

# TOWN OF WINDERMERE

## Permanent Diverter for Oakdale ST & 9<sup>th</sup> Avenue Public Workshop

April 6, 2023

### PRESENT:

Mayor Jim O'Brien, Council Members Tom Stroup, Andy Williams, Tony Davit, and Molly Rose were present. Town Manager Robert Smith, Town Clerk Dorothy Burkhalter, and John Fitzgibbon were also present.

#### 1. THE WORKSHOP CALLED TO ORDER

Manager Smith began the workshop at 6:01pm.

#### 2. PRESENTATION

##### a. Permanent Diverter Options for Oakdale Street & E 9<sup>th</sup> Avenue

Manager Smith gave a review of past discussion and implementation of the temporary diverters. He then stated that three options will be provided for review. Manager Smith turned the floor over to Mr. Mike Woodward of Kimley-Horn. Mr. Woodward reviewed three options. Option One: adding signage. Option Two: adding a permanent diverter with a middle pass-through. Option Three: adding a permanent diverter with side pass-through (southeast). Additional comments were made by Mr. Fitzgibbon. He commented that, for safety concerns, the pass-through would be shifted to one side. Manager Smith then turned the floor over to the public. First to speak was Brandi Haines. Ms. Haines commented on landscaping, the height of landscaping, emergency access, water for landscaping, planting native species, no concrete, and additional cut-throughs. Manager Smith stated that communication regarding landscaping will take place with the Garden Club. He then stated that "No Parking/Standing" signs will be implemented. Ms. Betsy Whittington of 935 Main Street introduced herself. She commented on traffic issues and that she opposes the diverters. Mr. Bill Bardoe spoke in favor of the diverter, and accommodating pedestrian crossings, but not golf carts. Discussion followed regarding adding trees, construction vehicles, MOT, favorable side pass through design, concerns with four-wheel drive vehicles, and the project timeframe. Ms. Gloria Groome stated that she agrees with previous comments. She then commented on issues with accessing Chase Road and other roads, and that she supports what Ms. Whittington previously stated. Mr. David Sharpe commented on the need for substantial landscaping, a width of 6', access concern, that safety needs to be considered over inconvenience, split rail fencing, and turnaround concerns. Mr. Bill Martini stated that he was pleased to hear the positive comments. He then commented on only using signage and 5' golf cart widths. Manager Smith requested that workshop attendees rate which option they prefer. After a few minutes, Manager Smith stated that Option Three is favored. He then commented on the next steps for the diverters and chat box comments (attached). Discussion was made regarding a proposed plan by John Fitzgibbon, and the width at the cross point of road. Member Davit questioned if the traffic is a one-way pattern. Mr. Woodward stated it's a one at a time flow, not one-way. Member Davit questioned if the current diverter is one-way. Ms. Haines stated that currently it is not one-way traffic flow. Member Davit suggested that the width be reviewed. Mr. Woodward stated that seventeen feet is sufficient for a stop and go scenario for vehicles. Discussion followed regarding the spacing/width, code, and the Florida Green Book Standards. Member Rose questioned if there is a reason that a higher concrete wall is not being utilized, or a big planter across the road. Mr. Woodward stated it was to keep costs down, but that there were many options for a barrier. Mr. Fitzgibbon stated that a hedge row could be more helpful. Mayor O'Brien commented that caution is needed regarding the Green Book Standards, and where they apply / do not apply. He then commented on the shared sacrifice project. Member Stroup thanked everyone for their efforts with the project. Roberta Martin of 836 Oakdale Street stated that she is the most negatively impacted person in the area. She also stated that assistance with turnaround traffic is needed. Manager Smith commented that once direction apps are updated and signage is installed, it should help.

#### 3. PUBLIC COMMENT/Q&A

Comments included above.

#### 4. ADJOURN:

Adjourned at 7:12pm.

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Public Workshop**

**April 6, 2023**

  
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Dorothy Burkhalter, Town Clerk

  
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Jim O'Brien, Mayor

00:51:00 Roberta Martin: I am worried about folks driving over the side pass  
through  
00:52:10 Roberta Martin: Agree about the landscape  
00:54:33 Bill and Nancy Bardoe: Bill Bardoe...there are designated golf  
bart cross  
01:01:57 Nancy Nix: With the SE cut through for golf carts, bikes, etc.,  
what is to keep drivers from driving up onto the curb by the Glances yard?  
01:10:15 Roberta Martin: We want to be involved with landscape plans  
01:13:19 Bill and Nancy Bardoe: so do we!  
01:13:57 Bill and Nancy Bardoe: Please remember that the Oakdale residents  
were the impetus for this diverter.  
01:13:58 ellenchase: drainage on the corner of Glance property  
01:17:52 Bill and Nancy Bardoe: Well said  
01:17:52 Nancy Nix: I saw a sketch by John Fitzgibbon showing a center  
pass through that looks great. Why is this not being considered?  
01:23:03 Bill and Nancy Bardoe: five feet makes sense  
01:24:14 john pilgrim: Option 3, 100%  
01:24:14 milaniwalters: 3  
01:24:15 kerrysharpe: Option 3  
01:24:23 Brittany Grier: 3  
01:24:24 Bill and Nancy Bardoe: 3  
01:24:32 Liz Andert: 3  
01:24:33 ellenchase: 3  
01:24:34 billmartini: Option 3  
01:24:34 Roberta Martin: 1  
01:24:41 kerrysharpe: Anything but 1  
01:24:46 Nancy Nix: 3 but please look at the sketch I mentioned.  
01:25:20 Brandi: Not 1. 2 or 3 or John's original z opening  
01:26:02 Gloria: Replying to "Not 1. 2 or 3 or Joh..."  
Option 1  
01:26:43 Brandi: Adding to say - a plan to help neighbors with turnarounds  
01:26:50 Matt Grier: I vote 3. Matt Grier 635 Oakdale  
01:27:16 Bill and Nancy Bardoe: Trees?  
01:32:42 Bill and Nancy Bardoe: that's why we're Windermere  
01:34:15 ellenchase: wider the roads faster the traffic goes both ways  
01:35:21 Bill and Nancy Bardoe: the roads are narrow for a reason  
01:35:42 Bill and Nancy Bardoe: or a tree  
01:37:11 Bill and Nancy Bardoe: what about a berm?  
01:43:01 Amy Diederich : Thank you Tom!!  
01:47:44 Tom Stroup: Those are great points Roberta. Thank you Tom  
01:47:49 Brittany Grier: Thank you all for all your work to find a solution  
for the majority of the residents!  
01:48:17 milaniwalters: Thank you! We will be back to discuss 6th and  
Oakdale ;)