



Complete Streets Forum - Wednesday, April 29, 2015
 Speaker Bios ~ in order of appearance



The Honorable Dennis C. Moss	Dennis C. Moss was first elected to the Miami-Dade Board of County Commissioners in April 1993 representing the constituents of District 9 in South Miami-Dade County. Serving the residents of Miami-Dade for 22 years, Commissioner Moss is the past Chairman of the Board of County Commissioners and currently serves as Vice-Chair of Transit and Mobility Services Committee. He also serves as a member of the Economic Prosperity Committee and the Trade and Tourism Committee. He chairs the Zoo Oversight Board that oversees Zoo Miami and its development and Neat Streets Miami. He is the former chair of the Tourist Development Council. Moss is a 1974 graduate of Grinnell College in Iowa, where he earned a bachelor's degree in Economics. He is married to Margaret Hawkins-Moss and has three children.
The Honorable Esteban Bovo	Esteban L. Bovo, Jr. was elected to the Miami Dade County Board of Commissioners in 2011. Commissioner Bovo represents District 13 which includes the vibrant and diverse communities of Hialeah, Miami Lakes, Palm Springs North, and several other unincorporated neighborhoods. Commissioner Bovo began his career in public service when he was appointed to fill a midterm vacancy on the Hialeah City Council in 1998. Subsequently re-elected twice, Commissioner Bovo was elected to serve as the council's president, where he earned the respect and admiration of his colleagues and developed a reputation as a consensus builder. One of Commissioner Bovo's enduring legislative legacies as a councilman was an ordinance aimed at keeping sexual predators away from children. In November 2008, Commissioner Bovo was elected to the Florida Legislature representing House District 110, and was re-elected without opposition in 2010. In addition to his efforts to recognize the contributions of great Floridians, Representative Bovo focused his legislative agenda on public safety by sponsoring the Ashley Nicole Valdes Act which requires hit and run offenders to remain behind bars until first appearance.
The Honorable Carlos A. Gimenez, Mayor	Carlos A. Gimenez continues his lifelong commitment to public service after being re-elected as Miami-Dade County's Mayor on August 14, 2012. As the County's top elected official and chief administrator, Mayor Gimenez is responsible for the leadership and management of an organization with over 25,000 employees and an annual budget of nearly \$6 billion. Mayor Gimenez brings decades of invaluable public service experience to the post, and continues to pursue a set of clearly defined priorities that reflect both his governing philosophy and the challenges of the current economic environment. After successfully championing the largest tax cut in County history during his first year in office, due to a special election, his priorities remain reducing the burden on taxpayers and shrinking the size of government, while preserving essential public safety services and programs for seniors and children. Mayor Gimenez is also focused on creating a fair regulatory environment that will stimulate job creation, expand international trade, and attract businesses and industries to diversify Miami-Dade County's economic base. Prior to this election, Mayor Gimenez served on the Miami-Dade Board of County Commissioners for seven years.
DeWayne Carver	DeWayne Carver, AICP, is the Florida Department of Transportation's Statewide Bicycle/Pedestrian Coordinator. As part of FDOT's Roadway Design Office, DeWayne is responsible for revising and implementing FDOT's bicycle and pedestrian standards and planning guidance and Complete Streets efforts.
Rafael Casals	Rafael G. Casals is currently the Town Manager for the newest municipality incorporated within Miami-Dade County, the wonderful Town of Cutler Bay. The Town is located in South Miami-Dade County and is approximately ten square miles in size and is comprised of 46,000 residents. Mr. Casals was a part of the core group of department heads when the Town first incorporated in 2005. At which point he served as the Town's first Public Works Director. Prior to joining the Town of Cutler Bay, Mr. Casals served as Assistant Town Manager/Public Works Director for three and a half years for the Town of Miami Lakes, another newly incorporated municipality. Preceding his experience as Assistant Town Manager, Mr. Casals was the City Manager for the City of North Bay Village for over four and a half years.
Alina Hudak	Alina Tejeda Hudak has spent a career making Miami-Dade a stronger government for a better community. For over 30 years, she has brought professional administration to the County's leadership team, winning accolades and respect from various national organizations and the local community. Ms. Hudak is a trailblazer: the first woman to run one of the County's major operational departments, the first Hispanic woman ever appointed as Assistant County Manager, and the first woman to serve as County Manager and Deputy Mayor. She helps oversee a government of more than 27,000 public employees spread across 25 departments. Ms. Hudak is presently serving dual roles: Deputy Mayor overseeing the Animal Services Department, Elections Department, Transit, Jackson Health System, and also serves as the Director of Public Works and Waste Management.
Maria Nardi	Maria I. Nardi has over 16 year experience in urban design, landscape architecture, park planning, architecture, and preservation. As Chief of Planning and Design Excellence for Miami-Dade County, she directed the Parks and Public Space Masterplan; a national model for building a connected, more livable, sustainable community. Previously, as Chief of Urban Design for the City of Miami she initiated Miami 21; a rewrite of Miami's land development regulations to transform the city into a more walkable, pedestrian friendly community. Ms. Nardi has a degree in Architecture from the University of Miami and Masters in Landscape Architecture from Harvard University.
Anamarie Garces	Anamarie is a principal of Urban Health Solutions and Executive Director of Urban Health Partnerships. As the Executive Director of UHP, Anamarie has been instrumental in securing projects and crafting talented teams to deliver high quality products to the clients, grantors, and community stakeholders. After earning a Master in Public Health degree, she has been instrumental in securing more than 29 million in projects for South Florida. The intersection between health and the built environment is the cornerstone of UHP and the focus of Anamarie's career. In the past decade, she has held numerous leadership positions on committees with concentrations in public health monitoring and evaluation, traffic safety, injury prevention, health disparities research, crime and violence prevention, active transportation, health and the built environment, policy development, access to healthy foods, health impact assessments, and regional planning. Most recently she has spent a significant amount time identifying systems to integrate health considerations into local decision-making through changes in protocols, intervention deliverance, policies, and design guidelines.
Alyce Robertson	As executive director for the Miami Downtown Development Authority, Alyce M. Robertson directs the activities of the public organization and help drives its mission to make Downtown Miami the most livable urban center in the nation and strengthen its position as an international center for commerce, culture, and tourism. With more than 29 years of experience in local government, Ms. Robertson has been instrumental to the development and execution of projects county-wide. A dedicated civil servant, Ms. Robertson has honed her skills as a results-oriented manager with expertise in the areas of environmental resources, disaster assistance, community image development, human resources, policy implementation and intergovernmental relations. She has served in a number of leadership roles within agencies of Miami Dade County, including the Office of the County Manager, Department of Environmental Resources Management (DERM), Employee Relations Department, and the Office of Management and Budget.



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Gus Pego, PE	Gustavo "Gus" Felix Pego, P.E., was appointed District Six Secretary of the Florida Department of Transportation on May 8, 2008. He is responsible for the overall planning, design, construction, maintenance and operation of the State Highway System in Miami- Dade and Monroe Counties. A graduate of the University of Florida (BSCE 1978), Mr. Pego has been with the Florida Department of Transportation for 36 plus years. As District Secretary, Mr. Pego serves on the Department's Executive Leadership Team, Miami-Dade Expressway Authority Board of Directors, Miami-Dade Metropolitan Planning Organization, and on Florida International University's Engineering Advisory Board.
The Honorable Daniella Levine Cava	Daniella Levine Cava was elected in 2014 to serve as the Miami-Dade County Commissioner representing District 8, which includes Palmetto Bay, Cutler Bay, Homestead, and unincorporated areas of South Dade including Redland, Falls, Princeton, Naranja, Leisure City and parts of West Kendall. Commissioner Cava comes to elected office after having served as an advocate for South Florida residents and communities for over 30 years. She served special needs children and immigrants at Legal Services of Greater Miami, and then represented children in the child welfare system as Associate and Legal Director for the Guardian Ad Litem Program.
Charisse Grant	Vice President for Programs for the Miami Foundation, Charisse Grant leads the Foundation's grant making and leadership development programs. Charisse joined the Foundation in 1995 and has extensive community and nonprofit knowledge and experience helping donors and national funders achieve their philanthropic goals. Before joining the Foundation, she was a reporter for the Miami Herald newspaper covering a range of issues and graduated from the University of Missouri. She is a member of Leadership Florida Class XXIX, is an International Women's Forum Fellow, served on the board of the Children's Trust and the City of Miami Bond Oversight Board and worked as a volunteer teacher in southern Africa.
Rachel Weinberger, PhD	Rachel Weinberger, Ph.D., is Nelson\Nygaard's Director of Research and Policy Strategy. She has over 20 years of planning experience in the private and public sectors and in academia. Her areas of expertise include land use transportation interactions, travel behavior, planning methodologies, urban economics, econometric analysis, travel demand management and urban parking. She served as the senior policy advisor on transportation in the development of PlaNYC, the city's much-lauded 2030 sustainability plan and she is an advisor to the Clinton Climate Foundation's Climate Positive Development program. She has authored or co-authored over 50 research articles, reports, book chapters, and papers including the award-winning "Integrating Walkability into Planning Practice."
Mike Amsden	Mike Amsden, AICP is Assistant Director of Transportation Planning for the City of Chicago's Department of Transportation (CDOT). In his role, Mike oversees CDOT's Bike and Pedestrian Infrastructure Programs and is involved in various other surface transportation planning projects. Mike oversees infrastructure work related to Chicago's 'Zero in Ten' Initiative (Vision Zero), and has served as Project Manager for two major CDOT Bicycle Initiatives – Chicago's Protected Bike Lane Initiative and the <i>Streets for Cycling Plan 2020</i> . The protected bike lane initiative aims to install 100 miles of protected bike lanes by May of 2015. The <i>Streets for Cycling Plan 2020</i> is a citywide plan identifying a network of bicycle facilities that will allow all Chicagoans – from children riding to school to senior citizens riding to the store – feel safe and comfortable bicycling on City streets. Mike is involved in all facets of bike and pedestrian planning and design, from location selection, coordination with local officials and the public, review and approvals and project implementation. Mike has a Master's Degree in Urban Planning from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee.
Stewart Robertson, PE	Stewart Robertson is a licensed professional engineer with Kimley-Horn and Associates in Fort Lauderdale, Florida. He holds both a Bachelor of Science degree and Master of Science degree in Civil Engineering from the University of Kentucky. He is a versatile engineer with 12 years of extensive experience in the areas of complete streets planning, design, and implementation. Stewart's particular areas of interest and expertise include developing innovative strategies to accommodate bicycle facilities and pedestrian crossing treatments on roadway resurfacing and reconstruction projects. His project experience also includes multimodal plans and corridor studies, bicycle parking plans, and outreach activities. Stewart served as project manager for the recently adopted <i>Broward Complete Streets Guidelines Manual</i> . Stewart has given numerous presentations on complete streets topics at conferences such as Pro Walk Pro Bike, Florida Section Institute of Transportation Engineers (FSITE), and Think Bike Miami.
The Honorable Pepe Diaz	Commissioner Jose "Pepe" Diaz serves as the Commissioner for District 12, which includes the cities of Doral, Hialeah, Hialeah Gardens, Medley, Sweetwater, Virginia Gardens, and a large portion of unincorporated Miami-Dade County. He was first elected as commissioner in September 2002 and re-elected to a fourth term in 2014. He also served as the Vice-Chairman of the Miami-Dade Board of County Commissioners from 2009-2010. Commissioner Diaz has served in various capacities on different committees of the County Commission. Currently, he chairs the Trade and Tourism Committee and sits on the Transit and Mobility Services Committee, the Metropolitan Services Committee, and the Value Adjustment Board. In 2013-2014, he served as the Chair of the Land Use & Development Committee. Additionally, Commissioner Diaz, who proudly served as a member of the U.S. Marine Corps, was appointed as Miami-Dade County's Military Liaison and also serves as the Chairman of Miami-Dade County's Military Affairs Board. On the international level, Commissioner Diaz also serves as Chairman of the International Trade Consortium Board and is an advocate for trade and forging partnerships with other nations. In March 2010, Commissioner Diaz was appointed by U.S. Trade Representative Ron Kirk to serve on the Intergovernmental Policy Advisory Committee on Trade (IGPAC), and has been reappointed twice.
Patrice Gillespie Smith	Patrice Gillespie Smith is manager of Neat Streets Miami, a multi-jurisdictional board dedicated to the maintenance and beautification of transportation corridors, gateways and connections. She also leads the Million Trees Miami initiative, a campaign to plant 1 million trees and achieve a 30 percent tree canopy in Miami-Dade by 2020. Prior to this position, she realized livable communities as the director of transportation planning for Urban Health Partnerships, community relations and planning director for Downtown St. Louis Partnership and chief of staff for the Seattle DOT. Over the last 19 years, she has succeeded as a change agent in major metropolitan areas by developing strategic partnerships and executing stakeholder goals. Ms. Gillespie Smith is a graduate of Marquette University and holds a dual master's degree in Urban Planning and Public Policy and Management from Ohio State University. She is proud to serve the members of the Neat Streets Miami Board and the residents of Miami-Dade.