

**City of Coral Gables City Commission Meeting  
Agenda Item F-1  
August 23, 2016  
City Commission Chambers  
405 Biltmore Way, Coral Gables, FL**

**City Commission**

**Mayor Jim Cason  
Commissioner Pat Keon  
Commissioner Vince Lago  
Vice Mayor Frank Quesada  
Commissioner Jeannett Slesnick**

**City Staff**

**City Manager, Cathy Swanson-Rivenbark  
City Attorney, Craig E. Leen  
City Clerk, Walter J. Foeman  
Deputy City Clerk, Billy Urquia  
Assistant Public Works Director, Jessica Keller  
Police Chief, Ed Hudak**

**Public Speaker(s)**

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Agenda Item F-1 [3:38:37 p.m.]

A Resolution authorizing the Public Works Department to proceed with the development of a plan to implement 25 mph speed limit on all residential streets. (Deferred item July 26, 2016 City Commission Meeting). (Initiated by Commissioner Lago).

Mayor Cason: We are going to move onto F-1.

City Manager Swanson-Rivenbark: I'll ask Jessica Keller to come forward, and I did find the mosquito dumps, even Home Depot and Lowes sell them, the tablets that Jessica said will not hurt animals.

Assistant Public Works Director Keller: Or humans that drink ground water. Good afternoon. Dating back to 2001, the City Commission has discussed lowering the speed limit to 25 mph in

response to residential concerns throughout the City. In June of 2014, we hired David Plummer and Associated who submitted a study consisting of the following. They outline the procedures for reducing residential street speed limits, they developed a preliminary cost estimate for installing the required speed limit signs, and they also noted the advantages and disadvantages of reducing residential speed limits. On May 12, 2015, the City Commission directed staff to proceed with developing the analysis that would support lowering the speed limit to 25 mph where staff sees it fit. On April 21, 2016, the City of Coral Gables submitted the analysis to Miami-Dade County Department of Transportation and Public Works, recommending a posted speed limit of 25 mph on all residential streets. The recommendation to implement on all residential streets will provide consistency and limit confusion. On July 8, 2016, Miami-Dade County approved the City's request to lower the speed limit to 25 mph only on residential local streets maintained by the City of Coral Gables. The installation and maintenance of the signs must be processed through Inter-governmental Agency Agreement with the County. Lowering the speed limit on residential streets is well aligned with the strategic plan objective to attain world class performance levels and public safety. Public Works has set a goal of 10 percent reduction in injuries each year for pedestrians and bicyclists. Slower speeds decrease the frequency and severity of injuries. I would like to call Chief Hudak to come up and talk about some of the stuff. I'm sorry, can you come up. What I want the Chief to talk about is how we issue citations.

Chief Hudak: We were asked to provide a breakdown of the numbers from 2015 and 2016 on what we are finding as far as our habitual traffic offenders throughout the City. So far to date, January 1<sup>st</sup> through July 31<sup>st</sup> the accidents, the residents involved in Coral Gables accidents were 523 and the accidents for non-Gables residents in our City 2,824. The speeding tickets issued 156 citations and 125 warnings were issued to residents; tickets issued to non-Gables residents 943 citations, 744 warnings. So our ratio is within a balance in a population and the pass through of what we are seeing as far as the speed is concerned and this will probably, we believe, is going to help affect an overall calming of the traffic.

Assistant Public Works Director Keller: One of the things we wanted to bring to your attention is the speed at which a citation is actually issued.

Chief Hudak: So the bottom line is what's an acceptable practice by most of the courts is 7 mph over the speed limit is what the courts have thought is a good balance, if you will, between the actual speed and it kind of gives out a relatively objective view of what it is.

Vice Mayor Quesada: Does that mean that your officers will ticket between 26 and 31?- or they will only ticket at 32?

Chief Hudak: We usually start ticketing at 32, so we use that 7 mph cushion, if you will, so if we post it at 30, the first ticket will be 37 miles and above is usually what we write. What we've seen throughout, let's say Granada, the issue with Granada Boulevard south of Bird Road is 30 mph, which is considered fast by residents that live there. It's difficult for us to write those citations, however, the speed limit drops over the bridge because of the narrow bridge to 20.

Vice Mayor Quesada: Well that slows everybody down.

Chief Hudak: It does, but that's where we write most of our citations, because they still try to do it 35-40 mph coming around once they used to navigating the turn, the roundabout.

Commissioner Lago: I've been working on this issue for about a year and-a-half, almost two years since you started having this discussion and I'll be honest with you, navigating the County has been an arduous task and I just wanted to mention two people who, besides obviously our incredible staff who have done a great job, besides Martha and Chelsea who has helped me with this, but Darleen Fernandez who is, I forgot her title, I think she is Director, do you remember her title?

Assistant City Manager Iglesias: Deputy Director.

Commissioner Lago: Deputy Director so I can address her properly and Ms. Alice Bravo, who is Director have really helped us get to where we are today, and I think that what we achieve today takes it from out of the City's hands now to an enforcement issue, and I think that we need to run a significant campaign educating people, because it is an incredible drop off when you get down to 25 mph in reference to the rate of fatalities in reference to traffic injuries and people who are on bikes or people who are running or people who are walking. So this is a good measure to slow down traffic in our neighborhoods and hopefully, I mean we may not be able to calculate it, but hopefully it will save a life one day.

Mayor Cason: Chief how many injuries, bodily injuries are in these accidents that you referred to?

Chief Hudak: Mayor so far of the 1,777 accidents that we've had to date, 243 of those were injury, I'm sorry, we have 243 were injury crashes of which there were 312 people injured, so there were certain accidents that have multiple injuries, whether it be both or not. We've had one traffic fatality.

Commissioner Slesnick: Where was that?

Chief Hudak: The traffic fatality?

Commissioner Slesnick: Like on Bird Road, was that the one on Bird Road?

Chief Hudak: I believe that was the one on Bird Road, there was a second one on Bird Road, but I have to double-check, I have to double-check the exact location.

Mayor Cason: To what extent moving forward are we going to have discussions with the neighborhoods. We started with Gables by the Sea, they wanted it.

Commissioner Lago: But by the way if I could just interject. When you are talking about Gables by the Sea, Coco Plum, Gables Estates, those types of little pockets, they have approvals for reduction in speed down to 20 mph, and that's another approval that we were able to get from Darleen Fernandez and Ms. Alice Bravo from the County. So within the neighborhoods 25 and in those pockets you can even get it down to 20 mph.

Commissioner Slesnick: Are we asking residents to give their opinions?

Assistant Public Works Director Keller: This resolution is authorizing the Public Works Department to proceed with the development of a plan to reduce to 25 mph and we are not asking you to adopt the 25 mph speed limit today.

Commissioner Lago: Let me interject one second. I know you want a plan, but I'm going to step in. I've been working on this for two years and we do enough planning here for everybody. I'm asking you to adopt it, because Frank has been working on this, we were talking about this for 15 years, it's time to adopt. Why wouldn't you want people to come? We are like a sieve in this City, as the Mayor loves to say, we have almost 190 entrances into this beautiful community that we call home. It is time that people respect driving through the City of Coral Gables. If we need to enforce the law, we need to enforce it, we need to hire more Police Officers, we need to do it, but I want to make sure that when you are driving through our neighborhoods, especially within our City streets where I have my daughters walking around and running and enjoying, because I don't have a park so close to me, when they are in the backyard, I'm afraid that they may be run over by a car going down Rubino. I have somebody that goes down 40-45 mph down my street. I'm not fortunate to live in one of Gables Estates, Coco Plum, or one of those neighborhoods. So to me, I think study things, it's perfectly fine, I have no issues studying, but to me this is a no-brainer. Why wouldn't we want people to go in our street and respect the laws and just take their foot off the gas and be respectful of all the residents, especially as our community as you know, everybody here knows, you've got two young children, you have a bunch of grandchildren that come to your house, so do you, so do you, and you sell homes to a lot of young professionals

moving into this neighborhood, not everybody has access to a park, so what ends up happening is they end up riding their bikes on the street. I've seen people almost come close to running my children over. So, I don't have an issue with studying it, but I think I don't want to waste public funds that we could use, from what I understand it was a cost of around \$75,000 to change out all the signs that's what I had heard about three years ago when we started entering this discussion.

Commissioner Slesnick: It was pretty hefty.

Vice Mayor Quesada: I heard it was much, much higher. What's the numbers?

Mayor Cason: Chief you wanted to say something.

Chief Hudak: If I can – and Commissioner I think this is what we had talked about in the two departments of...

Commissioner Lago: Nobody had talked to me about this.

Chief Hudak: No, no, no...

Commissioner Lago: I'm just making you aware that nobody had taken the opportunity to come and talk to me about it.

Chief Hudak: These are some of the things where the enforcement side of it is married with the Public Works side of it. You know by state statute all rural roads are 30 miles an hour, anything contrary to that has to be signed, so I believe replacing the signs that we have now, let's say 30 in residential, that would be just replacing those. However, for us to enforce any other roads, my understanding, and this is where we started talking about the process, so if we want to drop a road down that does not have a speed limit sign on it right now...

Commissioner Lago: That's far and few between.

Chief Hudak: Well no, if you look at some of the residential neighborhoods, there are not a whole lot of roads that don't have any signs now. So for us to enforce a 25 mph speed zone we would have to put signs on those roads that do not have any now.

Assistant Public Works Director Keller: One of the things...

Commissioner Lago: Well why not just replace?

Assistant Public Works Director Keller: Almost, almost – So the original proposal based on what the model that the Chief is discussing, it would be about 600 signs, which is more than we have today at a cost of between \$165,000-\$180,000. One of the things that we don't want to have happen is a proliferation of additional signs, and so working with the County we have discussed this and we want to understand this is part of when I talk about a plan, it's not going to cost additional planning dollars, its take time dollars, but what we can do to minimize the number of signs that would be needed in the City of Coral Gables. We have some places where we have too many, this would be an opportunity for us to have the right number of signs for the community.

Commissioner Lago: But I'm confused because right now we have signs all up and down my street that say 30 miles an hour. Those signs would come down, the poles would stay and we would replace it with a new sign. That's the same visual pollution that we have right now.

Vice Mayor Quesada: What the Chief is telling you is because we are changing the speed at some of these other roads that do not now have signs.

Commissioner Lago: How many signs, how many areas...

Chief Hudak: I couldn't give that answer...

Mayor Cason: The accidents are people coming, not Coral Gables residents, coming from – like we have 750,000 cars a day coming in, that's reflected in the number of accidents the composition of whose cars they are.

Commissioner Lago: Respectfully I disagree. I think that when you are in the present situation that we are in, I won't need those signs in 15 years when my daughter goes away to college, we can just leave it that way. I just think it's ridiculous that we get caught up in this, we have to plan, and we got to go do this and we've got to do that. It's taken me two years to get these letters and approvals from the County. I've had multiple meetings, I have fought with the County, I have gone down there, I have met with staff, I have met with the Mayor, we got the letters, we finally got the approvals, why is it an issue? What I'm asking is my colleagues, excuse me...

Commissioner Slesnick: I think we should really have some more public input.

Commissioner Lago: Public input for lowering the speed limit?

Commissioner Slesnick: Well Chief, when you ticket cars, I just don't think we are enforcing our current speed limit like Pinecrest is, that's all, and I appreciate all your work Commissioner Lago.

Commissioner Lago: They are enforcing, the problem is that right now the speed limit is 30 and when you have that buffer of 8, your ticket is at 40.

Commissioner Slesnick: I keep saying we don't have enough Police Officers on the road to enforce our current speed limits and I go up and down Alhambra and they are going 50 miles an hour.

Commissioner Lago: Let me give you an example...

Commissioner Slesnick: And North Greenway too.

Commissioner Lago: When you get on 57<sup>th</sup> Avenue and you cut on Rubino and you get to Alhambra, and the next stop sign is, keep going down Rubino and you go and you hit San Amaro, from Alhambra to Rubino you can go 40 miles an hour and not get a ticket, you can go 37 and-a-half miles and not get a ticket.

Commissioner Lago: They can ticket at 7 or even 5 over.

Commissioner Lago: My understanding its 8, correct?

Chief Hudak: Seven (7).

Commissioner Lago: OK. So at 36 and-a-half miles per hour you don't get a ticket. I mean to me, there is no need to be travelling 36 miles an hour from one stop sign to another, which is how many feet Chief? How many feet do you think you have from one stop sign from Alhambra to San Amaro?

Commissioner Slesnick: Chief, do you have when people are ticketed, you have the radar gun so you know that they are going 40 or something miles per hour?- because you put that on the ticket that you are going 45 in a 30 mile speed zone.

Chief Hudak: Correct. That has to be in the citation to be legal, it has to be whether it's posted or if it's non-posted it's assumed at 30.

Commissioner Slesnick: Have you looked at those? How fast are those people going that are ticketed?

Chief Hudak: I'd have to do an additional breakdown. It depends on where we are writing them.

Commissioner Slesnick: Couldn't we have maybe for two weeks a really strong enforcement of our speed limits just to see what happens, just for like a two week period, just to try it out.

Commissioner Lago: Would you like to know what happens ma'am, with all due respect.

Commissioner Slesnick: Yes.

Commissioner Lago: People get tickets. You know who doesn't want a speed reduction and she'll hate me for saying this, my wife, and you know who doesn't care about a speed reduction?- me, because I'm driving through the City at 20 miles an hour, everybody laughs at me, I'm just driving 15 mph driving through the City. Everybody is going to get tickets, everybody will get tickets.

Mayor Cason: Moving forward, I understand – I always like to have public input on these things, but how about the other way around. Give a couple weeks to see if anybody, neighborhood associations has an objection to 25 mph...

Vice Mayor Quesada: Mr. Mayor if I may, just want to jump in a second here. So when I first brought this up – I know Commissioner Withers brought it up, I know Commissioner Kerdyk brought it up, I know Commissioner Cabrera brought it up, he fought pretty hard with the County as well and it died because of the price point at one point. So I know this Commission has been discussing it for a long time, someone said since 2001, was that one of you that said that?

Assistant Public Works Director Keller: Yes – 2001, that's as far back as I could find.

Vice Mayor Quesada: Every Commission that's been up here since then that makes sense that it's been discussed. I went to a number of neighborhood meetings and I would go with, I forget his name right now, the officer who attends the Crime Watch meetings, older gentleman.

Chief Hudak: Pat Kiel.

Vice Mayor Quesada: Pat Kiel – and for a few months I tracked every homeowner association meeting that he went to and I would go to those meetings and were specifically discussing traffic and we were specifically discussing it, an overwhelming majority, I mean it wasn't close, an



unscientific analysis on my part, overwhelming majority everyone wanted the speed to slow down and that's when I decided and say, OK, people really want this. So that's where I got my basis and my energy to pursue it and obviously I failed in the labyrinth that is Miami-Dade County to be able to achieve what you've been able to achieve. So, I'm in 100 percent in favor of it based on those meeting that I attended and those community meetings. If you guys want to have another community meeting to discuss it further, I have no problem with that, but I do know that since 2001, as you said, we've been seeing Commissioners try to do it inconsistently failing at the County level. We've now reached that point that we've broken through that gate which is from the County is a big step...

Commissioner Lago: I have the letters of approval from the County.

Vice Mayor Quesada: Maybe you want to reach out to Commissioner Cabrera to discuss it. I believe where he got stuck is that the cost was too much to redo all the signage, the new 600 signs that you guys were mentioning. The number escapes me; I thought the number was closer to \$400-\$500,000, not \$160,000.

Assistant Public Works Director Keller: And that's part of why we wanted to talk a little bit more with the County about this of can we decrease the number of signs, can we approach it as, you are entering the City of Coral Gables, the speed limit is 25 mph, and that's what we are working through.

Commissioner Lago: You are contemplating speaking with the County about reducing the amount of signs, when you are saying now that there are not enough signs so people are aware of what the speed limit is.

Commissioner Keon: What they are saying is that it is state law that it is 30 on rural roads, so in the neighborhoods it is...

Chief Hudak: Unposted, if it's not posted.

Commissioner Keon: On all of the streets where there is no speed limit sign the speed limit is 30 and any driver that's driving should know that because when you take your driver's test they ask you, so you should know that. So what they are saying is, if you decrease it below 30, or if you change it from 30 then you have to post it because it is outside of what the state statute is. I agree with you. I think that we should move to implement it, but I'd like them to give them the opportunity maybe to figure out where they have to post it, how often they have to post it, the number of signs they have to post, what the cost is, so that we can in the upcoming budget see if we find the money and where do we find the money to be able to implement it.

Mayor Cason: What this resolution says, it says to proceed with the development of the plan to implement.

Commissioner Lago: If we are going to go that route and I ask you, I implore you please, go down San Amaro and please, we are over burdened with signs. Anytime you go up to a circle you have 17 signs telling you how to go around the circle. There is only one way to go around a circle, you've got to make a right, you can go straight or you are going to hit whatever sculpture is there. So why do I need to have a "No Parking," "Right Turn," "Yield," "Slow Down." It gets to the point, when we are talking about one sign in a neighborhood that's not posted – I'm being serious, I'm not being facetious, if we are going to talk about sign visual pollution then I implore you please, we are so concerned about lowering the speed limit and putting up signs so people understand, which by the way, nobody respects in the City of Coral Gables, because everybody uses our City as a cut-through City.

Vice Mayor Quesada: Commissioner?

Commissioner Lago: One second Vice Mayor.

Vice Mayor Quesada: They are saying that they don't want the additional signs.

Commissioner Lago: I got that. But since they are so diligent and they are so interested in inquiring about this, instead of moving forward.

Vice Mayor Quesada: They are trying to inquire to reduce the new signs.

Commissioner Lago: I'm giving them additional homework and asking them, this is through the City Manager. I would like for you to figure out how we can educate people, how to go around circles without using 30 signs.

Chief Hudak: Channel 77 is starting on that video. We actually talked about it in the break.

Commissioner Lago: Are you going to put a light?

Chief Hudak: No, no, no. We are talking about really doing a video. Since this morning we did meet outside...if she wants to wear a "Go-Pro" while she is driving...we are seriously looking. It is a problem, it's a problem with the signs and I agree. I think we are just trying to implement what you want.

Commissioner Lago: Chief just do me a favor. I'll go along with whatever this Commission wants as I always do, OK. Listen, just do me a favor, don't come back to me in six months later and say, we've got a plan. I need – this is something I've been working on for a long time and when you have Town Hall meetings like I have, when you talk to residents, when you walk through the door, like the Vice Mayor said, they all tell you the same thing. I haven't heard one person tell me, can you do me a favor, can you increase the speed so my children are unsafe – no, that's not even a reality. So all I ask you is if we are really going to entertain this and review it or study it, whatever you guys want to do, just come with a plan as soon as possible.

Mayor Cason: Can I make a suggestion that we read the resolution which at the bottom says, next steps, that's the plan. I think we are missing that.

Assistant Public Works Director Keller: Yes – and there are a couple of other things I want to point out is that, Commissioner Slesnick to your point of being concerned about additional residential input, in September we are going to have all of our community meetings related to the transportation plan and that is where we have the perfect opportunity.

Commissioner Slesnick: That's the Traffic Advisory Board.

Assistant Public Works Director Keller: The Transportation Advisory Board supports this; the Hammocks Oak Association supports this, Kings Bay.

Vice Mayor Quesada: Did you say Traffic Advisory supports.

Assistant Public Works Director Keller: Transportation Advisory.

Vice Mayor Quesada: Transportation – got it, got it.

Assistant Public Works Director Keller: Hammock Oaks and Kings Bay.

Commissioner Lago: Well one person who doesn't support it, like I mentioned, I want to put it on the record is my wife doesn't support this, so make sure she's – the only person that does not support this.

Assistant Public Works Director Keller: And one of the other things I want to talk about. I did prepare a speech so I wanted to get a couple of these in. This is really about our vulnerable roadway users, people who operate automobiles are going to be protected if they are hit by a car going 35 mph, but it's the vulnerable users the people who are not operating vehicles, who are walking the streets, who are riding their bikes that benefit the most from this; and this is a

statistic that I wanted to bring to your attention. At 35 mph a pedestrian has a 50 percent chance of survival if they are hit by a car going 35 mph. At 30 mph that rate increases to 80 percent.

Commissioner Slesnick: To what percent?

Assistant Public Works Director Keller: It increases to 80 percent. The move to adopt this speed limit is also well aligned with bringing civility back to our streets as noted in our developing Multi-modal Transportation Plan. The number one concern of our residents when we go out and visit with them during our transportation meetings is everyone is speeding. The reality is though when we go out and we collect the data in the street, it seems that there is a perception of speeding, but what that tells me is that the posted speed limit feels unsafe, and we want our residents to feel safe walking and bicycling in Coral Gables. So the next steps.

Commissioner Slesnick: Well Chief is it possible to have, I mean now that school is back in session there is a lot more traffic back in town, is it possible to have like say, September 1<sup>st</sup> to September 15<sup>th</sup> or something, an effort to regulate the speeding in Coral Gables and just see where all those people are driving at what mile per hour before we discuss this.

City Manager Swanson-Rivenbark: I'm just trying to razzle with what's all going on. So, previously the Commission as-a-hole said go get that approval. Commissioner Lago had worked really hard on it, it has come, and we were coming forward to say, gives an opportunity to develop an attack as to how we will do this. How can we reduce the number of signs, but still accomplish it. You already see in your budget that we are addressing more aggressive traffic enforcement, so not that we are trying to delay it; it's trying to roll it out so that everyone is aware and it is extremely successful. So you had a couple of other points that you were talking about and did you get to share those?- you did?

Mayor Cason: What I think is missing is, we are not saying develop a plan to decide what to do; we are saying to implement the 25 miles.

Assistant Public Works Director Keller: That's correct.

Mayor Cason: So your steps which I think the public needs to hear, what's next, because there are a number of things that have to be done before you can implement.

Assistant Public Works Director Keller: Sure. Well we will have to have the County agree to the number and location of signs, we have to develop a cost assessment for sign removal and installation, because it's currently not programed and we do need that.

City Manager Swanson-Rivenbark: Commissioner Lago we know the commitment and the intention and we will find the money that is required for the signs.

Mayor Cason: Yes, the money I think is a big issue.

Vice Mayor Quesada: I'm going to make a motion to approve the resolution.

Commissioner Keon: I'll second it.

Mayor Cason: The Vice Mayor made the motion, Commissioner Keon seconds – City Clerk.

Vice Mayor Quesada: Yes

Commissioner Slesnick: No

Commissioner Keon: Yes

Commissioner Lago: Yes

Mayor Cason: Yes

(Vote: 4-1)

Commissioner Slesnick: I'm voting with Mrs. Lago.

Commissioner Lago: Thank you. I'll take what I can get, right.

Vice Mayor Quesada: Let me ask you another question when you guys are looking at that. Pinecrest has on the pole like strictly enforced, next time we talk about this is that possible.

City Manager Swanson-Rivenbark: That...

Vice Mayor Quesada: Yes.

City Manager Swanson-Rivenbark: We need to have the Pinecrest effect, so that once they come into this City they are immediately breaking.

Commissioner Slesnick: Is it also possible to put more than one sign like in Pinecrest, so that if you already have a sign up that says "Yield" or "Bus Stop" or something, can you put a traffic sign on there so you don't have three or four poles that you can double up on.

Assistant Public Works Director Keller: We'll make use of existing poles wherever we can just so long as they are – you can't have them too low for ADA reasons, but wherever we can we try to.

Commissioner Slesnick: A crosswalk or whatever, you could put a speed sign there where a crosswalk is approaching.

Assistant Public Works Director Keller: Yes.

Commissioner Keon: Can you ask them about reducing the amount of signage on circles, all those arrows telling you.

Commissioner Lago: Thank you. I appreciate that.

Assistant Public Works Director Keller: We get that a lot, and they are signed appropriately.

Commissioner Keon: I know. Are they still acceptable to be less signed?

Mayor Cason: State and County.

Commissioner Keon: We'll talk to him about that, and you know maybe now it will be a good time to go back in and restart the conversation once the new Public Works Director comes on board with them on the Coco Plum circle.

Assistant Public Works Director Keller: I did get an update actually last week about the circle. It seems that it has been put on the back burner indefinitely; the funding isn't there right now.

Mayor Cason: The residents weren't on board.

Commissioner Keon: Well the residents weren't on board anyway, so by the time – and the plan was not acceptable what they wanted to do, so maybe we can begin a new discussion, I think there are new people involved and maybe we can begin a new discussion so you can get to the point where they can, because its County they can apply for the MPO, they can then find the funds to be able to do it if we start maybe re-planning it again.

Commissioner Slesnick: Jessica, I was under the impression that when the circles first went in, you had to have extra signs just to alert people that the circle was there, do they need to stay up?

Assistant Public Works Director Keller: Extra signs are usually not on the circle, they are in advance of the circle.

Commissioner Slesnick: The sign “Yield” coming up and then a “Yield” when you get a quarter of the block.

Assistant Public Works Director Keller: I don’t know what the practice has been in Coral Gables, we haven’t put in any new circles recently, but we do have one planned, but we would absolutely take down any additional signage that isn’t required.

Assistant City Manager Iglesias: Signage is the same throughout the United States. It’s required, the Federal Highway Administration has a manual of uniform traffic control devices, which govern signage, and that’s throughout the whole United States so you don’t go to a different state and have different signage. The County requirements are based on that, so when the County reviews a plan, they review it per the Federal Highway Administration manual of uniform traffic control devices, so whatever is required by that is what we have to provide.

Commissioner Slesnick: That’s what we have now.

Mayor Cason: So let’s see if there is any flexibility on the County because what you are saying most of these are mandated from above, they are not up to us.

Assistant City Manager Iglesias: Sometimes you have warning, if you are going to put a four-way stop or a stop sign you can only, you may put a four-way stop and then remove a stop later, so there are ways of warning traffic so that to accustomed them to a different sign situation or traffic situation, but we are governed by that, so everything that we do has to go to the County for their approval so that our signage will be consistent we’ll be able to provide a ticket, because if that signage is not that way then the ticketing may not be valid.

Mayor Cason: Thank you.

[End: 4:08:58 p.m.]