

**CITY OF CORAL GABLES
TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY BOARD
MEETING AT CITY HALL/ZOOM
MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON MARCH 30TH, 2023.**

MEMBERS	M	J	J	A	S ^v	O ^H	N ^H	D ^H	J ^H	F ^H	M ^H	A	APPOINTED BY:
	23	22	22	22	22	22	22	22	23	23	23	23	
Silvia Pinera-Vazquez	A	P	P	+ -	p	+ -	E	P	p	P	P	+ -	<i>Fors</i>
Oscar Sosa	A	P	P	+ -	p	+ -	E	P	P	P	P	+ -	<i>Mayor Lago</i>
Debbie Swain	P	E	P	+ -	P	+ -	P	P	P	P	P	+ -	<i>VM Mena</i>
Sue Kawalerski	P	P	P	+ -	P	+ -	P	P	P	P	P	+ -	<i>Anderson</i>
David Fournier	P	p	P	+ -	p	+ -	p	P	P	P	P	+ -	<i>Menendez</i>
Roberta Neway	P	P	P	+ -	p	+ -	P	P	P	P	P	+ -	<i>Commission</i>
Peter Wood	A	p	E	+ -	P	+ -	P	E	E	A	A	+ -	<i>City Manager</i>

P: Present in person
E- Excused Absence
*-New Member

P: Present virtually (zoom)
A- Absent
(+ -) No Meeting

^v Virtual Meeting
^H Hybrid

Staff:

Melissa de Zayas, Sr. Transportation Engineer
Mairelys Gensler, Transportation Engineer
Cherie Menendez, Transportation Engineer
Jessie Acebo, Assistant to the Public Works Director

Guest:

Via ZOOM Attendees:

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order by Sue Kawalerski at 5:35 PM. Sue Kawalerski, Roberta Neway, David Fournier, Debbie Swain, Oscar Sosa, Silvia Pinera-Vazquez were present. Peter Wood was absent, Quorum was met. Sue requested clarification on the attendance policy for Board members. Staff will follow up with the City Clerk’s office.

Meeting Minutes Approval:

David asked about the Crystal Project and having the developer present. Debbie advised that the meeting minutes are still being discussed. Sue asked for clarification on the portion of the minutes that states “Staff advised that they are strictly a Transportation Department”. The Chair wanted to know who “they” in the statement was, Debbie clarified that “they” was staff. Sue asked to change “department” to “staff”. Sue requested for the statement that reads “Sue stated that they are not in the business of reading plans” be strike through. David motioned to approve the minutes, seconded by Oscar, All were in favor.

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Chairmans report was discussed. David asked about the Crystal Project. David would like the developer to present, he would like to know how the traffic will be handled. Staff advised that the developer will not be attending the Board. A Traffic Impact Study has already been performed; a process is in place. The Board asked what the statement means. The Board asked if there was a rejection, staff advised no. the Board stated that this request was made in January, and they were not informed of the project's finalization in regard to Traffic. Staff advised that indeed the information was provided and reflected in the minutes. David expressed his confusion as to the purpose of the Board, asking why is there a Transportation Advisory Board. Staff advised that the Board is welcome to bring forward a resolution on how they wish to have a process to have the developer present to the Board.

Silvia asked if the City Manager told staff that they could not ask the developer to present or if this is something that staff decided on their own. Staff advised that the process has been discussed, a resolution must be put forth and presented to the City Commission. Silvia stated that the process has not been described. Silvia clarified her question, asking if this is something that staff isn't going to ask for developers to go in front of the Board. Debbie interjected stating it is not fair to ask staff if their boss told them they can't do something. Silvia asked not to be interrupted and asked the staff for a response. Staff advised that a response had been provided.

Sue asked who created the process or is the process being made up. Staff advised that the process for any Board is, if the Board wants to move something forward the Board puts together a resolution to go to the City Commission. Sue stated they don't want a resolution, the Board wants the developer to make an appearance, does the Board need a resolution to do that? Staff responded, yes. Sue asked if it's in writing that developers get special privileges. Staff advised that City staff can attend Board meetings. Sue asked if a resolution was needed to have a member of the Miami-Dade County Transportation Department present. Staff advised no. Roberta stated it's a different situation. Sue would like to know who created the process, and where it is in writing. Stating that if this is the case and developers get special privileges then there will be a different kind of resolution and not as simple as the one being discussed. Sue reiterated that she would like it in writing by next week what the process is, who wrote it, and when it was enacted. Staff stated that there is no process, if TAB would like to have the developer make an appearance, TAB needs to put a resolution forward and create the process. Sue once again asked why a resolution wasn't needed when Carlos Cruz Casas from Miami-Dade Transportation Department presented Vision Zero to the Board. Roberta stated that the nature of his appearance was different because he was presenting information and what the Board was asking was about specific projects.

Debbie asked the Board if anyone has an objection to having a resolution that establishes a procedure where a developer is requested to come to the Board. Silvia objected, stating that she didn't want to create an impediment. Silvia Motioned staff to consult with City Attorney's office as to whether a resolution has to be passed in order to have staff request third-party individuals to make a presentation before the TAB. If a resolution is required, where is it stated in the code. Oscar seconded, all in favor. Sue stated that David is expressing his frustration about the resolution to be part of the Development review

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process. Also stating that staff is asking TAB to go through 200 pages of documents to try to find out what a project is and what it will look like. Debbie clarified that staff does send email when there are projects that TAB may want to look at, and she is unsure what else staff is supposed to do. DRC is a fixed item on the agenda.

Sue would like the Board to decide what its priorities are. Debbie expressed her frustration with the amount of time the TAB takes up talking about a resolution and the processes and TAB frustrations that nothing is getting through, and no one is getting informed on what's going on, as far as the DRC it is a fixed item on the agenda, staff should get the opportunity to report on it. David inquired why staff did not inform the Board that the traffic aspect of the Crystal Project was finalized. Staff advised that the discussion was included in the minutes, however it was not reflected under the item of discussion as it did not follow the agenda. Staff explained the importance of following the agenda and responding to communications, allowing staff time to research and provide the Board with the requested information. The Board responded that they would like a straight answer from staff as to why the developer cannot attend the Board meeting. Sue called the meeting to order. Roberta agreed that the agenda should be followed through. Sue called the meeting to order. Sue asked who works for whom. Roberta clarified that staff works for the City, not for the Board.

Sue asked where the motion is to include micro-mobility and traffic study. Staff asked if the Board had reviewed the minutes. Silvia felt that the response was unacceptable. Silvia would like the agenda to reflect what was discussed at the previous meeting. Staff asked for clarification, Would TAB like all discussion items be placed in the section labeled Old Business. The Board clarified those items requiring a follow-up. Sue stated that she expect staff to take the initiative and add items to the agenda, stating she expect staff to not just sit there. Sue asked for an update on the Mobility Hub. Sue asked the staff what the update for the mobility-hub is. Staff advised that the project is not assigned to them, they will follow up and provide an update at the next TAB.

Oscar asked how many parking spaces are being added as part of the lane repurposing on the Codina Project. Roberta stated that the repurposing of a travel lane does not always have a negative impact. Sue asked who the travel consultant on the Codina Project was. Staff advised that it was Calvin Giordano. The Board asked for the traffic impact study of the Codina Project. Sue requested to have the traffic consultant come before the Board and explain their reasoning for the Codina Project. Staff advised that there is no mechanism in place to get the consultant there. Debbie stated that this topic was discussed previously, the issue with the consultant is that they are paid fees that include a number of meetings. The chair of the TAB stated that if the traffic consultant wants to continue being on the list of City consultants, the consultant needs to come to the Board and address the Codina Project. Sue asked for a motion to request that a traffic consultant's job is not completed till they appear before the Board. Debbie stated she needs to understand the ramifications of such motion.

Oscar wanted to know who pays for the studies. Staff responded that the developer pays for the studies. Debbie asked how that motion expands the motion presented in January that wasn't completed. Debbie

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asked what the steps are once a motion is read on the Board. staff advised that if it's directing staff to do something specific, a resolution would be made and taken before Commission. *Debbie motioned to direct staff to write a resolution to request to have the scope of services for the Consultants amended to include a study of the impact on micro-mobility, and to include a presentation to the Board to the extent possible to take place before the conclusion of the traffic impact study. Roberta seconded. Motion was amended by Debbie to amend the methodology application to read "must" instead of "may, where it states transit bicycles and micro mobility improvements such as new or increased public transportation and the transportation demands management strategies such as the creation of park and ride facilities, carpool, and traffic calming if such strategies are necessary. The amendment was seconded by Oscar, all in favor.* Sue asked if the City has a Freebee contract. Staff advised that the City is working on a study in regard to Freebee, once the study is completed it can be shared with the Board. The Board requested a presentation regarding Freebee.

Police Update

No police update.

MEMEBERS' ITEMS

- Parking on ponce
 - David thanked staff for the action taken.
- Speed reduction on Ponce Circle park
 - David expresses his concern with a safety issue on Ponce Circle Park. David states that people drive carelessly. He would like to know what the City is doing to address the speed of cars. Staff advised that the city is working on design plans. The City is looking at placing a raised intersection at the park, which will slow down traffic, and narrowing of the traffic lanes, additional crosswalks will be added. The City is currently working with Miami-Dade county. Signs for the Youth Zones will be erected. David stated that a way to reduce speed is to place radar signs. Staff advised that the city is looking into Electronic Speed Feedback Signs.
- Update on the light of LeJeune and University
 - David asked that staff contact Miami-Dade County a second time regarding the timing on the intersection. David would like a Commissioner to reach out and provide support to his request. Sue recommended that David reach out to the Commissioner who appointed him.
- Intersection Initiative

Roberta informed the Board that there are monies available to supports active lifestyles. Roberta agreed to send the link to staff to distribute to the Board. [https://urldefense.com/v3/_https://intersections-initiative.org/abouttheinitiative/;!!lhOVvL9eZPMo!FfcgwIZc8EZwzi1z Pcl0V0KKO42q94ckq11xe_v9haTWJOiFu-9l1Vk3rQhNdk84T5E1Ox-STR7pUQQALY\\$](https://urldefense.com/v3/_https://intersections-initiative.org/abouttheinitiative/;!!lhOVvL9eZPMo!FfcgwIZc8EZwzi1z Pcl0V0KKO42q94ckq11xe_v9haTWJOiFu-9l1Vk3rQhNdk84T5E1Ox-STR7pUQQALY$).

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Sue asked about the public meeting for Biltmore Way and what kind of weight the responses carry. Staff advised that the response was overwhelming for option 1. Sue stated that a small group is working together seem to be the loudest voice, also stating that the other people just got shouted out. Staff advised other methods were used aside from the public meeting. The City had a website where people could vote.

Debbie motion to show support to Commissioner Anderson 's resolution to identify funding sources for the Biltmore way area project, which would take the funds from a designated source and therefore not require the residents to pay for improvements. Seconded by Roberta, all in favor.

DRC Updates

A link to DRC will be sent via email along with the request for quorum.

Old Business

None.

Meeting Adjourned: 7:03 pm.