

PBSD PATHWAYS PROJECT DRAFT 6.3

Purpose

To provide the basis for an informed PBSD decision for community pathways and long-term tree canopy enhancements along Pelican Bay Blvd.

Public Participation

The entire project will be designed to encourage public participation. As each phase of analysis is developed, the process and results of analysis will be presented in open town hall type meetings that encourage public questions and comments. The final recommendations will only be developed after the analysis phase is completed, and will be based on the consensus of the community's reactions.

Step 1: Select Experts

- Engineer; and
- Certified Arborist (*details regarding possible ways to choose the arborist will be discussed at the September 24 Committee meeting*)

Step 2: Experts' Assignment

- Evaluate selected and representative large trees along length of Pelican Bay Boulevard to determine tree health and remaining lifetime, using 10-15 trees in 2 sections:
 - o The Commons to North Tram Station, and
 - o Northeast of North Tram Station to US 41
- Evaluate impact of various root barriers and pathway widths on selected and representative nearby trees in the above sections, for the following scenarios:
 - o Existing 5-foot pathway
 - o 6-foot pathway
 - o 8-foot pathway
- Evaluate impact to selected trees of County's recent asphalt overlay
- Evaluate cost and impact to trees of using alternative materials to construct pathways:
 - o Asphalt
 - o Concrete
- Produce written analysis documenting the above work that is specific, complete, and that can be understood by the community and PBSD Board

Step 3: PBSD Board's Assignment

- Conduct a statistically sound resident survey regarding:
 - o Frequency of use of pathways for walking, jogging, and biking
 - o Frequency of use of Blvd. for biking
 - o Determine preference for marking Blvd. for bicycle lanes:
 - Keep Blvd. as is; or
 - Restripe with one 12-foot lane for vehicles; and one 12-foot lane dedicated to bicycles; or
 - Restripe with one 12-foot lane for vehicles only; and one 12-foot lane to be shared by both vehicles and bicycles (Sharrow); or
 - Restripe with two 10-foot lanes for vehicles; and one 4-foot lane for bicycles
- Have staff revisit County practice and codes for pathways and bicycle usage

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Step 4: Develop Recommended Approach

- Board and staff will recommend a comprehensive approach to be used for pathways and tree canopy along Pelican Bay Blvd, including:
 - o Type of root barriers
 - o Pathway widths
 - o Pathway materials
 - o Recommended changes to the tree canopy
- The recommendations will also incorporate estimated cost to implement and general implementation schedule
- Report will be broadly disseminated to the community and discussed at public town hall session during season

Step 5: Board Makes Final Decision Regarding:

- Type, width, and placement of pathways and tree canopy
- Bicycle markings for Blvd.
- Possible timing
- Actual vote to occur in season, after specifics have been broadly disseminated to the community

Revised 9/14/2012 3:06:15 PM KJD & LRJ