

RESOLUTION NO. _____

PROPOSED RESOLUTION NO. 24-007

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF LAKELAND, FLORIDA EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE MALL HILL DRIVE SIDEWALK PROJECT; AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO SUBMIT FUNDING REQUESTS TO THE POLK TRANSPORTATION PLANNING ORGANIZATION (TPO) AND THE FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (FDOT) DURING THE TPO'S ANNUAL PROJECT SOLICITATION CYCLE; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, the City of Lakeland Comprehensive Plan: Our Community 2030 contains goals, objectives and policies aimed at improving the safety and efficiency of the area transportation network and enhancing multi-modal transportation opportunities, thereby reducing automobile dependence; and

WHEREAS, the City adopted Resolution No. 5004, adopting the Polk County Local Government Complete Streets Policy that was formalized through the Polk Transportation Planning Organization (TPO) Resolution No. 2012-15; and

WHEREAS, Mall Hill Drive is an urban collector roadway operated and maintained by the City of Lakeland; and

WHEREAS, a sidewalk does not exist on either side of Mall Hill Drive between the Kathleen Pointe and Cambridge Cove apartment communities and County Road 35A (Kathleen Road); and

WHEREAS, the City intends to request Federal funding for a sidewalk along the north side of Mall Hill Drive between the Kathleen Pointe community and County Road 35A (Kathleen Road) to complement an existing Planned Unit Development zoning requirement for a sidewalk to be constructed along the south side of Mall Hill Drive

between Cambridge Cove apartments and CR 35A (Kathleen Road) with future development activity; and

WHEREAS, Mall Hill Drive between CR 35A (Kathleen Road) and CR 582 (Griffin Road) is listed as an “Other Bicycle/Pedestrian Priority Corridor” in Appendix F of the Polk Transportation Planning Organization’s (TPO) Momentum 2045 long-range transportation plan; and

WHEREAS, Mall Hill Drive was identified as a school access priority need through a TPO evaluation of sidewalk coverages within one mile of public schools, intended to address its performance target of 100% sidewalk coverage within one mile of elementary, middle and high schools (sidewalk on at least one side of collector and arterial roads); and

WHEREAS, the Lakeland Area Mass Transit District (Citrus Connection) operates fixed-route transit service along Mall Hill Drive via its Blue Line 1 with transit shelters located on the Kathleen Pointe and Cambridge Cove apartment communities’ frontages; and

WHEREAS, the Kathleen Pointe community is located approximately 4,700 feet from Griffin Elementary School; and

WHEREAS, commercial development, including a convenience store and Lakeland Regional Health’s Kathleen Road campus, have been constructed on the west side of Kathleen Road, opposite the Kathleen Pointe and Cambridge Cove communities; and

WHEREAS, the City is exploring opportunities to accommodate a sidewalk route to Mall Hill Drive from the nearby Swan Lake Village apartment community, greatly

improving connectivity between neighborhoods, employment centers and nearby commercial uses.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF LAKELAND, FLORIDA:

SECTION 1. The City of Lakeland supports the Mall Hill Drive sidewalk funding request.

SECTION 2. The City Manager is authorized to execute and submit, on behalf of the City of Lakeland, all related application documents to the TPO and FDOT for the Mall Hill Drive sidewalk.

SECTION 3. If any word, sentence, clause, phrase, or provision of this Resolution, for any reason, is held to be unconstitutional, void, or invalid, the validity of the remainder of this Resolution shall not be affected thereby.

SECTION 4. This Resolution shall become effective upon passage.

PASSED AND CERTIFIED AS TO PASSAGE this 5th day of February, A.D. 2024.

ATTEST: _____
KELLY S. KOOS, CITY CLERK

H. WILLIAM MUTZ, MAYOR

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND CORRECTNESS: _____
PALMER C. DAVIS
CITY ATTORNEY



BEGIN PROJECT

KATHLEEN ROAD

MALL HILL DRIVE

END PROJECT

PROJECT LAYOUT

