## Western Communities Council, Inc.



Howard K. Coates, Jr., Chairperson

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Paul Schofield Acme Improvement District

December 12, 2014

Commissioner Melissa McKinlay Board of County Commissioners District 6

Beverly Scott, Assistant to the City Manager City of Belle Glade

Wadie Atallah, City Manager City of Greenacres

Michelle Damone, Board Supervisor Indian Trail Improvement District

Steve Yohe, Dist. Administrator Loxahatchee Groves Water Control District

Ken Roundtree Northern PBC Improvement District

Chief Deputy Michael Gauger Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office

David Swift, Councilman Village of Royal Palm Beach

Ken Cassel, General Manager Seminole Improvement District

Jim Rockett, Councilman Town of Loxahatchee Groves

Howard K. Coates, Jr., Councilman Paul islage for Wellington Acme Improvement District The Honorable Melissa McKinlay Commissioner, Palm Beach County District 6 301 North Olive Avenue, 11<sup>th</sup> Floor West Palm Beach, Florida 33401

Dear Commissioner McKinlay:

Attached please find draft Resolution #2015-001 from the Western Communities Council, Inc. (WCC) expressing its' objection to the SR7 extension project from 60<sup>th</sup> to Northlake.

The WCC was formed approximately 25 years ago to provide a forum for local government in the Central/Western portions of Palm Beach County to discuss issues of common interest, recommend solutions and to actively work toward implementing those solutions.

Resolution #2015-001 objects to the postponement of the construction of State Road 7 (60<sup>th</sup> to Northlake) to Fiscal Year 2020 and requests that this roadway segment remain in Fiscal Year 2016.

This objection is consistent with the recent objection approved by the Palm Beach County Metropolitan Organization (MPO). To summarize, the current adopted program for SR7 is as follows:

- 1. Construction of SR7 from  $60^{th}$  to Northlake is funded in FY16 at \$52M
- 2. Widening of SR7 from Okeechobee to  $60^{\text{th}}$  is funded in FY17 at \$26M
- 3. Replacement of the SR80 ICWW bridge is funded in FY16 at \$59M
- 4. Other MPO priority projects are advancing with new funding available in FY20

The proposed work program contains the following major changes:

- 1. Construction of SR7 from 60<sup>th</sup> to Northlake is funded in FY20 at \$42M with \$8M for mitigation in FY16
- 2. Widening of SR7 from Okeechobee to 60<sup>th</sup> is funded in FY16 at \$26M

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- 3. Replacement of the SR80 ICWW bridge is funded in FY16 at \$91M and includes a temporary structure
- 4. Other MPO priority projects are minimally funded in FY20

On Monday, December 8, 2014, the MPO board approved objecting to the delay of construction of SR7 (60<sup>th</sup> to Northlake) to FY 2020 and requested construction funding in FY2016-2019 without delaying other MPO priorities.

The WCC and its member governments continue to monitor and participate in the process for the construction of State Road 7 to Northlake Boulevard to ensure that this vital roadway is completed.

Respectfully,

Tanya W. Quickel, Executive Director Western Communities Council, Inc.

cc: WCC Members
Beatriz Caicedo-Madison, P.E., FDOT
George Webb, County Engineer, PBC
Nick Uhren, PBC MPO