

DOWNTOWN MASTER PLAN

City of Flagler Beach, Florida

CHARRETTE RECOMMENDATIONS, 2003

RECONNECTING THE CITY





Reconnecting Downtown:

In order to "accommodate" traffic growth and create a reliable evacuation route, a 65-foot bridge replaced the old drawbridge, and Moody Boulevard (SR 100) was widened from a two-lane road with on-street parking on both sides, to a four-lane highway with a central turn lane and no on-street parking.

This widening overly satisfied traffic count and level of service demands, but at the same time it ruptured the city's downtown. This four-lane highway has divided the downtown area in two, making it very hard for pedestrians and even vehicles to cross this road. This division has affected retailers and residents alike.

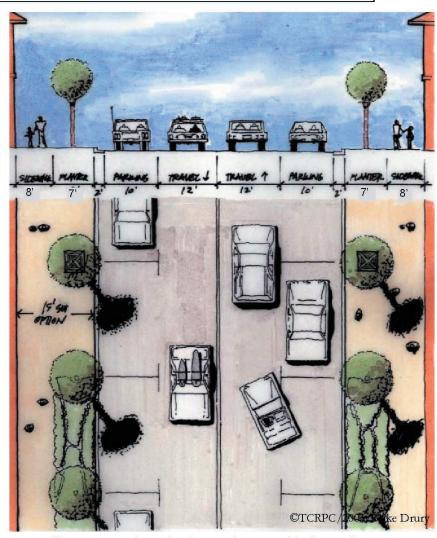
In an effort to reconnect the downtown area, the residents proposed narrowing Moody Boulevard and reinstating on-street parking along this road, if possible, without affecting the evacuation role of this route.

The master plan proposes a creative alternative that will turn Moody Boulevard into a two-lane road with on-street parking on both sides, without affecting the four-lane capacity of the road, necessary in case of an emergency evacuation as follows:

- No central turn lane
- Two 12' travel lanes
- Two 10' parking lanes: normally, parking lanes are no wider than 8', but in this particular condition, these parking lanes will act as
 travel lanes should there be need for an emergency evacuation. Parking spaces are only signaled by strips of paint. There are no
 bump-outs or physical elements constraining the road.
- Two 7' planting strips on both sides
- Two 8' sidewalks on both sides, shielding pedestrians from moving traffic with the strip of landscaping and a row of parked cars.

This proposal will serve several purposes:

- It will re-connect the downtown area, an important step towards the revitalization of the center as a whole,
- It will add additional parking opportunities for beach goers and locals
- It will slow speed along Moody Blvd., making it a more pedestrian oriented environment,



• It will create a roadway that is more in tune with the small town atmosphere that residents intend to preserve.

Additionally, the residents proposed the burying of power lines along this road. This is an important issue that, although very costly, will have a great impact on the overall appearance of the town. A phased approach over several years will be necessary to get this issue accomplished. The stretch of A1A between 3rd St. N, and 3rd St. S, and Moody Blvd. Between A1A and the bridge should be part of the first phase of the burying of utilities.

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Phased approach to the reconfiguration of Moody Blvd.

TREASURE COAST REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL INDIAN RIVER - ST. LUCIE - MARTIN - PALM BEACH