

TRAFFIC ADVISORY BOARD  
CORAL GABLES YOUTH CENTER – CONFERENCE ROOM  
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2014 5:30 P.M.

**MEETING MINUTES**

<b>MEMBERS</b>	<b>N</b> 13	<b>D</b> 13	<b>J</b> 14	<b>F</b> 14	<b>M</b> 14	<b>A</b> 14	<b>M</b> 14	<b>J</b> 14	<b>J</b> 14	<b>A</b> 14	<b>S</b> 14	<b>O</b> 14	<b>APPOINTED BY:</b>
Ignacio G. Borbolla	P	P	P	+	A	P	E	P	+-	P	E	P	Jim Cason
Gordon Sokoloff	P	P	P	+	P	P	P	E	+-	P	E	P	Patricia Keon
Deborah Swain	P	P	P	+	P	P	P	P	+-	P	P	P	Vince Lago
Chris Morrison	-	-	-	-	-	P	P	P	+-	P	P	P	William H. Kerdyk, Jr.
Albert Corrada	P	E	A	+	A	E	(#)	P	+-	P	P	P	Frank C. Quesada
Donna Kupper	P	P	P	+	P	P	P	E	+-	E	P	P	Commission-as-a-Whole
VACANT	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	-	-	-	-	-	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  
Ludwik Janiga, Public Works, Civil Engineer  
Jeannette Reyes, Public Works, Clerical Assistant II

**GUESTS:**

Libby Mahaffey, Coral Gables Resident  
Julia Sanchez, Miami Dade Transit, Design & Engineering  
Jim Eriksen, Tylin, Miami Dade Transit Consultant

**CALL TO ORDER:**

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

**MEETING MINUTES APPROVAL:**

**September 16, 2014 Meeting Minutes – Mr. Corrada made a motion to approve the minutes, Mrs. Kupper second the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.**

**MOTIONS:**

- **Mrs. Kupper made a motion to move forward with the Pedestrian Overpass at University Metrorail Station, Mr. Sokoloff seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.**
- **Mr. Morrison made a motion to have yield signs installed, instead of stop signs at all traffic circles in the City, Mr. Sokoloff seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.**
- **Mr. Morrison made a motion to have the City consider looking into an area wide traffic study for Ingraham Terrace, Brighton Place and Edgewater Drive, Mr. Corrada seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.**
- **Mr. Morrison made a motion to accept the additional responsibilities of the Trolley & Pedestrian Bike Plan on the Traffic Advisory Board, Mr. Corrada seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.**
- **Mrs. Kupper made a motion to change the Boards name to The City Wide Transportation Advisory Board, Mr. Morrison seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.**

**Pedestrian Overpass at University Metrorail Station presentation:**

Mrs. Julia Sanchez, Miami-Dade Transit (MDT), project manager for the pedestrian overpass started the presentation by stating that they are very excited about completing this project. Mrs. Sanchez said they have the necessary permits and construction agreements with FDOT and this is the last step in approving the project. Mrs. Sanchez introduced Jim Eriksen as MDT's consultant. Mr. Eriksen provided the T.A.B. with boards showing the pedestrian overpass project. The project was introduced in July of 2013 and will be located at the corner of Mariposa Court and US1; it crosses at the University station at Mariposa Court. The project has gone through a transition over the years, it was off the public right-of-way initially and now he will show the board the final plan layout that was approved by FDOT and the City traffic engineer, along with approval from County traffic and the County engineer. The pedestrian bridge is incorporated into the right- of-way of Mariposa Court, the pedestrian bridge crosses on the south side of Mariposa Court across US1 with a full span structure. MDT has asked for an enhanced fence, therefore there will be a steel fence line along US1, not giving any options to cross US1 other than by using the pedestrian bridge.

Mrs. Swain asked how it will affect the Mariposa Court alignment. Mr. Eriksen said currently there is one lane going east and two lanes going out. What was coordinated with City and County was the allowance of one in and one out, so the signal will still be maintained at the location but with the pedestrian movement gone. Once it's done, it should make traffic move better within the intersection. When the project was coordinated with the County traffic signals, a specific timing was identified; the County said it will be adjusted as the construction is

finalized. Based on County requirements some parking will be maintained on Mariposa. It is estimated that the project will take approximately 6 to 9 months to construct.

A plan was set up with the County and FDOT to maintain a safe level of traffic for pedestrian and motor vehicles throughout the project and construction.

Ms. Keller asked what would be the level of circulation for the pedestrian traffic. Mr. Eriksen said north and south will be maintained, also across US1 either way. In the plans and contract, they have identified law enforcement officers to be at those locations during that time, in order to give notification to the vehicles that are going through US1.

Mr. Morrison asked if during the last phase, the crosswalks will be eliminated. Mr. Eriksen said yes. Mrs. Swain wants to know about the pedestrian bridge, what the features are etc. Mr. Eriksen said the pedestrian bridge has wrapped stairs and elevators sized for people bringing on bikes, it will be well lit, and there will be video cameras at the elevator entrances and exits that will be tied to the security at the Metro Rail Station.

Mrs. Swain asked, what would be the next step when the first student gets killed crossing US1 although there is a pedestrian bridge. Mr. Eriksen said, you can propose everything possible but you still won't be able to catch everything. Relative to the fence that is being proposed, it is a high fence that will restrict that type of movement.

Mr. Corrada asked when the projected start date is. Mrs. Sanchez said early next year, early March. With design and construction the project estimated cost is about \$6.8 million with a contribution from FDOT.

### **SECRETARY'S REPORT:**

Cartagena Plaza – Jessica said the City provided their comments and the County approved moving forward with the project. Mrs. Swain would like to know about the County bus stops. Jessica said that coordination needs to be done between MDT, County and the City. They have located the actual bus stop sign within the circle, the NE quadrant and staff is asking to show the actual boarding area. The last comment was requesting a policy that the City would like to see sidewalks around the entire circles/roundabouts. Mr. Morrison asked if there will be a crosswalk on Sunset. Jessica said as a general policy matter, staff will like for them to figure it out. Mrs. Kupper asked when the construction will start. Jessica said she does not have the exact date but it should be soon.

*Granada Golf Course public meeting update* – Jessica reported that the most discussed item at the meeting was the pedestrian path and that the City will be meeting with the consultant to determine what the next step will be. It is in process of analyzing input gathered at the meeting. Mr. Sokoloff was at the meeting he said the golfers sure do not want the pedestrian path and a lot of people who do want it come from other areas. The idea to turn North Green Way and South Green Way into a one way street was mentioned, if they do that and add the pedestrian walk way it's actually taking part of the road and not the Golf Course and people can live with that.

*Anderson & University intersection traffic study* – Yamilet provided the Board with the status of the traffic study. Mrs. Kupper asked staff if they looked at realigning the intersection or right turn only lanes. Jessica said that the commission is very interested in the board's feedback. The board is divided on this project, 2 members are for the project and 4 are opposed. Mrs. Swain would like to know the explanation of what alternatives were reviewed and the response from the county.

#### **TRAFFIC UPDATE:**

*Alhambra & Miller* – under construction. Mr. Morrison asked when the projected completion date is. Ludwik said three to four weeks for the main construction.

*Granada Bridge* – still waiting for the short span steel bridge.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

*Ingraham Terrace/Brighton Pl/Edgewater Drive* – Mr. Morrison stated he had a discussion with Mr. Kephart and Mrs. Keller about addressing the intersection at West Ingraham and LeJeune, also enhancing the existing circle at Edgewater & Ingraham Highway. Mr. Morrison said that Mr. Kephart is not sure if the circle at Edgewater & Ingraham Highway would need to be enhanced if a roundabout is installed at West Ingraham and LeJeune reducing the bottleneck at LeJeune. The County has done everything imaginable with the timing on the traffic lights to get the traffic moving. Other things discussed were the bicycle path going down Riviera and where will it cross to get to the bridge that goes over the waterway. Mr. Morrison's suggestion was it would be better to get crosswalks for bikes and pedestrians at the north end of the bridge so it would line up with the pathway and bikeway. Another issue brought up was the flooding during heavy rain storms in the northbound lane between the existing fountain and the triangle. This matter has been forwarded to the county to be addressed separately. The reason he brought this issue up was in case a roundabout is considered at this location drainage has to be addressed as well. Mr. Morrison also suggested a crosswalk at this location to provide access from west of LeJeune to the park, as presently there is no access for pedestrians or bikers. This is an old idea that has been discussed before; putting a signal crosswalk at W. Ingraham to the park.

#### **OLD BUSINESS:**

During the last Board meeting Jessica asked the members to think about how the Board is structured. Glenn and Jessica had a discussion about considering, (and she would like to know what the Board's thoughts are) the Board being a Transportation Advisory Board focused on almost transportation as opposed to just traffic. This would include bringing the trolley components from parking, someone who represents the trolley will be added to the Board and also consider adding someone who will represent bicycle and pedestrian initiatives. There's a number of ways to add these people to the Board. The Board can have the Commission elect as a whole, or the Advisory Board can elect as a whole and make recommendations.

Traffic Advisory Board Meeting

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Continued

Mrs. Swain stated that the City is expanding to the south and it seems for the person representing that area, it is getting larger. All the appointees are representing zones and when the Board does not have all the positions filled it becomes difficult when it comes time for quorum.

Mrs. Kupper mentioned that the City Manager's appointee zone has been vacant for over a year and the appointed interim can appoint someone and when a City Manager is officially hired they can make a change or leave it as is. Mrs. Kupper also said that the appointment should be made within 30 days of inactivity of the absence. Mrs. Kupper said her impression was that every appointee had to live within the represented zone and in the Mayor's Board appointee's case, he represents zone 7 and he doesn't live in zone 7. Jeannette will follow-up with the City Clerk's office and advise them via e-mail. Mrs. Kupper spoke with Imelys, City Clerk's office and she said that people who are interested in becoming members can be recruited by the Board by writing a letter with an attached resume to their appointing Commissioners or commission as a whole.

Mrs. Swain personal hesitancy with increasing the size of the Board is the problem of making sure that vacancies are filled with people who are actually interested in being on the Board and showing up at the meetings. Mrs. Swain said there is one vacancy and one soon to come; there is also someone currently on the Board that is very knowledgeable and interested in the trolley and someone knowledgeable and interested in pedestrians and bicycles so she doesn't know that the board needs to be expanded. Jessica said what about changing the boundaries. Mrs. Kupper said Kings Bay should be on the map, Mrs. Swain agreed.

Mrs. Kupper suggested recording the zones Board members are representing and have the Commission as a whole make the necessary changes.

City Manager, zone 1 - *(no one currently representing)*

Commissioner Keon, zone 2 - *(Mr. Sokoloff represents this zone but lives in zone 7)*

Commissioner Lago, zone 3 - *(Mrs. Swain)*

Commissioner Quesada, zone 4 - *(Mr. Corrada)*

Commissioner Kerdyk, zone 5 - *(Mr. Morrison)*

Commissioner as a whole, zone 6 - *(Mrs. Kupper)*

Mayor Cason, zone 7 - *(Mr. Borbolla represents this zone but lives in zone 6)*

**ADJOURNMENT:**

*Meeting adjourned at 7:10 pm.*