

TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY BOARD  
CORAL GABLES POLICE DEPT. (CMR)  
2801 SALZEDO STREET  
CORAL GABLES, FLORIDA 33134  
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2016 @ 5:30 PM

**MEETING MINUTES**

<b>MEMBERS</b>	<b>O</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>J</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>J</b>	<b>J</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>S</b>	<b>APPOINTED BY:</b>
	15	15	15	16	16	16	16	16	16	16	16	16	
Ignacio G. Borbolla	E	P	P	E	P	P	E	P	P	E	P	E	Jim Cason
Gordon Sokoloff	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	Patricia Keon
Deborah Swain	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	Vince Lago
Courtney Thompson	P	P	P	P		P	P	P	P	P	P	P	Jeannette Slesnick
Albert Corrada	P	P	P	P	P	E	P	P	P	P	A	A	Frank C. Quesada
Chris Morrison	P	P	P	E	P	P	P	P	E	P	P	P	Commission-as-a-Whole
Al Smith	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	-	E	P	P	E	City Manager

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

**STAFF:**

Jessica Keller, Public Works Assistant Director  
Yamilet Senespleda, Public Works City Engineer/Senior Traffic Engineer  
Chief Hudak, Coral Gables Police  
Antonio Aleman, C. G. Police Sergeant

**GUEST:**

Jack Schnettler, Atkins Consultant

**CALL TO ORDER:**

Mr. Thompson called the meeting to order at 5:33 pm.

**MEETING MINUTES APPROVAL:**

***August 16, 2016 meeting minutes*** – Mr. Morrison made a motion to approve the minutes, Mrs. Swain seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

**Mr. Morrison made a motion to excuse Mr. Borbolla & Dr. Smith, Dr. Sokoloff seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.**

**Mr. Morrison made a motion encouraging Public Works to present the plan for 25 mph implementation to the TAB before the Commission. Include a map highlighting the roadways that will not be posted at 25 mph, Dr. Sokoloff seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.**

**Mrs. Swain made a motion encouraging the City to investigate opportunities within its own departments to implement flexible hours to reduce traffic at the most heavily traveled times and to consider an outreach to businesses and organizations such as the Chambers of Commerce and the BID to follow suite, Mr. Corrada seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.**

**Mrs. Swain made a motion that the Transportation Advisory Board Chair meet with the City Attorney to discuss what actions a board needs to take to change the governance and the power of the Board, Mr. Morrison seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.**

**SECRETARY'S REPORT:**

*Monegro St, Sarto Ave, Cadima, - community meeting at 8:00 pm @ the Youth Center's Theater room on Thursday, September 22, 2016 to discuss impenetrable barrier walls requested by the residents.*

Mr. Corrada asked a question in reference to the *two different types of bike lanes: one being exclusive for bikes and one shared with vehicles*. On Sevilla between Red Road and Anastasia there's an exclusive bike lane, his understanding is that another lane for vehicles will be constructed to be able to turn off on to Anastasia, is this accurate? Jessica said no. The plan is to extend the lane along the median to allow more queue space for vehicles to wait at the stop sign at Sevilla and Anastasia. Mr. Corrada asked if it's possible to make the exclusive bike lane a shared lane. Jessica said no. The reason is because the shared lanes are dying out; it was the cause of early implementation years of introducing bikes to the roadway

network. The sharrows will no longer be recognized by the American Bicyclist as adequate infrastructure.

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

Mr. Thompson mentioned that *a couple of meetings ago the board discussed the City in a leadership role in trying to get people in white collar business to stagger their hours*. This will allow for people, who have to drop off children at school go in earlier and relieve traffic between peak hours of 8:00 and 9:00 am. Mr. Thompson has managed to work this topic into conversations he's had at lunches or gatherings in Coral Gables as well as in Miami. He has gotten mixed but also predominantly positive responses from it. Mr. Thompson believes that in order to help the traffic in Coral Gables and the City of Miami the board should consider bringing this up in front of the Commission. Although he understands that waiters, waitresses and construction workers, that certain things need to be done at a certain time, there is also a percentage of the population that does not need to be on the road at the times that they are on the road. Chief Hudak said it is a huge task and what Mr. Thompson has at hand is helpful and there's credit to the thought process. Sgt. Aleman agreed with Chief Hudak that the earlier the better, adding that the 6 am to 2 pm hours in order to alleviate the peak hours, is a little getting used to but the reward is enormous.

Dr. Sokoloff mentioned that *at past meetings it was discussed that the board attend Commission meetings and appealing the actual functionality as a board*. There is a mission statement which is dedicated to improving the traffic conditions in the Gables. Commissioner Slesnick and Quesada have attended our meetings as well as the City Manager and they have all mentioned how important the Transportation Advisory Board is, but do we really know what kind of impact the board has on what goes on in the City. The amount of construction that goes on, the growth and the scale of the project itself that are in the pipeline are astronomical. There is no question the Gables is becoming less user friendly to its citizens as the streets become more congested. The Public Safety Department are probably less effective when there's heavier traffic to get to crime scenes or emergency scenes. Dr. Sokoloff thinks the board would like to have a quantifiable effect. The board that has the most widespread effect on the City is the Transportation Board but we don't sit in the chambers and we don't have any direct effect. The Historic Preservation Board, they sit in the Chambers and they vote they are a more effective board than the Transportation Advisory Board. Dr. Sokoloff said the members all show up at the meetings, they dedicate their time, they toss up ideas

but are they doing any good, are they getting any results. Dr. Sokoloff has attended many other meetings and he sees that they are getting results and that they are effective, in the meantime the T.A.B. is relying on the Commission and hoping that they read their minutes much less act on them.

Mrs. Swain mentioned that the scope of the board has been expanded from traffic circles to all modes of transportation, she suggested before making a motion, she believes that if the T.A.B. members were in assistance at the commission meetings during the time our minutes are being presented, and if someone wanted to make a comments (to explain the reason the motion was made), they could be the face of the TAB. Mrs. Swain said to the Board, if they made it a routine to be at every Commission meeting, the Commission will see us. Mrs. Swain stated, they are an Advisory Board and they can investigate, simultaneously the steps to change that. It would have to be as a resolution, and there will need to be changes in the codes to establish what the Boards function is, but she doesn't know how to go about that.

Mr. Thompson said it is his expressed opinion that the best thing for them to do is to appear in front of the Commission as a complete Board. Mr. Thompson believes he has made these suggestions in October or November of last year and Commissioner Slesnick said she would make some form of suggestion, whether that was informal or none-formal to getting us on the agenda. Mr. Thompson spoke to Jessica about it but it fell through the cracks, because he was under the weather and forgot to forward the information to her. Mr. Thompson will forward all the information Jessica needs to move forward with requesting that the Commission adds them on to their Agenda as a complete board. Mr. Thompson suggest the Board review a year's worth of minutes and pick out the highlights discussed at each meeting, like things the Board wanted the Commission to discuss but never got around to them.

The Board will provide Jessica with a January 2017 date, for her to add the T.A.B. on the Commission Agenda. In the meantime, the Board members will do their research and have all the data ready for the Commission meeting.

Chief Hudak suggested the Board meet with the City Attorney before going in front of the Commission.

Transportation Advisory Board

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Continued

**OLD/NEW BUSINESS:**

Mr. Morrison asked Jessica, for the finish date on the West Ingraham HYW.  
Jessica said they should be done, except for the landscaping.

Mrs. Swain commended Jessica on her work as the Interim Public Works Director.  
Mrs. Swain has heard nothing but great things accomplished under Jessica's watch.

**ADJOURNED:**

6:55 pm