

Indianhead/Lehigh Neighborhood Mobility Priority Projects

L.I.N.C. Us Now! *Launch In-Town Neighborhood Connectivity*

Priority Projects

1. Improvements to crosswalk and signal at **Magnolia Drive and Lafayette Street intersection** to safely access nearby businesses and neighborhoods.
2. Extension of sidewalks from **Lafayette Street to St. Augustine Road to the Blairstone intersection.**
3. Construction of sidewalks and bike lanes on **Magnolia Drive from Jim Lee Road to Lafayette Street** connecting the Southside corridor to nearby businesses.
4. Implementation of the **Lafayette Streetscape Study**, including a community marketplace and a walkable destination.
5. Improvements for safe pedestrian crossings at the **intersection of Magnolia Drive Apalachee Parkway.**
6. Enhancements to traffic safety at **Hartsfield Elementary** to ensure a walkable, bikeable neighborhood school.

Linking Neighborhood Priorities to Existing Planning Initiatives

Indianhead/Lehigh Priorities	CRPTA Trans. Improve. Plan (CIP Project)	Bike/Pedestrian Master Plan	Multi-Modal District Project List	2030 Long Range Transportation Plan*	Questions/Status
Magnolia Drive & Lafayette Street intersection improvements	Magnolia Dr. & Lafayette St. Intersection, pg 63		FY 2008-2009		City/County Joint Project Agreement Pedestrian Enhancements added
St. Augustine Road Sidewalks to Blairstone		Community Priority # 46	Years 6-10	Project #76BP	TIGER Grant Application County Jurisdiction
S. Magnolia Drive Sidewalks		Community Priority #15	Years 6-10	Project #55BP	TIGER Grant Application County Jurisdiction
Lafayette Streetscape Study		Components of study are in Bike/Ped Plan.	Years 6-10	Project #49BP	City/County Joint Project
Magnolia Drive & Parkway intersection improvements		Community Priority #7	Years 6-10	Related Project #55BP	Is this both County and State jurisdiction?

*Currently undergoing updates and scheduled for adoption in 2010 as the "Regional Mobility Plan."

Narrative

The Indianhead/Lehigh Neighborhood Association (IHLNA) supports City of Tallahassee, Leon County, and Capital Regional Transportation Planning Agency projects that will encourage community mobility and non-motor vehicle safety. We strongly believe Indianhead/Lehigh could serve as a model walkable, bikeable community for the City and County. The **2009 Indianhead/Lehigh Neighborhood Planning Survey** demonstrated that Indianhead/Lehigh residents are ready to expand their mobility. What you have in Indianhead/Lehigh that you possibly do not have in other neighborhoods is a collective will to get out of our cars and walk and/or bike more.

Indeed, many neighbors want expansion of interior sidewalks, yet what they assigned a greater priority to are safer ways to access local businesses and downtown. The survey respondents support construction of perimeter sidewalks over interior sidewalks by nearly 10%. Respondents prioritized sidewalks on St. Augustine Road over S. Magnolia Drive at 54.6% to 42.3%, although respondents expressed that both were important. They want to be able to safely walk or bike to New Leaf Market, to Cabo's, and across the Parkway to other nearby businesses. They would like to be able to safely connect to our Woodland Drives and Myers Park neighbors, to City Parks, and ultimately to downtown Tallahassee.

Neighbors would like a community marketplace and farmers' market – 76% percent of the respondents were interested in a farmers' or artisan market within or nearby the neighborhood. They strongly support implementation of the City and County's **1999 Lafayette Streetscape Study** that envisions "walkable" mixed-use development, community open space, safe pedestrian crossings, and sidewalk construction. Over 70% of the respondents rated the **Lafayette Streetscape Study** as very important or important. This plan not only benefits Indianhead/Lehigh, but also our Woodland Drives, Myers Park, Country Club, and Smoky Hollow neighbors.

The survey data supports that given safer crossings, exterior sidewalks, and bike lanes -- residents *will* make use of them. City and County government projects which support increased mobility in and around Indianhead/Lehigh should be given greater priority. Building sidewalks anywhere is probably going to benefit some citizens, but is assumptive; building sidewalks where there is evidence proving that they will be used, improve safety, and inspire increased community-living is unarguably the right thing to do. By supporting and prioritizing projects that increase mobility for Indianhead/Lehigh and adjacent neighborhoods, you are truly fostering a sustainable future for Tallahassee.

About IHLNA Neighborhood Planning and the Neighbor Planning Survey

The neighborhood has a long tradition of advocating for neighborhood priorities. The current initiative began at a community meeting where the following mission statement was developed:

Develop specific plans to encourage and make safe pedestrian and non-motor vehicle access throughout the neighborhood and to area businesses and surrounding neighborhoods.

The Neighborhood Planning Team began meeting in the fall of 2008 to develop a neighborhood plan for walkability, connectivity, and traffic safety. The **Neighborhood Planning Survey** was conducted in the spring of 2009. Over 150 responses were received from Indianhead/Lehigh neighbors. The survey was conducted using a Web based survey tool. The survey link was sent to the neighborhood e-mail list and was linked from the IHLNA Website. The survey consisted of 25 questions and a final comment/suggestion section. A summary of the survey responses and all open-ended answers can viewed be at

http://www.surveymonkey.com/sr.aspx?sm=gCi30N7IDjn6BeOGu6_2booTKJ0Y9XZTWOndR_2b1xCjEHo_3d

About the Indianhead/Lehigh Neighborhood

Indian Head Acres was platted in 1947 with development primarily in the 1950s. Lehigh was platted in the 1960s and development soon followed. The neighborhood is bordered by Blairstone Road to the east, Lafayette Street and St. Augustine Road to the north, S. Magnolia Drive and Jim Lee Road to the west and southwest and Orange Avenue to the south. The neighborhood is adjacent to newly established *multi-modal districts* and is an important link to the *Southside corridor*. The neighborhood association was incorporated in 1971 and since that time has been active in protecting and advancing the quality of life and interactivity of the neighborhood. Projects and community activities initiated or supported by the association are as follows:

- Spring & Fall Newsletters
- Neighborhood Meetings held in Fall & Spring
- Monthly Potlucks
- July 4th Bike Parade and Breakfast
- Community-Wide Halloween Party
- Neighborhood Yard Sale
- NeneFest, An Annual Neighborhood Festival
- New Neighbor Welcome
- Crime Watch
- Community Gardens
- Energy Challenge
- Greenway and Roadside Clean-Ups
- Hazardous Waste Round-Ups

The spirit and enthusiasm within this community for continuous improvement that is both respectful and enlightened are impossible to capture adequately with words. Evidence, however, is everywhere and can be encountered during a simple stroll through our streets or attendance at one of our gatherings. We are outside in our gardens, walking with our dogs, biking with our children, using our parks daily, gathering together for planned and spontaneous celebrations, tending to our homes and each others needs, and we are poised to support our local economy if enabled to safely commute by foot and bicycle to our community businesses. Investing in this plan empowers this and future generations to continue the legacy of this neighborhood as a responsible and engaged community.

For more information contact:

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