

TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY BOARD
CORAL GABLES POLICE DEPARTMENT
(4TH FLOOR CONFERENCE RM)
2801 SALZEDO STREET
CORAL GABLES, FLORIDA 33134
TUESDAY, JUNE 20, 2017 @ 5:30 PM

MEETING MINUTES

MEMBERS		J 16	A 16	S 16	O 16	N 16	D 16	J 17	F 17	M 17	A 17	M 17	J 17	APPOINTED BY:
Ignacio Borbolla	G.	E	P	E	P	P	+-	P	P	+-	P	P	E	Jim Cason
Gordon Sokoloff		P	P	P	P	P	+-	E	P	+-	P	E	P	Patricia Keon
Deborah Swain		P	P	P	P	P	+-	P	P	+-	P	P	P	Vince Lago
Courtney Thompson		P	P	P	E	P	+-	P		+-	P	P	P	Jeannette Slesnick
Albert Corrada		P	A	P	P	P	+-	P	P	+-	P	P	P	Frank C. Quesada
Chris Morrison		P	P	P	P	P	+-	E	P	+-	E	E		Commission-as-a-Whole
Al Smith		P	P	E	P	P	+-	E	P	+-	E	A	A	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
Antonio Aleman, C. G. Police Sergeant
Tiffany Hood, Administrative Assistant-Support Staff

GUEST:

There were no guests in attendance of the meeting.

CALL TO ORDER:

Mr. Thompson called the meeting to order at 5:43 pm.

CHAIRMAN’S ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Mr. Thompson discussed with the Board an article that was in the Miami Herald on traffic that shows how they are working on several signals that measure traffic and we would like to see this implemented in Coral Gables. He has asked that staff circulate it this article to the Board. Jessica stated that Miami-Dade County advised that they were going to implement this traffic measure a couple of years ago. She stated that Public Works communicated to the County that The City of Coral Gables would be interested in the program and would identify funding to participate. Mr. Thompson commented that the Board has placed a lot items and information in front of the City Commission and hopes to receive answers back from them regarding them. Mrs. Swain shared the information of the newly elected Board members, that the City Manager has appointed Nan Markowitz to the Board and the Mayor has appointed Armando Bucelo. She then stated that the re-appointments to the Board are Courtney Thompson and Gordon Sokoloff.

MEETING MINUTES APPROVAL:

May 16, 2017 meeting minutes – Ms. Swain made a motion to approve the minutes. Mr. Corrada seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

SECRETARY’S REPORT:

Jessica stated that Castile Community Meeting follow-up was two (2) weeks ago in which there was not a large turn-out. She commented that there were mixed reviews on the Bicycle Boulevard concept for that street. She then stated that the City will move ahead with laying out the boulevard and take it back to the community for their feedback. She mentioned that this street is not part of the Pedestrian Bicycle Master Plan and that there is not a speeding or a volume problem (as defined by engineering standards) there which makes this project a low priority. The residents that support the installation of a bicycle boulevard are the priority level. Jessica shared an update of the Bicycle Master Plan and distributed a draft email for a bike workshop that will be presented to the City Commission. She stated that there are community meetings that have tentatively been set for September 28th and October 18th to discuss design concepts with the residents. Mr. Thompson inquired about the code regulations in regards to Miami-Dade County and the City of Coral Gables of people bicycling on sidewalks. Jessica responded that you are allowed to do it except on Miracle Mile.. Sgt. Aleman stated that there are no bicycles or skateboards allowed on Miracle Mile. Mr. Sokoloff stated that the signage on Miracle Mile has come and gone. Mrs. Swain stated that there are new signs and one the streetscape is completed there will be a grassroots effort to eliminate the ordinance prohibiting bikes on the sidewalks of Miracle Mile. Mrs. Swain stated that we do want to keep the ordinance that prohibits commercial bike riders off of the sidewalk. Jessica stated that we want to adopt a Sustainable Complete Streets Policy; the process is that all of the departments are going to review this policy and it will go to Planning & Zoning in July and go to the City Commission meeting on August 29th. Jessica stated that the concept of Sustainable Complete Streets is making sure there is consideration of all modes of travel in the right-of –way while implementing sustainability concepts. Mrs. Swain stated that Miami-Dade County has implemented a Complete Streets Policy which is a safety issue for bike riders and pedestrians.

Jessica stated that she has challenged Jack Schettler and his team to ensure the policy is included in the Smart Growth America Complete Streets Policy annual report as a best practice. Jessica then distributed a draft of the demonstration projects of two-way bicycle lanes that will be constructed on Salzedo Street and on University Drive. She then stated that they will be separated by sixty (60) planter pots that weigh five hundred (500) pounds each and the planters will be re-used; the construction will be complete by August 18th. She commented that Bike-Walk Coral Gables tour will take place on August 20th. She then shared with the Board that staff will be meeting with the University of Miami (UM) to discuss Pisano Avenue where there will be a protected Bike Lane incorporated into the design of the street. Mr. Thompson inquired about the crosswalks that were set to be implemented at UM. Jessica responded that the Pedestrian Awareness project is getting ready to start in the next couple of weeks. Jessica shared information with the Board about the implementation of Freebee (the downloading of the app is required on your smartphone) which will begin before the end of the month and it services downtown Coral Gables and Biltmore Way. She stated that this a temporary measure to mitigate the Miracle Mile project and we will send the link to the Board.

OLD BUSINESS:

Mrs. Swain commented on the flexible work hours will be seen before the City Commission and would like them to review the Traffic Impact Studies policy that the Transportation Advisory Board proposed.

Mrs. Swain motioned for the City Commission to review the Traffic Impact Study policy that was developed by the Transportation Advisory Board and consider adoption. The motion was seconded by Mr. Sokoloff. The motion was unanimously approved.

Mr. Sokoloff stated that we were to engage Ramon Trias regarding presentations of developers that were asking for changes in the zoning to allow more density that would affect changes in traffic to be brought before us which fell by the wayside. He then stated that the 30 Alhambra project at the City Commission recently which was one of the projects that affected traffic and had it been put in front of us then we could have possibly made an impact. Yamilet stated that she is glad that the Board is bringing the Traffic Impact Studies Policy to the table, at the last Development Review Committee (DRC) meeting on the agenda they had a Sports Bar on Giralda and the use is being changed. She stated that she requested a traffic impact study for this new development and she was told no. Mr. Thompson suggested that at a future meeting, a request for the Board to view the flow chart of the Development Review Process in a simplified version to provide us the ability to see where we fit. He stated that this would make it easier for the Board to make a motion and if it is needed for a representative or all of us attend the City Commission meeting to support the recommendations that are set forth.

POLICE UPDATE:

Sergeant Aleman had no new updates.

ADJOURNED:

6:28 pm