

CITY OF CORAL GABLES
WATERWAY ADVISORY BOARD
HYBRID MEETING AT BUILDING DEPARTMENT/ZOOM
WEDNESDAY, August 6, 2025 - 5:30 P.M.

MEMBERS	District	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	APPOINTED BY:
		25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	
Debbie Swain	2						P	-	P					Vince Lago
Pat Nolan	1	P	P	P	P	P	P	-	P					Melissa Castro
Nicole Pack	3						E	-	A					Rhonda Anderson
Rodney Barreto	1						P	-	P					Richard D Lara
Manny Portuondo	7						E	-	P					Ariel Fernandez
Bertram Goldsmith	7	E	P	P	P	P	E	-	E					Commission-As-A-Whole
Levi Meyer	6	P	P	P	P	P	E	-	P					Board-As-A-Whole
Adriana Fernandez	CR								P					Peter J Iglesias
Vacant														Commission-As-A-Whole

P – Present

E – Excused Absence

A – Absent

R – Resigned

(-) – No Appointment

(-) – No Meeting

STAFF:

- Lorena Garrido, Central Division Administrative Manager
- Anthonique Jay, CIP Projects Analyst
- Andrew Chung, Code Enforcement Manager

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Lorena Garrido. Quorum was met.

PERSONAL APPEARANCES:

Peter J. Iglesias, P.E., City Manager

MEETING MINUTES APPROVAL:

Mr. Barreto made the motion to approve the minutes of May 2, 2025, seconded by Mr. Nolan, all were in favor, and adopted unanimously.

Personal Appearances:

- Peter J. Iglesias, P.E., City Manager (Underline Pedestrian Bridge discussion)

The City Manager reported he met with Miami-Dade County regarding the Underline pedestrian bridge. He explained that modifications to the current bridge design were not possible, as fabrication had already commenced. He added that a peer review was conducted by CHA Consulting, Inc. confirming that the bridge design clearance complies with all applicable standards. The review further determined that the Underline bridge clearance is approximately 3.59 feet higher than the adjacent FDOT US1 bridge and approximately 2.88 feet higher than the City's Ponce de Leon bridge.

Mr. Portuondo suggested that the City obtain written documentation to ensure if and when the US1 or the Ponce de Leon Bridge is raised in the future, the pedestrian bridge would also be raised to prevent any misunderstandings. Mr. Portuondo also requested the City Manager to provide the Board with updates on this documentation (agreement), to ensure the pedestrian bridge will also be raised in such circumstances. The City Manager stated that he will arrange a meeting with the County to discuss.

Mrs. Swain requested clarification on the changes between the original agreement and the current design. The City Manager explained that, at the time of contract issuance, no design directive had been provided, and the consultants proceeded with their own design approach.

Discussion:

Mr. Meyer requested an update on the status of changing the system at the Riviera outfall, currently in place to capture debris. The City Manager responded that the system in question is part of FDOT's drainage network, which serves the Le Jeune corridor from NW 7th Street through Coral Gables Senior High School. He noted that once work begins on the City's water quality structure, staff will reach out to FDOT to assist with improvements to their system.

Mr. Meyer discussed items from the "priority list" of topics gathered by previous Board members. This included mangrove trimming, improvements to water quality, speeding concerns, signage and other items. Ms. Garrido stated this list is a working and shared with new Board members for their information and input. Mr. Diaz reported that those mangrove areas that need pruning, under the City's responsibility, are currently with DERM for permitting. Mr. Meyer also mentioned there are various areas within Cocoplum under an inactive corporation that are in need of mangrove pruning. These have been previously shared with Code and staff to investigate. Mr. Iglesias stated this will be followed-up on.

The following will be included on the next agenda.

- Appointment of Chair and Vice Chair.

MARINE PATROL REPORT:

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned at 6:56 p.m.

NEXT MEETING:

Wednesday, September 3, 2025, at 5:30 p.m.