



The State Road 7/US 441 Collaborative

On The Move!

It began quietly over four years ago, this band of Cities knew they wanted more for their communities along the State Road 7/U.S. 441 corridor in Broward County. With a small amount of seed money from the Florida Department of Community Affairs and The Florida Department of Transportation - the South Florida Regional Planning Council was tasked with organizing this energy into a Master Plan to improve the aesthetics and economics of this 25.6 mile-long corridor. Today, the State Road 7/U.S. 441 Collaborative (Collaborative) has accomplished a remarkable record of achievements. Through the collective actions of its members they have begun to be recognized for their innovation. The Collaborative model has successfully promoted intergovernmental coordination, economic development, mobility, aesthetic improvement and most importantly at a significant cost savings to each member jurisdiction.

A Collaborative Approach

With the assistance of the South Florida Regional Planning Council's Institute for Community Collaboration, the Collaborative developed a mission statement and goals. As a departure from past practices, the Collaborative set about achieving these goals to ensure that:

- All jurisdictions that wanted to be involved in the redevelopment and upgrade of the corridor have an equal voice in discussions;
- Decisions are made by collaboration and consensus; Citizens are included in the development of a Corridor Master Plan and participate in the decision-making process;
- Discussions and decisions are open to the public and public records are available.

In 2001, the work of the Collaborative attracted the attention of the Lincoln Land Institute and a

panel of redevelopment experts from the Regional Plan Association was convened to suggest redevelopment strategies for the corridor. Based on the guidance of the mission statement and objective, numerous grant requests were submitted to state and federal agencies for funding to develop a Master Plan.



From Shopping Plaza to Town Square
Lauderdale Lakes

In 2003 and 2004 the Collaborative was awarded a total of \$1,000,000 from the FDOT for corridor landscaping. The joint submission and support from 14 jurisdictions was a key factor for the award. In 2003, the Collaborative was awarded \$1,900,000 for development of a Strategic Master Plan for the Corridor. In 2003, the Florida Atlantic University Catanese Center for Urban and Environmental Solution's South Florida Regional Resource Center (SFRRC) selected the Collaborative as a pilot and has pledged nearly \$50,000 in resources towards the development of the Strategic Master Plan. Also in 2003 the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation awarded \$250,000 to the Collaborative to support the development of the SR 7 Community Network to actively engage elected officials, citizens, community-based organizations, faith-based organizations, civic leaders, and the private sector in the State Road 7 revitalization process.



The Waterfront Street: A Reason to Visit Margate

The State Road 7 Strategic Master Plan

The Strategic Master Plan will address many issues that have been identified as challenges to redevelopment along the corridor. The Strategic Master Plan will provide a common planning framework for the governments that share jurisdiction of the corridor. Currently, nearly twenty percent of Broward County's population lives within one mile of the corridor. With few remaining vacant parcels of land in the County and an expected population increase of 600,000 by the year 2020, the State Road 7 corridor is well positioned to attract redevelopment.

The Strategic Master Plan is highlighted by a series of design charrettes. The charrettes will be conducted by the Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council's Urban Design Studio. The first charrette was conducted in the City of Margate in October, 2003. The second charrette is scheduled in Lauderhill in March, 2004. The third charrette is scheduled for Hollywood/Davie in April, 2004 and a fourth charrette also in Hollywood scheduled for June, 2004. Four additional charrettes will be conducted through the year 2005 and will build on a charrette conducted by the City of Lauderdale Lakes in May, 2003 to develop a series of mixed-use nodes along the corridor.

The Strategic Master Plan also incorporates many implementation activities designed to address issues associated with future land use, land development regulations, school capacity, and infrastructure capacity, to name a few. The Master Plan will also incorporate a number of related activities along the corridor, including nearly \$350,000,000 in FDOT scheduled road-widening and road resurfacing projects, and

East-West Connector, the Broward MPO's Bus Rapid Transit demonstration project, Community Redevelopment Area plans, Brownfield cleanups, and private development plans.

More to Come

The ongoing Collaborate project establishes a useful best practices guide on how to involve multiple jurisdictions in strategic planning. For additional information about the State Road 7 / U.S. 441 Collaborative, please contact David Dahlstrom, SFRPC Senior Planner and Project Manager, at davidd@sfrpc.com or (954) 985-4416.

