

TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY BOARD
CORAL GABLES YOUTH CENTER – CONFERENCE ROOM
405 UNIVERSITY DRIVE
CORAL GABLES, FL 33134
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2015 @ 5:30 PM

MEETING MINUTES

MEMBERS		N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	APPOINTED BY:
		14	14	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	
Ignacio Borbolla	G.	E	+-	P	E	P	E	P	P	+	P	P	E	Jim Cason
Gordon Sokoloff		P	+-	P	P	P	P	P	P	+	P	P	P	Patricia Keon
Deborah Swain		P	+-	P	P	P	P	P	P	+	P	P	P	Vince Lago
Courtney Thompson		-	+-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	P	P	P	Jeannette Slesnick
Albert Corrada		P	+-	P	P	P	P	P	P	+	P	A	P	Frank C. Quesada
Chris Morrison		P	+-	P	P	P	P	P	P	+	P	P	P	Commission-as-a-Whole
Al Smith		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	P	P	P	City Manager

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

STAFF:

Jessica Keller, Assistant Public Works Director
Yamilet Senespleda, Public Works City Engineer/Senior Traffic Engineer

CALL TO ORDER:

Mrs. Swain called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm.

MEETING MINUTES APPROVAL:

September 15, 2015 Meeting Minutes Mr. Morrison made a motion to accept the minutes with the correction of his attendance. Mr. Thompson seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

GUEST:

Jack Schnettler, PE – Atkins, Project Manager

MOTIONS:

Mr. Morrison made a motion to excuse Mr. Borbolla, Mr. Corrada seconded. The motion was unanimously approved.

Mr. Thompson made a motion to have the city Commission place a moratorium on any further developments until the Multi-Modal Transportation Comprehensive study is finalized, beginning with the Paseo de La Riviera project, Mr. Sokoloff seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

Mrs. Swain made a motion to elect Mr. Courtney Thompson as Chair to the Transportation Advisory Board, Mr. Sokoloff seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

Mr. Sokoloff made a motion to elect Mrs. Swain as the Vice Chair to the Transportation Advisory Board, Mr. Corrada seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

Mr. Morrison made a motion to have the Vice Chair be the representative to the Comprehensive Transportation Plan, Mr. Sokoloff seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

Mr. Thompson asked where in the minutes it states, that the board made a recommendation that the University put up some temporary signs at the intersection of Hurricane Drive & Zamora. Who will start the process in requesting the signs? Yamilet said it would be the University and the County; staff would need to be involved as well. Mrs. Swain asked that a periodic update be given to the board.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Mrs. Swain mentioned to the board about the Bi-Annual Boards and Committees Ethics Seminar.

SECRETARY'S REPORT:

Comprehensive Transportation Plan - Jack from Atkins Consultants, stated that the work program will be divided into two parts. The technical work involves tackling problems, diagnosing issues, offering solutions and getting public feedback, as well as stakeholders group and meetings that will be open to the general public. Mrs. Swain said that the board had an opportunity to see and give input on the scope that became part of the request for proposals from the consultants. The district and zones were discussed and the idea is to work with staff to identify where all of the hot spots and issues are and see how they can be grouped into districts. Courtney asked if the plan would include the traffic signal issues- Jessica said there won't be individual signal analysis performed but the plan will be make recommendations. Mrs. Swain asked Jack what his role will be versus Dover Kohl. Jack said there are three firms on the team, Atkins; Caltran Engineering who will be supporting Atkins with field data collection and

Dover Kohl whose main focus is supporting the public involvement process. Mr. Morrison asked how many months the project will take, Jessica said 12 months. Mr. Sokoloff asked what type of advertising and who is going to be responsible for advertising to the residents to make sure they show up. Jessica said both the City and the consultant will be responsible.

Paseo de la Riviera Development - they will come to the next board meeting. Mr. Thompson said the project is a beautiful project with beautiful architects but he said it's going "on the wrong land". The traffic studies done showed that it is a failing zone. Mr. Thompson asked Chief Hudak if he can provide a recent incident report involving pedestrians, bicycles and vehicles, he also suggested that staff do an overview at the next meeting. Residents have stated they are concerned about the traffic, noise and blockage. The overpass that is under construction by the University is already causing traffic problems. Every ones concern is traffic, safety, noise abatement and beautification. The board members voiced their concerns about the *Paseo de la Riviera* and *Agave* projects, some members are collecting petition signatures from neighboring residents and businesses owners. If a recall is granted the project is back on the table and all new commissioners will have to be re-elected. Mr. Thompson said if the commission considers the Transportation Advisory Board a group of value, then they need to make sure the board is consulted on these major projects before making any decisions on moving forward.

ELECTIONS OF THE CHAIR & VICE CHAIR:

Mrs. Swain would like to step down as the Chair and be considered as a Vice Chair. Mrs. Swain would like to elect Mr. Thompson as Chair to the Transportation Advisory Board.

TRAFFIC PROJECT UPDATES:

Jessica mentioned that Miami Dade County is re-organizing; they pulled out transportation components of Public Works and combined it with the transit organization. This re-organization has slowed down staff as far as getting city projects approved and moving along, but it is a positive move. Jessica said that staff spoke to the Biltmore Hotel asking that they offer bicycles to their guest as the Ritz Carlton does, but they were not interested due to liability issues. They did say they would think about it again.

Gated Communities - none of the gated communities met threshold for traffic calming, what is being offered is if they still want traffic calming the city will design and construct at the community's expense.

Anderson at University roundabout – the ballots went out and all of the support that was needed was received. Staff is working with the County and setting up community meetings to let everyone knows what is happening.

Aragon Ave. & Giralda speed tables – ballots were sent out and currently just waiting for them to come back in.

Biltmore Drive – data was collected before and after on Biltmore Drive & Rhonda. Temporary

speed cushions were installed on Biltmore Drive to see the speed impact on neighboring streets. The data shows there was little change in speed on Rhonda but speed complaints have been reported on Orduna. Traffic data will be collected again on Orduna, Biltmore and Rhonda. Originally speed cushions were designed a certain width so that emergency vehicles can pass through them and not regular vehicles, therefore they will go back to the original design in order to collect additional data in the event that there is a perception by the residents that now they are more narrow and people are going faster.

Mrs. Swain asked how this particular project is in process ahead of the Comprehensive Transportation Plan. Jessica said these are some of the projects that were already in effect.

Aragon Capital Project - will be launching this year to accommodate bicycles that are not accommodated on the Mile.

Sevilla Avenue Bike Lanes – staff continues to monitor the bike lanes, the span of time where delays occur is about 20 minutes in the afternoon. The longest period of time it takes a car to pass the area is 7 minutes. Police Officer Escalona asked who is responsible to maintain the traffic boxes. Yamilet said they are county responsibility.

UM Community meeting – November 10th or the 19th related to the internal road. Jessica will forward the information to the board.

Parking Day – It was a success and it will be expanding next year.

POLICE UPDATE:

Mr. Thompson asked Police Officer Escalona to remind Chief Hudak about the incident report he asked for in reference to the Paseo de la Riviera project.

University Drive between Bird and Blue - Mrs. Swain mention she was at a neighborhood meeting on University Drive this morning and that street is designated no trucks but it's a thoroughfare for large trucks. The neighbors asked that she have their street put on a list for enforcement.

Granada & US1, Ponce and Miami Homestead - Mr. Thompson mentioned that people have asked him what can be done about the violations at these intersections. People are running the light, pedestrians are nearly getting hit, bicyclists are nearly getting hit and people are scare to cross the street. Yamilet said there will be a safety FDOT project next year at this intersection at US1 from Santona to Granada.

Mr. Thompson asked Police Officer Escalona to ask Chief Hudak if he can assign a permanent officer to the Transportation Advisory Board.

Transportation Advisory Board

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Continued

NEW BUSINESS:

Zones - Mrs. Swain asked the board to see what zone they currently pertain to and at the next meeting they will be the assigned as the main contact for that zone.

Mr. Thompson asked the board if they would like to have a traffic application specific for Coral Gables. It would show traffic hot zones where to avoid, things to be able to do and see what's happening tonight or when critical mass will be passing through the city. To be discussed at the next meeting.

ADJOURNED 7:15 pm