

City of Coral Gables City Commission Meeting
Agenda Item J-5
February 27, 2018
City Commission Chambers
405 Biltmore Way, Coral Gables, FL

City Commission

Mayor Raul Valdes-Fauli
Vice Mayor Pat Keon
Commissioner Vince Lago
Commissioner Frank Quesada
Commissioner Michael Mena

City Staff

City Manager, Cathy Swanson-Rivenbark
City Attorney, Miriam Ramos
City Clerk, Walter J. Foeman
Deputy City Clerk, Billy Urquia
Assistant Public Works Director, Jessica Keller

Public Speaker(s)

Agenda Item J-5 [2:50:27 p.m.]

A Resolution authorizing the adoption of the City of Coral Gables Sustainable Complete Streets Policy.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Resolution authorizing the adoption of the City of Coral Gables Sustainable Complete Streets Policy.

City Manager Swanson-Rivenbark: So, we are prepared to give you a thorough presentation. This is a follow-up to a presentation that we had made previously where the idea of complete streets is accommodating all different types of modes of transportation – the pedestrian, the cyclist, transit, street, wherever possible within the right-of-way, but I promised one of your residents that was concerned that this might be a sneaky attempt to force certain pieces, whether it's sidewalks in for neighborhoods that don't want sidewalks or bike lanes. This is not the intent. If we come forward and we'll have a discussion later regarding the Commission's appetite for

sidewalks citywide, we will have that conversation. That is not by approving this that you are obligating yourself or neighborhoods to any particular action.

Ms. Keller: Good afternoon, Jessica Keller, Assistant Public Works Director. And, that was an excellent opening by the City Manager and probably the most important thing that we need to discuss today regarding this policy. We met on this a few weeks ago and we discussed it during our transportation workshop, and so, one of the things I want to go over is that this policy is well aligned with the City's Strategic Plan for 2017 to 2019. Number one, to improve mobility throughout the City; 2) to enhance the pedestrian experience, safety, and connectivity in the City through improved lighting, crosswalks, sidewalks, and wayfinding; 3) implement best practices for urban and landscape design in public places and sustainable historic aesthetics by 2019; 4) increase alternative mobility options to the community by 2019; and 5) attain world class performance levels in public safety by 2019. This policy can achieve all those objectives. It's also important to know that over 1,000 jurisdictions in the country have already adopted policies similar to this, and 76 of them are in the State of Florida. As the Manager mentioned, this is context sensitive design. Often we've had the Mayor has brought up his concern related to the complete street demonstration that's in the City of Miami on First Street, that's not what we intend to ever implement in the City of Coral Gables. Every street is looked at individually and solutions are proposed individually to each street with the input of the community. The reality of it is, is that we are doing all of these things now. We are already looking at each street and assessing whether or how the various modes can fit into that street. We are already taking, considering the historic preservation concerns. We are already taking a look at how best to implement storm water management, the best storm water management practices. So, we are doing all of these things and all we are doing now is adopting an official policy. Is there anything else that you would like to go over in detail that isn't identified on the cover?

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Thank you.

Ms. Keller: OK.

Vice Mayor Keon: I'll move it.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Second?

Commissioner Mena: Second.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Call the roll please.

Vice Mayor Keon: Yes

Commissioner Mena: Yes
Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Yes
(Vote: 3-0)

[End: 2:54:07 p.m.]