

# BICYCLE/PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE

## MINUTES

MEETING OF WEDNESDAY, APRIL 22, 2009

### MEMBERS PRESENT

Brett Bibeau    Lee Marks    Gabrielle Redfern    Javier Betancourt    Paul Yavis  
 John O'Brien    Ken    Eric Tullberg    Steve Greenberg    Larry Thorson  
                                 Groce

### MEMBERS ABSENT

Susan Kairalla  
 Jeremy Gauger

### OTHERS PRESENT

David Henderson – Staff                  Colin Worth – City of Miami                  Vivian Villaamil, M-DCPS  
 Jae Manzella – Staff                  Mike Lydon – City of Miami

*The meeting began at 5:40 p.m.*

<u>ISSUE</u>	<u>DISCUSSION</u>
<b>APPROVAL OF AGENDA</b>	- <b>DH:</b> Neither FDOT or M-DPW have presentations this month. <b>JO:</b> <i>Motion to approve the revised Agenda; seconded by LT; vote – unanimous.</i> <b>NOTE:</b> <i>The FEC RR/Miami Av. presenter did not attend; this item was deferred.</i>
<b>APPROVAL OF FEBRUARY AND MARCH MINUTES</b>	- <b>ET:</b> <i>Staff has confirmed/accepted his minor changes to both Minutes.</i> <b>KG:</b> <i>Motion to approve the amended Minutes of February 25, 2009; seconded by ET; vote – unanimous.</i> <b>BB:</b> <i>Prefers to defer any action on the March Minutes until later in the meeting.</i> ----- <b>NOTE:</b> <i>Later In The Meeting</i> ----- <b>BB:</b> <i>The Minutes are from March “2009” rather than “2008”.</i> <b>ET:</b> <i>Motion to approve the March, 2009 Minutes as amended; seconded by JB; vote – unanimous.</i>
<b>CITIZEN COMMENTS</b>	- <b>Audience:</b> No comments at this time.
<b>WALK TO SCHOOL DAY</b>	- <b>VV:</b> Each year, the BPAC endorses this international event. The purpose is to call attention to conditions children face as they walk/bike to school, as well as to alert motorists of the need to take caution during school hours. <i>This item will be brought before the MPO Governing Board in May. She requested that the Chair include it in his Board presentation next week. The event will be October 7th.</i> <b>ET:</b> Inquired if any extra activities take place at schools whose conditions have been improved by the Safe Routes to School (SRTS) projects. <b>VV:</b> <i>Use of improved facilities is encouraged through the Walk Safe program.</i> <b>KG:</b> <i>Motion endorsing the international Walk Our Children To School Day activities on October 7, 2009; seconded by LT; vote – unanimous.</i>
<b>OVERTOWN GREENWAY AT NW 11 TER.</b>	- <b>CW:</b> (Handed out maps/spreadsheets.) Planning for this project was originally funded through the Knight Foundation and the Trust for Public Lands. It started out with enhanced amenities that totaled more than \$6 million. His project team reduced the scope; and it is now estimated at \$2.5 million. <i>This will be a 15’ greenway, connecting senior and elementary schools to the Culmer Metrorail station. There is \$900,000 for construction from a Federal earmark. Since it is in a blighted area, he plans to ask the CRA to provide the balance of funds.</i> <b>JO:</b> This seems excessively expensive. The same amount of funds could build a lot of sidewalks within the entire 2-mile radius of the schools. <b>CW:</b> <i>This project will connect the improved NW 3 Av., (from NW 9<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> Sts.); proposed NW 5 Av. bike lanes; as well as a new access/connection under Metrorail. NW 7 Av. will have enhanced crosswalks to Culmer Metrorail station.</i>

	<p><b>ET:</b> This path is expensive for less than ½ mile. This area is devoid of other paths. Its validity is questionable from a transportation stand-point. He supports it; but, <i>in the future, facilities should be done as economically as possible.</i></p> <p><b>CW:</b> <i>This project entails sewer and lighting relocations, which are expensive.</i></p> <p><b>DH:</b> The available \$900,000 was provided through a Congressional earmark. This isn't a simple trail along a canal; urban variables have to be taken into account that increase the price dramatically. Although some amenities like benches and trash receptacles aren't necessary, their costs are relatively minimal.</p> <p><b>CW:</b> Some costs, like \$200,000 for Modification of Traffic can be reduced. This is still an early design. Part of this is an existing road.</p> <p><b>KG:</b> Inquired if the existing sewer system could be modified to cut costs.</p> <p><b>CW:</b> <i>He will inquire to the Proj. Mgr. (PM) on this.</i></p> <p><b>KG:</b> Since the plan calls for both pedestrian and street lighting, inquired if they can be staggered from each other to provide sufficient lighting without duplication, while eliminating the need for separate electrical conduits. Along with draining redesign, it seems roughly \$½ million could be saved.</p> <p><b>CW:</b> The project started-out estimated at \$6 million; his team reduced its scope considerably. <i>He will bring these concerns to the PM, and return to the BPAC.</i> Although the 9<sup>th</sup> St. Promenade doesn't connect to this project, <i>eventually the City would like to provide B/P accommodations to the Venetian Cswy. That includes reopening the "bend area", which is currently fenced-off.</i> MDT has indicated they are willing to open this and other sections under the Metrorail alignment. Several public areas and parks are nearby.</p> <p><b>ET:</b> <i>Motion supporting the concept of the Overtown Greenway; seconded LT; vote – unanimous.</i></p>
<p><b>LAW ENFORCEMENT OUTREACH PLAN</b></p>	<p>- <b>DH:</b> Partially in response to the presentation from a law officer several months ago, this is a follow-up measure. The BPAC suggested that an outreach project be initiated to educate law enforcement officers on B/P issues. He has been primarily discussing this with Miami-Dade Police. They are interested to distribute copies of the <u>Bicycle/Motorist Law Enforcement DVD</u> and the printed <u>Pedestrian and Bicycle Law Enforcement Guides</u>. These fit into an officer's shirt pocket. They expand the text of the laws to help officers. <i>These will reduce misunderstandings that some law officers have on B/P issues.</i></p> <p><b>PY:</b> The Dade Chiefs of Police Assoc. meets monthly; this would be a great audience. He is particularly worried about children not using lights at night.</p> <p><b>GR:</b> She supports this. One peeve of hers is the non-enforcement of vehicles parked on bike facilities. Conditions along the Venetian Cswy. can be dangerous.</p> <p><b>JB:</b> Police academies should be supplied with these as well.</p>
<p><b>BIKE MIAMI DAYS</b></p>	<p>- <b>CW:</b> (Handed out maps.) <i>This sixth event will be held in Coconut Grove. There will be bands, kids areas, a skate park event, a parade, bike give-aways, etc.</i> Feedback has been positive; he expects a good turnout. <i>Bayshore Dr. will have one side closed-off. New, artistic bike racks will be unveiled.</i></p> <p><b>ET:</b> <i>Green Mobility will be providing bike valet service at Peacock Pk.</i></p> <p><b>CW:</b> <i>Plans to move the event around; the MiMo area has shown interest.</i></p> <p><b>BB:</b> <i>BPAC commends Miami Mayor Diaz, the Commission and the Police Dept.</i></p>
<p><b>WALK SAFE ANNUAL</b></p>	<p>- <b>DH:</b> The UofM – School of Medicine, which has developed a Walk Safe</p>

<b>TASK FORCE MEETING</b>	Pedestrian Education Program, conduct an annual meeting. Future expansion plans are also discussed. <i>They plan to expand into other counties, in conjunction with other medical trauma centers.</i>
<b>BIKE BLVD. STUDY PUBLIC WORKSHOP</b>	<p>- <b>DH:</b> <i>The MPO, M-DPW and M-DP&amp;R are developing a Bike Blvd. plan for the Model Cities area. A workshop will be held on May 6<sup>th</sup>, at the African Heritage Cultural Arts Center. There is a good distribution of traffic and low volume streets. Parks and schools and transit stations are configured in a way that the bike blvd. concept is feasible. This became a funded UPWP proposal. A network of streets will be identified for installation of traffic calming devices: roundabouts, chicanes, etc. to aid in B/P mobility. The workshop will not discuss particular routes, just the concepts of a bike blvd. A more detailed community meeting will be held late Summer or Autumn. These facilities will make the area much more livable, and they will be generally low cost improvements.</i></p> <p><b>ET:</b> <i>Inquired if there were attempts to identify cyclists in the area.</i></p> <p><b>DH:</b> <i>M-DP&amp;R staff have been conducting outreach activities, include identifying church groups, etc. Typically, a first meeting is held to spread the idea and identify individuals, etc. Then, while a second meeting may have less attendees, those people are usually more interested and supportive. The study boundaries are: north of NW 36 St. and south of NW 87 St., and between NW 27th and 12th Av. This is a demonstration project to fine-tune techniques, including negotiating with the City and M-DPW to encourage additional areas to be treated.</i></p> <p><b>PY:</b> <i>This is a high-bicycling area; it is sorely needed.</i></p>
<b>MONTHLY REPORT</b>	<p>- <b>BB:</b> <i>The monthly report does not include any 2009 resolutions.</i></p> <p><b>DH:</b> <i>He is aware of this, and it will be corrected by next month.</i></p>
<b>ATTENDANCE REPORT</b>	<p>- <i>(The attendance report was reviewed and updated.)</i></p> <p><b>BB:</b> <i>Every time he is in front of the MPO Governing Board he mentions vacancies. Requested any BPAC member who is familiar with any MPO member to encourage them to nominate a new BPAC member.</i></p>
<b>MEMBER COMMENTS</b>	<p>-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>PY:</b> <i>(Handing out a map.) The FDOT installed a continuous right-turn lane on 96th St. towards Harding Av. This treatment removed a crosswalk that many people used. During a 20-minute period, he observed at least 40 people, including the elderly, disobeying the Do Not Cross sign. This puts them in a dangerous situation. When he spoke to the police, they said they can't afford to put an officer there. He would like to obtain the traffic study that was done; as well as be informed of any treatments that could alleviate the situation.</i></li> <li>• <b>BB:</b> <i>Since these are both FDOT roads, he requested staff to invite a FDOT representative to the next meeting to address this issue.</i></li> <li>• <b>PY:</b> <i>FDOT plans to resurface the area, so this is a timely request. Unfortunately, motorized traffic flow is the priority in M-D County.</i></li> <li>• <b>LT:</b> <i>Many intersections are not designed properly. The 71<sup>st</sup> St./Collins Av. intersection is hazardous. Motorized traffic seems to be the only concern.</i></li> <li>• <b>ET:</b> <i>(Handed out flyers.) The City of Homestead is hosting a Greenway Bike Festival. One of 3 bike rides will be along the Biscayne-Everglades Greenway; so fat-tires are required. Water will be provided. It will start at 10 am on Sunday at the Biscayne National Pk. Headquarters, at the end of SW 328 St.</i></li> <li>• <b>ET:</b> <i>Some of the new sidewalks on SW 127 Av./SW 89 St. are only 66 inches</i></li> </ul>

	<p>wide. This is sub-standard, and should be corrected.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>BB:</b> Inquired about the status of the Miami <u>Bicycle Master Plan</u>.  <b>CW:</b> Awaits Assist. City Mgr. approval. <i>Work begins once it is signed.</i>  <b>ML:</b> There should be a lot more to report by the next BPAC meeting.  <b>CW:</b> The project along NW 14 St., from NW 7 to NE 2 Av., has been approved for bike lanes. This connects to the Venetian Cswy.</li> <li>• <b>BB:</b> Inquired about the <u>Call for Ideas</u> timeline.  <b>JB:</b> <i>The committee meets next week.</i> The Federal Stimulus debate slowed other meetings down.</li> <li>• <b>KG:</b> Inquired about the “Chinese” bridge at SW 72 Av., near Deering Estate.  <b>ET:</b> This is an M-DP&amp;R project; pavement was stripped-off over 3 months ago. Several people complained to the City of Palmetto Bay. Nothing is being done. <i>The City will use it for a 4-mile bike ride on Saturday at 9 am.</i></li> </ul>
<b>NEXT MEETING DATE</b>	<p>- <b>BB:</b> <i>The next meeting will be May 27, 2009.</i>  <b>DH:</b> Since he will be gone for 2 weeks in May, <i>he plans to send-out the Agenda very early.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>The meeting was adjourned at 7:00 p.m.</i></li> </ul>