



INTERNATIONAL DRIVE COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY (CRA) Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Annual Report

BACKGROUND: The International Drive area is a vibrant destination focused on tourism, entertainment, and convention-related business. This hub of economic activity - a catalyst for the economic success of Orange County - has historically been challenged by transportation deficiencies which threaten the continued economic vitality of this activity center that provides 75,000 jobs within this region. The International Drive Community Redevelopment Area (CRA) was created in the 1998 based upon a finding of the existence of transportation-related blight within the International Drive area. A Redevelopment Plan was adopted, and subsequently amended, which identified transportation improvements that could be implemented to address these blighted conditions by improving the transportation system within the CRA. This redevelopment plan includes those transportation projects which are eligible for funding utilizing, among other sources, CRA revenues. The Orange County Board of County Commissioners serves as the governing board for the International Drive Community Redevelopment Agency and directs the activities of the CRA. Additionally, a seven-member Advisory Committee has been appointed to provide recommendations to the governing board regarding implementation of the Redevelopment Plan.

REVENUE & EXPENSES: As is the case with all CRA's the Redevelopment Plan is implemented utilizing tax increment revenues from the properties located within the CRA. The certified taxable value of properties within the International Drive CRA upon its creation in 1998 was **\$1,700,238,322**. As of January 1, 2021, the certified taxable value of these properties was **\$6,527,505,883**. This growth in taxable value of property within the International Drive CRA results in net increment revenues for FY 20- 21 totaling **\$22,509,878**.



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TOTAL EXPENDITURE BREAKDOWN: Total expenditures during FY 20-21 were \$1,623,221. These expenditures represent full or partial costs associated with eight (8) projects that were under development or completed during this fiscal year. These projects are listed as follows:

John Young Parkway and Interchange at Sand Lake Road	\$3,031
International Drive Widening	\$170,383
International Drive Transit Lanes	\$274,925
International Drive Ultimate Transit System	\$106,183
Pedestrian Enhancements	\$916,965
Transportation Systems Management	\$5,553
Tangelo Park Pedestrian Traffic Calming	\$50,000
Kirkman Road Extension	\$96,006

Information, details and specific action steps taken with respect to International Drive Transit Lanes, Tradeshow Boulevard, International Drive Ultimate Transit System and Pedestrian Enhancements are as follows:

INTERNATIONAL DRIVE TRANSIT LANES: This project includes design and construction of improvements to International Drive and a portion of Universal Boulevard between Destination Parkway and Sand Lake Road that will provide 12 ft. lanes for transit use along this corridor. These improvements will enhance transit operations and improve traffic flow in this area by removing buses from the general use lanes. Funding in FY 20-21 was utilized to continue the final design and right-of-way assessments.





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TRADESHOW BOULEVARD & KIRKMAN ROAD EXTENSION:

Included as part of the International Drive Transit Feasibility and Alternative Technology Assessment (TFATA) was an evaluation of the potential to implement improvements to Tradeshow Boulevard, to include the addition of vehicular travel lanes and transit lanes between Destination Parkway and Universal Boulevard. Kirkman Road is being extended south of Sand Lake Road and will end at the intersection of Tradeshow Boulevard and Universal Boulevard. The road was designed as a six-lane general use roadway with two dedicated transit lanes. The existing two-lane Tradeshow Boulevard will be over capacity once the Kirkman Road improvements are completed. Procurement of engineering design consulting services commenced in FY21.

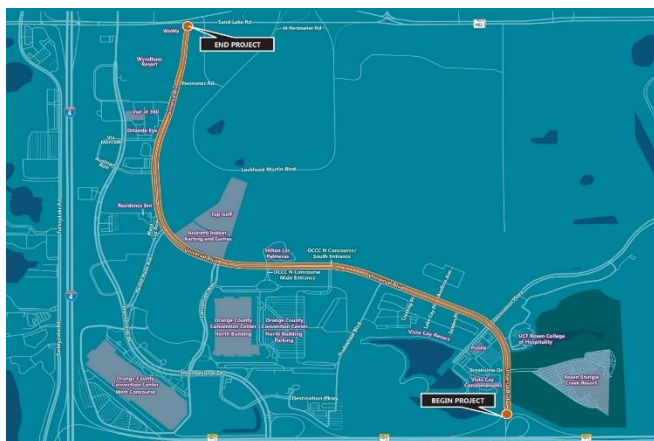


Tradeshow Boulevard looking south.

Kirkman Road is being extended south of Sand Lake Road and will end at the intersection of Tradeshow Boulevard and Universal Boulevard. The road was designed as a six-lane general use roadway with two dedicated transit lanes. The existing two-lane Tradeshow Boulevard will be over capacity once the Kirkman Road improvements are completed. Procurement of engineering design consulting services commenced in FY21.

INTERNATIONAL DRIVE ULTIMATE TRANSIT

SYSTEM: The International Drive Transit Feasibility and Alternative Technology Assessment (TFATA) was performed in order to define the longer-term transit solution within the CRA. This study evaluated potential transit technologies, alignments, and financial considerations to more effectively address traffic congestion with a sustainable solution that meets the extensive and varying mobility needs within this area. The recommendations included consideration of premium bus rapid transit service that would utilize the infrastructure currently being designed with the International Drive Transit Lanes project. The study was approved by the Board of County Commissioners in FY 21.





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PEDESTRIAN ENHANCEMENTS: The CRA continues to be a resource for implementing pedestrian enhancements within this area – with an emphasis on safety. Pedestrian safety assessments and action plans were recently completed for the International Drive and Universal Boulevard corridors. These plans recommended a series of projects to address documented pedestrian challenges within the area. Expenditures in FY 20-21 included design and construction of pedestrian signals along Westwood Boulevard and new traffic signals along International Drive and Universal Boulevard that were recommended for pedestrian safety.

GOALS & FUTURE PLANNING: Orange County Mayor Jerry L. Demings believes in building a community that works for everyone. The success so far of the International Drive CRA is proof that we are on the cusp of achieving his vision of Orange County as the experimental prototype community of tomorrow. To that end the CRA has successfully invested in a diverse program of significant transportation improvements. In an effort to be more inclusive, collaborative and innovative, the International Drive CRA Redevelopment Plan is currently being retooled to include expanding the scope and utilization of CRA resources to impact more than just transportation. Four additional areas of opportunity have been identified. They are Affordable and Attainable Housing, Economic Development, Community Cultural and Institutional Programs, and Beautification and Aesthetics. Orange County looks forward with optimism as to what can be accomplished throughout the CRA by expanding the use of these dollars; the net effect we hope will empower the CRA to reach its full potential.