



September 22, 2022

Attn: Orange County Board of County Commissioners
201 S. Rosalind Ave.
Orlando, FL 32801

Dear Orange County Commission:

Please "FIX ORANGE AVE" – Support Alternatives 1 and/or 2 of the County's most recent study (2021) to fix a serious transportation issue; i.e., the failing intersections of Holden and Gatlin Avenues with Orange Avenue.

These alternatives realign Holden with Gatlin Avenue, which will benefit not only City residents and businesses, but also the entire region as 85% of the vehicles on this segment of Orange Avenue (State Road 527) is generated outside the City limits.

The past "Band-Aid" improvements have not alleviated safety issues, and congestion continuously worsens. While the realignment separates ± 3 acres from the park, that area can be transformed into a beautiful park feature. The loss of ± 1 acre of park land for the road realignment can more than be replaced by including the County's recent 9.66-acre industrial-zoned land purchase into the park boundary (**result - a larger 88.6-acre park**). Using park land for another public benefit is consistent with the County's comprehensive plan, particularly when replacement land is available. This occurred at Lake Cane Marsha Park and Downey Park for road improvements.

The realignment can be a win-win solution: improve road capacity/safety issues and retain a beautiful Cypress Grove Park. Attached you will find the signed petition, showing support for realignment Alternatives 1 and 2.