



Miami-Dade County

**Commission on Disability Issues (CODI)**

*Stephen P. Clark Center (SPCC)*

*111 N.W. 1<sup>st</sup> Street, Miami, Florida 33128*

*18<sup>th</sup> Floor, Conference Room 18-4*

	<b>Date:</b>	<b>Wednesday, October 23, 2013</b>	
	<b>Time:</b>	<b>1:30– 4:00 p.m. est.</b>	
	<b>Call to Order Time:</b>	<b>1:43 p.m. est.</b>	
	<b>Meeting Adjourned:</b>	<b>4:01 p.m. est.</b>	
<b>I.</b>	<b><u>Opening and Attendance:</u></b> Attendance recorded. Call to Order. Copies of documents were distributed		
	District 1 <b>Commissioner Jordan</b>	<b>Damian Gregory</b> 1 <sup>st</sup> Vice Chair	Present
	District 2 <b>Commissioner Monestime</b>	<b>Jackson David</b> Housing Committee Chair	Present
	District 3 <b>Commissioner Edmonson</b>	<b>Jose Granda</b> Access Committee Chair	Present
	District 4 <b>Commissioner Heyman</b>	<b>Earl Oaks</b> Employment Committee Chair	Absent
	District 5 <b>Commissioner Barreiro</b>	<b>Jose (Ernie) Martinez</b> CODI Chairman	Present
	District 6 <b>Commissioner Sosa</b>	<b>Pedro Rodriguez</b>	Present
	District 7 <b>Commissioner Suarez</b>	<b>Harry Horgan</b> Outreach/Education Chair	Present
	District 8 <b>Commissioner Bell</b>	<b>Jesus Garcia</b> CODI Secretary and Transportation Committee Chair	Present
	District 9 <b>Commissioner Moss</b>	<b>Ronald Fulton</b> 2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice Chair	Present
	District 10 <b>Commissioner Souto</b>	<b>Vacant Appointment</b>	----
	District 11 <b>Commissioner suppoto</b>	<b>Vacant Appointment</b>	.....
	District 12 <b>Commissioner Diaz</b>	<b>Marilyn Larrieu</b> Housing Committee Co-Chair	Excused Absence
	District 13 <b>Commission Bovo</b>	<b>Alan Rigerman</b>	Present
	<b>Miami-Dade County Staff Present</b>	<b>Dianne Steinberg</b> Administrative & Bus. Services Division Recording Secretary, ISD <b>Leland Salomon</b> , Assistant Director Internal Services Department (ISD) <b>Fernando Marquez, Architect 4, Capital Projects Division</b> Parks, Recreation & Open Spaces (PROS) <b>Lucy Binhack</b> , Disability Service Manager Parks, Recreation & Open Spaces (PROS)	Present  Present  Present  Present

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		<b>Monica Beltran</b> , Division Director, Landside Operations/ADA Coordinator, Aviation Department	Present
<b>II.</b>	<b>Approval of Agenda</b>	Chairman Ernie Martinez requested a motion to approve the October 23, 2013 agenda. Jesus Garcia made the motion to approve, which was seconded by Pedro Rodriguez. Agenda unanimously approved.	
<b>III.</b>	<b>Approval of CODI Minutes</b>	Chairman Martinez requested a motion to approve the September 25, 2013 CODI minutes. Jesus Garcia made the motion to approve, which was seconded by Jackson David. Motion unanimously approved.	
<b>IV.</b>	<b>Open Comments</b>	<p>3 minutes each speaker (Advance Notice Preferred) No public comments at this time</p> <p><b>Internal Services Department, ADA Office Support</b> Leland Salomon, Assistant Director, Internal Services Department (ISD) advised CODI that during the ISD, ADA Coordinator, Heidi Johnson-Wright's medical leave direct support for the Commission on Disabilities Issues (CODI) will be provided by his office. Additionally, Mr. Leland stated that Ms. Wright's office telephone line will be automatically transferred to his office, directly to his secretary. He added that all inquiries will be responded to as soon as possible.</p> <p><b>Obstruction of Access Due to Recycling and Trash Bins</b> Ron Fulton raised the issue of the obstruction of access due to the trash bins that block the sidewalk on certain streets on Tuesday and Thursday of each week. Mr. Fulton suggested the Public Works and Waste Management (PWWM) Department may be able to provide a viable solution. He added that in locations with four lane roads, it is not feasible for individuals to go out in traffic to circumvent these obstacles. Jose Grande added that recycling bins are also left in the middle of some streets, creating obstacles.</p> <p><b>New Technology for Restaurants</b> Jose Granda said that on a recent visit to Tampa, Florida he visited a McDonalds Restaurant which has incorporated new screens that inform customers as orders are being serviced. He added that this new technology is beneficial for individuals in the deaf community and noted that it is not available in Miami, Florida, as of yet.</p> <p><b>Access/Safety Issues in Crosswalks and Highways</b> A discussion ensued regarding the issue of safety for individuals who attempt to cross four lane highways or roads at a light often resulting in being situated in the path of cars that are approaching from the turn lane. Allan Rigerman noted that two University of Miami (U of M) students and a disabled veteran were recently killed crossing the street. He added that although pedestrians have the right of way in crosswalks, motorist often do not stop.</p> <p>Mr. Rigerman said he plans to raise this issue before the Miami-Dade and Broward County delegations. Chairman Martinez advised that this issue will be reviewed in the CODI Access Committee and that Julio Martinez, PWWM will be invited.</p>	

<p>V.</p>	<p>Information Items</p>	<p>a) <b>DISABLED PARKING ORDINANCE AMENDMENT FOR CHARGES AT MIAMI INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT &amp; PORT OF MIAMI, SEAPORT</b></p> <p>Damian Gregory stated that this item will be on the agenda for the Board of County Commissioner (BCC) meeting on November 5, 2013. After discussion at the Economic Development and Port of Miami Committee meeting on October 10, 2013, the Committee’s recommendation was that the ordinance should be amended so that only individuals with retro fitted vehicles will be permitted to park at MIA and at Seaport without being required to pay a fee. Mr. Gregory said the amendment stated that there will be a two (2) hour meet-and-greet window of time made available to people with disabilities. Mr. Gregory raised the issue that 2 hours is not satisfactory but 3 hours would be preferable. Chairman Martinez agreed.</p> <p>An additional issue was raised regarding set aside revenue being recaptured; a portion of the funds generated from this initiative being used to benefit the disabled community. Ron Fulton said that Commissioner Heyman had indicated to CODI that she wanted some of the revenue generated to be used for improvements to benefit the disability community. Pedro Rodriguez stated that 80% of the disabled community is unemployed and an internship is an excellent way to address this. Jose Granda said these funds should be assigned to emergency issues. Monica Beltran stated that the primary value will be the availability of parking spaces</p> <p>Ms. Beltran explained that MIA does not receive funds from Miami-Dade County, but is self-sustained receiving parking, restaurant, rental, hotel and aeronautical revenue to offset airport costs that includes the MIA infrastructure.</p> <p>Ms. Beltran added that there will be a disincentive for employees gaining no monetary value to use the disabled parking at MIA once the amendment passes; some staff will utilize the employee parking lots and other individuals will use other means of transportation. Therefore, they expect the entire recovered amount will not total four million dollars. She added that MIA continues to invest including facility projects that meet and exceed requirements, for example, the blinking crosswalks which are an ADA project.</p> <p>A discussion ensued with some CODI members stating they do not support this ordinance. Jackson David raised concerns that this is not a financial issue but one of accessibility noting the possible financial hardship imposed on the disability community. Mr. David recommended CODI endorse this legislation without asking for portion of the revenue generated. Harry Horgan stated that this was previously a humanitarian issue and these funds should be reinvested in the disabled community and enforcement of penalties for violators engaged in the misuse of the disabled placards should also be addressed.</p> <p><b>MOTION</b> was made by Damian Gregory: To amend the meet-and-greet time to be extended from 2 hours to 3 hours to allow people with disabilities to meet-and-greet passengers coming into the airport. Additionally, some money should be set aside from revenue that is recaptured to fund internships /externships for people with disabilities who work at the airport. The percentage is to be determined later. The motion was 2nd by Jesus Garcia. Motion passed unanimously.</p>
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		<p>Chairman Martinez stated that this recommendation will be sent to the Chair of the BCC and the Chair of the Economics Committee with a cover letter in advance of the November BCC meeting.</p> <p>Ron Fulton inquired if there are any people with disabilities interning at MIA. Ms. Beltran clarified that Miami-Dade County staff assigned to the Aviation Department are regulated by MDC, Human Resources Department, with the approval of the airline companies. MIA does not create positions, and all other employees work for the private companies at the airport.</p> <p><b>MOTION</b> was made by Jackson David: To amend the 1<sup>st</sup> motion requesting that the meet-and-greet time should be extended from 2 hours to 3 hours to allow people with disabilities to meet-and-greet passengers coming into the airport, but with <u>no</u> appropriations attached to it. Damian Gregory seconded the motion. Three members voted yes and five members voted no. <u>This motion failed.</u></p>
		<p><b>b) PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACES (PROS) TRANSITION PLAN IMPLEMENTATION UPDATE (FERNANDO MARQUEZ, PROS)</b></p> <p>Fernando Marquez provided an update to CODI on the PROS Transition Plan. He stated the first transition plan was completed in 1990 and it identified 20 million dollars' worth of barrier removal expenses. PROS updated the plan in 2009 and it identified 14 million dollars' worth of barrier removal expenses, therefore although the number of parks had increased the barriers had decreased.</p> <p>Mr. Marquez stated that between 2009 and 2013 numerous addition barriers have been removed as part of other projects. Although barriers remain and are in need of removal, all the parks are currently used by people with disabilities. In FY 2013 PROS allocated 1.1 million funds to address these issues and the following five goals have been identified:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. <b>To make four pools geographically dispersed to be fully ADA compliant.</b> South Dade and A. D. Barnes are complete. PROS is in the process of making Tamiami and Norman and Jean Reach fully ADA compliant. All 15 pools currently have lifts and are useable for people with disabilities, although not 100% compliant, as of yet.</li><li>2. <b>PROS have identified the four most important elements that require updating throughout the parks:</b> Parking, restrooms, path of travel and park office. The goal for FY 12-13 is to make parking and path of travel fully assessable in the top 10 parks. These projects should be completed by next summer. For FY 13-14 PROS will be addressing restrooms and park office for the same 10 parks.</li><li>3. <b>Bringing accessibility to Haulover Beach.</b> PROS have completed 21 assessable parking spaces at the southern end and are currently working on creating 15 assessable parking spaces by the new lifeguard building. As one of the top 10 parks, Haulover Beach will have upgrades for parking and path of travel. At the North Tunnel, the steps will be moved and the tunnel exit re-graded incorporating a gentle slope. This project is scheduled for completion next summer. An additional project includes updating two bus stops for Haulover Beach ensuring accessibility.</li></ol>

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		<p>4. Addressing ADA complaints - funding permitted. One such example is lack of assessable parking for Sunkist Park. PROS will be constructing an assessable parking space at Sunkist Park, hopefully before the summer of 2014.</p> <p>5. Whenever possible to include ADA components for capital projects as funding becomes available. If PROS has a GOB project to include an ADA component as well.</p> <p>Mr. Marquez noted that the old lifeguard building is to be demolished as soon as the new one is functional. Ron Fulton inquired about the accessible beach chairs at the lifeguard station. Lucy Binhack said PROS is responsible for the upkeep of the beach chairs and the lifeguards are in charge of the chairs and user log, adding that information regarding this is on the PROS website.</p> <p>A discussion ensued regarding whether a family restroom will be included. Mr. Marquez agreed to look into this. Chairman Martinez inquired about creating family restrooms at all the parks. Harry Horgan requested that PROS include this on a list for improvements at the parks. Mr. Marquez stated that the 1.1 million dollars budgeted for ADA would not cover this but PROS will review this for new construction projects. He added in the upcoming FY year they are addressing restrooms throughout the parks. Ms. Binhack said that to retro fit a family restroom would require new construction or appropriating space from another area. This would reduce the number of restrooms PROS could provide. Chairman Martinez said that this is especially relevant at parks equipped with swimming pools.</p> <p><b>MOTION:</b> Whenever funding is available Miami-Dade Parks, Recreation and Open Spaces (PROS) include family restrooms when renovating or constructing new restrooms, particular at parks with swimming pool facilities. The motion was seconded by Damian Gregory. Motion passed unanimously.</p> <p>This motion will be sent to George Navarrete, Deputy Director, Miami Dade Parks, Recreation and Open Spaces (PROS).</p> <p>A discussion ensued about events at a park requiring a permit. Ms. Binhack explained that when someone is coordinating a special event in a park they are required to fill out an ADA affidavit which delineates all areas that are required to be ADA accessible, which she signs off on. Mr. Marquez added that his supervisor also signs off as owner's representative of all special events in the parks.</p>
		<p><b>c) ACCESS COMMITTEE: JOSE GRANDA, COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN</b></p> <p>Jose Granda advised CODI that Heidi Johnson Wright, ISD, ADA Coordinator and a representative from the MDPD attended the September 2013 CODI Access Committee Meeting, in his absence. Additionally Mr. Granda said that a visual translation is needed for the announcements at the new Transportation Center. He advised that in 2014, 3,000 deaf individuals will be utilizing the Transportation Center. Additionally, he noted that the airline companies do not provide captions for the deaf for the movies that are made available at the airport. The next Access Committee meeting is scheduled for January 2014.</p>

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		<p><b>d) OUTREACH AND EDUCATION COMMITTEE: HARRY HORGAN COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN</b></p> <p>Harry Horgan said the Outreach and Education Committee met and set new goals. The committee’s objectives are as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Conduct outreach to educate residents of Miami-Dade County about CODI and its purpose. CODI enables citizens and their governments to work together, to make MDC a place where people with disabilities can fulfill their greatest potential for independence and achievement. He suggested CODI members visit the website and make comments for discussion at the next meeting. The stated objectives are access, to motivate people with disabilities to take action, and to inspire self-advocacy.</li><li>2. Establish a media plan and presence and connect CODI with the community. Establish a CODI Facebook webpage.</li><li>3. Reach out to all ADA coordinators by developing an email listing. Ron Collins, HOPE Inc., offered to assist.</li><li>4. Each CODI member should establish regular communications with their Commissioner and meet to discuss CODI and their specific priorities.</li><li>5. Develop a plan to make presentations at high schools to educate students and teachers about ADA.</li><li>6. Host an annual ADA event.</li><li>7. Explore hosting a Disability Fair. The Committee will be attending the AOL Committee meeting and will request that the Miami-Dade County Disability Fair be re-established.</li></ol> <p>Allen Rigerman requested a letter of introduction from CODI to present at the next School Board Meeting scheduled for Nov 19, 2013. Mr. Rigerman said he will make an outline of his presentation for review by CODI. Jose Granda advised that individuals visiting high schools are required by law to be fingerprinted.</p>
<b>VI.</b>	<b>Action Items</b>	<p><b>HURRICANE SEASON AWARENESS/ EMERGENCY SHELTERS 2014</b></p> <p>Damian Gregory raised the issue of fostering awareness in the disabled community regarding Emergency Shelters used in the event of evacuation due to a disaster or a hurricane. Information and outreach provided to the community should include the accessibility, location and services the emergency shelters make available. Jose Granda reiterated that the Disaster Preparedness video should be updated by May 2013. Alan Rigerman advised that every city has a Citizens Advisory Committee that can be utilized for raising these types of concerns.</p> <p>Cutis Sommerhoff, Assistant Director, Emergency Management (OEM) is to be invited to the January 2014 CODI Access Committee meeting.</p>
<b>VII.</b>	<b>Adjournment</b>	Meeting ended at 4:01 p.m. est.
	<b>Next Meeting</b>	November 20, 2013