

Archer Road Safety Project Financial Project # 2078378

PE – FY 08/09
CST – FY 2010/11

November 2008

At the request of the Alachua County Community Traffic Safety Team, Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) retained Kimley Horn and Associates to conduct an Arterial Study for SR 24 /Archer Road as part of a District-wide Safety Studies contract.

The tasks included field inventory, qualitative assessment, crash data analysis and capacity analysis. Using the information from the study, recommendations for improved operation of the corridor were developed focusing on crash reduction, safety and traffic operations.

Several intersections were identified as operating at a Level of Service (LOS) D or E. An access management analysis reveals that the majority of access points along the corridor are not compliant with current FDOT access management standards.

The study recommended several modifications to access management and LOS that could be implemented within a five-year period, and ranked on priority, ease of completion and estimated resulting benefit.

These proposed modifications are summarized below. The recommended projects are to be coordinated with the Alachua County and MTPO approved interim projects, as part of the SW 62nd Boulevard Connector study, and the recently approved MTPO alignment recommendation for SW 62nd Boulevard as, Alternative 4b-2 with four general purpose lane cross section, and providing a connection to SR 24/Archer Road at SW 37th Boulevard.

I-75 NB Ramp to SW 40th Blvd.

- Create dual left turn lanes on Archer Road (eastbound) to SW 40th Blvd (northbound)
 - Operational Modification by County
- Eliminate right turn slip ramp from I-75 exit ramp to eastbound Archer Road bringing all ramp traffic to signal control.
 - Operational Modification (by County?)
 - 32 rear end crashes in 2003; 2 in 2004; 3 in 2005

SW 40th Blvd to SW 37th Blvd.

- Close first full median opening east of SW 40th Blvd.
 - Safety Modification – based on crash data
 - 8 crashes in 2003; 8 in 2004; 6 in 2005

- Increase storage capacity in westbound left turn lane @ SW 40th Blvd
 - Operational / Safety Modification
- Eliminate left turn lane at median closure, creating additional median space.

Project is coordinated with the recommended Interim Modifications approved by the MTPO and Alachua County as part of the SW 62nd Blvd. connector study.

SW 37th Blvd to SW 35th Blvd.

- Increase storage capacity in eastbound left turn lane @ SW 37th Blvd.
 - Operational Modification
- Close first full median opening east of SW 37th Blvd.
 - Safety Modification
- Increase storage capacity in westbound left turn lane @ SW 37th Blvd
 - Operational Modification
- Modify second full median opening east of SW 37th Blvd to allow westbound left turns off Archer Road only.
 - Safety Modification

First Median Opening East of SW 35th Boulevard (to Butler Plaza / Wal-Mart Entrance)

- Close full median opening east of SW 35th Blvd
 - Safety modification based on crash data
 - 11 Crashes in 2003 ; 20 in 2004 ; 20 in 2005
- Remove eastbound left-turn lane (to Butler Plaza / Wal-Mart Entrance) and reconfigure median
- Remove westbound left-turn lane (to Pizza Hut & bank) and reconfigure median

Second Median Opening East of SW 35th Boulevard (to Butler Plaza / Lowes Entrance)

- Convert full median opening to directional median opening (left off Archer Rd Only)
 - Safety modification based on crash data
 - 11 crashes in 2003 ; 9 in 2004 ; 10 in 2005
- Increase storage for westbound left-turn lane @ modified directional opening, reducing length of inside eastbound left-turn lane at SR 121 (SW 34th Street)
 - Safety modification