

City of Coral Gables City Commission Meeting
Agenda Item J-5
April 10, 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
Assistant City Manager, Peter Iglesias
City Attorney, Miriam Ramos
City Clerk, Walter J. Foeman
Deputy City Clerk, Billy Urquia
Assistant Public Works Director, Jessica Keller

Public Speaker(s)

Julian Guevara
Deborah Swain
Susan Kawalerski

Agenda Item J-5 [0:00:00 p.m.]
Update on bike sharing program.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Then we had a time certain at 9:30 -- 9:45, which is now 9:45. Can you imagine? We are on time. Update on bike sharing program.

City Manager Swanson-Rivenbark: And so, we set it for 9:45 so that the County could join us also in the presentation. Jessica Keller, Assistant Director of Public Works, will provide an introductory statement, and then we'll also hear from the County.

Assistant Public Works Director Keller: Good morning, Commission. Jessica Keller, Assistant Public Works Director. With me, I have Julian Guevara, from the County. He's a municipal manager. I want to give you a little bit up -- a little update on where we are with the dockless bikeshare. In August, you passed a resolution directing staff to advertise requests for letters of interest regarding the launch of a 12-month pilot for stationless bikeshare services in Coral Gables. In October, we issued the request for letters of interest. And in December, we selected a vendor for award. In the meantime, the County's been working on their own procurement process, their own solicitation process. And they have -- you've awarded, correct?

Julian Guevara: Correct.

Assistant Public Works Director Keller: To a vendor who has a bit of a hybrid approach to bikeshare, dock and dockless. They'll talk about it a little bit more. But it's also electric assist. This technology evolves very quick -- just technology evolves very quickly, so we have come a long way since the beginning when it was just docked. Then we went to dockless, and now we have what Mr. Guevara is going to describe to you today.

Mr. Guevara: Good morning, Mayor, members of the Commission and attendees. Thanks, Manager and Public Works Director and Assistant Director, for inviting me. I came here to talk a little bit about our -- the County's bike sharing efforts. However, I want to mention a couple of things for context. The Miami-Dade County Department of Transportation and Public Works -- and I'm going to read a little bit so I don't go on a tangent. The Miami-Dade County Department of Transportation and Public Works is working diligently in improving countywide mobility from long-term to interim and intermediate solutions, from the SMART plan to complete streets. And every one of those efforts is relevant when it comes to mobility because

while some of the improvements are for the long-distance haul, like the SMART plan, the other improvements address the first and last mile connectivity, such as complete streets. So, we cannot say, as a county and city, that we are efficiently managing public transportation if we're not addressing the mobility needs within the first and last mile, right? So, I can give you the latest techy hardware that you can think of along the SMART plan corridors or on the existing tracks, but it will be no good whatsoever if we're not encouraged to travel from our home or our workplace to those corridors. Creating a network of complete streets will allow us to encourage the most suitable, affordable and healthier modes of transportation within the first and last miles, and those modes are walking and biking. So, I want to make a point here to all that all the state, the county and the municipal agencies have the responsibility to making the roads safe and sound for pedestrians and bicyclists. And I want to encourage the City to work with us, the County, in building the safe infrastructure required for pedestrians and bicycle mobility. It is fundamental, and we also need to promote the connectivity to our transit infrastructure -- to the existing transit infrastructure. So, with that said, bikes are coming. No one can stop them. Recently, over 20,000 bicycles took over the City of Dallas, and they are now struggling to regulate and mitigate their impacts. I just attended an NACTO conference last week in Austin regarding dockless bicycles, and I had the opportunity to talk to many city officials from Dallas, Chicago, New York, San Francisco, and I heard firsthand of all the issues that they're having with the different programs. So, I just want to let you know what we need to be prepared. So, let's not let this take us by surprise. Let's try to address the infrastructure issues. I just wanted to mention that. Now, back to the reason why I'm here. We recently awarded a contract, like Jessica mentioned, to Ride On, a European company, for the deployment and operation of a countywide bicycle sharing program using electric bikes. And when I say electric bikes, I want to mention that they are really pedal assisted, so you still have to pedal and brake normally, like you do on a bike. But the physical effort is minimal. And what that means is that that increases the age range of the users, as well as the distance that you're willing to go on the bike. Now, this contract that we have with Ride On entails the installation of 120 to 200 bike stations, each station with 8 to 24 bicycles. And this is going to take place at every Transportation and Public Works owned facility, okay. That means Metrorail, Metromover and all the Park & Rides that

we have. But in order for that program to really have an impact on first and last mile mobility, we need to have a robust network of stations installed in the heart of the neighborhoods. Since we cannot install within the right-of-way, according, at least, to our attorneys so far, we must identify other public institutional and private properties where to install. So, the current agreement that we have allows for other County departments, as well as governmental agencies to access the contract, identify locations and even obtain revenue. So, we are currently -- we're negotiating right now with the other County departments, with ISD, with Parks, as well as with Libraries so that we can get those sites to install the docking facilities. And that's going to take place, hopefully, during the fall of this year. So, we have corroborated also that an integrated payment system can be achieved, so you will be able to pay your bike ride with the Easy Card. So, this is going to really help us in making the bike share feel like an extension of the transit service that we currently provide to the end user.

Vice Mayor Quesada: You're saying with an Easy Card?

Mr. Guevara: Easy Card is our transit card.

Commissioner Lago: Yeah, Metro.

Vice Mayor Quesada: Oh, okay. Got it.

Commissioner Keon: The Metro card.

Mr. Guevara: The CEO of Ride On is actually here, Miguel Vital, in case you have any specific questions to the actual equipment itself. So, my goal is for the City of Coral Gables to participate in the opportunity to create a solid countywide bike sharing program, and we have a way through that contract and we're here to assist. Thank you.

Commissioner Keon: Thank you. Does the -- could I have one question with...

Mr. Guevara: Of course.

Commissioner Keon: With regard to the Easy Card? Does -- now the service is free to residents 65 and over? How -- what is -- the Metrorail and the buses and the whole system.

City Manager Swanson-Rivenbark: The Golden Pass...

Commissioner Keon: The Golden Pass.

City Manager Swanson-Rivenbark: Port. Does that...

Commissioner Keon: Does that also apply...

City Manager Swanson-Rivenbark: Allow the...

Commissioner Keon: Will that apply to bicycles as well?

Mr. Guevara: You know, I'm not sure. I'm pretty sure the vendor is willing to work with us on that area.

Commissioner Keon: Alright. Because that -- I'm sorry, what do we call it?

City Manager Swanson-Rivenbark: It's a Golden Pass.

Commissioner Keon: The Golden Pass.

Mr. Guevara: Correct.

Commissioner Keon: The Golden Pass.

Mr. Guevara: Yeah. We have Golden...

Commissioner Keon: It's (INAUDIBLE)

Mr. Guevara: Passport. We have student...

Commissioner Lago: But that's -- you're not eligible for one of those.

Commissioner Keon: It's -- I mean, it's for everyone -- I mean, it's for all transit.

Mr. Guevara: Correct. That's correct.

Commissioner Keon: Right? So, I wondered if it would be applicable. You would ask that -- or see that...

Mr. Guevara: I don't know if that would work for their business model, but I'm pretty sure they're willing to work with us to make it as convenient as possible. But at least there is a way...

Commissioner Keon: So people don't have to carry more than one pass...

Mr. Guevara: Right, exactly.

Commissioner Keon: Port, you know.

Mr. Guevara: Exactly.

Commissioner Keon: Thank you. I'm sorry.

Commissioner Lago: No, not at all, please. So, just a few questions because I want to see how we can get bike sharing started in the City. I think we've been talking about this -- I think Vice Mayor Quesada brought this up probably four years ago. I think Commissioner Cabrera brought it back, I don't even know how long ago -- probably eight years ago or six years ago. I don't know how long it's been in discussion. We currently had under procurement a firm that was chosen to do a pilot program with the City. Now, we're, today -- by the way, this is the first time I hear about this. It sounds interesting. I think it's a great opportunity. I'm more than willing to listen, but I want -- I have some questions for you.

Mr. Guevara: Sure.

Commissioner Lago: First off, who's going to pay for this?

Mr. Guevara: The vendor.

Commissioner Lago: They're going to install everything? There's no cost to the County?

Mr. Guevara: The County is not paying a dime and we're actually getting some revenue.

Commissioner Lago: Okay. Are you going to share that revenue with us?

Mr. Guevara: Absolutely. I mean, if you piggyback off our contract, all the terms apply to you.

Commissioner Lago: How many people have signed this contract? How many other cities out of the 34 municipalities have piggybacked?

Mr. Guevara: We just started...

Commissioner Lago: Okay.

Mr. Guevara: So, we're right now internally talking to our other County departments so they can sign on. That's the first step.

Commissioner Lago: When do you expect delivery?

Mr. Guevara: However, we have most of the cities interested already, and we're in talks with them.

Commissioner Lago: Well, I mean, there's a difference between interest and actual...

Mr. Guevara: Absolutely.

Commissioner Lago: You have a lot of attorneys up here. They'll tell you, you know, you can be in procurement phase for years. I mean, imagine, we haven't been able to even get bike sharing and it's nothing on you, but we have -- as a City, haven't been able to deliver on bike sharing for years, six years. I don't even know how long -- it's before I was even here. So, I think it's great that you've come along. I think it's great that the County comes along, but the County has a really poor track record of actually delivering, and I sat on the TPO Board for the last three years. Not only on transportation, but on a litany of issues. So, my question to you is...

Mr. Guevara: You were saying something about...

Commissioner Lago: Why should I -- why should we, as a city, get involved in this? Why should we now abandon the procurement process where we were about to start? And I have no

dog in this fight. We got with you, we go with Lime Bike, we go with -- what's the company that we were going to go with?

Assistant Public Works Director Keller: I'm under the Cone of Silence on...

Commissioner Lago: Whatever. Point being is we go with whoever is available. There's a litany of different, you know, options out there. I just don't want to be bogged down -- I don't want to be bogged down discussing with the County now for two or three years and not even deliver anything.

Mr. Guevara: I understand.

Commissioner Lago: Okay. Because we were talking about docking. Docking fell out of favor. Now, we're going dockless. Now, we're going the hybrid. I got to deliver.

Mr. Guevara: I understand.

Commissioner Lago: And I know you want support because what you want to do is what I always thought was the most important thing, build consensus because you have a bunch of different bike companies that are going around and they're offering these services. And again, you can't go from one city to the next. The bikes get left in other cities. You'd, obviously, like for as many bikes -- as many cities to come together so that you can cross, you know, jurisdictions and have the use, and that makes sense. I've been talking about that for a while. I think everybody in this Commission's been talking about that for a while. But why should I have faith and trust in the County that the County's going to deliver on this, stop everything we're doing, and then have faith that you guys are going to work every angle you have with 34 municipalities and they're going to deliver? It has nothing to do with the product. I mean, I imagine these guys are great. They can -- they probably have an exceptional track record, but I need to deliver. So, I need to understand why we're doing this.

Mr. Guevara: I understand. I just think that it would be very important, you know, to get your buy-in on this because what we're doing is a countywide program, of course. And like you mentioned, you know, people don't care about boundaries. So, you know, somebody's going to go get a bike in South Miami and drop it off here, and they're not going to care if it's ofo, Lime Bike or whatever bike it is, and you're going to have that issue. You know, I can't talk for the County on other projects. You know, I think we're moving along very well right now. We're under the permitting phase of our project for the DTPW owned facilities, so, you know...

Commissioner Lago: You're moving -- so, then give me a schedule. Like what's your delivery? What's your delivery? Talking -- now you're right now and, you know, you have the procurement done...

Mr. Guevara: I think by Fall 2018 -- and I guess the vendor can maybe talk a little bit about his timeline, but I think by August/September, we should already see a lot of the bike sharing stations at the Metrorail stations. So, you know, but I understand the predicament you and other cities are in. The County, from the Strategic Planning Division...

Commissioner Lago: Well, I -- but let me just interject one second. When you talk about predicament, I'm in the predicament -- we're in the predicament we're in today because the County hasn't been able to get their act together on multiple fronts. It's the Metrorail. It's SMART Plan. It's BRT, you know. It's a litany of issues that, again, we are facing the brunt of the problem when it comes to transportation because the County hasn't been able to deliver on the half-penny -- I mean, we could be here for hours talking about this. It's frustrating. And I know you're frustrated, I know. But again, as an employee -- because I'm -- we're all employees here. We're all employees of the residents. We work for the residents. I need to deliver. We need to deliver. So, I need to know that if I'm going to...

Mr. Guevara: I understand.

Commissioner Lago: Stop and we're going to change gears and our Assistant Public Works Director's under the Cone of Silence, so she can't discuss what we're -- the direction that we're headed because we're going to go in a different direction now or go in two directions, whatever that may be -- I need to understand that if you tell me August/September, it's not August/September of 2019 or 2020, or it gets mired in some litigation or, you know, we can't -- now we're not going back to dockless or we're going to dockless. I need commitments.

Mr. Guevara: Understood. And again, you know, until I go through the permitting phase and we have tried out a couple of stations and we know exactly how long it will take for each one of those permits to process and for the installation -- I think the actual construction is not going to take much -- then I can give you a hardline. But we're aiming for August or September of this year, okay.

Commissioner Lago: So, you can't give me a schedule? A hard schedule, you can't give me?

Mr. Guevara: No, not today. Not today.

Commissioner Lago: Okay.

Mr. Guevara: Now, we're doing everything in our power to get this done as soon as possible. When it comes to bicycles, I think it's a lot easier than dealing with other projects, you know, roadway construction and things like that.

Commissioner Lago: Remember what I told you in the beginning of our conversation. We've been talking about this for six years.

Mr. Guevara: I understand. But just...

Commissioner Lago: Nothing's easy. We haven't been able to get...

Mr. Guevara: Well...

Commissioner Lago: One bike.

Mr. Guevara: Well, just like Citi Bike...

Commissioner Lago: Frank, are you going to interject on this one or no?

Vice Mayor Quesada: I was going to let you finish.

Commissioner Lago: I'm just wondering because you led this. And before you, it was Commissioner Cabrera, so I need to understand what -- you know, I'm -- I need to...

Mr. Guevara: Yeah.

Commissioner Lago: Get my hands around this.

Mr. Guevara: I don't really know what the City's background is, but just like dock systems or dockless systems operate today and they bring -- they deploy 1,000, 2,000 bicycles and they're there and you're not paying for them and they have the money to back it up, all of these companies can do the same. So, I don't think that it will be an issue to do something like that.

Commissioner Lago: But remember what I said in the beginning of my statement. This company's more than capable, I imagine. I haven't looked at their financials. I haven't looked at their resume. This is the first time I hear of this.

Mr. Guevara: By the way, they operate the system in Madrid.

Commissioner Lago: No doubt, awesome. I mean, Madrid is exceptional. But the issue here is this is the first time that I hear about this. I heard the County was coming here to give an update. Okay, perfect, about opportunities. But we've been waiting six years for something else. So, they may be an exceptional company -- it's not the issue -- I don't have -- I don't lack faith in the company. I welcome the company with open arms. Deliver. Let's go to downtown and do something right now. I have -- lack -- I lack faith in the County.

Mr. Guevara: So...

Commissioner Lago: Moving on. I'll let my other colleagues make -- you know, maybe they have a difference of opinion. Maybe they can help us or maybe they're ready to move forward. I'm willing to move forward on this, and I'll put my trust, but...

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Let's...

Commissioner Lago: Yeah.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Commissioner Keon, do you have any comments?

Commissioner Keon: No. I just -- I mean, I know it's been a long-time conversation. And I do know that large public projects take a great deal of vetting and a great deal of time to move forward. I just -- you know, I -- we see the result of -- with the dockless stations. We see the dumping of bicycles all over, so you know -- and I'll be honest with you. I am not an avid bike rider. I don't. So, you know, my personal knowledge of it is very limited. I mean, so I would rely on and trust, you know, the people that have expertise in this field to advise us as to how, you know, we will go. And we've seen the problems with the dockless. So, if there is a way to do docks that -- a dock station that is interconnected throughout the County, I mean, I think it's an idea that is certainly worth pursuing. But as you said...

Commissioner Lago: And I want to...

Commissioner Keon: It's like when.

Commissioner Lago: Let me -- and I agree. By the way -- one second.

Commissioner Keon: Though I...

Commissioner Lago: I just want to tell my colleague, I agree with my colleague's statements 110 percent because my neighbors...

Commissioner Keon: Yeah.

Commissioner Lago: My neighborhood bear the brunt of it.

Commissioner Keon: You do.

Commissioner Lago: Because Lime bikes are littered all over -- that come from South Miami -- all over the University of Miami area. So, I agree. If this is the way to go, let's go, but let's get something done.

Mr. Guevara: You haven't seen nothing. You should talk to Dallas, you know.

Commissioner Keon: Yeah.

Mr. Guevara: They have bikes in the canals and everywhere. But I'm not here to talk in pro or against dockless or docked. As an employee of the Strategic Planning Division, we want more

bikes, you know. And that's why, on a separate front, not related to this, we're working on the regulations for dockless.

Commissioner Keon: Right.

Mr. Guevara: This is just so that you know. So, we want them all. We want docked, not docked. We want everything. We just want more bikes. And you're going to see the very great thing about the NACTO conference last week is that every city agreed that the minute all these bikes came, a lot more people have started biking, and that's the great thing. So, you know, I just want to say that I'm not pro or against. I just want to show you what we have, you know, in hand. We're going to go with it, regardless. The cities can go with one program or another, and then come back two years from now and join us. You know, I'd rather you join us from minute one, but you know, it -- you know, the -- we will work with you, regardless.

Commissioner Keon: Right. I mean, I look forward to you rolling out your program and, you know, so we have, you know, contiguous programs that will stretch, you know, throughout the county to provide, you know, that type of transportation. Now, I have no idea whether, you know, that is like one arm of a bike program and then there is another portion of a bike program that is like intracity, like you have the bus systems and the train systems and we have the trolley systems that we know serve, you know, a different route within, you know, the city itself. I mean, I -- you know, for those that use bicycles, ride bicycles, that's, you know, something that you can consider, whether, you know, that's important that you have two different systems. You know, I don't really know, but I certainly think that it would be important to have the type of system you're talking about like at the Metrorail station, so if people get off the Metrorail, they can ride into the city or they can ride to the university or they can ride to wherever they're going, you know, get back and leave their bike. I mean, I could see a lot of use, you know, for that and for them being placed, particularly, at the transit hubs...

Mr. Guevara: Correct.

Commissioner Keon: Around the city. You know, now, whether that also remains inside -- you know, in the central part of the city, I don't know. I don't know if, in that sense, a dockless program is equally as effective and you have, you know, two different programs or some combination of those, but I would certainly leave it to, you know, the people that have expertise in transportation and in bikes to come back with a recommendation on that front.

Assistant Public Works Director Keller: Commissioner Keon, one of the things I wanted to highlight that Mr. Guevara mentioned was regardless of what system we go with officially in the City of Coral Gables, the dockless bikes are coming to Coral Gables. People are riding the dockless bikes to Coral Gables and conducting business, whether it be to go to school or whether it be to go to our restaurants. So, regardless of the type of system that we actually adopt, we do need to work on the regulations.

Commissioner Keon: Right, absolutely.

Assistant Public Works Director Keller: And we will work with the County on those regulations. We have already brainstormed with our partners in Seattle on the regulations that they're implementing, so we'll be working on that actively now.

Commissioner Keon: Right. I mean, my concern is with the dockless stations is the bike dumping. You know, I'm -- if somebody rides into the city and, you know, uses a dockless bike from South Miami or someplace else and gets here and it starts to rain, they may decide they'd rather do Lyft.

Assistant Public Works Director Keller: Right. And they can do that.

Commissioner Keon: Not take that bike back. And so, the bike ends up, you know, sitting on a sidewalk or a park or -- I don't know.

Mr. Guevara: By the way, just to add...

Commissioner Keon: It's problematic.

Mr. Guevara: One of the cities over there, Sacramento, started a program with JUMP Bikes, electric bikes, and they had the company install racks. So, for every bike, you had to install a certain amount of racks. And those bikes, you can -- they're dockless, but you still have to attach them to a bike rack.

Commissioner Keon: Oh, okay.

Mr. Guevara: And you don't complete the transaction until it's docked into a...

Vice Mayor Quesada: Let me ask you...

Mr. Guevara: Bike rack.

Commissioner Keon: Oh, okay.

Vice Mayor Quesada: Understood, but...

Commissioner Keon: Well, I mean, you would know...

Mr. Guevara: Right.

Commissioner Keon: What the rules are...

Mr. Guevara: However...

Commissioner Keon: What the regulations -- the, you know...

Mr. Guevara: You cannot install that bike rack within the right-of-way.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Alright.

Mr. Guevara: According to our attorneys.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Are you through?

Commissioner Keon: Yeah.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Okay, Vice Mayor.

Vice Mayor Quesada: Yeah, so, there's really two aspects to it. The substance of this, yes, I 100 percent love it, want it. Real quick, what's the name of the vendor? Because I didn't see it.

Mr. Guevara: Ride On.

Vice Mayor Quesada: Ride On, okay. To Commissioner Keon's point, I'm happy we were not early adopters of the ones that you can just leave anywhere because I've seen them scattered all over the County, and I think that our residents would have a problem with that. I think I would, too, so I'm happy about that, even though I like the idea of dockless because then it's just a little bit easier to get to them.

Mr. Guevara: Very convenient.

Vice Mayor Quesada: The -- I don't know if Miami-Dade County is ready for it just yet. I think we got to ease into it. So, the Ride On -- and again, I just looked it up, so I'll look into it -- the docks, is it similar to what they have in other cities, like Boston or...

Mr. Guevara: Or like what you have here

Vice Mayor Quesada: Yeah.

Mr. Guevara: Citi Bike.

Vice Mayor Quesada: And Citi Bike...

Mr. Guevara: And what's it called?

Vice Mayor Quesada: Same kind of thing.

Mr. Guevara: Echo Bike?

Commissioner Lago: Citi Bike or...

Vice Mayor Quesada: Yeah, Citi Bike.

Commissioner Lago: Citi Bike.

Vice Mayor Quesada: Yeah.

Mr. Guevara: The only difference is that they are electric, so they have an electrical component where they charge.

Vice Mayor Quesada: Yeah, so it's a little bit easier to get around.

Mr. Guevara: Do you have any pictures of the...

Vice Mayor Quesada: So, then the question becomes -- if I recall correctly, we had done lists of like 30 different locations in the City that would make sense a few years ago.

Assistant Public Works Director Keller: For the docked...

Vice Mayor Quesada: Twenty-four?

Assistant Public Works Director Keller: There were -- it was 10.

Vice Mayor Quesada: Oh, it was 10?

City Manager Swanson-Rivenbark: There was -- I went back -- because there is -- Commissioner Lago's right. There's a long history. And I was speaking with former Commissioner Cabrera, and he said that they had identified 24 sites. This is before the electric piece, so those sites may be different. And then, in more recent -- there were 10. So, there are a series of locations that we could certainly validate to make sure that it would be conducive to the process.

Vice Mayor Quesada: Alright. So, in the substantive side, I'm fully supportive. On the procurement side, which Commissioner Lago's questions -- what I would ask is -- I don't know if Jessica -- have you looked at that contract that the County has?

Assistant Public Works Director Keller: I have reviewed the contract. I got the contract, I guess, two days ago.

Vice Mayor Quesada: Oh, okay. So, I guess, my point on the procurement side of things is it's taken us forever to get to this point. I don't -- I want to make this happen, so I want to move forward. We've piggybacked off the County in the past. All I would ask is just to make sure that you take a look at it, since you're our bike -- our resident bike expert. Obviously, our City Attorney's Office looks at it and City Manager, and come back to us with a recommendation to make sure the contract is something we can live with.

City Manager Swanson-Rivenbark: And that's a procurement review, so Procurement can tell us is it a valid piggyback. She doesn't need to tell us today, but she's ready to review it. You can tell. She's standing ready.

Assistant Public Works Director Keller: Actually, she did spend about 60 seconds earlier today reviewing the structure, so...

Vice Mayor Quesada: So, obviously, we need to scrutinize -- and Commissioner Lago's 100 percent right. I'm in full agreement with his questions. But at the same time, let's look at the contracts. We've done piggybacks before. Let's just get it done because, Commissioner Keon, the -- you may not be a big biker and -- but I think it's -- I hate to be cheesy, like the movie -- build it; they will come. It's going to work. How great is it going to be to go to Fairchild or tourists go to Fairchild and then jump on a bike and, you know, go somewhere else. I think it's really going to work. I think it's going to be nice for everyone.

Mr. Guevara: We're going to be bringing a bike over, I think, within the next couple of weeks. And I think it's very important that people try the bikes because, like I did last week, I had never tried an electric bike. Once you get on it, you understand why it's a commuting option. I told the city officials over there, you know -- my comment was, you know, I would never think of a regular bike as a really commuting option; you know, maybe recreational, but not for commuting purposes in South Florida, with the weather and how far things are. But once you get on an electric bike, you really understand why it can really be that last link for...

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Okay.

Mr. Guevara: The first and last mile.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Commissioner Mena, you had something to say?

Commissioner Mena: I'll be very brief. You know, I was at Gables Bike Day, and I noticed there was actually a lot of people that -- you know, there was hundreds and hundreds and hundreds of people there generally, but there was actually a lot of people with bikeshare bikes from different cities, from South Miami and elsewhere who came on those bikes. So, I think the demand is there to use these bikes.

Vice Mayor Quesada: Yeah.

Commissioner Mena: I don't think there's any question about that. With respect to your comment about how we regulate, even if we don't do dockless, neighboring cities and people bringing them -- I mean, wouldn't you regulate the same as you would personal bikes, right? If you brought your bike from your garage and you just threw it on Miracle Mile, how would that be dealt with? I presume we would just handle it the same way, right?

Assistant Public Works Director Keller: Yeah. I guess -- yeah.

Mr. Guevara: I mean, I can mention that actually the regulating structures in other cities are pretty complex because the cities want to make sure that they get data from the companies so that you can further improve your infrastructure. You also want to regulate, you know, the hours of operation and...

Commissioner Mena: No, no. I don't mean...

Mr. Guevara: The cap on the number of bikes and things.

Commissioner Mena: I don't mean the -- if we were to go with a vendor. I'm talking about if we still have neighboring municipalities who have dockless and people are leaving their bikes scattered throughout our city. We were talking about we're still going to have to deal with that, to your point.

Mr. Guevara: Right.

Commissioner Mena: And my point is, I think you would deal with it the same as you would any other situation with a bicycle.

City Attorney Ramos: The problem is, I think what we would do is we would tow it. We would take it.

Commissioner Mena: They'll take it.

City Attorney Ramos: So, I don't know that we would take hundreds of bikes. I think we have to work with the company directly to explain to them what our concerns are and figure out a way forward because I don't know at some point that becomes, I think, unruly to have 500 bikes impounded.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Okay.

Mr. Guevara: It's the same conversation we're having at the County.

Vice Mayor Quesada: Well, maybe...

City Attorney Ramos: Same issue?

Vice Mayor Quesada: We pick them up and we charge them a fine for them to recover them.

Mr. Guevara: Because we already started seeing...

Vice Mayor Quesada: That covers our cost, and it encourages...

City Attorney Ramos: Maybe.

Vice Mayor Quesada: You know, it encourages them not to -- you know, to be more proactive of picking them up.

City Attorney Ramos: Maybe, yeah.

Commissioner Mena: Right.

Mr. Guevara: We started getting Lime bikes in the unincorporated areas of Miami-Dade County, showing up at transit bus stops. So, we're having that issue right now.

Commissioner Lago: So, we're -- so, we would be the -- if we approved this today, we would be the first city?

Mr. Guevara: Well, this week, we're meeting with ten cities.

Commissioner Lago: Perfect. But I'm saying...

Mr. Guevara: So...

Commissioner Lago: We would be the first.

Mr. Guevara: Yeah, you would be the first.

Commissioner Lago: Okay.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Okay. We have...

Commissioner Lago: And your procurement on your end with Ride On has been completed, correct?

Mr. Guevara: Yes, yes.

Commissioner Lago: Alright.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: We have two people from the public that wish to speak. Thank you and stay around.

Mr. Guevara: Thank you.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Deborah Swain. Your address, please.

Commissioner Lago: Morning.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Good morning.

Deborah Swain: Good morning. Deborah Swain, 4015 University Drive, here in Coral Gables. Big bike rider, as you all know me in that context. I just had a couple quick comments about the potential procurement of the dockless bikes and also with respect to the County's proposal. If

the City had proceeded after the selection in December, they would be in -- the Public Works Department should be in front of you today with a contract, and we could have had bikes in place. So, I don't think that the items -- the dockless and the docked are mutually exclusive. I would encourage you to proceed with the contract for the pilot program with the dockless. It'll be in place very, very quickly, as opposed to the County contract, which may end up being a wonderful thing on a long-term basis, but will also give you a great opportunity to learn the dos and don'ts of dockless, help you with your regulation and a lot of the issues can be enforced through contracts. I congratulate you on this opportunity to proceed after all these long years. I love it, and I hope that you can get the dockless going quickly. Thank you.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Thank you.

Vice Mayor Quesada: So, you -- she...

Ms. Swain: Yes.

Vice Mayor Quesada: You bring up a -- it's really just a comment, not a question. But you bring up a good point, and I would ask Procurement when you're -- and Jessica, when you guys are looking at this contract, I just want to make sure it doesn't prevent us from having -- you know, bringing in another type of dockless vendor. So, just keep that in mind when you're looking at -- if you can advise us on what the contract -- how that -- it's addressed in the contract. It's a good point. Thanks.

Ms. Swain: Thanks.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Thank you. Sue Kawalerski, bike share. Morning.

Susan Kawalerski: Good morning. My name is Sue Kawalerski. I'm at 6830 Gratian Street, here in Coral Gables. And I'm here to say that bikeshare is already in Coral Gables. I took this

picture outside of my house last week, where a young couple from West Kendall were riding ofo bikes, the bikeshare program in South Miami. This young couple, I stopped, and I said, how did you get here. They said we're from West Kendall. We drive to South Miami every week to rent an ofo bike to ride around beautiful Coral Gables. So, a bikeshare program is already in Coral Gables. I'm here to say, as a cyclist -- and I represent 4,000 cyclists. I'm the president of Everglades Bicycle Club. We are all for bikeshare immediately here in Coral Gables because there is an appetite. People do not own bikes and they want to get on a bike. Some of them can't afford it. Some of them don't want to invest in a bike because they want to try it out first. This is a great opportunity to move that -- let's say, the traffic off the roads and more onto a bicycle platform. I believe that there is compatibility between dockless and dock stations. I would move forward with the current contract right now. It's a pilot program. You can always nix it in the future, but let's try it as a pilot program. Julian Guevara and I worked together at the County on bike programming, and I also believe that the dock stations and the eBikes have a place here in Coral Gables. there are some people that are not as fit that would like to be able to ride that one mile to a Metrorail station on a bicycle versus taking 20 minutes to get one mile to a Metrorail station in a car. So, I believe the two are compatible. Let's move forward -- is my recommendation -- with the current contract Jessica has negotiated. I think it's a good contract. Let's work with Julian in the County. They are both compatible programs, and I think we need them. One point that I think we need to consider regarding bicycle infrastructure -- and I'm sure the gentleman from Ride On can attest to this. The eBikes, the pedal-assist bikes, have limiters of 20 miles an hour. So, that bike can go, I believe, 20 miles an hour, correct?

(COMMENTS MADE OFF THE RECORD)

Ms. Kawalerski: Okay. So, what I'm talking about infrastructure -- if you have a family riding a non-pedal assist bike at 10 miles an hour and get buzzed by a bike at 20 miles an hour, that can be a little bit intimidating. I don't think anyone has addressed this issue about where do we put pedal assist or eBikes, and that's something that we should consider moving forward here in Coral Gables. You don't want to frighten a family when an eBike is going by at 20 miles an

hour. But bottom line is, I am for both system, dockless, and let's go with the dockless right now on the pilot program, and let's get things moving here in Coral Gables because I hate to see people from West Kendall having to go to South Miami to get a bicycle to come to Coral Gables. Let's have our own program. Thanks.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Thank you.

Commissioner Lago: Thank you.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Thank you very much. Anything else on this issue?

Vice Mayor Quesada: I agree with that.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: I think we need to...

Commissioner Lago: Yeah.

Vice Mayor Quesada: I agree with that 100 percent.

Commissioner Mena: We had this conversation.

Commissioner Lago: We did.

Vice Mayor Quesada: I know.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Yeah.

Commissioner Mena: Most recently -- what, like nine months ago?

Commissioner Lago: That's why -- if you allow me to cut you off. If you notice, when I started this -- and the reason why I put this on the agenda is because -- and you can kind of notice by my tone -- we've been having this conversation...

Commissioner Mena: Yep.

Commissioner Lago: For years.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Years.

Commissioner Lago: And now -- I know where you're going to go.

Commissioner Mena: No. And the whole idea was to do a pilot.

Commissioner Lago: Yeah.

Commissioner Mena: That's why it was a pilot. See how it works, work through it. If we don't like it, we scratch it. And if I recall correctly -- and I don't -- obviously, there's a Cone of Silence. I have no idea where things stand with Procurement. But I know before it went to Procurement, I spoke to interested vendors, and they were all committed to going around and picking it up every evening and putting it in certain dedicated areas, and it was made very...

Vice Mayor Quesada: Yeah, that's right. Yeah.

Commissioner Mena: And it was made very clear to them that...

Commissioner Lago: That was a sticking point.

Commissioner Mena: But for doing that, this is not...

Vice Mayor Quesada: Yeah.

Commissioner Mena: Going to work in Coral Gables.

Vice Mayor Quesada: Yeah. We told them we were...

Commissioner Lago: That was a sticking point...

Vice Mayor Quesada: Going to be very aggressive.

Commissioner Lago: For everybody on this Commission.

Commissioner Mena: Right.

Commissioner Lago: Very.

Commissioner Mena: And so, here we are -- I'm not really sure, you know, why...

Vice Mayor Quesada: So, what...

Commissioner Mena: And by the way, at the time, we also were doing like a circumvented sort of procurement process to get it out there quicker than usual, if I recall correctly. I think Jessica stood up here at the time and said we could get it done in three or four weeks.

(COMMENTS MADE OFF THE RECORD)

Commissioner Mena: And I just -- and it just got put on pause.

Vice Mayor Quesada: So...

Commissioner Mena: And I'm not really clear why.

Vice Mayor Quesada: So, let's make it happen.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: (INAUDIBLE)

Vice Mayor Quesada: Let's -- I mean...

Commissioner Keon: I think it's now in Procurement.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Okay.

Commissioner Keon: I think there's a Cone of Silence on it...

City Manager Swanson-Rivenbark: It's...

Commissioner Keon: So, I would expect that...

City Manager Swanson-Rivenbark: There is a Cone of Silence.

Commissioner Keon: Right.

City Manager Swanson-Rivenbark: Cone of Silence is until the award has...

Commissioner Keon: Right.

City Manager Swanson-Rivenbark: Happened.

Commissioner Keon: Right.

City Manager Swanson-Rivenbark: But it is actually right now in our office.

Commissioner Keon: Okay. So, it's -- you're ready to award.

City Manager Swanson-Rivenbark: Well...

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Alright.

City Manager Swanson-Rivenbark: We've been speaking to other cities because of the...

Commissioner Keon: Okay.

City Manager Swanson-Rivenbark: Bike dumping issues.

Commissioner Keon: Okay.

City Manager Swanson-Rivenbark: So, we want to understand what it is that we're inheriting as a part of that pilot project to make...

Commissioner Keon: Okay.

City Manager Swanson-Rivenbark: Sure that we can manage the challenge of it. At the same time the County came to us...

Commissioner Keon: Right.

City Manager Swanson-Rivenbark: We got -- I got official notice from the County last week, but I know that...

Commissioner Keon: Yeah.

City Manager Swanson-Rivenbark: Public Works has been talking to them for a while in terms of creating that regional network that connects the bikes. So, we put it -- we -- our office -- I put it on pause until we knew everything associated with the dockless issues because there are some cities that have actually reversed their dockless programs.

Commissioner Keon: Okay.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Alright. Anything else?

Commissioner Keon: So, we're going to move forward with the pilot...

Commissioner Lago: Well...

Commissioner Keon: Program.

Commissioner Lago: You want to...

Vice Mayor Quesada: Yes.

Commissioner Lago: I'll make...

Commissioner Keon: We'll continue the discussion with the...

Commissioner Lago: I'll make -- should we make a motion?

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Make a motion.

Commissioner Lago: I'll make the...

Commissioner Keon: With the County.

Commissioner Lago: Motion to move forward in regards to the pilot program, which is already, hopefully, about to come to fruition, and also, the discussion with the County in regards to Ride On. And I'd also like to put this on the agenda for an update for the first meeting in May, so we can see where we're at.

Commissioner Keon: Well, I think as soon as...

Commissioner Lago: Or maybe -- excuse me, the last meeting in May or whatever you like.

Commissioner Keon: Well, I think as soon as the -- they -- review and...

City Manager Swanson-Rivenbark: Well, it...

Commissioner Keon: Make the award, it will go on the agenda.

City Manager Swanson-Rivenbark: Well, it will be on April 24.

Commissioner Lago: It'll be a simple...

Commissioner Keon: Yes. It'll be...

Commissioner Lago: It'll be -- what I mean...

Commissioner Keon: On April 24.

Commissioner Lago: What I mean update...

Commissioner Keon: Yeah.

Commissioner Lago: I'm just saying just a status update. If the status update is we haven't made the award yet, it's perfectly fine. But the gentleman from the County made a good point, and I'm going to hold you to it. He said August or September, so...

City Manager Swanson-Rivenbark: So, a status report for where we are with bikeshare on the first meeting of May...

Commissioner Lago: Yes.

City Manager Swanson-Rivenbark: And if we can bring the contract to award, we'll bring it at that time.

Commissioner Lago: Perfect.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Alright.

Commissioner Mena: I'll second that. And I do just want to add, though, to Jessica and whoever else is working on this, please make sure that whatever's in the contract allows us -- it's a pilot program. If we need to get out of it, we need to be able to get out of it quickly and without any penalty. So, that needs to be a very clear condition of whatever contract we enter into.

Vice Mayor Quesada: Yeah.

Commissioner Lago: Good point. That's a great point.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Okay. Anything else? Let's go on to the next. We have a time...

Commissioner Mena: Vote.

Vice Mayor Quesada: Well, we got to vote on it.

Commissioner Keon: We have to vote. Call the roll.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: All those in favor, say "aye."

The Commission (Collectively): Aye.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Opposed?

Vice Mayor Quesada: Thank you.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Alright. It passed.