

Don Scott

From: David Urich <david.shelia.urich@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, January 17, 2022 1:32 PM
To: Don Scott
Cc: David Urich; Lark Campisano
Subject: Item 6 -Cape Coral Evacuation Study

Don - as I believe you know - I am the full-time caregiver for my wife. We are currently living at The Preserve in Pompano Beach, FL - near to our son, Steve.

However - as you also know - I feel that the Proposed I-75 connection along the edge of Prairie Pines Preserve is NOT an improved connection for the Cape to evacuate! Of course, I do not have my files here - so have to depend on my prior comments and recollections.

Going North is LONGER than just going up US 41 to Tuckers Grade Interchange. Going South is just about the same distance as going to the existing Bayshore I-75 Interchange. Thus - there is no real advantage to a whole new MULTI-Million dollar Interchange - EXISTING roads get the Cape to I-75 TODAY at no destruction or COST!

Depending upon WHERE one is starting from on the Cape, other existing Interchanges can be better in mileage and time TODAY. Therefore, I again plead with the Lee MPO to delete that proposed new I-75 Interchange!

Yours, Dave Urich - former member of the CAC to the Lee MPO - my phone is still (239) 850-2413. My address is: David A. Urich, Apt # 286, 3701 W. McNab Rd, Pompano Beach, FL 33069.

Don Scott

From: David Urich <david.shelia.urich@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, January 17, 2022 2:06 PM
To: Don Scott
Cc: David Urich; Lark Campisano
Subject: Some older Scans regarding Proposed I-75 Interchange
Attachments: URICH- Anything RIGHT about Del Prado-I-75 (1).odt; PETITION TO SAVE PRAIRIE PINES PRESERVE (1).doc; URICH- East-West Arteries-Littleton-Kismet.jpg; URICH-Need Gator Slough Bridge - FUTURE (1).jpg; URICH-Time to DELETE DePrado Extension!.jpg

Don - found these scans in my computer files.

I feel that improvements to EXISTING roads are BETTER, CHEAPER, and QUICKER than spending MORE money studying an outdated plan for an UNAFFORDABLE new I-75 interchange.

Yours, Dave Urich

PETITION TO SAVE PRAIRIE PINES PRESERVE (and we do not need to spend millions on a road we do not need!)

Regarding the proposed and outdated Del Prado extension interchange for I-75 through Prairie Pines preserve:

This proposed road is outdated and not needed and will cost Lee county millions of dollars for a four mile longer interchange to get to I-75 than it is right now traveling the existing roads. Lee county could use these funds in a much better way to help our county.

The interchange would go through the eastern border of Prairie Pines preserve destroying the ecosystem and wildlife that this park was bought to preserve. The taxpayers of Lee county (all of us) voted to buy Prairie Pines with our tax monies so that it would be preserved for generations to come. They did not know or approve of an interchange being built through it with all the ensuing damage to the wildlife.

This Del Prado extension interchange would drastically change the way of life of an entire neighborhood (Rainbow Acres(?)), bringing noise, crime and destroy our country way of life. It would also change the entire flavor of North Fort Myers which is one of the few rural areas in Fort Myers.

IS THERE ANYTHING RIGHT ABOUT DEL PRADO/I-75?

In the next three minutes I will try and speak to SIX graphics!

First - Starting with “Mid-Century Decision” - it is clear that there are many problems with the long proposed Del Prado NEW I-75 Interchange, as is shown on this chart. Also, clearly this is a Mid-Century Decision, due to funding issues!

Second – there is an “Alternative” proposal shown on the second graphic at about Mile Marker # 150 in Charlotte Co. The BLUE massive lands are represented by the group who have proposed this new interchange, which is at the midpoint between the EXISTING Exits # 143 and # 158. OK with Federal Standards.

Third – the graphic “Tuckers Grade via Del Prado” shows clearly that EXISTING US 41 is more than FOUR MILES shorter than if one were using the PROPOSED Del Prado Interchange! The REASON for this is due to the separation between US 41 and I-75 at this geographic point!

Four – I call this graphic scale map “Del Prado – Outdated & Unaffordable”! Actually going South– it is approximately the same (about FIVE miles) distance if one uses the EXISTING Mellow/Slater route to Exit # 143 than if one came to the same point via the proposed COSTLY Del Prado Interchange.

Five – the graphic “ Del Prado I-75 – Alt. 1 – 2006” shows the VERY UNUSUAL design – NOT your typical CLOVERLEAF! Apparently this was needed due to WATER conditions at this location. I submit that this is NOT a good design for SW Florida with its many senior citizens, such as myself!

Urich Del Prado – Page Two May 25, 2020

Sixth – the final graphic “2009 East-West Cost Estimate” from Johnson Engineering shows the projection of a proposed route CONNECTING the end of the Del Prado Project where it ends at Nalle Grade Rd. - to SR 31. It also shows “Babcock Ranch Community” on it – so one assumes that the cost of this older connection to SR 31 was thought then to be covered by Kitson Partners. While I am NOT speaking for them, I do know that they CURRENTLY are working on improvements to the 7.7 mile EXISTING SR 31 connection to Bayshore Exit # 143. BTW – THIS proposed Johnson Engineering route was not INCLUDED in the old Del Prado cost estimate of \$81 Million.

In summation – I feel that Del Prado Interchange is Outdated, Unaffordable and Misplaced! Thus it should be deleted from the 2045 LRTP, NOW! Just because years ago the Lee County BoCC set aside a ROW (Right of Way) from 20/20 conservation lands in Prairie Pines Preserve is NOT a reason to proceed! The possible any FUTURE need for a NEW I-75 Interchange could be met with the current Proposal for one in Charlotte County at about Mile Marker # 150 - which would serve Babcock , also.

Submitted by: David A. Urich, Life Member of the Responsible Growth Management Coalition, Inc. and former member of Lee County MPO's Citizen Advisory Committee. Cell (239)-850-2413

FUTURE NEED

BUILD GATOR SLOUGH

BRIDGE - CONNECT KISMET

To BURNT STORE RD.

CURRENT BY - PASS TO

BURNT STORE RD, USE

VAN BUREN & DORADO

FROM KISMET PKWY, TODAY

FUTURE NEEDS A ONE MILE

DIRECT CONNECTION FROM

KISMET TO BURNT STORE RD.

REQUIRES NEW BRIDGE OVER

GATOR SLOUGH FOR ACCESS.

CONNECT

KISMET TO

BURNT STORE Rd.

NW

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5-15-19

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**BABCOCK TO EXPAND SR 31 - BAYSHORE
EXIT - 143 ! SAVING 4 MILES & MILLIONS!**

**TIME TO RETHINK PROPOSED DEL
PRADO EXTENSION TO I-75**

- 1) Del Prado ADDS FOUR MILES,
BOTH NORTH & SOUTH !**
- 2) Del Prado DOES NOT MEET
FEDERAL STANDARDS !**
- 3) OLD COST ESTIMATES ARE IN
THE \$81 Million RANGE!**
- 4) RURAL NFM & PRAIRE PINES
IMPACTS ARE SIGNIFICANT !**
- 5) Del Prado IS AT LEAST 20 YEARS
IN THE FUTURE, FDOT SAYS !**