

TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY BOARD  
CORAL GABLES YOUTH CENTER – CONFERENCE ROOM  
405 UNIVERSITY DRIVE  
CORAL GABLES, FL 33134  
TUESDAY, JANUARY 26, 2016 @ 5:30 PM

**MEETING MINUTES**

<b>MEMBERS</b>	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	J	<b>APPOINTED BY:</b>
	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	16	
Ignacio G. Borbolla	E	P	E	P	P	+	P	P	E	P	P	E	Jim Cason
Gordon Sokoloff	P	P	P	P	P	+	P	P	P	P	P	P	Patricia Keon
Deborah Swain	P	P	P	P	P	+	P	P	P	P	P	P	Vince Lago
Courtney Thompson	-	-	-	-	-	+	P	P	P	P	P	P	Jeannette Slesnick
Albert Corrada	P	P	P	P	P	+	P	A	P	P	P	P	Frank C. Quesada
Chris Morrison	P	P	P	P	P	+	P	P	P	P	P	E	Commission-as-a-Whole
Al Smith	-	-	-	-	-	-	P	P	P	P	P	P	City Manager

**P - Present**  
**E - Excused Absence**  
**A - Absent**  
**\* - New Member**  
**+ - No Meeting**  
**(#) Resigned**

**STAFF:**

Jessica Keller, Public Works Assistant Director  
Yamilet Senespleda, Public Works City Engineer/Senior Traffic Engineer  
Jeannette Reyes, Public Works Clerical Assistant II  
Ed Hudak, Coral Gables Chief of Police  
Antonio Aleman, Coral Gables Police Sergeant

**CALL TO ORDER:**

Mr. Thompson called the meeting to order at 5:33 pm.

**GUEST:**

Victor Menocal, Ric-Man, Senior Project Manager

**MEETING MINUTES APPROVAL:**

**December 15, 2015 Mrs. Swain made a motion to approve the minutes, Dr. Sokoloff seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.**

**MOTIONS:**

**Mrs. Swain made a motion to excuse Mr. Borbolla and Mr. Morrison. Dr. Sokoloff seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.**

**Mrs. Swain made a motion to recommend that the City pursue the use of the embedded LED lights rather than the use of the flashing on demand indicators. Dr. Sokoloff seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.**

**Mrs. Swain amended her previous motion for LED lights at crosswalks to include appropriate signage and also to recognize that there are certain times when other installations are appropriate, Dr. Sokoloff seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.**

**Mrs. Swain made motion to have staff contact Maria Rosa Higgins-Fallon to develop some sort of educational campaign with the respect to proper use of traffic circles and roundabouts, Dr. Sokoloff seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.**

**SECRETARYS REPORT:**

*Bike to work Day* - Jessica reported that on March 4, 2016 @ 8:00 am is Bike to Work Day in Miami-Dade, there will be two events:

- 1) The County Bike to Work Day, meeting point is at the University Metrorail Station.
- 2) Coral Gables Bike to Work Day, meeting point is at the Coral Gables Museum.

*LED Lights* – a resolution was passed today that the City of Coral Gables is in support of requiring LED lights to define bike lanes within one-mile diameter of urban areas.

*Comprehensive Transportation Plan status* – Kickoff internal meeting will be on February 4, 2016 with the consultant and within a week a timeline will be set for the overall project.

**TRAFFIC PROJECTS UPDATE:**

*Crosswalk on University Dr.* across from the Youth Center – the beacon lights have been broken for some time, the county is responsible for maintaining them. The county communicated to City Staff that they are unable to fix them. The City will, use the County vendor to fix the lights. Jessica would like the board’s feedback on installing LED lights and “State Law Stop for Pedestrians within Crosswalks” and well-lit crosswalks as opposed to rapid flashing beacons.

Mrs. Swain said when the flashing lights were first installed people stopped whether there were pedestrians or not because they didn’t know what to do. Now the lights flash and cars keep going through and the pedestrians are not able to cross. Mrs. Swain said the effectiveness of the

flashing lights are questionable, she said the idea of the LED lights is along the lines like the ones at the airports and personally she likes the idea of the signage.

Chief Hudak said before making a motion, there are two issues to consider:

- 1) The line of site while driving is an issue, if a car is over the lights the cars behind it won't see it.
- 2) If traffic is backed up and a car stops at the crosswalk it may not give the pedestrian the amount of safety needed.

Chief Hudak said he would have to do some research.

Mrs. Swain requested a report on any accidents that have occurred since the beacon lights have not been functioning. Chief Hudak said he does not recall any pedestrian accidents in the last few months but he will research and have the report for the next T.A.B. meeting.

*Red Road Area Traffic Calming update* – Jessica provided the board with the traffic calming plan presented at last week's community meeting to address the volume and speed issues. The study area was on Bird Road to the north, Blue Road to the south, 57<sup>th</sup> Avenue and San Amaro. Ballots will be sent out to get the votes for support or not in support of, for the triangles on Algardi Ave., Cantoria Ave., Garcia Ave. and Mercado. Staff is also looking for approval from the residents on speed humps at the 1400 and 1500 block of Alegriano as well as a traffic circle at Dorado and Alhambra. The ballots will go out by the end of the week and the residents have 30 days to send back the ballots.

*Citywide speed limit reduction* – staff met with the county, they are asking for a limited amount of data collection. Staff is hoping to have the report to the county within a month in a half.

*Gables by the Sea on going 20 mph speed limit reduction request* – waiting on a letter from the county allowing the City to lower the speed limit behind the gates.

*LeJeune Road crossing to Ingraham Park* – staff had a meeting with the county to do the walk through for the permitting requirements. The county is asking for additional items and changes to the plans. A meeting is set for next week to provide the county with all the requirements they are asking for to move this project along.

*Brighton Place crossing* – a resident has been asking for a crosswalk to get to the park, staff provided her with the Ingraham Hwy study that was initiated by the Transportation Advisory Board last year to have them incorporate the recommendations into the solution.

*Aragon & Giralda* – a consultant has been selected to design the design phase for the traffic calming project.

*Orduna* – a resident has been sending e-mails regarding the speeding on Orduna. Staff currently has temporary speed cushions on Biltmore Drive. A community meeting will be scheduled to see if the residents are open to temporary speed cushions on Orduna.

Jessica said they submitted a proposal to the municipal grant program through the MPO to study the feasibility of converting Obispo and Madeira Ave. to a bicycle boulevard. The request was for \$36,000 from the MPO, \$9,000 from the City to move forward with the study. The Obispo and Madeira corridor was identified in the Bicycle Master Plan as a bicycle boulevard. It is important to understand how motorized vehicles will redistribute over the network if bikes are prioritized on the corridor.

***Bicycle Boulevard:*** *prioritizes people who ride bikes and walk over automobiles. The idea is to install speed cushions across the entire corridor, it allows for emergency vehicles to pass through the corridor but it requires for automobiles to slow, similar to what's on Biltmore Dr. and bicycles can pass through. Also part of the concept is to remove stop signs for the east west flowing traffic and have stop signs installed on the north and south. All sidewalk connections would be made in the corridor.*

*Pedestrian Awareness Campaign* – there are 522 crosswalks in the City of Coral Gables and Staff will propose to re-striping all or a significant portion of the crosswalks with high visibility type crosswalks and install “State Law Stop for Pedestrian within Crosswalks” signs. The cost to do all of the crosswalks is \$450,000.

*Ric-Man Presentation on the Miracle Mile Streetscape project*

Mrs. Swain said that the issue that came up in front of the commission was with respect to the maintenance of traffic. She also said one of the proposals she will be making to the board shortly is to incorporate into the city's requirements that MOT's also include and address measures that are going to be taken to ensure safe passage for pedestrian and bicycle riders when it's appropriate.

Victor presented to the board the traffic side of the project first and then the pedestrian part of the project:

*Traffic* – Victor went over the sequencing of traffic, he said they visited all the business owners and they were all in agreement with it. The drainage and roadway construction will be the first task they will start and it will be done at night so that by morning the traffic is flowing. The outer lanes and parking areas will be shut down when the actual demolition begins and only one through lane.

*Pedestrian Traffic* – pedestrian will have midblock access to get to all the businesses. There will be plenty of signs and message boards advising the public of the project and hours of operation.

Victor said there will be plenty of push media, traffic alerts, e-mails as well as Facebook to keep the public informed.

**POLICE UPDATE:**

Mr. Thompson asked Chief Hudak when is the best time for him to take the board to the Miami-Dade Traffic Control Center discussed at the last meeting. The board agreed to meet on Saturday, April 16, 2016 10:00 am. Chief Hudak will discuss with the county and advise the board members.

Chief Hudak said nothing has changed from the last meeting; therefore he has nothing to report at this time.

Sgt. Aleman said a resident has been e-mailing him about traffic on Hardee Road. Aleman told the resident about the T.A.B. and told them to come in front of the board and present his issue.

Mr. Thompson suggested putting on the City website informative reading on how to approach and use a traffic circle & roundabout as well as crosswalks.

Dr. Smith suggested taking a whole page on the Cities E-news and label, it traffic tip of the day.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

*Local Action Team for Safer Streets Safer People* – Mrs. Swain is a member for the county. There are 8 pages in a matrix of recommendations; Mrs. Swain extracted 4 items that she thinks the board can recommend that the City considers for adoption.

- 1) Potential incorporation of pedestrian and bicycle safety infrastructure.
- 2) Prioritize pedestrian and bicycles by creating temporary walkways in place of on street parking or whatever can be done to protect pedestrians.
- 3) Whenever projects that are going on, that affect the street either by re-surfacing or re-doing a street or intersection, the scope should also include looking at the elements that can be incorporated with respect to complete streets.
- 4) Make sure that every single street project is reviewed for bicycle and pedestrian enhancements.

Jessica added that the recommendations in the matrix are not only pedestrian and people who ride but also transit improvements.

Mrs. Swain updated the board on the draft she is working on for the proposed Traffic Impact Study procedure for the City, recommending that the City be in control of the traffic impact statement rather than the developers and that the City oversees the process. The first draft was sent to Yamilet for review; Mrs. Swain will have final draft at the February TAB meeting.

Dr. Sokoloff chairs the Ponce De Leon Homeowners group he said the Agave project is a done deal but the Paseo de la Riviera is still on going. There are always proposals on Ponce de Leon to try and change zoning from Camilo to Bird and that's what their homeowners group is

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constantly trying to fight. They will be hosting a block party on Alesio Avenue Saturday from 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. everyone is invited.

Mr. Thompson said he received a call from the City Manager 10 days ago following up on the boards discretion on being ignored by the commission. The City Manager recommended that on all the minutes, resolutions and motions are at the very top of the minutes, which has been done but also that the secretary actually call the commission's attention to those resolutions and motions. She also said to connect with Maria Menendez and work in concert with the Planning and Zoning Board because they are a Judiciary Board as we are an Advisory Board and that our input to them would be very helpful. Mr. Thompson said the board should think about how they want to do that, he also said he thinks there should be a liaison from our board to attend their meetings as well as someone from their board attend our meetings. Mrs. Swain said the board should also recommend that the commission add the board to the agenda for discussion on items that are important to them; in which Mr. Thompson said the CM also mentioned that to him.

ADJOURNED 6: 40 pm