



PONTE VEDRA BEACH
Citizens Traffic Task Force

Citizens Traffic Task Force Newsletter

Winter 2025

The Citizens Traffic Task Force Board includes representatives from:

The Ponte Vedra Municipal Service District

The Ponte Vedra Community Association

The Palm Valley Community Association

The Plantation at Ponte Vedra Beach

Sawgrass Master Association

Sawgrass Players Club Master Association

Marsh Landing Master Association

Ponte Vedra Lakes Owners Association

Welcome to the Ponte Vedra Beach Citizen's Traffic Task Force Winter Newsletter. Everyone these days seems to be talking about the traffic in Ponte Vedra Beach and Palm Valley (PVPV). Your Citizen's Traffic Task Force Board (CTTF) has been collaborating with the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT), our St. Johns County Commissioners and staff, our State Legislative Delegation and, through surveys in 2018 and 2023, with our residents, to facilitate the roadway improvements our community has strongly supported. Results from those efforts and the millions of dollars necessary to fund those improvements are finally in sight. Read further in this newsletter to learn what is planned and when those changes may be coming.

Improvements To State Road A1A Through Ponte Vedra Beach Scheduled

In April of 2024, representatives of the CTTF Board met with FDOT and learned that SRA1A was approaching the time when a complete resurfacing (think re-paving) of the roadway from J. Turner Butler Blvd. to Mickler Road was going to be necessary. As we enter 2025, FDOT has confirmed that SRA1A will be resurfaced, probably in Fiscal Year 2028 (July 1, 2027-June 30, 2028) but not later than FY 2029. As an added benefit, having the construction equipment and materials necessary for resurfacing SRA1A on site will greatly reduce the cost of the improvements long planned for several key intersections in our community. Those improvements, to the Sawgrass Village, TPC Blvd., and Solana Road intersections, are all currently in the design phase. In addition, the existing merge lane from JTB southbound on SRA1A will be extended to south of Marlin Avenue. The CTTF will continue to monitor this project and will periodically provide updates.

St. Johns County Funds Origin-Destination Traffic Study for PVPV

When it comes to conversations about traffic, many in our community continue to believe that our traffic problems are primarily associated with Nocatee and points west. Unfortunately, there have been no facts to either support or refute that claim. To address the issue, the CTTF, in June, asked the St. Johns County Public Works Dept. to fund what is called an "origin-destination traffic study" of Ponte Vedra Beach and Palm Valley and they agreed. That study, now completed by traffic engineers England-Thims & Miller (ETM), utilized "Streetlight" software to provide an analysis of the traffic patterns in our community. Streetlight uses the same technology that Apple Maps and Google Maps use to warn of traffic accidents and congestion.

The PVPV Origin-Destination Traffic Study identified the drivers (or "traffic") using the major roadway network in our community and quantified the distribution of what are termed "local", "commuting" and "cut-through" drivers on these roadways.



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Here are the definitions of the categories studied:

Local trips begin and end within Ponte Vedra Beach/Palm Valley. These would include trips to the grocery store, local schools, restaurants, or to the beach and country clubs.

Commuter trips either begin in PVPV and end outside PVPV or begin outside PVPV and end in PVPV. This could be a Neptune Beach resident's trip to Pussers Grill, a Marsh Landing resident's trip to work in Southpointe, or a landscape contractor from Clay County driving to Sawgrass.

Cut-through traffic begins outside PVPV and travels through the study area to a destination outside the area. Trips from Vilano Beach to Jax Beach or from Nocatee to Butler Blvd. are in this category.

The key findings from the study show that our PVPV roadways are primarily occupied by Local and Commuter users. Our community's residents, employees, and service providers are generating the majority of the traffic we are all experiencing.

Local user volumes are highest on roadways in the *central* portion of the study area (e.g. Corona Road east of A1A is 74% local users). Commuter volume is highest on *perimeter* roadways (e.g. the Palm Valley Bridge is 91% commuter users). Regarding "cut-through" drivers from Nocatee, only 860 of almost 50,000 trips a day on A1A (or 1.7%) are Nocatee cut-throughs.

The Origin-Destination Study for PVPV concluded with the following recommendations. The study states that roadway improvements within PVPV will provide the greatest benefit to our community. The types of improvements that will reduce congestion for PVPV residents most are adding additional turn lanes at key intersections, "selective" roadway widening, and signal optimization.

To that end, based on past efforts by the CTF and funding provided by our State Legislature, the FDOT is currently working to address the following improvements.

- The Mickler Road/A1A intersection improvement will be completed in February.
- Improvements to the Sawgrass Village, TPC Blvd., and Solana Rd. intersections are in the design phase and are expected to be constructed concurrently with the resurfacing of A1A through Ponte Vedra Beach in FDOT's Fiscal Year 2028 or 2029.
- The merge lane from JTB southbound on A1A will be extended to a location south of Marlin Avenue.
- In addition, the CTF has recently made a formal request to FDOT that an improvement to the Ponte Vedra Lakes Blvd/A1A intersection be added to the work plan. That request is currently under consideration.

Additional information on the results of the study will be made available through presentations to community organizations and via a video soon to be added to many CTF member websites.



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CTTF Requests Additional Funds From St. Johns County's Legislative Delegation

On January 10th, 2025, the CTTF attended the St. Johns County Legislative Delegation's annual public meeting at the County Auditorium in St. Augustine and requested an appropriation of \$6 Million to support continued funding of roadway improvements in PVPV. That request, to State Senator Tom Leek, and Representatives Kim Kendall, Sam Greco and Judson Sapp, was for funds sufficient to complete the construction of the Sawgrass Village, TPC Boulevard and Solano Road intersections. These are the remaining intersection improvements identified in a North Florida Transportation Planning Organization (NFTPO) traffic study in 2017 of the A1A corridor in Ponte Vedra Beach. It will be several months before we learn if this request or a lesser amount is approved.

The Citizen's Traffic Task Force Newsletter is produced in collaboration with St. Johns County's Public Works Department. For more information regarding upcoming Public Works projects, visit www.sicfl.us. To contact the CTTF, email cttfboard@yahoo.com.