

CITY OF CORAL GABLES, FLORIDA

RESOLUTION NO. 2018-185

A RESOLUTION DEFINING THE CITY OF CORAL GABLES' TRAFFIC CALMING CONCURRENCY POLICY.

WHEREAS, the City desires to improve neighborhood quality of life and public health through traffic safety and active mobility opportunities on city streets; and

WHEREAS, traffic has a negative impact on quality of life and increases the frequency and severity of crashes and personal injuries; and

WHEREAS, the City currently follows the Traffic Flow Modifications/Street Closures procedure set by Miami-Dade County, which includes concurrency requirements from affected property owners, for certain traffic calming measures; and

WHEREAS, the Miami-Dade concurrency requirements include 100% approval from adjacent property owners for all traffic calming devices and 2/3 resident approval of property owners impacted by traffic flow modifications; and

WHEREAS, there have been occurrences where residential streets showed speeding and met all traffic calming criteria and failed to meet current City concurrency requirements; and

WHEREAS, on June 26, 2018, the proposed concurrency policy was presented to the City's Transportation Advisory Board and they are in full support of this policy; and

WHEREAS, the City has recently drafted revised traffic calming criteria in order to reduce traffic speeds to a more context-sensitive, flexible fashion; and

WHEREAS, the City seeks to balance public safety, neighborhood quality of life and judicious use of traffic calming devices to allow greater flexibility in installing traffic safety measures for streets with known speeding and safety issues; and

WHEREAS, the City's revised traffic calming criteria is comprehensive enough to replace concurrency requirements while still being sensitive to neighborhood context and quality of life issues;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF CORAL GABLES:

SECTION 1. The foregoing "Whereas" clauses are hereby ratified and confirmed as being true and correct and are hereby made a specific part of this Resolution upon adoption hereof.

SECTION 2. The City Commission does hereby direct the Department of Public Works to remove the Miami-Dade concurrency requirements and adopt the City's revised traffic calming criteria for all traffic calming devices, if the street meets traffic calming warrants and/or there is a documented history of crashes. Should a street meet traffic calming warrants, without a history of crashes, 50 percent concurrency will be required.

SECTION 3. The City Commission does hereby direct the Department of Public Works to continue engaging communities through public involvement processes for all proposed traffic calming devices and sidewalk construction in lieu of concurrency requirements.

SECTION 4. That this Resolution shall become effective upon the date of its passage and adopted herein.

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS TENTH DAY OF JULY, A.D., 2018.

(Moved: Quesada / Seconded: Lago)

(Unanimous Voice Vote)

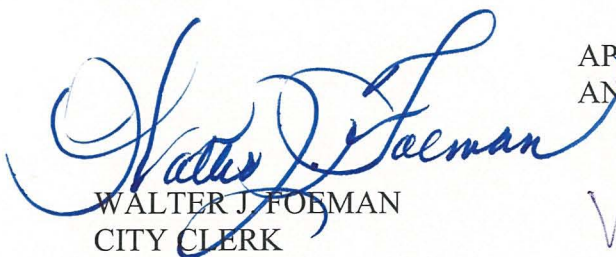
(Agenda Item: D-5)

APPROVED:

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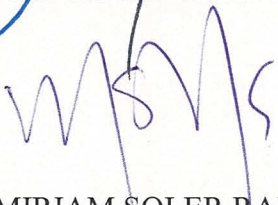
RAUL VALDES-FAULI
MAYOR

ATTEST:

A large, stylized handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Walter J. Foeman'.

WALTER J. FOEMAN
CITY CLERK

APPROVED AS TO FORM
AND LEGAL SUFFICIENCY:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of several loops and a long tail.

MIRIAM SOLER RAMOS
CITY ATTORNEY

*Concurrency Policy Changes
for Sidewalks and Traffic
Calming*

JUNE 12, 2018

POLICY GOAL

- To facilitate the implementation of traffic calming and construction of new sidewalks throughout the city in the interest of public safety and health

EXISTING TRAFFIC CALMING PROCESS

- The City currently follows the Traffic Flow Modifications/Street Closures procedure set by Miami-Dade County
- Concurrency requirements include 100% approval from adjacent property owners for all traffic calming devices and 2/3 resident approval for traffic flow modifications other than traffic circles;
- Existing process creates an unnecessary barrier to creating safer streets

EXISTING SIDEWALK CONSTRUCTION PROCESS

- Property owner contacts city staff with sidewalk request
- Staff reviews request to determine if sidewalk is feasible
- The requester is provided a neighborhood interest form to distribute to neighbors. 50% support of the property owners is required to initiate a public meeting to discuss the construction of sidewalks
- Public meeting describes sidewalk project and voting requirements, where 2/3rds support of residential properties is required in order to construct new sidewalks.

EXISTING SIDEWALK CONSTRUCTION PROCESS

- For collector streets that serve a larger neighborhood, the City shall provide 100% funding. These streets include:
 - Alhambra Circle
 - S. Alhambra Circle
 - Granada Boulevard
 - Sevilla Avenue from Red Road to Anastasia Avenue
 - University Drive
 - San Amaro Drive
 - Miller Road
 - Campo Sano Avenue
 - Riviera Drive
 - Anastasia Ave.
 - Ponce de Leon Blvd
 - De Soto Blvd

EXISTING SIDEWALK CONSTRUCTION PROCESS

- For local streets serving only the immediate neighborhood, the City shall provide 50% of the funding and the remaining 50% shall be shared by property owners based on lineal feet of frontage through the establishment of an assessment district in accordance with the City's Capital Assessment ordinance 2014-07
- Existing process is arduous and creates an unnecessary barrier to creating safe, multi-modal streets for all ages and abilities

GUIDING POLICIES AND REGULATIONS

- The recommended concurrency changes support the following resolutions, policies and regulations:
 - **Sec. 58-57 of the Coral Gables City Code**, which states:

“Sidewalks, curbs and/or gutters shall be constructed, reconstructed or repaired when any property located within the corporate limits improved, altered or modified by the construction, reconstruction, renovation, remodeling or repair of any type of building, structure, or parking facility exceeding \$15,000.00 in value, or when such building to be constructed, reconstructed, renovated, remodeled or repaired exceeds 600 square feet in floor area, for which a building permit is required.”
 - **Ordinance 2010-09** - Coral Gables Comprehensive Plan; calls for a reduction in the impacts of vehicular traffic as well as increasing multi-modal options, including these specific objectives:
 - **Objective MOB 1.1:** Provide solutions to mitigate and reduce the impacts of vehicular traffic on the environment, and residential streets in particular with emphasis on alternatives to the automobile including walking, bicycling, public transit and vehicle pooling.
 - **Objective MOB 1.1.4:** Support incentives that promote walking, bicycling and public transit and those that improve pedestrian and bicycle access

GUIDING POLICIES AND REGULATIONS

(continued)

- **Ordinance 2016-47** - Coral Gables 3 Year Strategic Plan, 2017-2019; includes the performance measure to build 6 miles of sidewalks by 2019 which meets objectives to: Attain world-class performance levels in public safety by 2019, Improve mobility throughout the City, Enhance the pedestrian experience, safety, and connectivity in the City through improved lighting, crosswalks, sidewalks, and way finding, and increase alternative mobility options to the community by 2019
- **Resolution 2017-151** - Active Design Policy; an approach to encourage design and policy strategies for healthier communities through active mobility and improved design in the public right of way
- **Resolution Age-friendly resolution:** Adopted on May 22nd, 2018. Supports the creation of transportation networks that provide safe mobility for all ages and abilities, especially meeting the needs of senior citizens
- **Resolution 2018-80** - Complete Streets Resolution: Calls for the creation of multi-modal, human-scaled streets, including completing the city's sidewalk and bicycle network, and shifting focus from automobile level of service to multimodal level of service

PROPOSED CHANGES

- Change sidewalk concurrency requirement to zero in an effort to provide accessibility for all roadway users.
- Adopt City specific traffic calming concurrency requirements for all traffic calming devices. If the street meets traffic calming warrants and there is a documented history of crashes, no concurrency will be required. 50 percent concurrency will be required if a street meets traffic calming warrants without a history of crashes.
- All streets shall be eligible for full sidewalk funding.
- Change code Section Sec. 58-48 – City shall be responsible for all sidewalk maintenance except if caused by the property owner from construction or damage from private landscaping

PROPOSED CHANGES

- Concurrency changes will support previously adopted resolutions, ordinances and long range plans
- Planning and engineering for Coral Gables' sidewalk network will be a more streamlined, predictable process
- Public engagement will still be a priority for sidewalk and traffic calming projects, with public notifications and meetings still a critical part of these projects

Thank You!