



NEAT STREETS MIAMI
MEETING SUMMARY
September 28, 2016
FINAL

NSM Members Present

William Anderson, GMCVB
Lina Blanco, City of Miami
David Cardenas, MDPROS
Margaret Daly, Designee/MDC Commission,
Dist. 12, Friends of the Underline
Juan C Garrido, Designee/MDC, Dist. 7
Ramiro Inguanzo, Miami-Dade College
Rick Johnson, MDX
Jack Kardys, MDPROS
Gianni Lodi, MDC Planning & Zoning Department
Robert McClellan, DTPW
Maria Mitchell, Designee/MDC, Dist. 6
Commissioner Dennis C. Moss, MDC Dist. 9
Alyce Robertson, DDA
Councilwoman Phyllis Smith, City of North Miami Beach
Peter Trupia, Designee/MDC, Dist. 3
Rick Vasquez, FPL
Lynda Kompelien Westin, South Florida
Regional Transportation Authority
Mark Williams, City of Miami Beach

Participants Present

Kimberly Bentley, City of Miami
Christine Crespo, FDOT
Megan Dias, MDPROS
Patrice Gillespie Smith, NSM
Ginny Gutiérrez, GMCVB
Mavi Haime, Green Miami Events
Jennifer Korth Llorente, NSM
Corrice Patterson, Village of Palmetto Bay
Felix, Pereira, Miami-Dade Seaport
George Puig, Kimley & Horn
Eric Riel, DDA
Neal Schafers, DDA
Wanda Torres, NSM

I. Welcome and Introduction

Patrice Gillespie Smith opened the meeting. She asked everyone to introduce themselves. Ms. Gillespie Smith introduced her protégé Megan Dias with the P.R.I.D.E Program. She thanked the Greater Miami Convention and Visitors Bureau (GMCVB) for hosting the Neat Streets Miami Board.

Ms. Gutiérrez announced the GMCVB is getting ready for their upcoming promotions for the next fiscal year; Bill Talbert is attending a meeting in New York City with the GMCVB's media partners regarding New York destinations for each month. Ms. Gutiérrez mentioned Miami Spice Restaurant Month was ending at the end of September. October is Miami Attraction Month. On October 25 is the GMCVB Annual Meeting at the New Hard Rock Stadium.

Bill Anderson (GMCVB) reported the hospitality data for the first eight months:

- Hotel Occupancy was at 78.7%; ranked 7th in the nation
- Room Rate was \$196.62; 4th in the nation
- Rev Par was \$155.01; 4th in the nation
- Employment rate was up

Mr. Anderson mentioned there was some decline in occupancy due to the increase in inventory.

Alyce Robertson asked what the actual impact of Zika. Ginny Gutiérrez responded there's a lot of factors that are impacting the decline in tourism. We have to wait and see.

Ms. Gillespie Smith commended the GMCVB for their hard work with Zika.

II. Action Item – Approval of 07/29/16 Minutes

Ms. Gillespie Smith asked for a motion to approve the minutes. Peter Trupia motioned to approve the minutes and Ramiro Inguanzo seconded the motion. Minutes were unanimously approved.

Action Item – Vote on Landscape Code amendments

Legislation introduced by Commissioner Zapata that will enhance current minimum standards for tree size and species.

Rick Johnson reported the Tree & Landscape Committee would like to move forward to have a consistent code to pass Commission. Ms. Gillespie Smith said that Commissioner Moss expressed a need to add language that will exempt local municipalities from the diversity requirements if they are planting along thematic corridors.

Ms. Gillespie Smith asked Gianni Lodi if you're planting palms, does the standard go up? Mr. Lodi responded there is an ability to have two palms, but the spacing changes.

Mark Williams asked if the new regulations addressing canopy trees. Ms. Gillespie Smith responded yes.

Lynda Westin asked who will be conducting field inspections to ensure these regulations?. Mr. Lodi responded the State and Miami-Dade County asks each municipality to shift to the new standards. David Cardenas responded local government should have an inspector.

Rick Johnson motioned that the Neat Streets Miami Landscape and Tree Committee recommends endorsement of the Landscape updates with the caveat for thematic corridors and Mark Williams seconded the motion. Motion was unanimously passed by the Neat Streets Miami Board.

III. Reports

A. Palmetto Bay investments in transportation, trees and more - Corrice Patterson, Director Village of Palmetto Bay Public Works

Ms. Patterson gave a presentation on the Village of Palmetto Bay's recent accomplishments in Urban Forestry Beautification and Complete Streets. A copy of Ms. Patterson's is available online.

Ms. Patterson shared some brief history of the Village of Palmetto Bay:

- Approximately 25,000 residents
- Incorporated September 10, 2002
- 8.8 square miles west of Biscayne Bay
- 14 years success building community's character (more than 1000 street trees of varying species)
- Urban Forestry program dedicated to planting and maintaining trees in the municipal right of way and Village Parks on a daily basis.

The Village of Palmetto Bay uses an in-house GIS system to monitor planted trees. This system tracks:

- Height of tree
- Depth of tree
- Condition of tree
- Owner of tree
- Longitude and latitude

The Village of Palmetto Bay partnered with Fairchild Botanical Tropical Gardens for their Million Orchid Project. The Village has budgeted \$30,000 a year for the next five years to plant orchids in its trees. This project will result in 150,000 native orchids.

Patty Harris asked what date will the orchids bloom. Ms. Patterson responded in approximately one year.

George Puig shared the Village of Palmetto Bay's median upgrades were developed with input from the Tree Advisory Board. The Corridor Beautification Projects entail:

- 24 medians including two triangular spaces
- From SW 136th Street to SW 184th Street

The Village's Median Conceptual Plan has Black Olive trees, Sabal Palms and ground cover and the Triangular Space Conceptual Plan will be in Downtown Palmetto Bay. The Village's goal is to create a sense of identity and a sense of community, which includes:

- Wider Sidewalks
- Bike Lanes
- Travel Lanes
- Tree Canopies
- Pedestrian Scale Lighting
- Linear Park

Ms. Patterson mentioned the Bromeliads are being treated for Zika in the Downtown area.

Phase I of the project was completed during Earth Week 2016.

The Village of Palmetto Bay has secured Highway Beautification grants from FDOT for \$201,400 for their upcoming Phase II project.

Ms. Gillespie Smith asked will all construction projects happen next year? Ms. Patterson responded the Village is looking to secure additional grants.

Ms. Gillespie Smith asked if the Village of Palmetto Bay's GIS system is accessible online? Ms. Patterson responded it's internal, but there are other model that are similar to theirs and that she is happy to share the inventory with anyone who is interested.

**B. Preserving our built natural and social assets – Christine Rupp, Executive Director
Dade Heritage Trust**

Christine Rupp, Executive Director of the Dade Heritage Trust shared how the Dade Heritage Trust is expanding the mission of the Trust to include preservation of our natural resources.

Ms. Rupp stated that the mission of the Dade Heritage Trust includes the preservation of Architectural, Environmental and Cultural assets.

The Dade Trust is an official heritage tourism center supported by the Miami DDA, GMCVB and Miami-Dade Department of Cultural Affairs.

Ms. Mitchell mentioned with the development of large buildings in our community, the view is not obstructed and is part of the environment we're losing. Ms. Rupp responded there is a balance to be reached. Mr. Puig mentioned new developments shouldn't obstruct existing views. Gianni Lodi mentioned there are development rights that can't be ignored and there is an effort to consider the view. Councilwoman Phyllis Smith mentioned you have to make sure development has access in line for the public.

Chairman Moss arrived to the meeting and explained his delay. He thanked the board members for all that they do for the community.

**C. Miami Baywalk – Riverwalk – Alyce Robertson, Executive Director
Miami Downtown Development Authority**

Neal Schafers updated board members and participants on the Miami Baywalk – Riverwalk. You may visit the Neat Streets Miami website for a copy of the DDA's presentation.

There are nine priority sites within a four mile linear path from Brickell Bay Drive to Sea Isle. As of 2016, four of the nine sites have been improved and/or are in the process of being redeveloped. The DDA is still working with interested parties on all remaining sites.

The DDA's short/long term goals:

Short Term

- Orientation and wayfinding
- Temporary solutions to opening up disconnected segments
- Community involvement and events to activate waterfront
- Celebrate success and get the word out through traditional media, social media, standalone website and constituency/advocacy

Long Term

- Solutions to opening up the entire 4 Mile Corridor
- Implementing a unified design element to link the entire corridor
- Future connectivity

Mr. Schafers explained that residents will use the Baywalk-Riverwalk because this is where they want to live, work, play and have a great waterfront but limited access.

Ms. Gillespie Smith mentioned Paris is eliminating cars along the Zine River. They realized there isn't a need for cars to have economic development. Mr. Schafers responded Paris actually transforms the Zine River in the summer time with sand and beach umbrellas.

Chairman Moss asked how can there be a thematic plan implemented and is this something the City would have to do? Ms. Robertson responded the DDA is considering placing "dots" on the pavement for people to direct them to events. In the long term these "dots" can be a paver or light.

Chairman Moss asked is this a discussion happening in the City of Miami? Ms. Robertson responded it's happening at the DDA and they're trying to get the City to respond to the idea. Ms. Robertson mentioned their needs to be a Champion inside the City. She mentioned the most important thing is to get the segments opened. Eventually, it would probably be the DDA to find funding. The DDA is working with the various property owners. The owners have to approve whatever the DDA is doing. Mr. Schafers

mentioned Tampa had a similar situation. Tampa brought in designers to do a long term plan and secured Federal Tiger Grants. Mr. Schafers mentioned this is a very expensive project.

Mr. Lodi mentioned the Bay has dual jurisdiction the City of Miami and County. He mentioned Miami Beach and Sunny Isle have done something similar. They're working with the planning department. Ms. Robertson responded the DDA will have to unify them in the long run. Mr. Lodi responded lighting, paving, etc. has to be reviewed by the City and County and a resolution has to be issued. There has to be a consistency along the Baywalk.

IV. Updates

A. Office of Neat Streets Miami

Patrice Gillespie Smith

Ms. Gillespie Smith announced:

- The MPO adopted the Litter Resolution #47-16 on July 21, 2016
Ms. Mitchell asked are there penalties for illegally placed roadway signs. Chairman Moss responded this issue needs to be presented to the MPO as a resolution. Chairman Moss mentioned we are trying to be a world class community and we have to put pressure on FDOT to help improve the standards of our roadways
Action Item – Chairman Moss would like another resolution to take to the MPO for penalties for off ramp signage.
- Targeting FDOT and Turnpike limited access facilities
- Tree Trust Fund was adopted on September 11, 2016
- Seleta Reynolds of the Los Angeles Department of Transportation was the guest speaker at the Safer Streets Talk on September 15, 2016
- David Cardenas had \$575,000 in street tree plantings (approximately 1,500 trees countywide)
- The 2017 there is an approved budget allocated \$750,000 for Street Tree planning
- Miami-Dade County was 1 of 245 participating communities in the Complete Streets Category for the USDOT Mayors Challenge for Safer People, Safer Streets and the only county to be recognized in Washington, DC.
- Neat Streets Miami was 1 of 19 winners of the Public Space Challenge: Growing Green Bus Stops. NSM has targeted 10 bus stops. NSM will partner with Miami-Dade Transportation and Public Works, The Nature Conservancy and O, Miami.

B. Landscape and Tree Subcommittee

Rick Johnson

Rick Johnson announced the subcommittee's strategies for 2017:

- Get an approval from Board of County Commissioners for \$750,000
- Street Tree Matching Grant
- Elevate Million Trees Miami – Identify a Champion
- Tie trees to infrastructure with the intent of resiliency
- Education communities on the benefits of planting trees
- Sustainability of tree canopy and inventory; enforcement and long term maintenance

C. Transportation Corridors and Gateways Subcommittee

Bob McClellan

Bob McClellan announced the subcommittee's strategies for 2017:

- Prioritize gateway improvements
- Identify more money for maintenance

- Adopt A Road – host 4 organized clean ups
- Leverage Complete Streets – host workshops

D. Marketing and Education Subcommittee

Lina Blanco

Lina Blanco stated that there was limited time and therefore would not report strategies for 2017 at this time. She invited any interested board members to attend the Marketing meetings once a month every 3rd Thursday starting October 20 here at the GMCVB.

Ms. Gillespie Smith thanked Ms. Robertson for providing the committee with one of her marketing staff and Ms. Gutiérrez for hosting the meetings.

Ms. Mitchell mentioned the tree canopies at bus stops is a great idea for shading.

V. Recap of Action Items 9/29/16 Meeting

Due to time restraints there was no recap of action items

VI. Closing Remarks

Chairman Moss thanked the GMCVB for hosting the Neat Streets Miami Board meeting and everyone for coming to the meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:10 pm