

Memorandum

To : Planning Commission
Dean Palos, Director of Planning

From : Brian Pietig, P.E.
Design Engineer – Public Works

Date : December 27, 2006

Issue: Consider the findings of the 2005 Triggers Study, review the County’s 5-year Federal-Aid construction plan, and provide comments for consideration by the Board of County Commissioners (BOCC).

Summary: Public Works recommends continuing with the planned improvement to 199th Street – US 169 to Mission Road.

Background: The Triggers Policy was adopted by the BOCC in 2002 . It was developed as a requirement of the County’s *Comprehensive Arterial Road Network Plan (CARNP)*. CARNP identified the location and type of future road improvements needed in the southern and western portions of the County. The plan is a classification system for County arterial roadways with ultimate design standards ranging from two-lane arterials with shoulders, four-lane arterials, and parkways.

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One of the objectives of CARNP is to ensure that road construction is prioritized and major road improvements are made based on need. This brought about the requirement for a policy that objectively prioritizes the improvements needed for the CARNP routes. This policy is the “Triggers Policy”.

The main purpose of the Triggers Policy is to establish a priority mechanism by which data such as traffic volume, accident statistics, and development are used to prioritize the need for upgrading roadways. This data is then used to help determine the County’s 5-year Federal-Aid plan.

Per the Triggers policy, Public Works has reviewed, scored, and ranked all the road segments that meet the minimum threshold of 1500 vehicles per day and that are on CARNP Type II or III routes (Attachment A).

Analysis: Many of the highest-ranked routes are adjacent to the cities: Lackman - 155th to 169th and 159th to 167th; 159th - Metcalf to Nall; Metcalf - 159th to 167th. These boundary segments are in the urbanizing area and will ultimately be built to urban standards through projects administered by the adjacent city. These projects historically have been partially funded by the County through the County’s ‘County Assistance Road System’ program (CARS). Typically, the County does not improve boundary streets.

If these boundary streets are excluded from consideration, the remaining segments (shown as bold on Attachment A) provide a listing of eligible projects. Many different roads from different areas are represented in the Triggers rankings; however, 199th Street stands out in both the number of segments on the list and in its scoring strength. There are five segments of 199th Street in the top ten, including the highest ranked route being 199th Street – Antioch to Metcalf.

The Triggers process was implemented in 2003 and based on the results of the 2003 Triggers review, 199th from US 169 to Mission Road was added to the Federal-Aid 5-year program. No significant changes between the 2003 and 2005 Triggers rankings has occurred that would modify the current plan to improve 199th Street. In fact, with the recent approval of the new Spring Hill High School at Ridgeview and 199th Street and the continued development of the Stilwell area, the need for improvements has only increased.

199th Street is an unimproved road with no shoulders and the standard 2-foot V-ditch. Many locations have poor sight distance. It has traffic volumes in the range of 2000 to 7000 vehicles per day which is over the rated capacity for this type of road of 2000 vehicles per day. It also provides east/west connections to the following locations: US-169, US-69, through the Stillwell area, and Mission Road. Attachment B shows the current phasing and tentative planned construction dates for the 199th Street project.

Recommendation: Based on the Triggers' results staff recommends the continuation of the current 5-year Federal-Aid plan which includes the improvement 199th Street from US 169 to Mission Road.

Action: Staff will forward the Planning Commission's recommendation and comments on the Triggers Study and the 5-year Federal-Aid plan to the BOCC for their consideration later this spring.