



City of South Miami

Office of the City Manager

November 21, 2008

Ms. Maria A. Jimenez
Interim City Manager
405 Biltmore Way
First Floor
Coral Gables, Florida 33134

Reference: An initiative to make US-1 Pedestrian Friendly

Dear Ms. Jimenez:

As a follow-up to our meeting regarding the referenced initiative, we have adopted the attached resolution, as promised. I will e-mail the electronic copy of the resolution to you for your use. Again, as discussed during the meeting, in light of recent traffic fatalities involving children and University of Miami students attempting to cross US-1, this proposed resolution urges the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) to authorize its district offices (in our case, District VI) to modify current FDOT design and management standards for cross walks, traffic lane widths and medians where necessary to fit the specific needs of pedestrians, bicyclists, motorists, children, adults and seniors in our communities.

We intend to ask the Village of Pinecrest and the City of Palmetto to adopt the attached resolution and our Miami-Dade County District Commissioner has committed to support the initiative. All adopted resolutions and letters of support will be sent to Representative Julio Robiana, who has committed to make it part of 2009 legislative agenda.

Should you have any questions or comments, please do not hesitate to call me at 305.668.2510.

Sincerely,

W. Ajibola Balogun
City Manager



6130 Sunset Drive South Miami, Florida 33143-5093 • Tel: (305) 663-6338 • Fax: (305) 663-6345
www.cityofsouthmiami.net

RESOLUTION NO.: 191-08-12788

A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF SOUTH MIAMI, FLORIDA SUPPORTING THE DELEGATION OF AUTHORITY TO DISTRICT OFFICES OF THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION TO ADJUST AND IMPLEMENT ALTERNATIVE PROCEDURES AND DESIGN STANDARDS TO MITIGATE TRAFFIC IMPACTS AND PROMOTE SAFE AND CONVENIENT TRAVEL FOR VEHICLES, PEDESTRIANS AND BICYCLISTS; URGING OTHER COUNTIES AND MUNICIPALITIES TO SUPPORT THE LIMITED DELEGATION OF AUTHORITY TO THE DOT DISTRICT OFFICES IN ORDER TO BETTER RESPOND TO LOCAL NEEDS; AUTHORIZING THE CITY CLERK TO FORWARD THIS RESOLUTION TO THE FDOT SECRETARY; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) has jurisdiction over all state roads and maintains traffic control devices and roadway standards associated with the regulation of traffic pursuant to the Florida Uniform Traffic Control Law (Chapter 316, F.S.); and,

WHEREAS, the FDOT Roadway Design Office develops and provides policies, procedures and standards for the design of all roadways; and,

WHEREAS, the standards and criteria for the design, construction, and maintenance of all public streets and highways, including pedestrian cross walks, traffic lane widths medians are uniformly applied throughout the State of Florida; and,

WHEREAS, under Florida law (section 316.0745, F.S.), the FDOT is required to adopt a uniform system of traffic control devices for streets and highways; and,

WHEREAS, County and local governments, along with the FDOT all share the same responsibility to find ways for vehicles, pedestrians, and bicyclists to coexist conveniently and safely; and,

WHEREAS, population densities, accounting for uncontrolled crosswalks (mid-block) locations, unconventional intersections and locations, accommodating large numbers of pedestrians, including pedestrians with disabilities, and integrating adequate traffic control devices to safely and efficiently guide people across wide and busy state roads necessitates that the local offices of the FDOT provide certain flexibility when designing and implementing traffic control devices and roadway standards; and,

WHEREAS, the City of South Miami recognizes the need to develop, implement, and manage a data-driven comprehensive traffic safety program aimed at saving lives, preventing injuries, and reducing related cost associated with traffic crashes; and,

WHEREAS, the City of South Miami would benefit from a design standards aimed at traffic calming and pedestrian safety along the U.S. Highway 1 (hereinafter "US 1") corridor; and,

Additions shown by underlining and deletions shown by ~~overstriking~~.

WHEREAS, the City of South Miami desires to promote safe and convenient travel by the public across U.S. 1; and,

WHEREAS, in light of recent traffic fatalities involving children attempting to cross U.S. 1, the City of South Miami urges the FDOT to authorize its district offices to modify current FDOT design and management standards for cross walks, traffic lane widths and medians where necessary to fit the specific needs of pedestrians, bicyclists, motorists, children, adults and seniors in particular communities; and,

WHEREAS, the aggressive driving conditions which typically occur along the section of U.S. 1 that divides the City of South Miami often conflicts with bicycle and pedestrian activity, thereby leading to unsafe conditions; and,

WHEREAS, children are subject to disproportionately higher levels of pedestrian injuries and fatalities; and,

WHEREAS, the Miami-Dade Metrorail transports large numbers of school children on a daily basis that cross US 1 in order to travel to the downtown area; and,

WHEREAS, the City of South Miami believes that the median widths are insufficient to safely accommodate the numbers of children attempting to cross US 1 during peak hours; and,

WHEREAS, the City of South Miami believes that it is crucial for the FDOT to work closely with the City of South Miami to design, develop and manage options that respond to the city's specific needs and consequently raise the quality and civility of our shared public spaces and further enhance pedestrian safety and make South Miami a more walkable city.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF SOUTH MIAMI, FLORIDA;

Section 1: The Mayor and City Commission support the delegation of authority to DOT district offices in order to encourage and facilitate design and road way management improvements including but not limited to:

- (i) adjusting speed limits through the city;
- (ii) developing practices in pedestrian safety such as wider medians in the areas adjacent to cross walks, flashing lights at crosswalks, road re-channelization;
- (iii) adjusting traffic lane widths to accommodate larger medians.

Section 2: The City will periodically meet with representatives from Miami-Dade County, the cities of Coral Gables and Pinecrest, the University of Miami, Pedestrian users of US 1, FDOT representatives, an organization representing senior citizens, Public Schools representatives, a representative of bicycling advocates of Miami-Dade County, representatives from pedestrian advocacy groups, representatives of safe-driving-oriented organizations, and members of the disabled community to work on pedestrian safety standards and concerns relating to crossing US Highway 1.

Section 3: The City of South Miami urges Miami-Dade County, and other counties, municipalities and the organizations such as the Florida League of Cities to adopt resolutions which support the limited delegation of authority to FDOT district offices to enable them to better respond to local traffic issues.

Section 4: That this resolution shall take effect immediately upon approval.

Section 5: This resolution shall be distributed by the City Clerk to neighboring communities for their support, including but not limited to the Village of Pinecrest, the City of Coral Gables, the Village of Palmetto Bay, to Miami-Dade County, and the Florida League of Cities. The City of South Miami urges other communities to support the recommendation to FDOT to provide the local offices more discretion in dealing with traffic and safety issues, particularly along the US Highway 1 corridor.

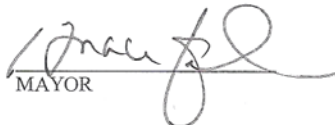
Section 6: The City Clerk is directed to send a copy of this resolution to FDOT.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 18__ day of November, 2008.

ATTEST:

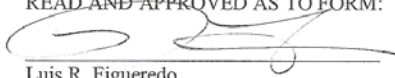
APPROVED:


CITY CLERK


MAYOR

READ AND APPROVED AS TO FORM:

COMMISSION VOTE: 4-0


Luis R. Figueredo,
Office Of City Attorney,
Nagin, Gallop & Figueredo, P.A.

Mayor Feliu:	Yea
Vice Mayor Beasley:	Yea
Commissioner Wiscombe:	
Commissioner Palmer:	Yea
Commissioner Beckman:	Yea