



Engineering & Planning, Inc.

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October 28, 2020

Mr. Heath Stocton, PE
Engineering Department
121 SW Port St. Lucie Boulevard, Building B
Port St. Lucie, FL 34984

Re: Becker Road Speed Limit Reduction

Heath,

MacKenzie Engineering & Planning, Inc. was retained to review the posted speed change on Becker Road for consistency and safety. The City of Port St. Lucie is investigating reducing the posted speed on Becker Road between Gilson Road and Veranda Gardens Boulevard from 45 mph to 40 mph, a distance of 7,200 feet (1.36 miles).

Consistency

The posted speed on Becker Road is 40 mph from I-95 to Veranda Gardens Boulevard, a distance of 5.25 miles. The Gilson Road speed limit is 35 mph south of Becker Road and 30 mph north of Becker Road, as shown in Figure 1. The speed limit on this segment of Becker Road is inconsistent with the adjacent segments and may make it confusing for drivers and law enforcement to navigate and monitor the segment, respectively

Figure 1. Posted Speed Limits



Safety

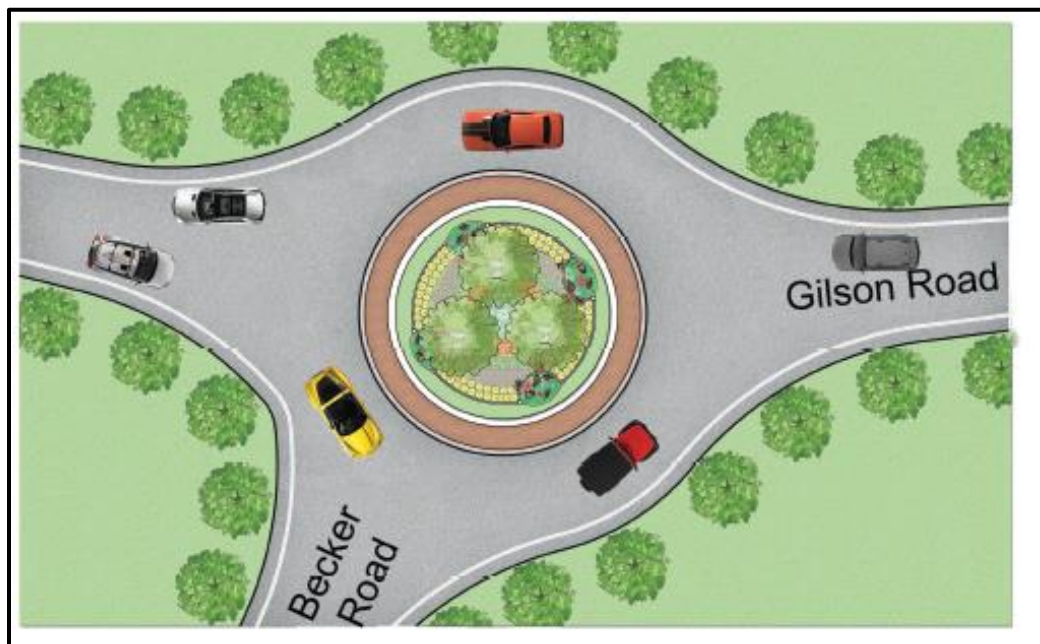
The 45 mph section of Becker Road is approximately 7,200 feet from Veranda Gardens Boulevard to Gilson Road.

A developer is in the process of completing a roundabout at Veranda Gardens Boulevard and will construction a roundabout at Gilson Road and at the entrance to a future neighborhood, Veranda Oaks, located 2,000 feet west of Gilson Road. In addition, the developer will plant large oaks trees and construct multi-use paths along Becker Road to create a tree lined corridor with pedestrian amenities.

Figure 2. Future Becker Road Cross Section



Figure 3. Future Becker Road & Gilson Road Roundabout



Further, the developer will be performing construction activity along the 1.36 mile segment to construct roundabouts, construct sidewalks and plant trees. Construction vehicles will be entering and exiting Becker Road along this segment for the duration of construction activities. A lower speed limit will provide a safer environment for construction vehicles and travelers on this segment of Becker Road.

Conclusion

Reducing the posted speed limit to 40 mph is expected improve the safety of construction workers and drivers along this stretch of Becker Road for the duration of the construction activity. Additionally, a speed limit reduction to 40 mph will improve the safety related to the roundabouts and provide drivers additional time to react to and safely navigate the roundabouts at Veranda Gardens Boulevard, Veranda Oaks development entrance, and Gilson Road.

Reducing the posted speed on Becker Road will improve consistency for law enforcement and decrease the potential for rear-end collisions. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Shaun Mackenzie at (772) 834-8909

Sincerely,



Shaun G. MacKenzie, P.E.
Transportation Engineer
Florida Registration Number 61751
Engineering Business Number 29013