

## **MEMORANDUM**

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**DATE:** March 17, 2020

**TO:** Honorable Mayor and City Commission

**VIA:**

**FROM:** Kenneth Fields, City Manager

**RE:** Resolution 2020-06 Requesting FDOT Restrict Truck Traffic on US 27

### **SYNOPSIS**

The cities located along US 27 in Polk County are desirous of protecting their citizens and reducing the impact of increased truck traffic on local transportation and public safety services by requesting that the Florida Department of Transportation limit large truck usage of the leftmost lane.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

Staff recommends the City Commission adopt Resolution 2020-06 Requesting FDOT Restrict Truck Traffic on US 27

### **BACKGROUND**

Polk County has become a major logistics center for the state because of its central location and easy access to major highways. US Highway 27 is the major north-south route through Polk County and Lake Wales, connecting South Florida and the Georgia state line. As a result, the volume of large, tractor-trailer and other trucks traveling this route both north and south between Florida Route 60 and Interstate 4 has significantly increased, especially since the opening of the CSX Intermodal Facility in Winter Haven and the opening of a number of warehouse and distribution centers in the area of the US 27/I4 interchange. These large trucks at times travel three abreast across all the travel lanes of US 27, impeding traffic and affecting the ability of emergency vehicles to respond; especially at intersections controlled by traffic signals. The proposed widening of US 27 to the south of Florida Route 60 is likely to further increase the automobile and truck traffic flow on US 27, further exasperating this problem.

The cities located along US 27 in Polk County are desirous of protecting their citizens and reducing the impact of increased truck traffic on local transportation and public safety services but traffic regulations on US 27 in Polk County are the responsibility of the Florida Department of Transportation. Therefore all the cities along the US 27 corridor are requesting that FDOT put in place regulations restricting truck use of the left hand most lane.

**OTHER OPTIONS**

Do not request any changes to the truck regulations on US 27.

**FISCAL IMPACT**

None

**ATTACHMENTS**

Resolution 2020-06