



NEAT STREETS MIAMI/  
FORMERLY THE COMMUNITY IMAGE ADVISORY BOARD  
MEETING SUMMARY

June 24, 2015

DRAFT

**CIAB Members Present**

William Anderson, Greater Miami  
Convention & Visitors Bureau  
Gloria Antia, Citizens For a Better South Florida  
Lina Blanco, City of Miami  
David Cardenas, MDPROS  
Juliet Chambers, MDC Designee, District 10  
Dr. Claudius A. Carnegie, (CTAC)  
Tony Cotarelo, MD PWWM  
Tabitha Fazzino, Miami-Dade  
County Public Schools  
Kenneth Eric Gardner, (TARC)  
Juan Carlos Garrido, Designee,  
MDC Commission, District 7  
Jack Haime, BioPlanet USA  
Ramiro Inganzo, MDC  
Rick Johnson, MDX  
Penny Lambeth, Town of Miami Lakes  
Darian Martin, City of Miami Gardens  
Robert McClellan, MDT  
Commissioner Dennis C. Moss,  
MDC District 9  
Marie Mitchell, MDC Designee, District 6  
Susan Schrieber, MPO  
Karen Tynes, Miami Herald  
Peter Trupia, Designee/  
MDC Commission, District 3  
Lynda Westin, South Florida  
Regional Transportation Authority  
Rick Vasquez, FPL, MDC Designee, District 5

**Participants Present**

Nilia Cartaya, MDT  
Miguel Claro, NSM  
Marcos L. Dixon, MDC, District 2  
Dominick Dusseau (RER), Sustainability Aide  
Kirk Hoosac, FDOT  
George Navarrete, MDPROS  
Quatisha Oguntinyinbo-Rashad  
Jorge Planas, UEDG  
Diana C. Perez, Miami-Dade County,  
District 9  
Raul Quintela, FDOT  
Rena Ragin, NSM  
Brandi Reddick, MD Dept. of Cultural Affairs  
Juan David Rey, NSM  
Eric Reil, Downtown  
Development Authority  
Patricia Romeu, MD Dept. of Cultural Affairs  
Patrice Gillespie Smith, NSM  
Beth Steimle, TY Lin  
Marie Sterile, Sister Cities Program  
Graylyn Swilley-Woods, GMCVB  
Bill Talbert, GMCVB  
Laura Tollez, Citizens for a Better South Florida  
Susannah Troner, Office of Sustainability  
Gerard Philipeaux, Chairman Monestime's Office

**I. Welcome and Introductions**

Chairman Moss thanked everyone for coming to the new location for the Neat Streets Miami meeting and explained this is only a temporary location. He thanked Bill Talbert and the GMCVB for hosting the breakfast.

Member and participant introductions followed. Chairman Moss asked the GMCVB to provide an update of the tourism business for June, 2015. Bill Anderson provided an overview of the hospitality sector: 55 months of continued growth, Miami's REVPAR and Room Rates are still ranked # 1 nationally.

Bill Talbert announced that Virgin Atlantic's CEO was in town yesterday to announce the beginning of Virgin Cruise Lines and that Stephen Ross bought Formula 1 racing.

## II. Action Items

- **Recognition of former Neat Streets Miami Board Members (some of these recognitions came later in the meeting).**
  - Marie Steril who represented the Miami Dade League of Cities' and the City of North Miami Beach for approximately 7 years.
  - Gerard Phillipeaux, who has now become the chief of staff for Miami Dade Chairman Monestime.
  - Karen Tynes, Miami Herald for her years of service in the Clean Up Green Up Poster Contest
  - Rena Ragin who served as the Interim Board Secretary for more than 20 months and has accepted a new position with the School Board.

## IV. **Updates (Out of deference to the Committee Chairs who have been unable to report the last couple of months due to time constraints, Commissioner Moss asked that we begin the meeting with the Committee Updates).**

A. Office of Neat Streets Miami

Patrice Gillespie Smith

Ms. Gillespie Smith provided the following reminders:

- The Neat Streets Miami Annual Retreat will be held on July 29 in the Perez Art Museum Board Room. Huge thank you to Michael Spring for plan for providing us access to such a beautiful location. This year's retreat will be more prescriptive so that we can generate specific action items. We will be in touch with all of the Committee Chairs to help
- Neat Streets Miami Shirts have arrived. If you still haven't ordered one, let us know and we can get you in time for next month's meeting
- Financial Disclosure Forms are due at the end of June.
- Complete Streets Follow-up: DDA is planning for a follow up to our Complete Streets Forum in October of this year.
- Member Attendance—part of packet. We will begin discussions with those members who have not been able to make 6 meetings in a year.

A.

Street Tree Subcommittee

Rick Johnson

- Chairman Moss congratulated the City of Miami Gardens on a wonderful tree planting along an exercise path on May 30. Despite the early start time, there was a huge turnout of volunteers. Mr. Johnson said that Bacardi planted an additional 20 trees on June 12.

Mr. Johnson also gave the following updates:

- The Tree Committee met both in April and May to discuss how to follow up on the LEAF Summit and upcoming tree plantings.
- Specifically, we will be in follow-up discussions with Hialeah, Opa Locka, Key Biscayne, Miami Shores, and Bay Harbor Islands—who have all expressed an interest in becoming a Tree City USA.
- We also had ideas on how to improve future LEAF Summits and have incorporated those into the plans for next year's event.
- We need to advocate for aligning the Tree portions of the County's Code (we will work with Gianni on that)
- We need to bolster enforcement of the existing code.
- Furthermore, we would like to emulate the City of Tampa who corralled all of their tree resources into one coordinate effort to increase the effectiveness of their tree planting program.
- On April 21, we celebrated "Earth Day Eve" with Vizcaya and Slow Food Miami. Despite challenging weather, we had approximately 200 people show up and enjoy good music, food and networking.

- District 12 announced that it will be spending more than \$200,000 on street trees and celebrated its investment on Arbor Day.
- Ms. Lambeth reported that on June 6<sup>th</sup> 30 TREEmendous volunteers planted trees along Miller Street with the support from the community and Commissioner Suarez. This was the second phase of planting on the right of way.

B.

Gateway/Corridor Subcommittee

Dr. Claudius Carnegie

Dr. Carnegie gave the following report:

- This month, the Transportation Gateway/Corridors committee did not meet. However, a small focus group gathered as a follow up to the April 29 Complete Streets Forum to discuss branding of Complete Streets in Miami-Dade.
- With more than 120 participants and attendance by municipal, county and state transportation leaders, the Complete Streets Forum was considered a huge success. We received numerous compliments about the speaker line up and believe that there is more to come.
- Dr. Carnegie then asked Mr. McClellan to report out regarding updates at the MetroMover stations. Mr. McClellan reported out the upgrades at the 3<sup>rd</sup> street, the 5<sup>th</sup> street station and 11<sup>th</sup> street stations. Mr. McClellan thanked Alyce Robertson and the DDA for its partnership in these upgrades. His presentation is on the Neat Streets Miami Website.
- Ms. Patrice Gillespie Smith said that FDOT will be improving its ROW near the 3<sup>rd</sup> Street Station.
- Mr. Kirk Hoosac said that FDOT will also be adding lighting underneath the adjacent bridge.
- Dr. Carnegie asked when the 8<sup>th</sup> Street Station will open? Mr. McClellan responded that they are wrapping up construction right now, but don't have an exact opening date.

C.

Landscape Projects Subcommittee

Jeff Dawson

Mr. Dawson gave the following report:

- The Landscape Committee met both in May and June to discuss enhancements to the gateways.
- Adopt a road is slowly moving—with two more volunteer groups who have stepped up to Adopt their road.—Divine Savior and Frank C. Martin School.
- The committee will work with FDOT, MDT and the City of South Miami to coordinate landscaping efforts on US 1 and at the S. Miami Metrorail station.
- The County is also trying to secure the plaque for the Paciencia Park planting, as it has been one year since we had the station spruce up project. The Office of Cultural Affairs has indicated it has the plaque, but must install the mounting for the plaque.
- The group also came up with a great idea to help FDOT enhance the maintenance of its major corridors—engaging the Road Rangers to assess the condition of the corridors every day they are on the highways.

- Unfortunately, this week our Committee was informed that the fountain at Vizcaya will not be repaired as part of the sculpture enhancements slated by the Department of Cultural Affairs. We will be pursuing a plan B in the near term.
- Mr. Dawson said that FDOT has 8 major landscaping projects underway in Miami-Dade.
- He also reported that North Miami Beach appears to have completed its landscaping efforts on NE 163<sup>rd</sup> Street.

D.

Marketing and Education Subcommittee

Lina Blanco

- Ms. Blanco provided an overview of the Clean Up Green Up Poster Contest.
- January and February we held the contest –thanks to many of you we had a healthy return – nearly 1500 posters.
- March we judged the posters and the videos
- April we had the posters displayed in the lobby of the Government Center and then in May we presented the winners.
- Special thanks to the Greater Miami Convention and Visitors Bureau for the prizes, the Miami Herald for hosting us and all of the Neat Streets Miami Board members.
- Kudos to Madelyn Rodriguez who secured free lunch for the judges!
- Many of our recent tree plantings have been covered by the media—whether it was in the Herald or on Social Media, we have been getting a lot of attention these days.

#### Action Items:

- A. Approval of Minutes from May 27, 2015 Board Meeting:** Dr. Claudius Carnegie motioned to approve the minutes. Chairman Moss seconded the motion. The minutes were unanimously approved.

#### Reports:

- A. Art in Public Places Overview, Utility Box Art Miami-Dade Department of Cultural Affairs.. Madames Brandi Reddick and Patricia Romeu presented an overview of the County's Art in Public Places program, including amazing upgrades to MIA, South Dade Cultural Arts Center, Marlins Stadium, the SeaPort and partnerships with the City of Opa Locka, District 11 and many other entities. They encouraged members to think about how they could partner with the Department of Cultural Affairs to beautify infrastructure and open spaces. The original pilot project to beautify the traffic control boxes in District 11 was so successful, that FPL is now working with the Department to beautify its traffic control boxes. A copy of the full presentation is online.
- Mr. Cotarelo asked if there had been graffiti on the boxes? Ms. Romeu responded that only 3 of the boxes have had to be serviced – far fewer than average. There will definitely be maintenance savings with the painted traffic control boxes.
  - Ms. Romeu said often times by incorporating art into infrastructure, municipalities and agencies are able to grow their budgets because their project becomes much more desirable.
  - Mr. Cotarelo said that Commissioner Zapata approached PWWM about poetry on the sidewalks and PWWM has approved as long as it meets ADA standards.
  - Rick said that MDX approved LED lighting on the 826/836 interchange.
  - Chairman Moss asked why the new wing have lighting capabilities? Mr. Johnson responded that all of the lights are LED now.

- Commissioner Moss indicated he wants to pursue legislation that will require aesthetic lighting on the Venetian Causeway.
- Antonio Cotarelo indicated that the Venetian is a historic bridge and that only portions of it will be under construction.

Commissioner Moss said he will also pursue other legislation for MIA to install screening to obscure the back of the back of the house infrastructure visible by MIA People Mover riders.

- Commissioner Moss said that the presentation was fabulous and asked how we can bring more exposure to their work? This should be on MDTV.
- Mr. Iguanzo suggested presenting to the Miami-Dade League of Cities to highlight the County's work and opportunities to work with the Art in Public Places program.
- Ms. Gillespie Smith said we could ask PROS to use social media to celebrate the Art in Public Places.

B. Biscayne Boulevard Streetscape Vision Association

Jorge Planas, MIMO Biscayne

Mr. Planas provided a presentation with ideas about how his neighborhood organization is working to create a walkable environment. His group asked themselves what kind of streets do we deserve? He said that MIMO is the only historic neighborhood in Miami. He wants to build upon MIMO's architectural legacy and promote a safe and comfortable pedestrian experience. A copy of Mr. Planas' presentation is online at Neat Streets Miami's Website.

Mr. Phillipeaux said that when FDOT upgraded US 1, MIMO didn't want a median. Mr. Planas said that the community wasn't given a choice to modify the proposed median.

Mr. Phillipeaux expressed concern that all of the upgrades may cause Biscayne Boulevard to lose its essence. This neighborhood works because it was built as a working class community and that he would hate to lose that. Mr. Planas responded that the Business Group doesn't want to lose that vibe either. He just wants to make improvements that create a safe pedestrian environment.

Mr. Tupia said that Crime was a big issue. Have you partnered with NET?

Mr. Planas said that it's been slow going?

Mr. Trupia replied, can we get more police? Mr. Planas said his group is considering a special taxing district for more police.

C. I-395 Signature Bridge TY Lin. Raul Quintela, Florida Department of Transportation and Beth Steimle,

- Reconstruction Project
- How FDOT committed to aesthetics
- Visual consistence
- FDOT using minimal requirements for project
- Expected advertise Fall 2015
- Construction begin 2017
- Anticipated end: 2022

Rick: What's makeup of aesthetic?

-DDA, FDOT, ----

Chair: What will maintenance be after project is done?

-FDOT will maintain and have maintenance agreements

Chair: Would MDX be an option?

-MDX has presumptive aesthetics

Chair: We would like project to be kept up. Need continuous maintenance

-Will be explored

Chair: Glad talking about signature bridges, thank FDOT for listening

Patrice: Looks like lots of hard surfaces, what happens to acoustics?

-Will be a lot higher and very quiet

-225 ft spans

Chair: Important to have lighting underneath or unsecure areas to get these areas right

-Proposing long strips of purto lighting to create lights if dark across. Crossways will always be lit

Mimo: Bridge was thought to be lost. You can see a letter "M"

Patrice: Rena's farewell luncheon at Lalogia

## **VI. Closing Remarks**

Chairman Moss thanked the GMCVB and everyone for attending the meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:07 p.m.