and would help ensure the safety of all motorists passing through this currently dangerous intersection.

Pete Kapusta 630-251-2946 From: John Lipa < lipa171@gmail.com>

Sent: Thursday, April 18, 2024 11:42:27 AM

To: <a href="mirrostek@gmail.com">jimrostek@gmail.com</a>; Larry Roelofs <a href="mirrostek@gmail.com">lbroelofs@msn.com</a>; Robin Gomez <a href="mirrostek@gmail.com">rgomez@madeirabeachfl.gov</a>

**Subject:** Unsafe conditions on 150th Ave

Mr. Mayor

I voted for you because you are a man who has a vision and solves problems

We need your help to rectify unsafe traffic conditions on 150th Ave., especially at the site of 399 and the new condos.

Entering and existing is very stressful and unsafe. Vehicles turning onto 159th from Gulf Blvd travel at a high rate of speed heading out of town. It is very difficult to gage your entrance into 150th

A no turn on red would be helpful. There used to be a traffic light at on 150th which provided a safe break in the traffic flow now it is a pedestrian crossing only activated light. This is a major mistake in planning

The intersection at 399150th is very unsafe for residents and guests. Traveling West trying to make a lefties traveling East trying to make a right turn you take your life in your hands because if there is a vehicle in the turn land you cannot see oncoming traffic. One is forced to edge out into no man's land and hitter's pedal hard to avoid a collision

A no U Turn sign would be helpful. There would still be an opportunity for a UTurn about 400 feet East

The other unsafe condition is vehicles traveling West on 150th pulling into the intersection at 399 150th and traveling diagonal across the East bound lanes

Thank you for attention to this unsafe condition. We look forward to a safe resolution

The strip mall on 150th Ave has two exits onto 150th Ave. One is about the width of two cars from the driveway of 399 150th Ave. The drivers if the vehicles exiting the strip mall via the Eastern exit are focused on vehicles traveling East and do not see vehicles attempting to exit the driving way at 399 150th Ave. This is an unsafe condition

A remedy maybe closing off the Eastern exit Thank you for your attention to this unsafe situation. We look forward to working with you to remedy this problem

John and Bonnie Lipa

Item 1A.

Sent from my iPhone. Jim Rostek

Begin forwarded message:

From: Dolores Connors < connors dee 42@gmail.com >

Date: April 18, 2024 at 3:09:46 PM EDT

To: jimrostek@gmail.com, Larry Roelofs < lbroelofs@msn.com >

**Subject: Road** 

Mr. mayor, my name is Dee Connors I live in Madeira Cove in #308. Please do something about getting in a out of our driveway situation. before some gets hurt. I hope it is not anyone we know. If a U turn sign will help please do it.

Sent from my iPad

On Apr 18, 2024, at 2:46 PM, Bonnie Ayres < <a href="mailto:edbonniea311@gmail.com">edbonniea311@gmail.com</a>> wrote:

To City Council,

I have lived at Madeira Cove for 24 years and am becoming more and more concerned about the traffic problems entering and exiting our property. The increased building projects on 150th and on Madeira Way has caused much more traffic and also unsafe situations when entering and leaving our property.

As you can see from the attachment, it is not unusual to have a blocked view of the east bound oncoming traffic when trying to make a left turn to enter our property. This is due to cars attempting to make a u-turns. I have sat in the left turn lane tring to get home for as long as 15 minutes waiting to get a clear view. This situation was made worse when the city changed the flow of traffic of Madeira Way. Also, when exiting our property, it often requires much time and patience waiting for a break in traffic coming from Gulf Boulevard. Sometimes the "break" only occurs if the walk light on 150th, near Madeira Way, is activated requiring the traffic to stop.

I have also noticed we must be careful when exciting our property turning right onto 150th because many times cars heading west on 150th will be making a u-turn in front of our driveway. Also, we now have cars exiting from the two new condo buildings directly across from our driveway turning left.

To add to all of these problems, the cars are speeding. I often walk, if possible, instead of driving to avoid these unsafe conditions.

It seems we are experiencing increasingly dangerous situations entering and exiting our property no matter if we want to go right or left.

Please consider how you can help to prevent possible fatalities.

Sincerely,

**Bonnie Ayres** 

Madeira Cove

311 B

From: Jim Rostek <<u>jimrostek@gmail.com</u>>

Date: April 19, 2024 at 4:06:12 AM EDT

To: Rick Ramos <<u>r-r-ramos@ins-center.de</u>>

Subject: Re: ref:Madeira Cove/More Rant Info

I will. I spent an hour in the area yesterday. In one hour, there were 14 u-turns and one near miss. I meet with the City Manager today about this issue.

My city e-mail is <u>irostek@madeirabeachfl.gov</u>

My cell is 727-439-5562

Sent from my iPhone. Jim Rostek

On Apr 18, 2024, at 10:33 PM, Rick Ramos <<u>r-r-ramos@ins-center.de</u>> wrote:

Dear Mayor Rostek,

As a resident of Madeira Cove and wanting to keep facts simple, I fully agree with Larry Roelofs comments contained in subject letter. 150th Ave is waiting for disaster to happen any day.

Please add my support and concern in developing a remedy to correct those areas highlighted in Larry's letter.

Sincerely,

Ricardo J. Ramos Jr

Unit B 111 Madeira Cove

From: Beth Donovan <bethldonovan@gmail.com>

Sent: Thursday, April 18, 2024 5:41 PM

To: jrostek@madeirabeachfl.gov

Subject: 150th Ave

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

Mr Mayor,

Thank you for your concern regarding the increased traffic and poor design on 150th Ave.

We have lived at 399 150th Ave A 102 Madeira Cove since 1999. I won't go into all the difficulties we face on a daily basis primarily because of a poor design in the traffic flow and new construction. I'm sorry this wasn't addressed while the SnowBirds and Spring Breakers were here.

Next will be the building of the Beachmaker and all those occupants and delivery vehicles.

This is a dangerous situation and we ask for your help.

Thank you.

Sincerely

Charles and Beth Donovan.

----Original Message-----

From: Bonnie Lipa <bonnierae171@gmail.com>

Sent: Thursday, April 18, 2024 10:10 AM

To: jrostek@madeirabeachfl.gov

Subject: Traffic 150th Ave

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

Grateful for the opportunity to address this issue. The u-turns are the worst. When turning into our drive way and there is a car waiting to make the u-turn going west we can't see down the road, to see if there is traffic coming to pull into our driveway. Yesterday I saw an 18 wheeler waiting to u-turn. He needed to wait a long time to safely turn, to say nothing of how tight the space is. Please consider even that one issue. Consider your constituents not the contractors. Also please stop approving all the contractors ask for. Thank you.

Sent from my iPad

Item 1A.

----Original Message-----

From: Kathleen Hanratty <kathhanratty@aol.com>

Sent: Thursday, April 18, 2024 10:03 AM

To: jrostek@madeirabeachfl.gov

Subject: Traffic on 150 th

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

I am concerned for my safety every time I have to turn left from our driveway at Madeira Cove.

I am at city hall at least three times a week for activities and also Wynn Dixie twice a week that means I do many left hand turns. I have become extremely anxious making those turn as traffic is coming fast plus looking out for people making right hand turns from new condos. I pray I can get into the right lane so I can turn on Madeira Way.

Something needs to be done before someone gets killed.

Kathleen Hanratty

Madeira Cove resident

Sent from my iPad

From: Larry Roelofs < <a href="mailto:lbroelofs@msn.com">lbroelofs@msn.com</a> Sent: Wednesday, April 17, 2024 7:21 AM

To: Robin Gomez < RGomez@madeirabeachfl.gov >; William Gay < billgay@me.com >; Anne-Marie Brooks < annemariebrooks18@gmail.com >

Cc: John Lipa <jb.lipa@icloud.com>; Mark Hague <LDBiller@gmail.com>; John Douthirt <jdouthirt@aol.com>; dave.hutson@sbcglobal.net; Jim Rostek

< jimrostek@gmail.com >; Ray Kerr < rkerr@madeirabeachfl.gov >; David Tagliarini < dtagliarini@madeirabeachfl.gov >; VanBlargan, Clara

<<u>cvanblargan@madeirabeachfl.gov</u>>; Noble, Michael <<u>mnoble@madeirabeachfl.gov</u>>; Michael Wyckoff <<u>mwyckoff@madeirabeachfl.gov</u>>; John Connolly

<leadedlamps@gmail.com>; Chuck Dillon <cdillon@madeirabeachfl.gov>; John Meagher <jmeagher@madeirabeachfl.gov>; Matthew LaRue

<mlarue@madeirabeachfl.gov>; Housh Ghovaee <hr/>
Hghovaee@madeirabeachfl.gov>

Subject: Re: Long Range Planning - 150th Ave and Madeira Way Core

Dear Mr Gomez,

I promised myself that I would stay out of city business, but your glib answer to a citizen put me over the top again. So I will rant for a few paragraphs.

I live in Madeira Cove on 150<sup>th</sup> Ave, and have been the President our community for the past 20 years, as you well know, and have witnessed over the past dozen years (I have lived here 24 years total) an ever-increasing traffic flow on our street. When the city center was approved a few years ago we now see the hotel, and two concrete block buildings across our street that have added to the traffic flow.

Then FDOT in their brilliance completely blocked all traffic from entering Madeira Way if you are coming off Gulf Blvd and heading east and want to enter Madeira Way. This FDOT move simply moved all traffic wanting to go to Madeira Way down one block to the front of our community's entrance on 150<sup>th</sup> Ave. Now we have a steady flow of vehicles making U-turns to get to Madeira Way. FDOT made it even easier for these U-turners by adding a left turn lane at this spot on our street. This left turn lane was supposed to help those owners/visitors enter the new condo buildings on the north side of our street, however, U-turners use this lane many times over those entering the new concrete block buildings.

Several of our community's board members met at City Hall to discuss this dangerous situation to no avail. All we wanted was a no U-turn sign to help discourage those vehicles from doing so. However, during that meeting one developer stated that he uses that U-turn as much as 10 times per day to go from his business location to get to city hall, so that ended any attempt to alleviate this dangerous situation for our community. It shows the power and influence that developers have in city hall.

While I am ranting, I might as well state the overwhelming feeling within our community of the concerns, we have over the continual building permits that seem to never be rejected by our commissioners. If it continues at the current pace, one day our water pressure will surely begin to decrease as well as backups from overflowing sewer needs. We are always told that our streets, water capacity and sewer capacity are well within limits and not to worry. We have been told this story for years, but one day when our water drips out of our facets and we experience sewer back up, it will be too late.

I stopped going over to city hall meetings because no matter how much members of our community expressed our concerns it did absolutely nothing during deliberations. Our voices are of no concern to those elected members, whom we thought were elected to represent the citizens of Madeira Beach, not developers.

We are always told that the developers are within the law and they cannot do anything about it. Our thought is then **change the laws** so our city does not become a traffic nightmare like Clearwater Beach( which we are well on the way to becoming).