Board & Committee Agenda Item

Agenda Item: Gandy Connector: Public Opinion Survey

Presenter: Lisa Silva, MPO Staff

Summary: Over the past several months, staff has been bringing information to the Policy Committee addressing the motion which was passed by the MPO Board to consider removing the Gandy Elevated Connector from the Long Range Transportation Plan. To date, the Committee has discussed emergency evacuation and an analysis of traffic patterns under different roadway system changes.

The final piece included gathering an understanding of the public’s preferences. A public opinion survey was developed which asks questions about the Gandy Connector.

The survey flyer was mailed to approx. 9,300 property owners within one mile of the Gandy Connector project. The flyer depicted the elevated toll road with the question “Does this look like a good idea?” We gathered 888 responses with 408 voting “No” (46%) and 480 voting “Yes” (54%). Half of the responses were to the text based survey the other half were a combination of web and phone-in responses.

Recommended Action: None; for information only

Prepared By: Lisa Silva, AICP, RLA

Attachments: Survey Flyer
             Charts
1. Does this look like a good idea?

Total Responses=888

Yes 54%

No 46%
3. How good or bad is traffic on Gandy Blvd? Give it a letter grade from A-F.
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4. Best idea to handle traffic?

- New elevated toll road: 392 (overall), 382 (total votes)
- New parallel bypass: 57 (overall), 25 (no), 32 (yes)
- Add lanes to Gandy: 79 (overall), 69 (yes)
- Add lanes to nearby roads: 59 (overall), 50 (no), 9 (yes)
- No change: 211 (overall), 208 (total votes)
5. Why is Gandy Blvd important to you? Select all that apply.

- Live nearby: 323 Yes's, 300 No's, 623 Overall
- Commute on it: 141 Yes's, 186 No's, 327 Overall
- Work nearby: 88 Yes's, 87 No's, 175 Overall
- Hurricane evacuation: 62 Yes's, 122 No's, 184 Overall
- Other: 49 Yes's, 58 No's, 107 Overall