

Road improvements in 441/436 area are on schedule

By Teresa Sargeant
Apopka Chief Staff

The city is on schedule with the Apopka City Center's \$4-million roadway upgrade on U.S. Highway 441, State Road 436, and neighboring side streets, with the anticipated end date to be December 18.

The exception to the December deadline is a fountain in the middle of a roundabout along McGee Avenue that will "take a little longer," said city traffic engineer Pam Richmond. The city is shooting for early January 2020 to finish constructing the fountain

that will be part of a 50-foot wide roundabout at the city center.

Earlier this year, infrastructure reconstruction began at several points around the U.S. 441/SR 436 interchange, including roadway widening, turn lane improvements and two new traffic signals, and the new roundabout.

Richmond said the roadway improvements will lead to much better traffic flow, especially once the traffic signals are up and operating on 436, 441, and McGee Avenue.

The signal on McGee will improve pedestrian safety and driver safety,

Richmond said.

"It's certainly going to be much safer. There won't be jockeying for position, merging," Richmond said. "If you're heading west-bound right now on Sheeler (Avenue), coming across Sheeler on 436, you essentially go from four lanes to one. You still have three lanes coming through the intersection: one (where) you'll have to turn right and two will just continue through, so there isn't an immediate merge as you get through the intersection."

"As for traffic coming up on 441 also heading west, it's the same

thing," she said. "You have the merge at the underpass where you go from two lanes to one lane in a congested area. Once you get your merge done, then people are like, 'I want to be in the other lane,' and they're trying to switch back and forth. The new geometry will allow two lanes to come through from both directions, controlled by the traffic signal. It really is going to be much safer."

The improvements are part of the construction of the City Center, an estimated 35-acre, more than 200,000 square foot mixed-use complex that is going up at the Martin's

Pond property, near historic Highland Manor at the U.S. 441/SR 436 interchange. The center will be comprised of retail, restaurants, office space, a hotel, and 100 multi-family apartment units.

The Apopka City Center commenced construction in 2018 with the 118-room, 4-story Hilton Garden Inn.

The center is being designed and developed as a public-private partnership between Taurus Investment Holdings and the city of Apopka.

Richmond said she "certainly hope(s)" there will be a ribbon cutting

to commemorate the new roadway infrastructure.

"I talked with the mayor's assistant about that last week, so - I don't know if we'll coordinate with the (opening of the) hotel. That won't be until later. I suspect we'll do a ribbon cutting when the fountain is installed and operational."

A second fountain will be installed in Martin's Pond, too, complete with colored LED lighting that will illuminate in conjunction with special occasions and timed campaigns. The city has funding in place, but it's a matter of getting more information on that project, Richmond said.

VFW will be active throughout the weekend

The VFW Post 10147 of Apopka/Altamonte Springs will be kicking off the Veterans Day weekend activities on Saturday, November 9, at 11:30 a.m. at Long and Scott Farms, located at 26216 County Road 448A in Mount Dora, at the end of Jones Avenue and County Road 448A. The VFW will handle the raising of the flag and the presentation of a short speech.

Next, that same day beginning at 5 p.m., there will be dinner and a show featuring "A Night of Beach Boys Music" by Endless Summer, voted number one Beach Boys Tribute Band.

Endless Summer will feature the iconic Beach Boys' most pop-

ular and greatest hits. Guests can dance the night away and enjoy bringing back treasured memories.

The doors and bar will open at 5 p.m., dinner will be served at 6 p.m., and the show will be from 7-10 p.m. Dinner will consist of wings, potato salad and the new Auxiliary Unit will come up with something special.

Tickets cost \$15 and may be purchased online at vfwpost10147.org or they may be purchased at the door that evening.

The last time this group was at the VFW, all food was consumed. This will not happen as the VFW is expecting a good crowd. There is room for 600.

On Sunday, November 10, members will attend their own church services and prepare for the activities that will be taking place on Veterans Day.

On Monday, November 11, at 11 a.m., the doors of the post home will open for a Veterans Day ceremony. The guest speaker will be retired Gunnery Master Sergeant David Schorejs, who is also the pastor of First Baptist Church in Apopka. As is customary, hamburgers and hot dogs will be served around 11:30 a.m. at no charge to those in attendance.

November 11 has extra meaning for the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the U.S. and all of our na-

tion's veterans because 101 years ago, on the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month in 1918, World War I - what was deemed then to be the war to end all wars - was finally ended.

At 5 p.m., Post 10147 will take part in the Veterans Day Fest that will be taking place on Purple Heart Trail between Park Avenue and Central Avenue, which runs in front of the VFW post, from 5-9 p.m. The bar will be open as will the newly renovated Military Museum.

For more information, contact Commander Dwight "Andy" Anderson, 407-889-8266, or visit website vfwpost10147.org.

Bankson: Qualifying for city election will be held Dec. 2-9

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gether, so let's keep moving forward."

Qualifying for the 2020 election will be held in the city clerk's

office at City Hall from noon on December 2 to noon on December 9. City Hall is located at 120 E. Main Street, Apopka. The qualifying fee for commissioners is \$540, based on a salary of \$13,500.

Registration books for the 2020 city election are open now and will close on February 18, 2020, at 5 p.m.

In the other City Council seat for election in 2020, Commis-

sioner Kyle Becker has already declared his intention to run for election.

For more information about the election, call the city clerk's office at 407-703-1704.

REGAL

Fri., November 8, 2019 thru Sun., November 10, 2019

Sunday Movies \$7.50 All Day

DOCTOR SLEEP (R) 12:00; 3:30; 7:00; 10:20*; 10:25

LAST CHRISTMAS (2019) (PG-13) 1:00; 4:00; 6:45; 9:30

MIDWAY (2019) (PG-13) 12:10; 3:50; 7:15; 10:35

PLAYING WITH FIRE (2019) (PG) 12:20; 2:55; 5:30; 8:00; 10:20

HARRIET (2019) (PG-13) 12:30; 3:20; 6:15; 9:10

TERMINATOR: DARK FATE (R) 12:15; 3:15; 6:25; 10:00

MALEFICENT: MISTRESS OF EVIL (PG) 1:10; 4:10; 7:20; 10:15

JOKER (2019) (R) 12:45; 3:40; 6:30; 9:20

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- Apopka Chief rack, 400 N. Park Ave.
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- Apopka Quick Mart (BP), Hwy 436 & Lake Cortez Dr.
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- CenturyLink headquarters, SR 436
- Chevron Diamond Gas - Hwy 441 & Plymouth-Sorrento Rds
- Chevron Market, Hwy 441 & Roger Williams Rd.
- Chuck's Wagon, Main St., (Hwy 441)
- Circle K, Ocoee-Apopka Blvd.
- Circle K & BP, Hwy 441 S. of Walmart
- Circle K, Keene Rd / Clarcona
- Citgo, 441 & Boy Scout Blvd (Plymouth)
- Citgo, Rock Springs Rd. (behind store by mail boxes)
- CVS #3748 - corner of Park Av & Hwy 441
- CVS #3225, corner SR 436 & Wekiva Springs Rd.
- Discount Beverage & Smoke (Across from Checkers, Highway 441)
- Circle K (Shell) #2404, Sheeler Rd at corner of Apopka Blvd.
- Circle K (Marathon) #6157, S. Park Avenue
- Circle K (Shell) #2334, Rock Springs Rd & Kelly Park Rd
- Circle K #1288, Welch Rd & Wekiva Springs Rd.
- Circle K (Marathon) #1063, Zellwood, 2691 Highway 441
- Compare Fresh Market, 400 N. Park Avenue, Apopka

- 436 behind Aaron's
- Crosby's Motor Inn, Hwy 441 & Errol Parkway (Errol Estate)
- Marathon, Main St. (midland downtown)
- McDonald's, Highway 441 (downtown)
- Mobil, (Citgo) Hwy 441 (next to Burger K)
- Orange County Service Center, N. Park Ave.
- Perkins Restaurant Hwy 441, in Victoria Plaza Parking Lot)
- Plymouth Post Office, Plymouth/Sorrento Rd
- Plymouth Woodshed Restaurant (Highway 441 & Boy Scout Rd)
- Porkies BBQ, Highway 441 (downtown)
- Post Office, N. Park Ave. (Martin St)
- Publix, Park Ave/Rock Springs Rd. & Welch Rd.
- Sam's Discount, Overland & Apopka Blvd.
- Save-A-Lot, SR 436 at Sheeler
- Sun Resort, 3000 Clarcona Rd.
- Sunoco Happy Foods, Hwy 441 & Plymouth-Sorrento Rd.
- Trader Mae's, Rock Springs Rd
- UPS Store (The), Rock Springs & Welch Rd. (Publix shopping center)
- Walgreens, corner of Park Ave and Hwy 441
- Walgreens, N. Park Ave/Welch Rd.
- Wawa Store, 449 W. Main St. - corner of Hwy 441 and Bradshaw
- Wawa Store, 441 & Piedmont Wekiva across from Walmart
- Wekiva High School, Hiwassee Rd.
- Winn Dixie #2246 - Hwy 441 (beside Lowe's)
- Zellwood Station (inside MHP)
- Zellwood Truck Stop Diner, Hwy 441
- Zellwood Water Users, Inc., 3262 Robinson St.

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PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

LARGE SCALE FUTURE LAND USE AMENDMENT

CITY OF APOPKA

NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to Secs. 163.3184, Florida Statutes and the Apopka Code of Ordinance, Part III, Land Development Code, Article II, Section 2.4.7.B, that the **FMDW VENTURES, LLC** has made an application to the City of Apopka Planning Commission and the City Council for a **CHANGE IN THE FUTURE LAND USE DESIGNATION FROM RESIDENTIAL ESTATES TO RESIDENTIAL VERY LOW SUBURBAN FOR 35.21 +/- ACRES.** This application relates to the following described properties located north of West Ponkan Road and west of Mt. Stirling Avenue.

Parcel I.D.: 20-20-28-0000-00-022 & 21-20-28-0000-00-019
Contains: 35.21 +/- Acres

ORDINANCE NO. 2690

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF APOPKA, FLORIDA, AMENDING THE FUTURE LAND USE ELEMENT OF THE APOPKA COMPREHENSIVE PLAN OF THE CITY OF APOPKA; CHANGING THE FUTURE LAND USE DESIGNATION FROM RESIDENTIAL ESTATES TO RESIDENTIAL VERY LOW SUBURBAN FOR CERTAIN REAL PROPERTY GENERALLY LOCATED NORTH OF WEST PONKAN ROAD AND WEST OF MOUNT STIRLING AVENUE, OWNED BY CARROL M HAMRICK; COMPRISING 35.21 ACRES, MORE OR LESS, PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

NOTICE is given that a public hearing for the future land use ordinance will be held by the **City of Apopka City Council** at its regularly scheduled meeting in the City Council Chambers of the Apopka City Hall, 120 E. Main Street, Apopka, Florida on **Wednesday, November 20, 2019, beginning at 7:00 p.m.**

Affected parties and the public may appear at the above listed hearings to speak. The proposed Future Land Use Application can be inspected at the Apopka Community Development Department located at Apopka City Hall on weekdays between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. City Hall address shown below. Please be advised that, under State law, if you decide to appeal a decision made with respect to this matter, you will need a record of the proceedings and may need to ensure that a verbatim record is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based. In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), persons with disabilities needing assistance to participate in any of these proceedings should contact the City Clerk's Office at 120 East Main Street, Apopka FL 32703, Telephone: 407-703-1704, no less than 48 hours prior to the proceeding.

Apopka City Council
Community Development Department

November 8, 2019

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