

TRAFFIC ADVISORY BOARD
CORAL GABLES YOUTH CENTER – CONFERENCE ROOM
TUESDAY, JUNE 17, 2014 5:30 P.M.

MEETING MINUTES

MEMBERS	J 13	A 13	S 13	O 13	N 13	D 13	J 14	F 14	M 14	A 14	M 14	J 14	APPOINTED BY:
Ignacio G. Borbolla	A	+	+	+	P	P	P	+	A	P	E	P	Jim Cason
Gordon Sokoloff	P	+	+	+	P	P	P	+	P	P	P	E	Patricia Keon
Deborah Swain	P	+	+	+	P	P	P	+	P	P	P	P	Vince Lago
Chris Morrison	(#)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	P	P	P	William H. Kerdyk, Jr.
Albert Corrada	P	+	+	+	P	E	A	+	A	E	(#)	P	Frank C. Quesada
Donna Kupper	P	+	+	+	P	P	P	+	P	P	P	E	Commission-as-a-Whole
VACANT	-	+	+	+	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	-	City Manager

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

STAFF:

Ernesto Pino, Public Works Interim Director
Yamilet Senespleda, Public Works City Engineer/Senior Traffic Engineer
Ludwik Janiga, Public Works, Civil Engineer
Jeannette Reyes, Public Works Clerical Assistant II
Edward Hudak, Major, Coral Gables Police Department

GUESTS:

Javier Salman, Stantec

CALL TO ORDER:

Mrs. Swain called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm.

MEETING MINUTES APPROVAL:

Mr. Morrison advised that at the top of page 3 on the meeting minutes the fourth sentence down, should read. "Which is now landscaped, back then it was an open patch of asphalt".

May 20, 2014 Meeting Minutes – Mr. Morrison made a motion to approve the minutes as amended, Mr. Borbolla second the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

ABSENCE:

Mr. Morrison made a motion to excuse Mr. Sokoloff & Mrs. Kupper absence, Mr. Borbolla second the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

Mrs. Swain had the board and staff introduces themselves to the new board member, Albert Corrada.

SECRETARY'S REPORT:

Miracle Mile project – Mr. Salman provided an overview of the plan. Currently there's a proposed plan by Stantec from 2009. Mr. Pino stated that there will be an upcoming meeting to come up with an update plan and cost estimate. Mr. Salman said in 2009 a street enhancement program was prepared for Miracle Mile and Giralda and since then, the project has changed in detail and material but not in geometry. The Miracle Mile plan includes: 8' sidewalks, oversized parallel spaces to allow head-in parking, two foot buffers so the doors can open without being in the way of the traffic lane, 72' valet drops proposed (one per side, per block), removal/replacement of trees, big concrete flag similar to pavers, and about 71 spaces will be lost. Mrs. Swain is concerned with the tearing down of the parking garages after the project has started which will lose the parking garages as well as the parking spaces along Miracle Mile.

The Giralda plan includes: curb-less street with drainage down the middle and moveable planters. Javier stated that when the parking analysis was done, it was determined there is an excess amount of parking. Mr. Morrison said his concern is not the parking but the traffic. The Board mentioned their concerns with the few bottle necks currently happening such as in Ponce & Aragon, Andalusia, and Miracle Mile.

Mrs. Swain asked about the impact on the bicycle plan, regarding protective bike lanes on Miracle Mile and how it might be merged together. Mr. Salman said they looked at protected lanes between the parking spaces and the sidewalk. They would defeat the purpose of the entire project, because they are not adding to the sidewalk. Mrs. Swain said if someone rides bike on Miracle Mile they would have to ride on the street or dismount and walk their bike. She said there are businesses on Miracle Mile that bikers would like to get to. The Board suggested bike racks on Miracle Mile. Mr. Borbolla suggested side streets for bike racks. Mr. Salman said they are looking at developing bicycle routes on Salzedo and Galiano as well as Aragon and Andalusia.

Mr. Salman said his understanding is that there will be a public workshop on July 22nd but suggested they confirm with the City Manager's office. Mr. Borbolla asked how long will the project take. Mr. Salman said anywhere from 18 to 24 months. Mrs. Swain asked Mr. Pino what the July 22nd meeting is and Mr. Pino said it is a regular City Commission meeting. Mr. Salman said now is the time to proceed with this project or it will have to wait eight (8) years and it will be that much more expensive. Mrs. Swain asked what is being presented in the upcoming meeting

and how has it changed from the original plan. Mr. Salman said in the original plan, they were saving some of the existing trees in their location now they are not doing that. They changed the material: before they were doing concrete now it will be a large flag concrete pavement system. They are using granite curbing, upgraded the tree grates and materials regarding gardening along the roads between the tree wells. He said in concept it is not different but in detail it is very different. The goal is to have the nicest street in Florida.

Mr. Morrison asked if a traffic study was part of the plan. Mr. Salman said there will be no impact on the traffic other than the actual construction. Mrs. Swain commented there is no point on having parking on Miracle Mile at all. Mr. Borbolla agreed with Mrs. Swain and said those spaces can be utilized for bike paths or pedestrians or opening it up some more in the future. Mrs. Swain knows there is a contingent of people in Coral Gables who are very interested in adding bike lanes on Miracle Mile.

Miracle Mile crosswalk lights – Staff sent an e-mail to Miami-Dade County requesting information on the department they need to contact in order to know the process on requesting crosswalk lights on Miracle Mile for people with site impairments.

Publix project – Mr. Pino provided the Board with the plans for the Publix project. Yamilet said the project just went to the DRC; they presented an old traffic study from 2012. Staff sent to their consultant (Atkins) to review and they requested an updated traffic study. Mr. Morrison requested a traffic study for the board as well.

TRAFFIC PROJECT UPDATES:

Red Road and Lugo Traffic Circle – will be starting this month.

Segovia and Navarre Intersection – will be complete in a couple of days.

Escobar and Anderson Traffic Circle – will be complete in a week.

POLICE UPDATE:

Mr. Morrison reported there's a new sign and a new stop bar at Brighton Place on Ingraham Hwy. During the last meeting he reported that the old stop bar was still there, now 20' from the intersection he also noticed that the old sign, advising "stop at this point" is still there.

ADJOURNMENT:

Meeting adjourned at 7:11 pm.