

Marenco, Merlyn

From: Dario Restrepo <darioestrepo@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, May 24, 2021 11:20 AM
To: Kinney, Kevin
Cc: Santamaria, Eduardo; Lago, Vincente
Subject: Metered parking - CGD

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Kevin,

Thank you for speaking with me after the neighborhood group Zoom meeting to give me a chance to talk about the parking meters on the south side of Coral Gables Hospital. The fact that you guys take time to speak and listen to the residents is one of the things that makes Coral Gables so special. Really appreciate that from you and others like our A.C.M., Ed Santamaria who has shown so much patience and understanding to achieve the best possible outcome for the Neighborhood Improvement Project in the Crafts Section.

Just to follow up on your conversation, I appreciate you saying that the metered parking behind the hospital is really low priority in parking value for the City and that you would consider looking at it further. You also mentioned that the parking is not ideal in proximity to the hospital entrance which is unlike the parking needed for the clinics near Ponce where residents would also like to have the parking removed.

I'm hoping with your help and Mr. Ed Santamaria, that the parking on Coconut Grove Drive can be reconsidered and removed. As you mentioned and saw at the Zoom meeting, the City is trying to come as close as possible to the original renderings provided by Dover, Kohl & Partners back in 2018 which was considered the final version.

For your reference, I am sending you the renderings of Coconut Grove Drive which showed the parking was in fact to be removed and replaced with green swale and tree canopy. I'm also sending you the renderings which show that on the North side of the Hospital, on Santander Ave., the renderings specifically called for the parking meter spots TO REMAIN (unlike Coconut Grove Drive) to support the hospital. You wanted to in fact make sure that some parking on Santander Ave was to remain as part of the current plans if in fact the parking were to be removed on Coconut Grove Drive. As per the most recent engineering plans, this is in fact the case. I'm also including that as an attachment for your review.

I hope all things considered, in your capacity as Parking Director along with the Assistant City Manager, you can take a second look at this. The neighborhood didn't originally have those parking spots and I think you both are in a great position to really make this street a beautiful one that leads into the new Agave Plaza with all the new beautiful trees being installed on the street without the ugly parking metered parking which really feels so out of place.

I also hope you take a moment out of your day to pass by and witness all the trash that people leave behind there. It's nothing but small booze & beer bottles along with fast food trash and dirty used masks. It's a shame but that's what the metered parking brings in. It's a detraction more than a benefit for the City.

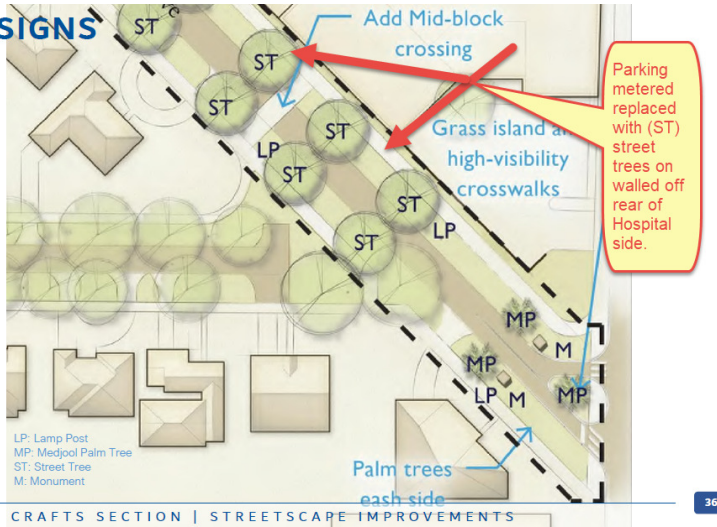
THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME AND SERVICE, to both of you gentlemen. Please feel free to call me directly if you like.

Regards,

Dario Restrepo
3136 Coconut Grove Drive

STREET DESIGNS

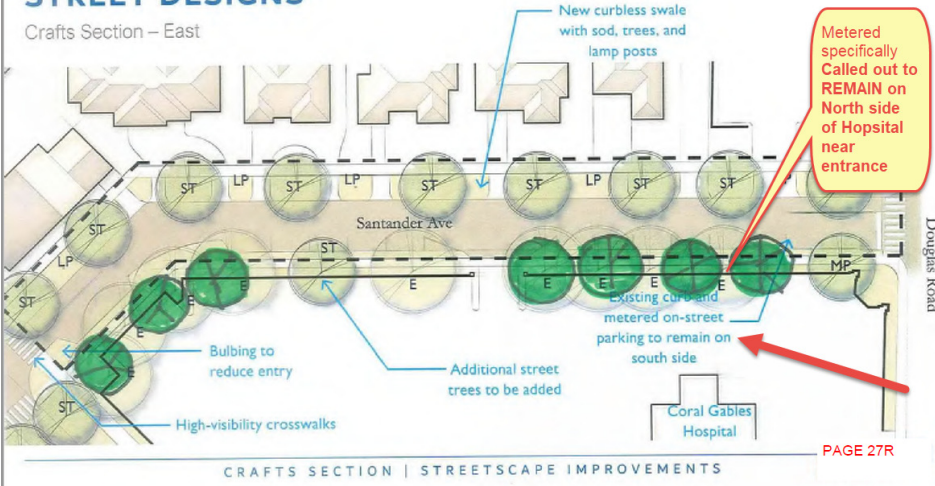
Entrance Monuments



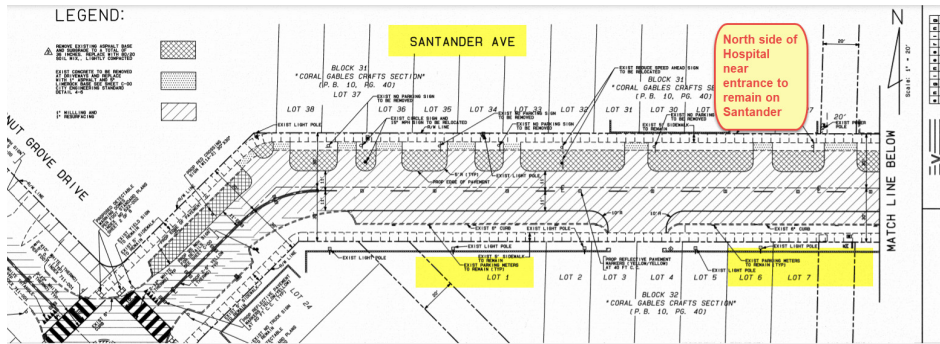
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