

Public Meeting #1 Comments

Keystone/Lutz/Carrollwood
Walker Middle School
September 20, 2004, 6:30 PM

- With this proposed plan, how do trucks get from Gunn and Hwy 54 to Westchase/Waterchase area and how would that change if Linebaugh to Sheldon were a truck route?

The location of their job site determines the route they would have to take. Generally, a truck would avoid most of the roads in Northwest, such as Paterson Road, Crawley Road, Gunn Highway, south of Van Dyke. Trucks travel from Highway 54 to Dale Mabry to Gunn Highway to Sheldon and then on Hillsborough to RaceTrack Road. The plan will keep trucks out of Keystone, Westchase and Countryway.

- Is truck noise on local roads considered in the evaluation?

Yes, and the Environmental Protection Commission supports the evaluation.

- Why not a truck route from Tarpon Springs to 54? There is an industrial park just over the county line on 54 into Pasco.

Hillsborough County allows truck travel on Tarpon Springs Road to the Pinellas County line but does not allow trucks from entering Pasco County on Gunn Highway. This is to limit truck travel on Gunn Highway and protect area neighborhoods.

- Is it fair to say with the proposed changes the impact of trucks coming from the north be reduced coming through the Keystone area.

Yes, the change to the ordinance and the addition of RaceTrack Road between Hillsborough and Nine Eagles would keep trucks on truck routes.

- For clarification, truck coming down Gunn Highway to Tarpon Springs would be illegal?

Correct. It would be illegal because he crossed another truck route.

- Why did Gunn Highway score so low in the rating process?

Bad curves, doesn't have good shoulders, pavement is not in good condition, accident history, and no road widening plans.

- Why should RaceTrack Road be a truck route?

Roadway widening improvements are funded and on schedule over the next three years. The portion of Race Track Road, south of Nine Eagles is the only segment recommended as a truck route after the road is widened.

- What points were allotted to the Community Plan?

The reason why Ehrlich Road and Gunn Highway wasn't considered as a truck route is because of the Citrus Park and Keystone Community Plans. The Northwest Community Plans was also considered.

- If we can't discourage traffic through Keystone, we are not going to have a Keystone.

As described above, the change to the ordinance and map does discourage trucks from using roads in Keystone.

- RaceTrack Road is primarily residential, but is not treated as such in the evaluation. Why?

The southern end of RaceTrack Road south of Nine Eagles is of mixed land use with limited residential housing. There are only two ways to get into that area – either Linebaugh or Countryway. We are reducing the volume of trucks on Linebaugh by identifying RaceTrack Road as a truck route.

- If you have a lot of heavy construction vehicles that come down the Suncoast to VanDyke to Gunn and to Race Track, are they violating the truck route?

Not today, but under the ordinance change and map.

- Have you thought about making it easier for the trucks to travel without disturbing a greater number of people?

Yes, always, that is why the recommendations are being made.

- How do you enforce it if you don't know where they are going or don't know where they've been?

The Sheriff's Office has gotten very aggressive about tickets – Linebaugh through Westchase and Gunn Highway are two examples.

- What's to prevent Race Track, north of Westchase, to Gunn and connect to Tarpon Springs Road as a truck route?

There are no guarantees, but the Community Plan in that area is a good start. Also, no road widening improvements are forecasted on RaceTrack Road north of Nine Eagles.

- Opposed to "loop" – doesn't make sense.

It is an effort to control truck traffic on Linebaugh and Countryway and possibly reduce it. Easier to enforce.

- Hillsborough County has one thing posted; Pasco County has another; Pinellas another. You can't turn a two-axle truck around on a two-lane road.

Hillsborough County does not have jurisdiction over other counties. Pasco County allowed Hillsborough County to post signs.

- The loop at Race Track and Linebaugh would not go into effect until Race Track is six-laned, correct?

Correct, and that is anticipated in three years.

Summary:

<u>28</u>	Attending/signed in
<u>17</u>	Spoken comments
<u>6</u>	Turned in comments
<u>2 hours</u>	Length of Meeting