

## Atlantic Boulevard Bridge Enhancement

### Pompano Beach Community Redevelopment Agency

Category – Transportation

#### **100 Word Description**

The Atlantic Boulevard Bridge enhancements was destined to become an iconic landmark for the City of Pompano Beach. Located on the main thoroughfare and considered the entrance way to the barrier islands, the Atlantic Boulevard Bridge was designed to mimic the sail elements of the pier parking garage creating a sense of place that you have arrived in Pompano Beach. The nautically themed infrastructure has custom elements such as grand bridge entrances, repurposed pedestrian walkways and tender house façade improvements. Since its completion, the Atlantic Boulevard Bridge has become a symbolic welcome for residents and visitors by incorporating unique elements and multi-functional uses.

#### **Image**

Electronic copy attached.

#### **Innovation – How the project used new ideas to solve problems or to carry out the project or program**

- The project was segmented into the following three phases:
  - Phase I included design and construction of enhancements to the bridge façade, tender house, Jersey barriers, system lighting, etc. The design/build team were responsible for design, permitting and coordination with the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT).
  - Phase II included larger aesthetic design elements such as four large tensioned sails at each quadrant of the bridge, computerized LED up-lighting, nautical artwork on bridge facades and land-based lighting.
  - Phase III included a pedestrian Waterfront Promenade under the bridge connecting restaurants and buildings from south to north and the construction of a sidewalk that is known as the “Trailway to the Waterway.”
- The Atlantic Boulevard Bridge enhancements are a testament to the City & CRA’s progress, forward thinking and foundation of a future of change & continued growth.
- The idea was to continue the iconic, nautical theme of the beautiful sails featured on the beach parking garage and the Fishing Village of the pier redevelopment as the themed structure created a synergy between the intercoastal waterway, beaches and mainland.

- The most interesting features of the improvements are two large tensioned sails at each end of the bridge with a computer operated-lighting system allowing the sails to change colors for special occasions.
- The nautical artwork underneath the bridge welcomes boaters and sightseers alike as the new promenade underneath the bridge connects the north and south sides of Atlantic Boulevard leading to a viewing plaza on the intercoastal waterway. This connection marks the beginning of the Trailway to the Waterway for residents and visitors.

### **Community Impact – How the project has improved economic, social, design, cultural assets of the community**

- When development or redevelopment is done properly, the positive impact on the city can be tremendous.
- It is a point of arrival and symbolic welcome to Pompano Beach.
- Tender house façade – color themed to match the public restrooms, pavilions, concession stands and the new Life Guard Stations on the beach.
- Marine artist, Dennis Friel created colorful murals of local marine life and bionetwork of the City of Pompano Beach waterways.
- The bridge not only created an iconic landmark for residents and visitors, but it has created a sense of place and destination whether travelling by land or by water.
- The Trailway to the Waterway is connecting pedestrian traffic and businesses under the bridge.
- Local community has taken ownership of the bridge enhancements and loves what the aesthetics and features bring to Pompano Beach.
- Created a sense of pride in the community.
- The Public Art element provides character to the bridge as well as to the cultural image of Pompano Beach. It introduces visitors to the collection of public art throughout the city as well as the city's vast cultural art offerings.

### **Funding – How the project leveraged funding and in-kind assistance**

- The CRA budgeted \$5 million for the bridge enhancements design and construction.

### **Problem Solving – How the project used problem-solving to address unique local issues**

- The under-the-bridge promenade resolved the pedestrian connectivity between two parcels currently being developed as new waterfront restaurant destinations and provides a safe and scenic passage to cross underneath Atlantic Boulevard, a roadway with heavy traffic.

**Applicability to Other Communities – Why this project or program could be transferred to other communities**

- The iconic nature of the bridge and the pedestrian connectivity make this project a unique object for others to emulate. It is an attraction during the day, and even more so at night, but the value of providing pedestrian connectivity and brings people to the waterway is special. The experience of traversing the area and seeing the marine-like graphics or experiencing boating activity provide for a calming and refreshing experience as well as a level of safety that cannot be offered any other way.

**Other Things to Tell the Judges – A description of any other aspects (first of its kind, most successful, aspects included above)**

- To our knowledge, the sail theme and marine graphics combination has not been adopted by anyone else before. The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) thought this project merit to be introduced to all other major government agencies across the country. The project was showcased in a **Bridge Rehabilitation Activities | FHWA Innovation Exchange Webinar** on October 3, 2019, as the innovation project for others to copy and learn from. The webinar was exposed to over 8,000 agencies.

**PowerPoint**

Electronic copy attached.

**Documents**

Electronic copy attached.

**Required Information**

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PROJECT NAME – Atlantic Boulevard Bridge Enhancement

PROJECT COMPLETION DATE – Summer 2019