

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-23

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF CLEWISTON CITY COMMISSION SUPPORTING THE FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION'S (FDOT) *US 27/STATE ROAD 80 CORRIDOR VISION & ACTION PLAN* AND ESTABLISHING PROJECT PRIORITIES FOR FUNDING BY THE FDOT AND THE HEARTLAND REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLANNING ORGANIZATION (HRTPO); AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, the revitalization of the primary commercial corridor of the City of Clewiston has been a major focus and objective of the City Commission; and

WHEREAS, the City of Clewiston, based on current trends, envisions the US 27/State Road 80 commercial corridor and downtown area supporting connections with increased walking, biking, and other multimodal transportation uses and tourism related travel interests; and

WHEREAS, the City of Clewiston 2025 Comprehensive Plan Traffic Circulation Element identifies a series of goals, objectives, and policies to promote safe, convenient, and efficient multimodal transportation alternatives; and

WHEREAS, the City of Clewiston is committed to collaborating closely with its partners in Hendry County, the HRTPO and FDOT to pursue future planning for portions of the *US 27/State Road 80* corridor west of the City particularly in the vicinity of the Airglades International Airport to determine needs and set priorities for multimodal transportation networks; and

WHEREAS, in 2020, FDOT commenced the *US 27/State Road 80 Corridor Vision & Action Plan* to develop an integrated land use and transportation 50 year vision for the US 27/State Road 80 Corridor in the vicinity of the City of Clewiston and to further examine opportunities for evaluating the needs and safety of all users through transportation network connectivity, roadway and intersection improvements, multimodal and streetscape enhancements, supportive land use, and traffic calming measures; and

WHEREAS, the *US 27/State Road 80 Corridor Vision & Action Plan* was guided by and developed with public input from a local project team consisting of representatives from the City of Clewiston, Hendry County, residents, business interests and other local community stakeholders; and

WHEREAS, the *US 27/State Road 80 Corridor Vision & Action Plan* recommended a series of improvement actions and strategies along the US 27/State Road 80 Corridor extending from the vicinity of County Road 720, to the Hendry/Palm Beach County line through the entirety of the City of Clewiston.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF CLEWISTON, FLORIDA, THAT:

SECTION 1. The current and future transportation needs within the City of Clewiston require both a street network plan and multimodal solutions to ensure a safe and functional system that serves all users, improves the quality of life, supports economic development by enhancing connections to and within the commercial highway corridor and downtown area, and allows for expected growth to occur in a more efficient urban form and development pattern. The visioning effort concluded that the main priorities are:

- Make US 27/State Road 80 safer by reducing the speed of traffic and upgrading the roadway and intersections to accommodate pedestrian and bicycle safety
- Protect the character of the City of Clewiston, especially as it expands to the west
- Study the possibility of establishing an alternative route to reduce the amount of heavy trucks driving through the City
- Highlight the presence of the Waterfront and regionally significant Lake Okeechobee Scenic Trail (L.O.S.T.) by providing clear access and wayfinding from US 27/State Road 80
- Define the City's east and west gateways
- Revitalize the City core into a vibrant downtown

SECTION 2. The *US 27/State Road 80 Corridor Vision & Action Plan* contains the following multimodal transportation and land use strategies for the City of Clewiston and adjacent areas:

Reconfigure roadway cross sections:

- Modify US 27/SR 80 through the corridor and downtown commercial areas of Clewiston to create reconfigured multimodal friendly travel lanes and intersection design features including designated left and right-turn lane locations and movement alterations.
- Redesign/reconfigure the US 27/SR 80 corridor (**US 27/SR 80 Commercial Corridor District**) and the parallel downtown portion of the Ventura Avenue corridor (**Downtown Commercial District**) to optimize safety features while providing traffic calming, improved lighting and overall aesthetic enhancements.

Conduct traffic operational and safety studies and pursue available funding opportunities for approved priority project improvements:

- Evaluate and implement traffic operational and safety studies at key US 27/SR 80 intersections currently located within the city limits, including (from west to east): **Berner Road**; the **aligned intersection between shopping center entrances** (located between the Berner Road & Lopez Street intersections); **Lopez Street**; **West Circle Drive/Olympia Street**; and, the **Francisco Street/Esperanza Avenue (East Gateway)**.
- Evaluate and implement traffic operational and safety studies at key US 27/SR 80 intersections currently located outside the city limits, within Hendry County, including (from west to east): **County Road**

720; a future intersection (West Gateway) east of the CR 720 intersection & west of the current developed portion of the city limits (coordinated with development plans for this segment & potentially aligned with an existing US 27/SR 80 crossover); and **Evercane Road**.

Provide pedestrian, bicycle and other multimodal enhancements:

- Provide pedestrian and bicycle enhancements along the entire corridor and at key US 27/SR 80 intersections and connector streets.
- Provide designated golf cart crossings at appropriately designed and approved intersections

Expand pedestrian and bicycle networks:

- Provide a multi-use trail opportunity along the US 27/SR 80 corridor and within the City along designated collector street sections with identified connectivity routes to neighborhoods, recreational and cultural facilities, the Waterfront, L.O.S.T. and other community attractions & amenities.

Add transit amenities:

- In collaboration with Hendry County, identify and prioritize transit amenities such as real-time County Public Transportation System access locations, arrival times, route information, shelters, benches, and trash receptacles to encourage ridership.

Enhance the public realm with streetscaping and landscaping:

- Incorporate complete streets elements particularly along designated "**City Core**" sections of the corridor and on identified connector street and parallel routes specifically including portions of (east) **Ventura Avenue** and (north) **Francisco Street**.

Implement gateway treatments:

- Implement primary gateway treatments and design characteristics on the corridor at the **East Gateway** (Francisco Street/Esperanza Avenue vicinity) and the **West Gateway** (at a location to be determined east of County Road 720).

Update land use policies:

- Update and coordinate zoning, future land use, and land development regulations along the corridor with particular focus in the commercial downtown areas to reflect the corridor vision and facilitate a preferred development pattern and character for the City of Clewiston.

Study future alternative route options in collaboration with Hendry County:

- The feasibility of establishing an alternative heavy truck route
- The possibility of developing an east/west service road connection to CR 720 in the vicinity of the Hendry/Glades county line north of the US 27/SR 80 for undeveloped frontage properties on a parallel route to the corridor.

SECTION 3. The City of Clewiston requests that the FDOT coordinate with the City and the HRTPO to prepare a comprehensive funding strategy for the recommended improvements in the *US 27/State Road 80 Corridor Vision and Action Plan*.


SECTION 4. This Resolution shall be recorded in the public records of the City of Clewiston, Florida.

SECTION 5. This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.

PASSED and ADOPTED by the City Commission of the City of Clewiston this 15th day of March, 2021.

ATTEST:

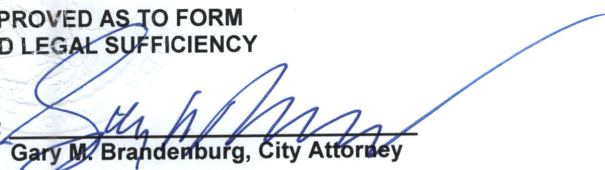
CITY OF CLEWISTON, FLORIDA


Mary K. Combass, City Clerk


Kristine Petersen, Mayor

(MUNICIPAL SEAL)

**APPROVED AS TO FORM
AND LEGAL SUFFICIENCY**

By: 
Gary M. Brandenburg, City Attorney