



Safe bicycle lanes that connect neighborhoods are a key part of the Transforming Tampa's Tomorrow initiative.

Improving Multimodal Transportation Along Central Avenue

In conjunction with the Southeast Seminole Heights Flooding Relief Project, the City of Tampa will improve the half-mile stretch of Central Avenue from Hillsborough Avenue to just south of Osborne Avenue. Based in part on survey responses from Seminole Heights residents, business owners, and parents of students at Hillsborough High School, proposed improvements make use of Central Avenue's ample width to increase pedestrian and bicycle safety, reduce vehicle speeds, and reduce collision frequency and severity while enhancing aesthetics.

- **A crosswalk at Wilder with bulb-out curb extensions, enhanced pavement markings and a pair of flashing beacons.** This was the most-requested improvement among survey respondents. Curb extensions improve pedestrian safety by shortening road crossing distances for pedestrians and increasing visibility. They also slow turning vehicles because of the reduced width of the turning lane.
- **Dedicated bicycle lanes on both the northbound and the southbound lanes of Central Avenue.** Bicycle lanes create separation between cyclists and automobiles and visually remind drivers of the cyclist's shared use of the street. Bicycle lanes were a top priority among survey respondents.
- **A dedicated pick-up and drop-off lane for Hillsborough High School along the west side of Central Avenue from Wilder south to Louisiana Avenue.** Overwhelmingly, survey respondents told us this would greatly help traffic on Central Avenue. This lane will be clearly marked with signs and road striping. The speed limit from Osborne Avenue to Hillsborough Avenue will be reduced from 35 miles per hour (mph) to 25 mph.
- **Clearly marked on-street parking in front of residences.** On-street parking narrows roadways, slows traffic and provides additional parking where parking is limited.
- **Decorative, brick crosswalks with new stop bars at each east/west street in the corridor** to connect sidewalks and call attention to the stopping point at each of these streets.
- **Enhanced pavement markings**, including edge lines, center lines and turn lane arrows, are included in the transportation improvements corridor to improve safety.

Additionally, the curb on the east side of Central Avenue between Hillsborough and Giddens will be moved east two feet into the City right-of-way beginning at Hillsborough Avenue and tapered back to its current position at Giddens Avenue. This will widen the intersection to allow for a bicycle lane while retaining reasonable lane width for the through-traffic and turn lanes.

Project Benefits

- Increase pedestrian and bicycle safety,
- Reduce speeds for motorized vehicles,
- Reduce collision frequency and severity, and
- Enhance aesthetics.

Schedule & Cost

Design and Permitting: Fall-Spring 2020

Construction Start: Summer 2021

Construction duration: 3 months

What to Expect During Construction

- Construction Hours: Weekdays from 7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Night and weekend work may be needed on occasion for major road crossings or connections.
- Residents and businesses will receive advance notice of construction; updates will be posted at SeminoleHeightsStormwater.com. Maintaining accesses to businesses, homes and other properties is a top priority.
- Some temporary road closures, lane closures and detours will be required. All changes in traffic flow will be clearly marked and flaggers will help direct traffic when necessary.
- A maintenance-of-traffic plan will keep motorists, bicyclists and pedestrians safely moving through the area. All detours and lane closures will be clearly marked and variable message boards will be used to keep residents informed. If sidewalks are affected, alternative pathways will be identified.

Engaging the Community

To learn more about the Southeast Seminole Heights Flooding Relief Project:

- Visit SeminoleHeightsStormwater.com
- Call 813-580-5313
- Email projectinfo@seminoleheightsstormwater.com

Team

The City selected Wade Trim and David Nelson Construction to design and build the project.



Curb extension and brick crosswalk



Flashing beacon at crosswalk

