


## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Honorable Mayor and City Council Members

**PREPARED BY:** Chester Murray, Interim City manager 

**DATE:** December 1, 2008

**SUBJECT:** Discussion of Sparkman Avenue Special Assessment District

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### **PURPOSE**

To discuss the creation of a special assessment district (SAD) for the extension of Sparkman Avenue from the Sparkman Avenue terminus to Rhode Island Avenue as depicted on the attached map.

### **BACKGROUND**

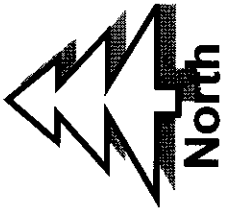
As was discussed in the previous Resolution 512-08 agenda item, if a developer desires to make an improvement for their development, the owners could seek the City's involvement through the special assessment program. Improvements in a new development could be completed before the developer's sale of individual lots and the assessment would be in place when the lots were sold. The City would be intricately involved in the construction of the improvements, thereby "fronting" the money for the cost of the improvements, and then collecting the annual assessments every year to reimburse the City.

As the Council is aware, the Manatee Cove Elementary and the River Springs Middle School opened in 2007 and 2008 respectively. The High School, which is currently under construction, will open in either August of 2009 or January of 2010. Certain road improvements have been made over the past two years to provide access to these schools, of which, West Rhode Island is considered to be the main access to the three schools, and is currently under construction. Other completed road improvements include, (1) the construction of Scholars Path, and (2) the West Ohio extension.

A fourth very important segment to link Ohio Avenue with Rhode Island was proposed to be built when the Sparkman Ridge subdivision is constructed in order to provide adequate traffic circulation from Rhode Island. However, due to the current housing decline, it may be several years before this necessary link is established. Staff believes that the Sparkman Avenue extension to Rhode Island is a special assessment district project that affects the health, safety or welfare of our residents.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

Staff has no recommendation at this time as this is a discussion item only.



**Proposed  
Sparkman  
Extension**

**Proposed  
Subdivision**

**Proposed  
Western  
Beltway**

**Chennel 2  
Tower**

**High  
School**

