

Garcia, Cynthia

From: LORENZO NEGRET <negret248@bellsouth.net>
Sent: Tuesday, January 28, 2020 6:51 PM
To: City Clerk
Subject: Resolution ,# 20 -1072

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Resolution

,#

20 -1072

We would like to Thank you for giving us the opportunity to express
Our concern on the bike pass.
We are ver grateful for your unanimous vote, your time and specially for listening to us.

Sincerely,
Dr. And Mrs. Lorenzo Negret
3100 Alhambra Circle
Coral Gables

Sent from my iPhone

Garcia, Cynthia

From: M Vazquez <mariamia2011@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 28, 2020 4:17 PM
To: Valdes-Fauli, Raul; Lago, Vincente; Mena, Michael; Keon, Patricia; Jorge Fors; Iglesias, Peter; City Clerk; City Clerk
Subject: THANK YOU !!! Fw: #20-1072 Please Save Alhambra Circle

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Dear Mayor, Vice Mayor, Commissioners, City Manager and City Clerk:

I want to thank you all. First, for approving the Mayor's proposal regarding the Alhambra Bike Path, for your time --but most important for the work you do. I can see how difficult your roles are and how frustrating these meetings and dealing with the public can be. Nevertheless, I was at the meeting and appreciated the democratic process that was followed. Again, I appreciate your understanding and support and wish you all a good day!!

Maria Vazquez Egues

----- Forwarded Message -----

From: M Vazquez <mariamia2011@yahoo.com>
To: rvaldes-fauli@coralgables.com <rvaldes-fauli@coralgables.com>; vlago@coralgables.com <vlago@coralgables.com>; mmena@coralgables.com <mmena@coralgables.com>; pkeon@coralgables.com <pkeon@coralgables.com>; jfors@coralgables.com <jfors@coralgables.com>; piglesias@coralgables.com <piglesias@coralgables.com>; CityClerk@coralgables.com <cityclerk@coralgables.com>
Sent: Friday, January 24, 2020, 02:21:05 AM EST
Subject: #20-1072 Please Save Alhambra Circle

To the Attention of:
City of Coral Gables Mayor, Vice Mayor, Commissioners, City Manager and City Clerk

Dear City of Coral Gables Officials

Good day, my name is Maria Vazquez Egues, I moved to Miami-Dade in 1966 and during that time I enjoyed driving through the "green oasis" of Miami which was Coral Gables. I promised myself that I would one day move to this Beautiful City. I also knew that Coral Gables was one of the earliest planned cities in Florida and it's political leadership respected it's residents.

On 1990 I moved to Coral Gables, but after living a few years in the city, I fell in love with the park-like residential avenue of Alhambra Circle --the thought of having the shades of old historical trees and ample green areas in front of my house, no fences, gates, sidewalks inspired me to move to Alhambra Circle. So... in 1997, I moved to 3301 Alhambra Circle and for many years enjoyed hardly any traffic on Alhambra Circle and lived in the "green oasis".

Advance to the present and the area has changed. Traffic on Alhambra Circle is dangerous and has increased 1000% - not only has the Gables grown but Miami-Dade has increased and since Coral Gables sits in the middle of the east-west-north-south traffic arteries, many non-Gables residents cut through the city and add to the madness. Additionally, when Red Road (57th Avenue) which is

parallel to Alhambra Circle from Coral Way to San Amaro, gets backed-up, drivers take Alhambra Circle.

I am very troubled about the changes the City and external non-Gables parties are proposing to make to Alhambra Circle and will comment on some concerns below:

1) The narrowing of the actual driving lanes and paving both sides of Alhambra for sidewalk/bike lanes.

This will create more danger to drivers, walkers and bikers. Alhambra is not a straight street and there are curves, trees, bridges, other cars, etc., that will make exiting my house more difficult during daylight hours and at night it will be almost impossible as some walkers/bikers do not obey traffic laws, or wear light clothes and/or carry a light. Additionally, we do get some speeding cars and those will not slow down no matter how narrow the street is or how many calming bumps/circles are created.

2) Trees and/or roots will be saved, trimmed or removed as required to accommodate the project:

Nature already takes care of this. Hurricanes and winds get rid of old sick trees or limbs, roots come through the roads, sidewalks, and driveways which the City of resident have to repair. The City is now wanting to do more damage to our trees?? This does not make sense why would we want to destroy the trees and the green areas which have been an integral part of the City Beautiful to add more concrete or asphalt. Who will be responsible for the maintenance of the sidewalk/bike path when the roots start coming through and liable if someone falls on the sidewalk/bike path?

3) Loss of swale

The loss of this extra space will create more problems for Alhambra residents as the parking for guests, yard maintenance companies, USPS, Fedex/UPS/Amazon and others will be lost and they will be forced to park on an already narrow street or over the sidewalk/bike path. How about the trash pick-up, recycling, where do we put it. Will this burden for residents and others create an opportunity for the police force to give tickets if the "new" procedures cannot be followed by residents and/or guests/workers?

4) Utilities, etc.

With this proposed change to Alhambra, there will probably be additional construction and cost to Coral Gables tax payers as some street lights, water meters, storm sewers, residents' sprinklers, landscaping, etc., will need to be relocated, replaced or removed. I believe the money can be better spent on other more pressing City projects which will not affect the residents of Alhambra Circle is such a negative way.

5) Value of Alhambra Circle properties

Alhambra Circle is already crowded with the significant increase in traffic and if we now decrease the width of the avenue, add more concrete, cut a few trees, take away a large portion of the green areas in front of the houses and get more people from other areas of the county to come and enjoy our avenue, this then stops being the true "residential" area it was. Parents will not want their children to play in their front yards with so much going on in the "new" narrow, busy street. All these negative changes to the City Beautiful make property values and reputation of the community decrease.

6) and...how about me???

I love Coral Gables and the area where I live. Yes, the Gables has changed, as everything changes and we must also change and adapt. Some changes in the Gables have been great, but others, really not so great, but overall, I still live here because this is where I always wanted to

live....the "green oasis" and would like for it to remain "green" and safe for our residents and future families. **Let's keep George Merrick's vision of Coral Gables as a city with "wide tree-lined avenues....winding roads and green spaces"**.

I respectfully request that the Mayor, Commissioners, City Manager and City Clerk, take into account my concerns and those of the residents that actually live on Alhambra Circle--the ones that will be impacted. There are sidewalks and bike paths just a block away from Alhambra and I have yet to see anyone using them. Additionally, the bike paths that I have seen in Coral Gables streets are hardly ever used. Miami-Dade County is still a "car" city and our weather, most of the time, is too hot for walking or biking.

I thank you for your time and I hope that the City will vote for approval of resolution #20-1072. Please stop these proposed changes to Alhambra Circle. Have a good day!

Sincerely,
Maria Vazquez Egues

Garcia, Cynthia

From: Urquia, Billy
Sent: Tuesday, January 28, 2020 7:51 AM
To: Garcia, Cynthia
Subject: FW: Resolution - Alhambra Circle Bicycle Path - January 28, 2020 Commission Agenda
Attachments: Pinera-Vazquez Alhambra Circle Resident Letter.pdf

From: Silvia Pinera-Vazquez <sbp@pineravazquezlaw.com>
Sent: Monday, January 27, 2020 10:53 AM
To: Valdes-Fauli, Raul <rvaldes-fauli@coralgables.com>; Lago, Vincente <vlago@coralgables.com>; Jorge Fors <jfors@coralgables.com>; Keon, Patricia <pkeon@coralgables.com>; Mena, Michael <mmena@coralgables.com>; Iglesias, Peter <piglesias@coralgables.com>; Ramos, Miriam <mramos@coralgables.com>; Urquia, Billy <burquia@coralgables.com>
Cc: Vasquez Rocky <russell1872@att.net>; Rocky Son <rocvazq@gmail.com>
Subject: Resolution - Alhambra Circle Bicycle Path - January 28, 2020 Commission Agenda

CAUTION: External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

January 27, 2020

Dear
Mayor Raul Valdes-Fauli,
Vice Mayor Vince Lago,
Commissioner Jorge Fors,
Commissioner Patricia Keon,
Commissioner Michael Mena,
City Manager Peter Iglesias,
City Attorney Miriam Ramos
City Clerk Billy Urquia:

Good morning and hope all of you enjoyed the beautiful South Florida winter weekend!

I write urging you to support the Resolution on tomorrow's Commission Agenda sponsored by the Mayor directing the "City Manager and City Staff to cease further consideration of bicycle lanes on Alhambra Circle as part of the Alhambra Circle Complete Street Project." Since this bicycle lane issue first came to our collective attention at the September 25, 2019 Youth Center meeting, you have heard from numerous directly impacted stakeholders vehemently opposed to the construction of bicycle lanes down this historic corridor for safety, environmental and traffic reasons, among others. Needless to say this issue has created much friction in our community over the last four months and we would all like to return to our peaceful coexistence on Alhambra Circle.

Since I was one of the initial speakers regarding our opposition to bicycle lanes on Alhambra Circle at the December 10, 2019 Commission Meeting and submitted a lengthy letter at that time outlining our procedural and substantive

objections, I will not reiterate our objections but request that my December 6, 2019 letter be made part of the January 28th Commission Meeting record. A copy of our letter is attached for your convenience. I have two points to stress.

First, since my December appearance before the Commission and after speaking to many Gables residents, I have spent much time trying to understand why there is so much anger and frustration regarding this bicycle lane issue. Having lived in Coral Gables for over 50 years, I have always considered our City a harmonious and peaceful community. This entire experience is out of the ordinary for most of us.

The answer came from one of my elderly neighbors on Alhambra Circle who asked a very simple question - "why didn't the City ask our opinion before applying for the bicycle lane grant in 2015 like they were supposed to?" This is really what the heated controversy among the neighbors boils down to - the lack of respect for resident input. Even worse, in this case (as detailed in the attached letter), when resident input was not only ignored but the submitted "public support" was manufactured by a City staff member the day before the grant application was due. This complete lack of respect for stakeholder engagement and lack of transparency regarding the bicycle lane project on our street is the reason the entire project has been tainted from day one. It is the reason for the community anger.

To add insult to injury, after it obtained the grant specific to Alhambra Circle, the City waited close to 5 years to directly engage the stakeholders - at the September 25, 2019 Youth Center meeting. Why did the City wait so long when the year before the Riviera Drive residents had also expressed their strong objections to bicycle lanes down their street and were subsequently removed from consideration? Why did we only learn about the grant in September 2019? Why did a staff member contact a special interest bicycle group to fake evidence of support for bicycle lanes on Alhambra Circle? No doubt, as is evident from the recent stakeholder engagement - the residents of Alhambra Circle do not want bicycle lanes down their historic, canopy filled corridor today, nor would they have supported such a grant in 2015. This vitriol could have been avoided if the stakeholders had been engaged from day 1 as was required by the grant and our elected officials' long-standing policy of resident engagement.

Second, since my appearance in December, new vital information has come to light that makes a bicycle lane on Alhambra Circle even more dangerous than initially thought. Specifically, aside from the narrow bridge and multiple winding roads in front of our house, any attempt to narrow the street or add islands before or after the bridge area will directly impact the ability of emergency vehicles to access residents in the area. As explained by Miami-Dade County, since Alhambra Circle is a collector street, this is the road that emergency vehicles use to get to an emergency situation - a fire, a heart attack victim or a choking child. Any attempt to narrow the road for a bike path, will only increase the amount of time that it takes an emergency vehicle to get to a resident's emergency situation. It could literally mean the difference between life and death for our residents. Is a bike path down Alhambra Circle worth one of our resident's life when a bike path already exists on Red Road? I think we can all agree that a life is more important than bike paths.

In addition, you should also be aware that the significant safety issues raised by placing a bike path on the narrow bridge area and multiple winding curves have never been resolved. Many of us in the affected area received specific notification and a proposed plan that this matter would be addressed at the community meeting last Saturday, January 25th, but when we arrived the staff informed us that they were not prepared to address the issue. Quite frankly, the only way to resolve the significant safety issues posed by the narrow bridge, winding curves and maintain clear access for emergency vehicles is to NOT place a bike path down this historic corridor.

In closing, having lived in Coral Gables for over 50 years, in a city that has historically respected resident views, there is nothing more frustrating than to wake up one day and learn that a city staff member created false stakeholder support on a grant application and obtained funds to build a bike path in front of your home without even asking your opinion or the opinion of any of the directly impacted stakeholders. It is almost surreal that we are in this position when no expert studies have been conducted - safety, environmental or traffic - to justify such a controversial bike path that will impact our daily lives and our safety.

I look forward to attending the Commission meeting tomorrow and urge you to pass the Resolution directing the "City Manager and City Staff to cease further consideration of bicycle lanes on Alhambra Circle as part of the Alhambra Circle Complete Street Project."

Best,

Silvia B. Pinera-Vazquez
Rocky Vazquez
3516 Alhambra Circle
Coral Gables, Florida 33134

Silvia B. Piñera-Vazquez

P/V LAW FIRM
CCM International Center
1900 S.W. 3rd Avenue
Miami, Florida 33129
T. 305.443.0629
E. sbp@pineravazquezlaw.com

Garcia, Cynthia

From: Urquia, Billy
Sent: Tuesday, January 28, 2020 7:50 AM
To: Garcia, Cynthia
Subject: FW: January 28 2020 - Items F-7 and G-7

Importance: High

From: Deborah Swain <dswain@milianswain.com>
Sent: Monday, January 27, 2020 11:31 AM
To: Valdes-Fauli, Raul <rvaldes-fauli@coralgables.com>; Lago, Vincente <vlago@coralgables.com>; Mena, Michael <mmena@coralgables.com>; Keon, Patricia <pkeon@coralgables.com>; Jorge Fors <jfors@coralgables.com>
Cc: Urquia, Billy <burquia@coralgables.com>; Iglesias, Peter <piglesias@coralgables.com>
Subject: January 28 2020 - Items F-7 and G-7
Importance: High

CAUTION: External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Items F-7 and G-7 on tomorrow's agenda are blatantly contradictory. The City Commission is considering a resolution urging the state and federal governments to protect the environment on the same day as it considers a resolution to severely limit an effective transportation alternative. (Item F-7 seeks to remove future plans for bicycle lanes in Coral Gables, and Item G-7 seeks to declare a Climate Emergency, "...urging the State of Florida and the United States Government to provide for resilient and sustainable communities and proper stewardship of the environment.")

EPA determined that the **top factor creating greenhouse gas emissions which have precipitated climate change is transportation**, with over half coming from **passenger vehicles**:

*The Transportation sector includes the movement of people and goods by cars, trucks, trains, ships, airplanes, and other vehicles. The majority of greenhouse gas emissions from transportation are carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions resulting from the combustion of petroleum-based products, like gasoline, in internal combustion engines. **The largest sources of transportation-related greenhouse gas emissions include passenger cars and light-duty trucks, including sport utility vehicles, pickup trucks, and minivans.** These sources account for over half of the emissions from the transportation sector. <https://www.epa.gov/ghgemissions/sources-greenhouse-gas-emissions#transportation>*

I strongly support item G-7, and request that you reject item F-7.

Debbie Swain
4015 University Drive

Garcia, Cynthia

From: Urquia, Billy
Sent: Tuesday, January 28, 2020 7:50 AM
To: Garcia, Cynthia
Subject: FW: In favor of resolution #20-1072

From: theopet98@aol.com <theopet98@aol.com>
Sent: Monday, January 27, 2020 3:06 PM
To: Valdes-Fauli, Raul <rvaldes-fauli@coralgables.com>; Lago, Vincente <vlago@coralgables.com>; Jorge Fors <jfors@coralgables.com>; Keon, Patricia <pkeon@coralgables.com>; Mena, Michael <mmena@coralgables.com>; Iglesias, Peter <piglesias@coralgables.com>; City.Clerk@Coral.Gables.com
Subject: In favor of resolution #20-1072

CAUTION: External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Mayor Valdes-Fauli, Vice Mayor Lago, Commissioners Fors, Keon and Mena, City Manager Iglesias and City Clerk,

We are in favor of Resolution #20-1072.

We are opposed to the Alhambra Project which would completely alter the character of our beautiful street! Many trees would be affected. We do not want sidewalks. We do not want any paving. Please keep our street green.

Thank you,
Christopher Field
4714 Alhambra Circle

Garcia, Cynthia

From: Alice flood <aliceflood07@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 28, 2020 7:22 AM
To: City Clerk
Subject: Fwd: bike path

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----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Alice flood** <aliceflood07@gmail.com>
Date: Tue, Jan 28, 2020 at 7:20 AM
Subject: Fwd: bike path
To: <jfors@coralgables.com>

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Alice flood** <aliceflood07@gmail.com>
Date: Tue, Jan 28, 2020 at 7:20 AM
Subject: Fwd: bike path
To: <pkeon@coralgables.com>

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Alice flood** <aliceflood07@gmail.com>
Date: Tue, Jan 28, 2020 at 7:19 AM
Subject: Fwd: bike path
To: <mmena@coralgables.com>

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Alice flood** <aliceflood07@gmail.com>
Date: Tue, Jan 28, 2020 at 7:18 AM
Subject: Fwd: bike path
To: <vlago@coralgable.com>

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Alice flood** <aliceflood07@gmail.com>
Date: Tue, Jan 28, 2020 at 7:15 AM

Subject: bike path

To: <rvaldes-fauli@coralgables.com>

I am NOT in favor of a bike path on Alhambra Circle. As a resident of Coral Gables since 1986 I have enjoyed the neighborhood as a tranquil place to live. Red Road has a bike path one block away and I see no need to duplicate it. Our tax money can be put to much better use. Special interest has no place in city government. This plan is for the convenience of a few. I VOTE.

Alice Flood Riley
1508 Alegriano Av.

Garcia, Cynthia

From: LORENZO NEGRET <negret248@bellsouth.net>
Sent: Monday, January 27, 2020 6:08 PM
To: City Clerk
Subject: Item f7 resolution 20-1072

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Item f7

Resolution #20-1072

Dear Sir's and Madam's:

As a Coral Gables resident for 40 years, I want to express my concern for the bicicleta lanes proposed in front of my residence that is going to cause a safety hazard, decrease my property value and increase my liability insurance.

There is so much involve in this project that ir takes away our peace .

The City Has a lot of Money in their agenda now. why do they want to fix what doesn't need fixing and fix the so many needs the city has....

Alhambra Circle needs to be paved for years....the holes are getting bigger.

The sidewalks are a mess and a hazard (I already had a nasty fall).

At the corner of Alhambra and Catalonia; walking on Country Club Prado, you can see the sidewalks are in pieces....

At the front if my house every time it rains there is a Lagoon, I called public works and was told they will have to send an engineer it will take a while. So drainage is a big problem.

I just want to let you know that we are very disappointed with this project and will be very involved in trying to keep CORAL GABLES been the Beautiful City it is....

Sincerely

Lorenzo Negret, M.D.

Dulce Negret

3100 Alhambra Circle

Coral Gables

Sent from my iPhone

Garcia, Cynthia

From: theopet98@aol.com
Sent: Monday, January 27, 2020 3:06 PM
To: Valdes-Fauli, Raul; Lago, Vincente; Jorge Fors; Keon, Patricia; Mena, Michael; Iglesias, Peter; City.Clerk@Coral.Gables.com
Subject: In favor of resolution #20-1072

CAUTION: External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Mayor Valdes-Fauli, Vice Mayor Lago, Commissioners Fors, Keon and Mena, City Manager Iglesias and City Clerk,

We are in favor of Resolution #20-1072.

We are opposed to the Alhambra Project which would completely alter the character of our beautiful street!
Many trees would be affected. We do not want sidewalks. We do not want any paving. Please keep our street green.

Thank you,
Christopher Field
4714 Alhambra Circle

Garcia, Cynthia

From: Josefina DeVarona O'Sullivan <jdevaronaosullivan@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, January 27, 2020 12:52 PM
To: Lago, Vincente; Jorge Fors; Keon, Patricia; Mena, Michael; Iglesias, Peter; City Clerk
Subject: Fwd: RESOLUTION 20-1072

CAUTION: External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Begin forwarded message:

From: Josefina DeVarona O'Sullivan <jdevaronaosullivan@gmail.com>
Subject: RESOLUTION 20-1072
Date: January 27, 2020 at 12:47:30 PM EST
To: Vice Mayor Lago and City Commissioners,

Dear Vice Mayor Lago, City Commissioners Fors, Keon and Mena, City Manager Iglesias and City Clerk,

My name is Josefina de Varona O'Sullivan, and for the last eight and a half years I have been living at 3405 Alhambra Circle with my family. I am writing IN SUPPORT OF RESOLUTION 20-1072, and AGAINST the Alhambra bike path project. I join my neighbors in all the reasons they will list for their opposition. The shared use path is a potential disaster. It was clear at the January 25th meeting, that the city officials have not conducted the necessary safety, traffic, and tree studies for the project. They were even unaware of the number of accidents that have taken place in Alhambra Circle. To mix cyclists, walkers, runners (some wearing headphones), kids and parents, strollers, dogs, etc going in both directions, on the same path, is dangerous and negligent. Most likely, the spandex riders/cyclists won't even use it. Only three of them attended the meeting on Saturday. And parents will be even more concerned with the increased dangers of the curve and bridge to allow their children ride their bikes in the street. Thus two of the proposed goals of the project won't even come to fruition.

In January 2018 the city commissioners voiced their opposition to the shared use path the consultants are now offering us. As a responsible Alhambra Circle property owner, I am opposed to it too. There is an increased possibility of accidents, which would leave us property owners on the path (unlike property owners on the side streets) as a target for liability. The City needs to consider that such liability will be passed on to them, to the full extent allowed, as we are going on record voicing our concerns and opposition.

I request that this project is terminated now by supporting Resolution 20-1072, and not waste our tax payers money on conducting a ballot.

Sincerely,

Josefina de Varona O'Sullivan
3405 Alhambra Circle

Garcia, Cynthia

From: alicia millard <aliciaarner@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, January 27, 2020 12:29 AM
To: City Clerk
Subject: Bike path on Alhambra

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Good morning Mr. Urquia,

I live at 1410 Siena Avenue, between Alhambra and San Amaro Court. I have not had the opportunity to meet you, but I appreciate your hard work on behalf of the residents of Coral Gables.

The neighbors of Alhambra Circle strongly oppose the bike path project for Alhambra. It is completely unnecessary since there is a bike path one block away on Red Road. Building the path would seriously hurt the trees and mature canopy that makes our city beautiful (regardless of what the staff says about the limited impact to the tree roots).

Please help us in stopping the bike path and Complete Street project. Coral Gables should spend the money in building sidewalks in streets that don't have any – like San Amaro. It would increase the safety of pedestrians, strollers and university students that walk around our neighborhood.

I will be at the commission meeting this Tuesday and would appreciate your support in stopping this project.

Thanks,

Alicia Arner
(305) 978 - 9759

Garcia, Cynthia

From: Alicia G Conill <aliciagconill@yahoo.com>
Sent: Sunday, January 26, 2020 7:33 PM
To: Valdes-Fauli, Raul
Cc: Jorge Fors; Keon, Patricia; Mena, Michael; Iglesias, Peter; City Clerk; Lago, Vincente
Subject: Resolution 20-1072

CAUTION: External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Sirs:

I support Resolution 20-1072 sponsored by Mayor Raul Valdes Fauli because I think that to implement the Bicycle Path Project on this street would change the character of the street and make it more dangerous for everybody as the road will be narrowed and the trees will suffer in spite of what they say.

I hope you vote for the Resolution.

Thank you very much.

Alicia G. Conill
3711 Alhambra Circle

Sent from my iPad

Garcia, Cynthia

From: Albert Xiques <axiques@me.com>
Sent: Saturday, January 25, 2020 8:44 PM
To: Valdes-Fauli, Raul; Lago, Vincente; Jorge Fors; Keon, Patricia; Mena, Michael; Iglesias, Peter; City Clerk
Subject: I support Resolution 20-1072

CAUTION: External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am a resident of Coral Gables, and have been following the project (which in its most current iteration) is called the Alhambra Circle Complete Streets Project.

This name is an insult to the intelligence of all Coral Gables residents and is merely the latest heavy handed tactic from an overzealous city staffer who is not interested in the slightest in what is best for this City or the residents who live and pay taxes here. Despite the fact that we pay her salary (through our taxes), she has done nothing but treat us with disdain and contempt. I have witnessed her be rude to Alhambra residents (my sister owns a home on Alhambra Circle), who were being cordial with her and simply wished to ask questions and express their concerns over the project.

I am also deeply troubled by the fact that it appears that the "local" bicycling group that has been touted as the big supporters of this initiative, seems to be a paper tiger organization with troubling ties to a lobbyist / grant writer who worked on getting (and probably was compensated for) the funding for this project.

It is time to put an end to this project before more damage is done or the city gets embarrassed.

I strongly urge you to demonstrate your leadership and commitment to protecting our City and implementing the will of its residents. I ask you all to vote to approve Resolution 20-1072 and immediately cease any further action on the bicycle path as part of this project.

Thank you,
Albert J. Xiques
748 Navarre Ave
Coral Gables, FL 33134

Sent from my iPad

Garcia, Cynthia

From: Alina Xiques <amxiques@bellsouth.net>
Sent: Saturday, January 25, 2020 8:32 PM
To: Valdes-Fauli, Raul; Lago, Vincente; Jorge Fors; Keon, Patricia; Mena, Michael; Iglesias, Peter; City Clerk
Subject: Please approve Resolution 20-1072

CAUTION: External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

As a longtime Coral Gables resident, I have followed the embarrassment that is the attempt to force a bike path on the residents of Alhambra Circle.

I believe this will not enhance the safety of Alhambra, will not address a need (there is a bike path on 57th Avenue), and has been totally and completely mishandled by City Staff.

I strongly urge you all to approve Resolution 20-1072 on Jan 28, 2020 and cease any further consideration of bicycle lanes on Alhambra Circle.

Thank you,

Alina M. Xiques
748 Navarre Ave
Coral Gables, FL 33134

Garcia, Cynthia

From: Kenneth García <kenneth.garcia@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, January 25, 2020 4:39 PM
To: Valdes-Fauli, Raul
Cc: City Clerk
Subject: Alhambra Circle Bike Lanes

CAUTION: External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Mr. Mayor,

I am writing to you in support of bike lanes in Coral Gables. This issue is of critical importance to the safety and quality of life of all residents. It is also critically important to the environment to provide other options to get around besides cars.

On the specific issue of the Alhambra Circle complete streets project, I was very disappointed to see your proposed resolution directing staff to not consider bike lanes as part of this project.

I've listened to the opponents' comments on this issue and they seem to fall into three primary categories:

One is that they claim to be concerned about safety, but this is exactly what the reason for this project is. Having sidewalks and bike lanes will make everyone safer, including those who choose to drive.

The second is a perceived lack of public process, yet there have already been many public meetings regarding this issue, and this resolution only seems intended to cut the public process short.

The third is an unfounded fear that healthy trees will somehow be cut down or die as a result of this project. But to be clear, there is absolutely no one asking you to kill trees in order to put in bike lanes. The opponents are not asking for it, staff does not seem to be asking for it, I'm not asking for it, and no safety advocate that I've ever spoken with is asking for it either. There is no reason for any healthy trees to die for this project. If that's really the concern, then simply direct staff to make sure that whatever solution is brought forward doesn't kill any healthy trees.

You have a professional staff and professional consultants working on this. If they really determine that you can't have bike lanes on this street without killing the trees then I will accept that and I'm sure other bicyclists will too. But don't take bike lanes off the table simply because of unwarranted fear-mongering, or because a few residents seem to hate people biking and walking on their street. We desperately need safe places to walk and bike in this city.

Thank you,

Kenneth Garcia
20 Alhambra Circle #8
Coral Gables, FL
786.228.6562

Garcia, Cynthia

From: Michael Gravier <michaelxgravier@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, January 25, 2020 4:05 PM
To: Valdes-Fauli, Raul; Lago, Vincente; Jorge Fors; Keon, Patricia; Mena, Michael; Iglesias, Peter
Cc: City Clerk
Subject: Alhambra Circle Bike Lane #20-1072

CAUTION: External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Mayor Raul Valdes-Fauli, Vice Mayor Vince Lago, Commissioner Jorge Fors, Commissioner Patricia Keon, Commissioner Michael Mena and City Manager Peter Iglesias:

I am writing today to ask for your support in approving resolution #20-1072 directing the city manager and city staff to cease further consideration of bicycle lanes on Alhambra Circle as part of the Alhambra Circle Complete Streets Project.

My family and I live on 4531 Alhambra Circle. I am currently completing my senior year at Auburn University and I have been a resident of Coral Gables my entire life. I grew up in this neighborhood and am very concerned that the proposed Complete Streets project is going to destroy the tree canopy, introduce unnecessary amounts of asphalt leaving very little grass and natural vegetation and decrease property values on beautiful Alhambra Circle. The historical nature of this street and neighborhood will be decimated. The various proposed plans (since city employees keep changing their minds) would narrow the street and pave over nearly 10 feet of green space on either side of Alhambra Circle. Trees will be sacrificed in this process whether intentional or accidental. This will turn our street into a recreational area similar to the large sidewalks that border Tropical Park on Miller Drive.

Completion of this project will create safety concerns and parking problems. It is already difficult to get in and out of my driveway because cars go very fast down my stretch of Alhambra. Under the proposed plan there will be no room to park any more than two cars. Currently there are three drivers in my home so someone will have to park on the swale and/or block part of the sidewalk. This will inevitably block the view of anyone trying to back-out of my driveway. Combine this with the speeding drivers and you have a recipe for disaster!

Thank you in advance for your consideration to this matter. I feel fortunate to have the opportunity to express my views as a resident that will be directly impacted by this project. Please approve resolution #20-1072 on Tuesday January 28th and keep our city beautiful.

Regards,

Michael Gravier
4531 Alhambra Circle

Garcia, Cynthia

From: Christina Xiques-Gravier <cxgravier@aol.com>
Sent: Saturday, January 25, 2020 4:01 PM
To: Valdes-Fauli, Raul; Lago, Vincente; Jorge Fors; Keon, Patricia; Mena, Michael; Iglesias, Peter
Cc: City Clerk
Subject: Save the trees and Save Alhambra Circle

CAUTION: External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Mayor Raul Valdes-Fauli, Vice Mayor Vince Lago, Commissioner Jorge Fors, Commissioner Patricia Keon, Commissioner Michael Mena and City Manager Peter Iglesias:

I am writing today to ask for your support in approving resolution #20-1072 directing the city manager and city staff to cease further consideration of bicycle lanes on Alhambra Circle as part of the Alhambra Circle Complete Streets Project. Please save our trees and please save beautiful Alhambra Circle!

My family and I live at 4531 Alhambra Circle. I purchased this home in 2001 and live there with my college age daughter and college age son. I raised both my children in this home and they attended private school in Coral Gables. I have also had the good fortune of working in Coral Gables for a large part of my career. I have built a beautiful life here in the city beautiful and there is nowhere else I would rather live.

Like the vast majority of my neighbors on this stretch of Alhambra, I oppose the Alhambra Circle Complete Streets Project. I attended the walk shop on October 19, 2019 and I attended the community meeting held this morning at the intersection of Coral Way and Alhambra Circle. I have read all the corresponding new articles written on Gables Insider and Coral Gables Magazine. I have talked to my neighbors and I have read all communications from city officials on the matter (there were very few). In short, I have done my research and this email is not an emotional reaction. I am opposed to this project because it will decimate the historical integrity and aesthetics of this magnificent street.

The proposed Complete Streets project will destroy the tree canopy and introduce unnecessary and copious amounts of asphalt leaving very little grass and natural vegetation. The various proposed plans (since city staffers keep changing their minds) would narrow the street and pave over nearly 10 feet of green space on either side of Alhambra Circle. Trees will be sacrificed in this process whether intentional or accidental. There will be nowhere to park if you have visitors or own more than two cars and there will be nowhere for delivery trucks to pull over.

The plan does not address traffic concerns nor does it propose to do anything about speeding on Alhambra Circle. It is already extremely difficult to get in and out of my driveway because cars go very fast down my stretch of Alhambra. Under the proposed plan there will be no room to park any more than two cars. Currently there are three drivers in my home so someone will have to park on the swale and/or block part of the sidewalk. This will inevitably block the view of anyone trying to back-out of my driveway. Combine this with the speeding drivers and you have a recipe for disaster!

It is no secret that the population in Miami Dade County has exploded in the last 10 years. We all experience it every day on our daily commutes. It seems to me that this proposal is aimed at turning Coral Gables into a recreational area. Do we really want to invite the entire county to come ride their bikes in our city? In my opinion this would just create more traffic and traffic safety concerns. I live across the street from a city park and I love to see families enjoying the park. It really does bring a smile to my face. But the reality is that the overwhelming majority of people that use the park do not live in the Gables and they do not walk to the park. They drive to the park and park their cars in the swale. I am genuinely concerned that bike enthusiasts from all over the county will drive to my neighborhood, park in my swale and jump on their bikes. This is what happens on 57th Avenue (south of Kendall Drive) and on Old Cutler Road and I would hate to see that happen in my neighborhood.

Lastly, I am concerned that my property value will diminish. As a single mom I have worked very hard and made many sacrifices to own a home in Coral Gables so that I could raise my children here. My home is my single greatest investment. I pay substantial taxes to live in this city and I would like my investment to be protected.

Thank you in advance for your consideration to this matter. I feel fortunate to have the opportunity to express my views as a resident that will be directly impacted by this project. Please approve resolution #20-1072 on Tuesday January 28th and keep our city beautiful.

Regards,

Christina Xiques
4531 Alhambra Circle

Garcia, Cynthia

From: Karen CPA <karen@cpakaren.com>
Sent: Friday, January 24, 2020 3:02 PM
To: Valdes-Fauli, Raul; Lago, Vincente; Mena, Michael; Keon, Patricia; Jorge Fors; Iglesias, Peter; City Clerk
Subject: Bike Path Proposal

CAUTION: External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I AM in favor of resolution 20-1072

The bike paths are not necessary and will cause irreparable damage to the canopy and green space of our city.

I live near Alhambra Circle and Maynada (6501 Leonardo St) and do not want more concrete in my quiet, beautiful, green neighborhood.

Thank you,

--

Personal returns - encryption password is *socialsecuritynumbercityzip*
Business returns - encryption password is *eincityzip*

***** Please upload all personal information and tax documents using my secure platform under the "submit docs" tab on my website cpakaren.com.

KAREN E. LEE , CPA, CFE, CAMS
1172 S DIXIE HWY, #278
CORAL GABLES, FL 33146
305-815-1462
FAX 305-415-8334 OR 305-666-2620

Venmo: @Karen-Lee-CPA
Zelle: karen@cpakaren.com
CashApp: \$kleecpa

Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/cpakarenelee> Instagram @kleecpa

Garcia, Cynthia

From: JOHN TALAMAS <jtalsmwb@aol.com>
Sent: Friday, January 24, 2020 12:32 PM
To: City Clerk
Subject: Proposed Alhambra bike path

CAUTION: External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Mr Urquia

As a long time resident of Coral Gables since 1959, I currently reside at [522 San Esteban Ave.](#) I grew up on Zamora and my 95 year old mother still lives there. I would like to go on record that I do not support the proposed bike path on Alhambra as proposed. Please respect the voices of the residents and vote against it. I appreciate your time and service.

John Talamas

[305-798-1615](tel:305-798-1615)

Garcia, Cynthia

From: johnsswain@gmail.com
Sent: Friday, January 24, 2020 8:56 AM
To: Keon, Patricia; Lago, Vincente; Mena, Michael; Jorge Fors
Cc: City Clerk
Subject: Alhambra Circle Complete Streets Project

CAUTION: External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing in reference to the Mayor's agenda item directing the City Manager and City Staff to cease further consideration of bicycle lanes on Alhambra Circle.

City staff has been holding public meetings on this project since September when they held a community meeting to explain the project and to get the residents feedback. In October, City staff held an onsite walk-shop for the same purpose. Another onsite meeting is planned for this weekend. City staff will soon be sending out ballots to residents affected by the Alhambra Complete Streets project to see if the residents support the project.

Now, the Mayor wants to stop the bike lane portion of the project before the public input portion of the project is even completed.

The residents should have a chance to vote on this project. Let them vote, then you can decide on the fate of the bike lanes and sidewalks on Alhambra Circle.

Please do not let the Mayor circumvent this public process, vote no on this resolution.

Sincerely, John Swain
4015 University Drive
Coral Gables, FL 33146
305 484-2147

Garcia, Cynthia

From: JOAN JENSEN <jbjlaw100@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, January 24, 2020 8:12 AM
To: Valdes-Fauli, Raul; Lago, Vincente; Mena, Michael; Jorge Fors; Iglesias, Peter; City Clerk
Subject: Vote in Favor of Resolution 20-1072

CAUTION: External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear All:

I am a voter and long-time resident of Coral Gables (since 1988).

I am in favor of Resolution 20-1072. Keep Coral Gables Green--no more wasted time, energy and money--stop your staff members and special interests trying to force Coral Gables to allow unwanted bike paths through our beautiful avenues.

Stop the efforts now!

Sincerely,

Joan Burton Jensen

Garcia, Cynthia

From: M Vazquez <mariamia2011@yahoo.com>
Sent: Friday, January 24, 2020 2:21 AM
To: Valdes-Fauli, Raul; Lago, Vincente; Mena, Michael; Keon, Patricia; Jorge Fors; Iglesias, Peter; City Clerk
Subject: #20-1072 Please Save Alhambra Circle

CAUTION: External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

To the Attention of:
City of Coral Gables Mayor, Vice Mayor, Commissioners, City Manager and City Clerk

Dear City of Coral Gables Officials

Good day, my name is Maria Vazquez Egues, I moved to Miami-Dade in 1966 and during that time I enjoyed driving through the "green oasis" of Miami which was Coral Gables. I promised myself that I would one day move to this Beautiful City. I also knew that Coral Gables was one of the earliest planned cities in Florida and it's political leadership respected it's residents.

On 1990 I moved to Coral Gables, but after living a few years in the city, I fell in love with the park-like residential avenue of Alhambra Circle --the thought of having the shades of old historical trees and ample green areas in front of my house, no fences, gates, sidewalks inspired me to move to Alhambra Circle. So... in 1997, I moved to 3301 Alhambra Circle and for many years enjoyed hardly any traffic on Alhambra Circle and lived in the "green oasis".

Advance to the present and the area has changed. Traffic on Alhambra Circle is dangerous and has increased 1000% - not only has the Gables grown but Miami-Dade has increased and since Coral Gables sits in the middle of the east-west-north-south traffic arteries, many non-Gables residents cut through the city and add to the madness. Additionally, when Red Road (57th Avenue) which is parallel to Alhambra Circle from Coral Way to San Amaro, gets backed-up, drivers take Alhambra Circle.

I am very troubled about the changes the City and external non-Gables parties are proposing to make to Alhambra Circle and will comment on some concerns below:

1) The narrowing of the actual driving lanes and paving both sides of Alhambra for sidewalk/bike lanes.

This will create more danger to drivers, walkers and bikers. Alhambra is not a straight street and there are curves, trees, bridges, other cars, etc., that will make exiting my house more difficult during daylight hours and at night it will be almost impossible as some walkers/bikers do not obey traffic laws, or wear light clothes and/or carry a light. Additionally, we do get some speeding cars and those will not slow down no matter how narrow the street is or how many calming bumps/circles are created.

2) Trees and/or roots will be saved, trimmed or removed as required to accommodate the project:

Nature already takes care of this. Hurricanes and winds get rid of old sick trees or limbs, roots come through the roads, sidewalks, and driveways which the City of resident have to repair. The City

is now wanting to do more damage to our trees?? This does not make sense why would we want to destroy the trees and the green areas which have been an integral part of the City Beautiful to add more concrete or asphalt. Who will be responsible for the maintenance of the sidewalk/bike path when the roots start coming through and liable if someone falls on the sidewalk/bike path?

3) Loss of swale

The loss of this extra space will create more problems for Alhambra residents as the parking for guests, yard maintenance companies, USPS, Fedex/UPS/Amazon and others will be lost and they will be forced to park on an already narrow street or over the sidewalk/bike path. How about the trash pick-up, recycling, where do we put it. Will this burden for residents and others create an opportunity for the police force to give tickets if the "new" procedures cannot be followed by residents and/or guests/workers?

4) Utilities, etc.

With this proposed change to Alhambra, there will probably be additional construction and cost to Coral Gables tax payers as some street lights, water meters, storm sewers, residents' sprinklers, landscaping, etc., will need to be relocated, replaced or removed. I believe the money can be better spent on other more pressing City projects which will not affect the residents of Alhambra Circle in such a negative way.

5) Value of Alhambra Circle properties

Alhambra Circle is already crowded with the significant increase in traffic and if we now decrease the width of the avenue, add more concrete, cut a few trees, take away a large portion of the green areas in front of the houses and get more people from other areas of the county to come and enjoy our avenue, this then stops being the true "residential" area it was. Parents will not want their children to play in their front yards with so much going on in the "new" narrow, busy street. All these negative changes to the City Beautiful make property values and reputation of the community decrease.

6) and...how about me???

I love Coral Gables and the area where I live. Yes, the Gables has changed, as everything changes and we must also change and adapt. Some changes in the Gables have been great, but others, really not so great, but overall, I still live here because this is where I always wanted to live....the "green oasis" and would like for it to remain "green" and safe for our residents and future families. **Let's keep George Merrick's vision of Coral Gables as a city with "wide tree-lined avenues....winding roads and green spaces".**

I respectfully request that the Mayor, Commissioners, City Manager and City Clerk, take into account my concerns and those of the residents that actually live on Alhambra Circle--the ones that will be impacted. There are sidewalks and bike paths just a block away from Alhambra and I have yet to see anyone using them. Additionally, the bike paths that I have seen in Coral Gables streets are hardly ever used. Miami-Dade County is still a "car" city and our weather, most of the time, is too hot for walking or biking.

I thank you for your time and I hope that the City will vote for approval of resolution #20-1072. Please stop these proposed changes to Alhambra Circle. Have a good day!

Sincerely,
Maria Vazquez Egues

Garcia, Cynthia

From: Guido Conill <albarical@yahoo.com>
Sent: Thursday, January 23, 2020 3:23 PM
To: Valdes-Fauli, Raul; Lago, Vincente; Jorge Fors; Keon, Patricia; Mena, Michael; Iglesias, Peter; City Clerk
Subject: Resolution 20-1072

CAUTION: External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

To:all above

I am sending this message in support of Resolution #20-1072 sponsored by Mayor VALdes-Fauli.

The reasons for myopposition to this project are many but most important ones are:

Non-timely participation of Alhambra Circle (AC)residents Bike path alternative on 57 Avenue Cannot accept calming of traffic with narrower road theory Affected residents from AC opposition Will only benefit small minority many of which are not even CG residents Damage to trees, swales, grass etc

Please let go of grant but improve signaling, lighting and pavement on AC which is of major benefit to CG

Sincerely

Guido Conill

3711. Alhambra circle

Sent from my iPhone