

**Request/Proposal
for Sidewalk Connectivity in the Riviera Section**

**Circuit between Riviera Drive and Granada Boulevard south
of Hardee Road**

presented to

Coral Gables Transportation Advisory Board

at their

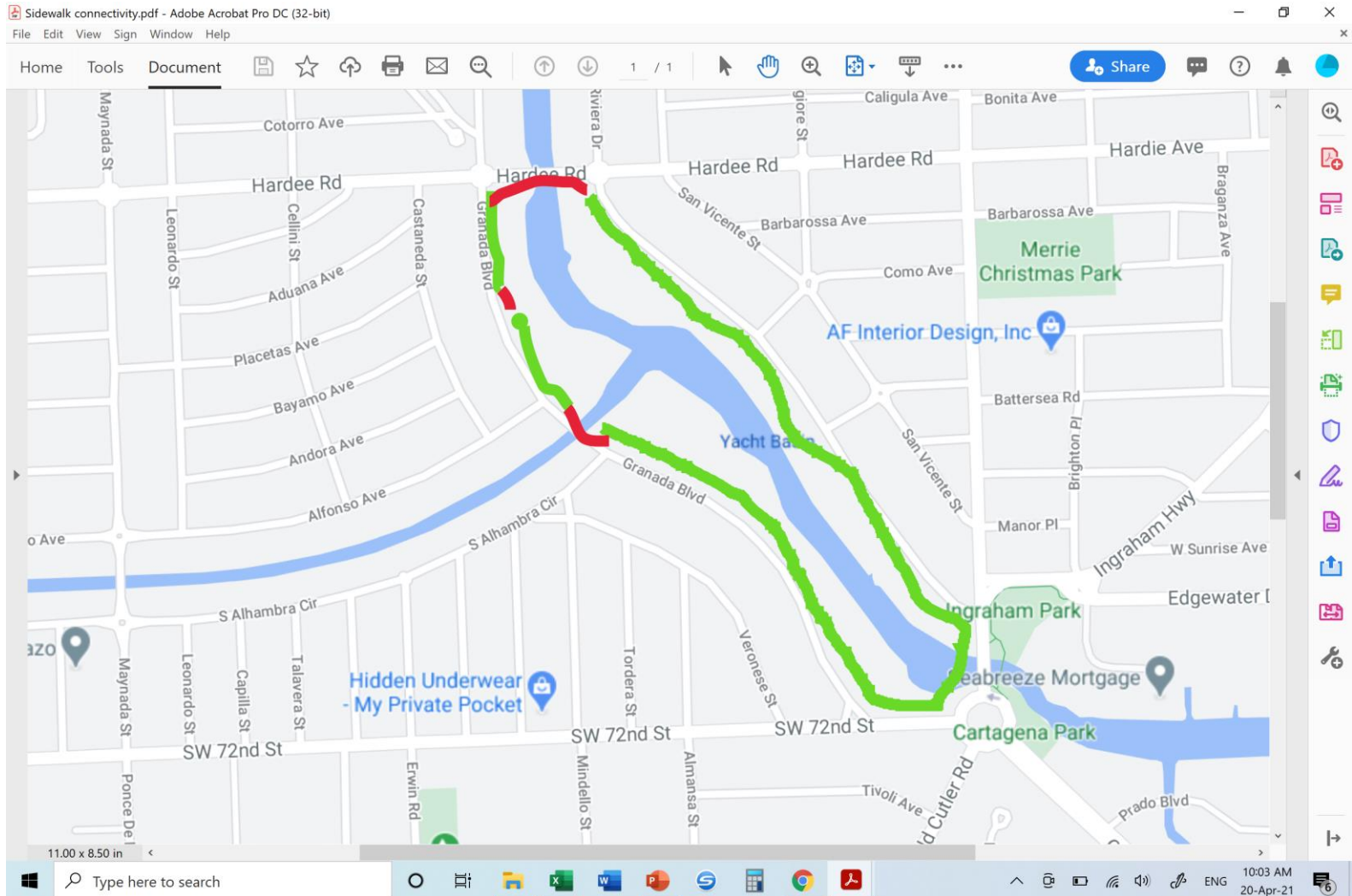
**Meeting
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Proposal

- Connect the existing sidewalks to complete the circuit between Riviera Drive and Granada Boulevard, south of Hardee Road.
 - Missing sections:
 1. Connecting the existing sidewalks on the west side of Riviera Drive and the east side of Granada Blvd. to the existing walkway on the **south side of the Hardee Road bridge** (over the Coral Gables waterway). The existing sidewalks already round the corners of Granada and Riviera towards the bridge. The missing sections are about 80 feet?? on each side.
 2. Both connections of the **east side of the Granada Blvd bridge** (over the Mahi waterway), connecting the existing sidewalk on the east side of Granada to the north of the bridge with the existing bridge walkway and from the existing bridge walkway to the existing sidewalk on the east side of Granada south of the bridge. The missing sections are about 80 feet?? on each side.
 3. A missing section **in front of 6507 Granada Blvd. and the adjoining 6595 Granada Blvd.** Those same residences have existing sidewalks in front of a bit more than half of their respective frontages, but the section of sidewalk in between the two properties is missing. Estimated 60 feet?? of missing sidewalk.
- The entire rest of the circuit is completely connected, including with the sidewalk on the northeast section of the Cocoplum Circle, and the walkway over the west side of the LeJeune Road bridge.

- The circuit is shown on this map, with completed/existing sections in **green**, and the missing sections in **red**. The circuit extends south along the west side of Riviera Drive, to the walkway on the south side of the LeJeune Road bridge, then to the sidewalk on the northwest section of the Cocoplum Circle, then a short section on the north side of Sunset Drive, then north along the east side of Granada Boulevard all the way to Hardee Road, then across the Hardee Road bridge's south walkway and down to the Riviera Drive west sidewalk.



Why this is important

- The circuit is a great pedestrian and local bicycle route, with reasonably daily foot traffic, which doesn't interrupt any vehicular traffic. However, many families or elderly avoid the route due to the missing connections. **Completing the circuit would encourage more neighborhood pedestrians and bicycle riders to enjoy the sidewalks.**
- Safety issue -- particularly at the missing connections coming down from the bridge walkways on either side of the two bridges. For example, there is an almost 2 foot drop off from the south Hardee Road bridge walkway to the swale that leads to either the Granada Blvd. or Riviera drive sidewalks. Many pedestrians use the road over the bridge instead of the walkway due to the difficult up-and-down on either side of the bridge walkway, notwithstanding the risk with on-coming vehicular traffic. **Completing the connections for this circuit would allow for a dramatically safer pedestrian and local bicycle experience.**
- Safety issue – in order for pedestrians or local bicyclists interested in this circuit to remain on a sidewalk during their walks, they are forced to cross either Granada or Hardee where the existing sidewalk ends (just short of the bridges) to get to the sidewalk on the opposing side, with very little visibility of on-coming traffic over the bridge. Families with children are especially susceptible to these risks. **Completing the connections for this circuit would decrease the safety risks and vehicular traffic interruptions associated with street crossings.**

- This is the missing section connecting the existing sidewalk at the southeast corner of Granada and Hardee to the south side of the Hardee Road bridge. The photos were taken from the southeast corner of Granada and Hardee looking toward the bridge. The path that pedestrians have created over time is visible.



- These are the walkways on the south side of the Hardee Road bridge. The picture on the left is taken from the Riviera Drive side. The picture on the right is taken from the Granada Blvd. side. The steep step-downs are clearly visible, including a yellow/black warning sign. Pedestrian visible in the second photo, moments before she stepped down into the road in the face of on-coming traffic, to avoid the step down where the missing sidewalk connection would be located.



- This is the missing connection between the walkway on the south side of the Hardee Road bridge and the existing sidewalk at the southwest corner of Riviera and Hardee. The first photo is taken from close to the southeast side of the bridge looking toward Riviera Drive, and the second photo is taken from the southwest corner of Riviera Drive and Hardee looking toward the Hardee Road bridge.



- These photos show the view from the existing sidewalk on the east side of Granada Blvd, just south of the Granada bridge, looking toward the bridge.



- This is the walkway on the east side of the Granada bridge, very similar to the one on the south side of the Hardee Road bridge. It is narrow, but adequate for pedestrians.



- These photos show the missing connection between the walkway on the east side of the Granada bridge to the existing sidewalk on the east side of Granada, north of the bridge. Pedestrians are visible walking up the swale from the sidewalk to the bridge walkway.



- This is the missing section in front of 6507 and 6595 Granada

