

TRAFFIC ADVISORY BOARD  
CORAL GABLES YOUTH CENTER – CONFERENCE ROOM  
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2011 5:30 P.M.

- MINUTES MEETING -

MEMBERS	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	APPOINTED BY:
	10	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	
Rene Alvarez							A	E	P	E	+	E	Jim Cason
Larry D. Kries	+	E	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	+	P	Maria Anderson
Deborah Swain	+	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	+	P	Rafael "Ralph" Cabrera, Jr.
VACANT	+	P	P	P	#	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	William H. Kerdyk, Jr.
Herbert F. Osle							P	A	E	A	+	E	Frank C. Quesada
Donna Kupper	+	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	+	P	Commission-as-a-Whole
VACANT	+	P	P	P	P	P	P	A	A	A	-	-	City Manager

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

**STAFF:**

Glenn Kephart, Public Works Director  
 Mr. Pino, Assistant Public Works Director  
 Jeannette Reyes, Clerical Assistant II  
 Ludwik Janiga, Civil Engineer  
 Jesus Garcia, C. G. Police Sergeant

**GUEST:**

Sue Kawalerski, Mack Cycle & Fitness  
 John Hopkins, Executive Director of Green Mobility Network

**CALL TO ORDER:**

Mrs. Swain called meeting to order at 5:31 pm

Mrs. Swain asked for a motion to excuse Rene Alvarez and Herbert Osle. Mr. Kries made a motion and Mrs. Kupper seconded it. Motion passed unanimously.

**MEETING MINUTES APPROVAL:**

• **September 20, 2011 Meeting Minutes**

Mr. Kries made a motion to approve the minutes, Mrs. Kupper second it and the motion passed unanimously.

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**TRAFFIC PROJECTS UPDATE:**

**Ponce de Leon Boulevard** – essentially complete, minor punch list items are pending.

**Segovia** – All trees are planted. Contractor is getting ready to mobilize milling work, sidewalk extension, paving and sodding.

Mrs. Swain asked when the striping on Segovia is scheduled for completion. Mr. Kephart said they will start with the paving preparations November 28, 2011 and the temporary striping will follow. Mr. Kries asked about the barricades in front of the church. Ludwik stated there is still some curbing that needs to be done before the barricades are removed.

Mr. Kries mentioned the concrete bench at the bus stop on Segovia and Biltmore and said there is no shade or cover for bus commuters. He asked about the possibility of planting a tree or some kind of shelter. Mr. Kephart stated staff can look into the tree option, Coral Gables policy is not to build shelters.

Mr. Kephart mentioned that the design process for the Neighborhood Renaissance Street Paving Project (NRP) has begun. Approximately \$3.5 million dollars worth of streets have been identified to be paved. It will be broken into (2) contracts: 1- will include all identified neighborhood streets North of US 1; and 2- will address all remaining streets. The first contract is expected to go out to bid in about a month. Mrs. Swain asked Jeannette to distribute to the members a letter from a resident regarding this issue, and the concerns of the cyclist, pedestrians and striping. Mr. Hopkins requested for the streets to be designed to accommodate all users (walkers, cyclist, disabled). He mentioned his concerns regarding this repaving project since some of these streets have been identified in the cycle master plan as appropriate for bike lanes and no bike lanes are provided in this project.

Ms. Kawalerski supports the repaving of streets project however, she stated now is the time to plan and consider Mr. Hopkins' concerns. Ms. Kawalerski stated she has seen an increase in the sales of bicycles and that even though Mack Cycles & Fitness is located in South Miami, most customers are from Coral Gables. She added there is a need for a safe place to ride bicycles. She suggested allowing bicyclist and engineers to be part of the planning process of this project it will save money and protect cyclists.

Mr. Kephart stated the design phase is being worked on. Mr. Kephart mentioned there is separate NRP funding for the installation of bicycle paths. He added if he felt this current project was restricting the opportunity or costing additional money, he would have advised the City Manager. He mentioned most of the streets are 18'- 22' wide and it's not practical to consider widening them to add bicycle lanes. He said narrow streets have an advantage since they tend to naturally calm traffic. The neighborhood streets will remain the same width. Mr. Kephart stated the City will keep the Traffic Advisory Board advised, and we plan to hire a consulting firm to identify the best routes. Once this is done maps will be created and public information will follow advising how to travel through Coral Gables on a bicycle.

Mr. Hopkins asked if staff is thinking of speed bumps for traffic calming. Mr. Kephart stated that speed bumps are not used in the City of Coral Gables, however speed tables, traffic circles

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and four way stop signs are allowed. Ms. Kawalerski suggested that when hiring a firm for the bicycle program that they hire someone with the qualifications and expertise specifically in this cohesive, non vehicular type of planning. She added to also consider having a couple of residents who are cyclist meet with the consulting firm. Mrs. Kupper added she supports the bike paths, understands Ms. Kawalerski concerns and Mr. Kephart's plan, and feels they are not getting the bike paths fast enough for the City to catch up with the socialization they are looking for. Mr. Kries added he is all for the bike paths but wants the City to get control of the turning right on red for those residents who are walkers as well. Mrs. Swain stated she is concerned about the paving project and doesn't want to miss any opportunities like Sunset Drive where something could have been added to make it bicycle friendly instead it ended up being a very unsafe situation. Mrs. Swain stated this project was characterized as a maintenance project and at the City Commission meeting the Manager made a statement that maintenance projects are not reviewed by the Traffic Advisory Board and this concerned her.

*Mrs. Swain read the TAB bylaws: Pursuant to Resolution No.#2005-17 the Board shall be to encourage public input on traffic calming measures and disseminate information on the alternatives available to the community through the implementation of a City-Wide Traffic-Calming Plan, and will provide recommendations to the City Commission for its implementation. The Board will also serve as an Oversight Committee for transportation-related projects which will include the Coral Gables Trolley System and the Municipal Transportation Improvement Program. That the Ultimate goal shall be to bring back the streets to the resident.*

Mrs. Swain said as we approach this project and have it presented, hopefully we are all on the same page and as far as the Board's role, there are some things that the Board can get updates on before its too late. She said an example is Miracle Mile that maybe there are no plans for bicycle paths or bicycle lanes but there are opportunities to do it; and on Ponce, it was missed and there could have been some safe lanes added. Ms. Swain asked that Mr. Kephart add bicycle striping indicated in the Bicycle Master Plan, as he had previously indicated. Mr. Kephart reiterated that this is a maintenance project and what is being done is restoring the asphalt back to its original condition. He said his translation of the TAB bylaws is transportation and traffic related issue, resurfacing a street is a maintenance project which does not change traffic conditions.

Mr. Hopkins added on his way to this meeting he noticed a beautiful crosswalk off University Drive, east side of LeJeune, running right into an oak tree. Mr. Kephart said he will have staff look into it.

Ms. Kawalerski concluded by saying she wants to focus on the bigger picture and feels the whole NRP needs to be re-addressed as one project opposed to seventeen and decide what the priorities are. Ms. Kawalerski asked for recommendations on how the Board or residents can go about trying to convince someone to do a re-look of the seventeen projects in total and see how the money is being spent. Mr. Kephart stated the specific projects talked about tonight are comprehensive programs that affect the entire City. He said the bicycle program and the traffic calming program are projects that will continue to be discussed.

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Mrs. Kupper asked that Mr. Kephart continue to be an advocate for bicyclist and that staff petition the County regarding the right turn on red at Miracle Mile.

**Riviera Drive** *between Segovia and Anastasia* – a meeting is scheduled for December 1, 2011. The concern is speeding; therefore they are requesting traffic calming.

**Carver Elementary** – meeting scheduled for tomorrow night November 16, 2011 at 4:00 pm in the Media Center.

**POLICE UPDATES:**

**4/28/2009 to 5/4/2009 Veragua Avenue traffic study results:** a total of 1, 571 vehicles traveled east, the speed limit is 30 mph. Vehicles over the speed limit: 53 (2 vehicles traveled 50 mph, 1 traveled 40 mph, the rest traveled 30). The average speed was 18.5 and the 85 percentile for the survey was 22 mph.

**10/10/2011 to 10/14/2011 Veragua Avenue traffic study results:** a total of 1,029 vehicles traveled east, the speed limit is 30 mph. Vehicles over the speed limit: 37 (6 vehicles traveled over 50 mph, 2 traveled over 40 mph, 29 traveled over 30 mph). The average speed was 18.2 and the 85 percentile for the survey was 21 mph.

**Galiano and Zamora** – 4 way stop sign request.

**Segovia traffic study results:** South bound from 9/15/2011 – 9/26/2011, a total of 53,709 vehicles traveled south, the speed limit is 35 mph. Vehicles over the limit: 3,619 (13 traveled over 55 mph, 110 traveled over 45 mph). The average speed was 24/25 mph and the 85 percentile was 29 mph. North bound from 9/15/2011 – 9/26/2011, a total of 40,918 vehicles traveled north, the speed limit is 35 mph. Vehicles over the limit: 3,688 (3 traveled over 55 mph, 79 traveled over 45 mph). The average speed was 27 mph and the 85 percentile was 32 mph. Sergeant Garcia stated he was recently asked if the speed limit on Ponce de Leon, west of LeJeune can be changed to 30 mph. Mr. Kephart will have staff look into it.

**100 block of US1** – FDOT sign. Mr. Kephart said that staff needs to have further discussion on this.

**4200 & 4600 blocks of Alhambra Circle traffic study results** – requested by resident, Mr. Alfonso of 4504 Alhambra Circle.

Study conducted on 10/17/2011 – 10/24/2011 North bound a total of 20,500 vehicles traveled north (11 were over 50 mph, 749 were over 40 mph, 9,722 were over 30 mph). The average speed was 29.6 and the 85 percentile was 35 mph. South bound from 10/17/2011 – 10/24/2011 a total of 19,408 vehicles traveled south (8 traveled over 50 mph, 511 traveled over 40 mph and 7,683 traveled over 30 mph). The average speed was 28.4 and the 85 percentile was 33 mph. Mr. Kephart stated staff is waiting on the residents' feed back to possibly start the process for a traffic circle.

Mrs. Kupper mentioned there are 2 vacancies on the TAB board, and 2 members that are excused or absent therefore only 3 members have been present for the last 4 months. She said this needs

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to be communicated to the City Commission. Mrs. Swain mentioned at the last Commission meeting she attended, a member of the Library Board asked if more people can be appointed. She suggested for a report to be made to the City commission in order to be added to the agenda for discussion. She further added there are residents that would love to be part of the Board and have the passion for it. It was suggested that Ms. Reyes write a letter to the City Clerk expressing the Board members desire to have all of the positions filled, and that the appointees be available to attend meetings.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Meeting Adjourned at 6:48 p.m.