

**TRAFFIC ADVISORY BOARD
CORAL GABLES YOUTH CENTER – CONFERENCE ROOM
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2010, 5:30 P.M.**

- MEETING MINUTES -

MEMBERS	S 10	O 10	N 10	D 10	J 09	F 10	M 10	A 10	M 10	J 10	J 10	A 10	APPOINTED BY:
VACANT					P	P	P	E	P	P	-		Donald D. Slesnick, II
Larry D. Kries	P				P	P	P	P	P	P	P		Maria Anderson
Deborah Swain	P				P	P	P	P	P	P	P		Rafael "Ralph" Cabrera, Jr.
VACANT					P	P	P	#	#	E	-		William H. Kerdyk, Jr.
Chris Zoller*	P				P	P	P	P	P	P	P		Wayne "Chip" Withers
Donna Kupper*	P				P	E	P	P	E	P	P		Commission-as-a-Whole
Al Smith*	P				P	A	P	P	P	P	P		City Manager

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

Staff:

Glenn Kephart, Public Works Director
Ernesto R. Pino, Assistant Public Works Director
James Kay, Engineering Division Supervisor
Jeannette Reyes, Clerical Assistant II
Esther Zabalo, Civil Engineer
Sergeant Garcia, Police Department
Hope Gibbs, Fire Department

Ms. Swain called the meeting to order at 5:33 pm

Mr. Kephart announced Ms. Zabalo's retirement and that Mr. Janiga will be replacing her. He asked for the Chair's permission to have Ms. Zabalo say a few words.

Ms. Zabalo said she has been part of this Board since it was established in 2001. She has enjoyed working with residents and was happy to be part of the Board.

Ms. Kupper said that Ms. Zabalo would be missed and it was a pleasure to work with her.

Ms. Swain asked if there were any new Board members yet. Mr. Pino said that we are waiting for confirmation from the City Clerk's Office.

Ms. Swain mentioned that at this time there are no available prior meeting minutes for approval.

Mr. Kay updated the Board on the Ponce de Leon Boulevard project. He said it's moving along with the concrete work, curb and gutter, sidewalk and drainage. He stated that an FHWA representative inspected the project and as a result, the maintenance of traffic (MOT) plan needed improvement. We are now in compliance and the site is a lot neater and nicer. He stated the project is about 25 - 50 percent completed. He reported that the median improvement project will be the second phase of the project. Once the curb and gutter and sidewalk on both sides of the street (between Alcazar and Salamanca) are complete, this phase will start.

Ms. Zabalo reported on the following projects: (1) Milan and Cordova traffic calming project is pending County approval; (2) The Valencia and Indian Mound Trail project is complete; (3) The Red Road and Lugo traffic circle, there are (3) three residents that are not in favor.

Ms. Kupper commented that she was under the impression there were (2) two residents not in favor and not (3) three. Ms. Zabalo said that the consent of those (4) four residents is needed so there's majority of the whole area. Ms. Kupper asked what was the majority and Ms. Zabalo responded 70 percent (plus or minus).

Ms. Zabalo reported on the ballots for the sign at Galiano and Sidonia. She said that a letter needed to be sent to residents advising there was not 100% of the votes. As for the speed tables on Santa Maria, residents need to initiate the re-voting process for us to send the ballots. Mr. Pino said these residents have shown interest in voting again and there's certain time frame in order to comply with County guidelines. Ms. Zabalo said it's (3) three months after receiving ballots and then able to initiate the votes. Mr. Pino said it would be this month (September).

Ms. Zabalo said approval was received from the County for Palermo and DeSoto and construction will start shortly.

Mr. Kay provided an update on the Aragon and LeJeune Road intersection improvements which is in a preliminary stage. He mentioned that a few years back there was a proposal by FDOT to construct a raised median on LeJeune Road north of Miracle Mile once the construction of the LeJeune median at the Village of Merrick Park was completed. After neighborhood meetings were held with affected residents west of LeJeune Road, it was determined that a few cut-throughs would remain in the median for east-west traffic relief. The residents along these streets expressed concern that they were going to be singled out to be negatively impacted, being the only streets affected by traffic from LeJeune Road. The City and FDOT acknowledged this issue and determined that FDOT would continue to repave LeJeune Road and reconstruct new striping of the median and not construct a raised median.

Mr. Zoller asked for the status of the traffic light on LeJeune in front of the new City National Bank building, which is not activated. Ms. Zabalo responded that there's a Public Works permit already and FDOT is working on this. Mr. Kay mentioned he would follow-up on the status.

Mr. Kay mentioned the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) is moving along with a minor project on LeJeune Road to egress ADA requirements for sidewalks. This project will start early 2011 to address some issues with poles and sidewalks not being wide enough for wheelchair access.

Mr. Zoller asked if light poles were going to be removed. Mr. Kay said he didn't know and that new poles were recently installed. He also said that in some cases they are trying the easements and in some cases there may be other of adjustments made.

Mr. Kephart updated the Board on the Segovia Median project by saying the project was discussed in last Tuesday's City Commission meeting and was approved, as recommended by the County (with curbs and gutters). The bidding process will start as soon as the plans are finalized and the contract is expected to be awarded in November's City Commission meeting. It's also expected for the construction to start in December and go through June 2011. As previously discussed, the components of the project include a 16 ft. wide median with curb and gutter, large oak trees, oak trees in the swale and a single bike lane in each direction.

Mr. Kries asked what is considered a collector street.

Mr. Kephart explained that a collector street is classified by FDOT and are officially designated in maps. Typically a collector feeds local streets, so local streets don't go anywhere but a local neighborhood. They also typically connect to an arterial such as Bird Road, in this case, and then be the main feeder into that neighborhood. One of the issues of this project was that it was believed this was a collector, our consultant said it was a collector, and then it was verified with the County that it was a collector. Due to this fact, the City needed to follow the collector criteria.

Mr. Kries asked if other collector streets in the City don't have curbs.

Mr. Kephart replied yes. He also said if there were new projects on those streets, they would be looked at the same way new projects are looked at. Further, this would be based on the current criteria at the time public funding is available for those projects.

Ms. Kupper asked if this increases the cost of the project and what is the funding from other sources.

Mr. Kephart replied the funding is approximately \$610,000.00 from the County impact fees, \$110,000.00 from an existing project agreement with the County (left over funds from our street improvement program), and an additional \$110,000.00 from Capital Improvement. This is an additional \$220,000.00 for the purpose of enhancing the landscaping.

Ms. Kupper commented that area residents are upset about the school situation, but are pleased with the Segovia median project moving forward.

Mr. Kries asked how the County previously approved the original project design.

Mr. Kephart stated the County's Public Works Director was not pleased with the previous approval and indicated it should not have been approved. The County's Public Works Director further stated that we needed to move forward with the correct design standards for the project.

Ms. Swain asked for the status on the stop sign at Augusto, submitted to the County. Ms. Zabalo said the County was waiting for school to start with the traffic count and that a response should be coming soon.

Ms. Zabalo also updated the Board on the bicycle lane striping which was submitted to the County. Mr. Pino stated that the striping included Country Club Prado (on both sides) as well as bicycle lanes on both sides of Country Club Prado from 8th Street up to Sevilla Avenue. This will also include re-striping of bicycle lanes citywide.

Ms. Zabalo said the County will be starting on Valencia's re-striping and are not changing its design.

Sergeant Garcia commented on the striping of DeSoto Fountain and Cartagena Plaza looking bad. Mr. Pino said the County has plans to restore the intersection of the Cartagena Plaza roundabout and we will look into DeSoto.

Ms. Kupper asked about those traffic circles with cracked curbing and what is being done to address this. Mr. Kay said this due to settling issues and that unless it's a recent traffic circle, the contract is expired. He further said some of those circles are old and funding needs to be identified.

Mr. Kay also stated that a lot of the circles need maintenance. Ms. Kupper agreed and suggested for funding to be allocated for the maintenance of all circles.

Ms. Kupper mentioned specific circles at Gables by the Sea, on Bella Vista, which are relatively new and the curbing is crumbling. Mr. Kephart said they will look into these.

There was discussion by Sergeant Garcia about the Iron Man special event and citywide preparations.

Members and city staff introduced themselves for Ms. Reyes to become acquainted with the Board.

Ms. Kupper asked for follow-up on the two (2) new Board appointees and Mr. Kephart concurred.

Meeting was adjourned at 6:16 p.m.