



**AGENDA
PUBLIC WORKS/SAFETY COMMITTEE
TUESDAY, JULY 13, 2021
5:30 PM
DESTIN CITY HALL ANNEX CHAMBERS**

- 1. CALL TO ORDER**
- 2. ROLL CALL/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
- 3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
 - A) May 11, 2021**
- 4. NEW BUSINESS**
 - A) US98-Stahlman Traffic Analysis - *Jim Wood***
 - B) Surtax Advisory Committee - Update, *Michael Burgess***
 - C) LSV Update - *Michael Burgess***
 - D) OCSO Update - June Violent Crimes/Traffic Enforcement, *TBD***
- 5. CONTINUING BUSINESS**
 - A) Public Works/Emergency Management Update**
 - B) Roadway Striping Policy - DRAFT, *Michael Burgess***
- 6. DISCUSSION**
 - A) Jim Wood - Chair**
 - B) John Green - Vice Chair**
 - C) Marcie Bell**
 - D) Sean Hickey**
 - E) Sam Perman**
 - F) Tom Weidenhamer**
- 7. ADJOURNMENT**

Any person requiring a special accommodation at this hearing because of a disability or physical impairment should contact the City Clerk at (850) 837-4242 at least 48 hours prior to the hearing. If a person decides to appeal any decision made with respect to any matter

considered at such meeting, such person will need a record of the proceeding and for such purpose may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceeding is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based. (Sec. 286.0105, Florida Statutes)

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**PUBLIC WORKS/PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, MAY 11, 2021 - 5:30 PM
DESTIN CITY HALL BOARDROOM**

1. CALL TO ORDER & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Vice Chairman Wood called the Public Works/Public Safety Committee to order on Tuesday, May 11, 2021 at 5:30 p.m. With the Pledge of Allegiance immediately following.

2. ROLL CALL:

Members Present

James T. Wood, Jr.
Tom Weidenhamer
Richard Hickey
Sam Perman
John Green

Members Absent

Marcie Bell

Staff

Kim Montgomery Deputy City Clerk
Michael Burgess PW Director
JT Deputy PW Director

4. CHAIRMAN/VICE CHAIRMAN

Mr. Burgess informed the members that since Chairman Ramswell had to resign due to health, they would need to nominate a Chairman and possibly a Vice Chairman as well.

Motion by Committee member Perman to nominate Vice Chairman Wood as Chairman, with Committee member Weidenhamer providing the second. The motion passed 5-0.

Motion by Committee member Weidenhamer to nominate Committee member John Green as Vice Chairman with Committee member Hickey providing the second. The motion passed 5-0.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: *March 9, 2021*

Motion to approve the minutes of the March 9, 2021 meeting as written, was made by Committee member Green with Committee member Perman providing the second. A roll call vote of 5-0 was taken and the motion passed.

6. NEW BUSINESS:

• Safety Issues on Scenic Highway 98

Committee member Perman spoke of how the city needs to be more proactive on the potential safety issues as the numbers of tourist increase to come to Destin beaches. She spoke of how she witnesses people not crossing at the designated pedestrian crosswalks all the time and feels there needs to be more signage and the beach accesses need to be lit up, as well as the surf conditions flags system signage should be displayed at each entrance.

According to Mr. Burgess, before the 2020 Spring Break, staff had met with Steve Derenian, a citizen who lives in Crystal Beach about this concern. He had approached this committee previously and presented a pedestrian wayfinding program with signage and pavement

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markings, which was approved by City Council. The signs were made and installed and consequently, almost all the signs that were installed were stolen during that spring break period. He spoke of how they could possibly have more made and collocate them on existing regulatory signs. Adding that he would bring this up to the City Engineer for his input.

Committee member Perman also spoke concern of the increased number of motorized bikes and skateboards on Scenic 98 and asked if there is an ordinance in place or something that they can do to facilitate one.

Mr. Burgess spoke of the LSV ordinance that did not get adopted by City Council and how staff and the Okaloosa County Sheriff's Department is following the State Statutes and the Golf Cart Policy.

- **Safety Issues at Calhoun/Kelly**

According to Committee member Perman, she feels that the speed limits are too high for Calhoun Avenue heading towards Kelly Street and feels that a traffic mirror is necessary to enhance the visibility at the intersection.

Mr. Burgess explained Mayor Pro Tem Destin has already obtained Council consensus to have the speed limit lowered to 25 mph between Zerbe and north of Clement Taylor Park. As well as speed tables are being installed. A digital informational sign warning the public of both and cones will be installed tomorrow.

- **Spring Break/Summer Preparations/ OCSO Lt. Jason Fulgham**

- Explained that this past Spring Break was busier than any in the recent past.
- 700 Beach related arrests with 516 of those in Destin
- Beach unit will be 7-days of week from 10AM-10PM in the summer season.
- 2-3 Marine Units on the local waters 7-days of week from 10AM-10PM.
- 19 Beach related arrests with 18 in Destin since the end of Spring Break
 - A busier than normal summer season is anticipated.
- Only one distressed swimmer in Destin since Spring Break was over.
 - With 17 Boating while Intoxicated Arrests in Destin since Spring Break in Okaloosa County
 - 19 Beach replated arrests, one on Okaloosa Island the rest in Destin.

Chairman Wood asked if the people arrested are being taken to Shalimar. According to Lt. Fulghum, the people are only given a court date at this time because of Covid. And the County Jail is only taking in repeated offenders, serious felonies, or misdemeanors.

Committee member Perman asked if there is a plan for the monitoring of increased traffic on Scenic Hwy 98. According to Lt. Fulgham, they have traffic units scheduled in shifts as well as a traffic grant paid through Federal Funds from FDOT that target 98 during the summer season.

- **Surtax Funds**

Mr. Burgess explained the city is authorized to use the surtax funds on the following:

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- Transportation
- Stormwater
- Public Safety

Adding that the city has used up all the funds for the acquisition of the beach parcels and is borrowing the necessary funds to pay replenish that account and once it replenished, this committee will have \$300k+/- to make recommendations to Council on what to spend it one. Reminding the members that he hasn't had the chance to purchase the trash pumps that they recommended and was approved by Council yet, since the funds have not been available.

- **Operational Updates**

Reported that the vacancy for Maintenance Tech Mechanic is still open and he is waiting for the right person and does not want to hire just anyone.

Recommendation is going to Council to have Main Street restriped from 98 to Kelly. With pavement markings included for a total cost of about \$50k.

- **Project Updates**

Mr. Burgess reported the following:

- NFWF Projects - All projects are complete.
- Continuing Services provider for Median Maintenance – ZIIC irrigation work is complete.
- Code Compliance and Analytical Services performed some water testing in the harbor, and everything came back with good results.
- Leonard Destin Park Restoration - the damage caused by Hurricane Sally has been repaired. Noting a joint effort from the Parks and Recreation department and Public Services brought in white sand from Wildcat Mountain and the beach has been restored, along with fencing, steps, and boardwalk repair. The ribbon cutting is scheduled for this Thursday May 13th at 10:00 o'clock.
- Zerbe St./Calhoun Ave Pedestrian - sidewalk and drainage improvements and will extend from the bottom of the hill at Sibert all the way to Clement Taylor Park.
- Harbor pump update – The motor is still having issues and it is back in the shop being repaired.
 - The pump will also be pulled and looked over to see if something is stuck inside, adding this has happened in the past. He noted that the 1,600 foot pipe that connects from the Gulf of Mexico into the harbor will still flush fresh water into the harbor when the tide is high. Which equals to be about 1.8 million gallons of water going into the harbor per day, without the pump. And there is a flap valve that does not allow the water to go back out from the harbor into the Gulf during low tide.
 - City Hall Fire Alarm and Monitoring System has been installed. There has never been any type of Fire Alarm System since the building was built.
 - Committee member Hickey asked if the buildings were sprinkled. According to Mr. Burgess he is only aware of the library and the Community Center being sprinkled. Committee member Hickey asked if that would impact the cost of insurance for the city

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buildings. Mr. Burgess replied that he could certainly look into it and provide an update.

- The new generator for City Hall has been installed and the replaced generator has been taken to the Sheriff's Substation on Stahlman Ave., so they now have a working generator.
- Beach Drive resurfacing has been approved by council and the work should be starting the week of May 24th. It will be milled and resurfaced north of Kelly. And two weeks after the asphalt has cured, the striping will go down.
- Speed humps on Calhoun Ave as mentioned earlier, will be installed tomorrow.

- **Emergency Management Update**

Mr. Burgess reported the following:

- Hurricane season starts June 1st and the Colorado University's hurricane forecast for this year is projected for an above average hurricane season.
- The City's hurricane guide is finished and published to the website with a map.
- Governors Hurricane Conference has been canceled.
- Senior leaders and department heads are reviewing the operational instructions to ensure that everything is in order if there is a storm in the Gulf of Mexico. As well as the precautions/activation levels that need to be taken, depending on how far out one is from the city.
 - Stand down.
 - 800 miles out and we're in the cone of uncertainty and those steps taken, if any.
 - 500 miles out the shutters get dropped and the buildings get secured.
 - 200 miles out, additional best management practices are put in place.
 - Continuity of government services:
 - Okaloosa County EOC headquarters – Niceville at the College.
 - After the storm and its safe, staff will go out and inspect properties to see if they are safe to be habitable.
 - Special permits are issued so that people can secure their property for repairable homes and structures.
 - A protocol is in place for those that are deemed structurally non-habitable.
 - Other departments have their own operating instructions to follow.

7. DISCUSSION:

- **Committee member Green** – Requested staff consider striping the north side of Main Street at Kelly.
- **Committee member Perman** – Reported that no one seems to be paying any attention to the new signs that were installed at the new right turn onto Airport Road from 98 and suggests their color be changed to possibly be more visible. According to Mr. Burgess, since it is now a maintenance issue, the City Engineer and staff has contacted FDOT to see what can be done to make the merge more notable to the public. Adding that so far there has not been any accidents since it has been finished.
 - She also thanked staff for the installation of the stop sign at Sibert and Forest.

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- **Committee member Hickey** – Reported that there is a lot of roadways in the city are in bad condition and need to be restriped. According to Mr. Burgess, its very expensive however, he will bring a back to them at their next meeting, a presentation with the conditions of the roadways and the costs for discussion.
- **Committee member Weidenhamer** – Nothing to report.
- **Vice Chairman Wood** – Reported that he no longer serves on the TPO’s Citizens Advisory Council since he is now serving on the Mid-Bay Bridge Authority. And there is no one from the city serving. He explained that it meets seven times a year and asked the members to get the word out because Destin needs a representative.
 - Asked if the flashing yellow light at Kelly has been replaced by the manufacturer yet. According to JT, it should be there now.
 - Status of the other water access right of ways and cleaning them up. According to Mr. Burgess, he will follow up with staff and report back to them at their next meeting.
 - Requested an update or presentation on the details for the FDOT PD&E study for from Marler Bridge to Airport Road.
- **Public Comment:**
None

Having no further business at this time, the meeting adjourned at 6:50 p.m.

Adopted and approved this _____ day of _____ 2021.

James T. Wood, Jr., Chairman

Kim Montgomery, Deputy City Clerk

Stahlman/98 Intersection Review

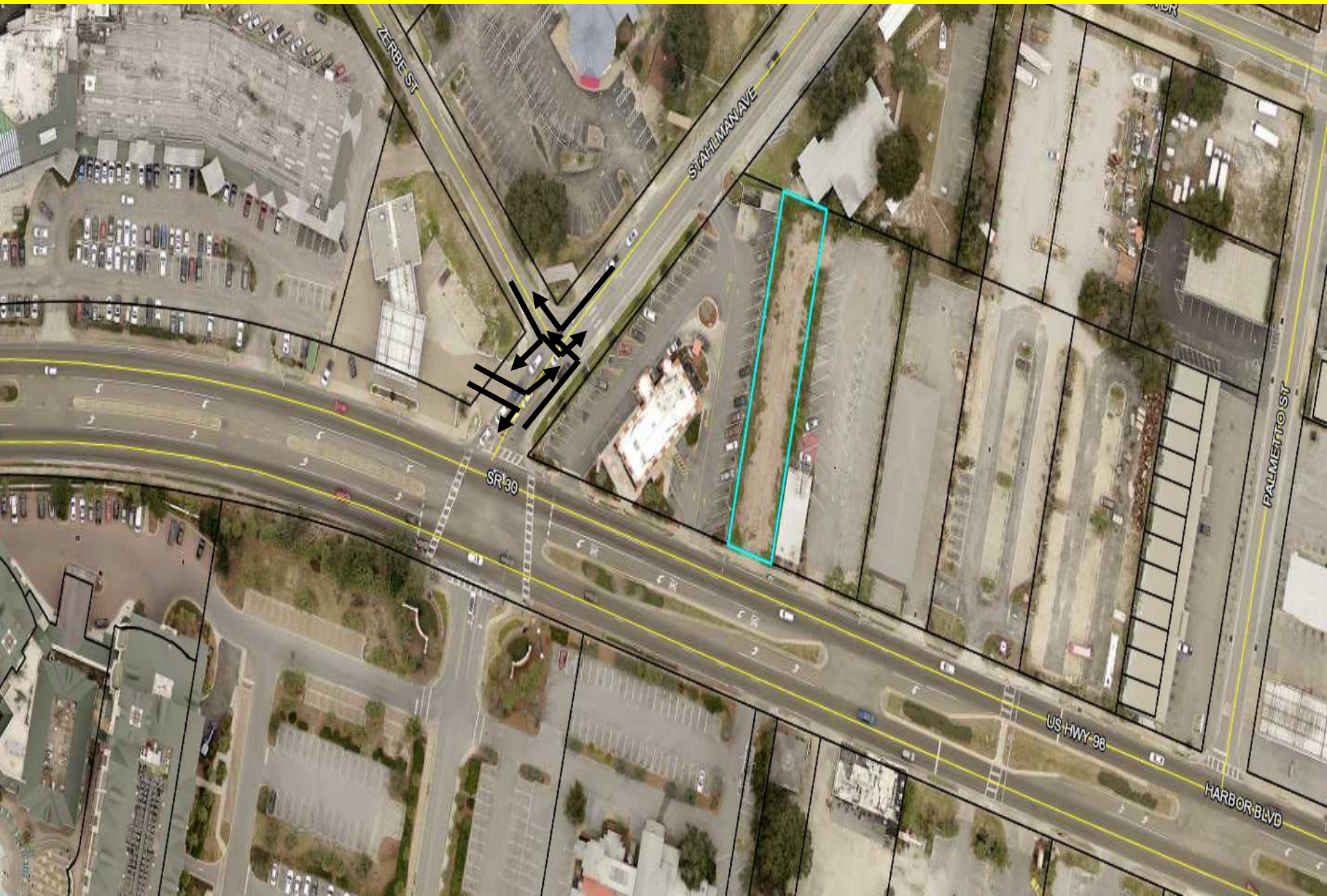
24 June – Approx. 60 minutes

Issue: The Stahlman Ave/Highway 98 intersection has several issues relating to efficiency and safety.

Current Ops:

- Stahlman traffic backs up averaging 15-20 cars on most light cycles (**efficiency**)
- The intersection traffic light was recently changed by FDOT adding a right turn, green right turn arrow along for traffic traveling south on Stahlman. At the same time the pedestrian walking light is also green bringing cars and pedestrians into conflict. With the green turn arrow, cars are not required to yield to pedestrians. This issue is exacerbated by Most drivers looking left because of the angle of the intersection, blocking view of pedestrians crossing Highway 98 (**safety**) - **The green turn arrow was supposedly changed for vehicular movement efficiency. Previously there was only a right on red opportunity.**
- Zerbe Ave allows both left and right turns onto Stahlman. Right turns are problematic, right turns are all but impossible especially when traffic on Stahlman backs up.
- The gas station on the corner further complicates the issue also by allowing both left and right turns onto Stahlman
- When the green right turn arrow turns red, usually 2-3 cars run the red light further complicating the issue.
- Some drivers are distracted and do not move their vehicles when opportunities afford movement.

Current Intersection Operations



Stahlman/98 Intersection Review

24 June – Approx. 60 minutes

Analysis/Comments:

- The intersection as currently configured is inefficient and unsafe.
- The green turn arrow on Stahlman being in conflict the green walking signal is not the normal allowable configuration for an intersection. No requirement to yield to Pedestrians. With the previous turn on red, the driver must yield to pedestrians.
- The short space including the Stahlman/98 intersection, Stahlman/Zerbe intersection and the gas station on the corner intersecting with Stahlman causes the intersection to be inefficient no matter when light configuration constructed.

Proposed Intersection Operations

- Change the green turn arrow back to the previous right on red configuration
- Close the exit from the gas station exiting onto Stahlman
- Make Zerbe a right in and right out turn only



- # Proposed Intersection Operations
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- Change the green turn arrow back to the previous right on red configuration
 - Close the exit from the gas station exiting onto Stahlman
 - Make Zerbe a right in and right out turn only

Stahlman/98 Intersection Review

24 June – Approx. 60 minutes

Success depends on willingness to enforce.

The proposed changes will not be popular but should be done for the betterment of all.

Motion: I recommend the following actions be considered by the Destin City Council:

1. Staff coordinate with FDOT and Okaloosa County to delete the green right turn arrow at Stahlman/98 intersection and change back to the previous right turn on red from Stahlman onto Highway 98.
2. Staff investigate closing the entry/exit median cut from the gas station onto Stahlman Ave.
3. Staff consider making Zerbe Drive a right turn in and out only.

Success depends on willingness to enforce.

Public Works Update

Departmental Update

Currently have one vacancy (Maintenance Technician/Mechanic) – no qualified applicants to date
Base Salary raised from \$13.44/hr. to \$14.25/hr. to \$15.50/hr.

Operational Update

Recent & Upcoming Council Agenda Items

- ✓ July 6 – City Surplus Auction, TBD, approved by CC
- ✓ July 6 – Authorization to purchase two 6” trash pumps, State Matching Grant, approved by CC
- ✓ July 19 – Improvements to Sibert Ave Paid Parking Lot

Project Update

- Harbor Pump Update
- Road Surfacing & Road Re-Striping Update
- Emergency Work – Indian Bayou Dr and Calhoun Ave. (storm pipe induced sinkholes)
- Airport Road Curve Update
- Airport Road Pavement Issues
- Zerbe-Calhoun Pedestrian Improvements – Phase I Update

Emergency Management Update

Operational Update

- Disaster Preparedness Guide 2021 completed and distributed.



Public Works Department

4200 Indian Bayou Trail | Destin, FL 32541 | Phone: 850-837-6869 | www.cityofdestin.com

July 8, 2021

To: Public Works and Safety Committee
From: Michael Burgess, Director of Public Works & Emergency Management
Re: Roadway Striping Policy - DRAFT

The following is a text from the 2009 Edition of the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD).

Center Line pavement markings are required:

- *On paved urban arterials and collectors 20 feet or more in width and an average daily traffic (ADT) of 6,000 or more,*
- *On paved roads with more than two lanes.*

Chapter 3B. Pavement and Curb Markings

Section 3B.01 Yellow Center Line Pavement Markings and Warrants Guidance:

Center line markings should be placed on paved urban arterials and collectors that have a traveled way of 20 feet or more in width and an ADT of 4,000 vehicles per day or greater. Center line markings should also be placed on all rural arterials and collectors that have a traveled way of 18 feet or more in width and an ADT of 3,000 vehicles per day or greater. Center line markings should also be placed on other traveled ways where an engineering study indicates such a need.

Within the City Limits of Destin, the following roadways have been identified as collectors or arterials:

Gulf Shore Drive	Zerbe Street	Stahlman Avenue
Beach Drive	Indian Bayou Trail	Calhoun Avenue
Sibert Avenue	Main Street	Spring Lake Drive
Indian Bayou North	Scenic 98 (Crystal Beach area)	Crystal Beach Drive
Benning Drive	Country Club Drive East	County Club Drive West
Dolphin Street	North Lakeside Drive	Airport Road
Legion Drive	Palmetto Street	John Avenue
Regatta Bay (south of 98)	Misty Way	Kelly Street
Matthew Boulevard	Mountain Drive	Pine Ridge Trace
Azalea Drive	Hutchinson Street	Indian Trail
Indian Bayou Drive	98 Palms	Indian Bayou Trail
Luke Avenue		

As such, it is proposed that each of these streets be fully striped (with reflective pavement markers, bike lane markings, and text as necessary) when resurfaced and on an as-needed basis during the life cycle of the pavement.

All other roadways with Destin being classified as less than arterial- or collector-class would receive the following limited striping:

- Stop Bars
- Crosswalks
- Limited-length double yellow striping at intersections

If you have any questions, please feel free to call Michael Burgess, Public Works Director, at 850-837-6869, or via email at mburgess@cityofdestin.com.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Michael G. Burgess', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Michael G. Burgess MS, PH, CSM, CFM
Director of Public Works & Emergency Management
City of Destin, FL