



**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>Tuesday, January 28, 2025</b>	
<b>Time:</b>	<b>10:30 AM – 1 PM</b>	
<b>Call to Order Time:</b>	<b>10:52 AM</b>	
<b>Meeting Adjourned:</b>	<b>12:56 PM</b>	
<b>Opening and Attendance:</b> Attendance recorded. Call to Order. Copies of documents were distributed.		
District 1 <b>Oliver G. Gilbert, III</b>	<b>Damian Gregory</b> Chairman	<b>P</b>
District 2 <b>Marliene Bastien</b>	<b>Jackson David</b>	<b>A</b>
District 3 <b>Keon Hardemon</b>	<b>Marilyn Orozco</b>	<b>P</b>
District 4 <b>Micky Steinberg</b>	<b>Vacant</b>	
District 5 <b>Eileen Higgins</b>	<b>Eddie Sierra</b> Vice Chairman	<b>P</b>
District 6 <b>Kevin M. Cabrera</b>	<b>Vacant</b>	
District 7 <b>Raquel A. Regalado</b>	<b>Rabbi Yossi Harlig</b>	<b>A</b>
District 8 <b>Danielle Cohen Higgins</b>	<b>Vacant</b>	
District 9 <b>Kionne L. McGhee</b>	<b>Ulrica Garcia</b>	<b>P</b>
District 10 <b>Anthony Rodriguez</b>	<b>Natalia Wong</b>	<b>P</b>
District 11 <b>Roberto J. Gonzalez</b>	<b>Katherine Magnoli</b>	<b>P</b>
District 12 <b>Juan Carlos Bermudez</b>	<b>Maria Mercedes Villar</b>	<b>P</b>
District 13 <b>René Garcia</b>	<b>Theo Karantsalis</b>	<b>P</b>

<p><b>Miami-Dade County Staff</b></p>       <p><b>Members of the Public</b></p>	<p><b>Michael Moran, PIOD, ADA Senior Officer</b>  <b>Heidi Johnson, PIOD, ADA Coordinator</b>  <b>Brenda Lampon, Mayor’s Office, Equity and Engagement Manager – Older Adults, Mental Health and Disabilities</b>  <b>Christina Lopez, Commission District 11, Deputy Chief of Staff,</b>  <b>Jarice Rodriguez, DTPW, Interim Chief Paratransit Operations (STS); Office of Innovation &amp; Mobility Services</b>  <b>Ibis Valdes, Mayor’s Office, Deputy Director of Equity &amp; Engagement</b>  <b>Odilanda Brito, PHCD, Compliance Reviewer/ADA Coordinator for Programs and Services</b>  <b>Joyce Galbut, CAHSD, Center Manager, DSAIL</b></p> <p><b>Anthony Gonzalez, Head Representative, Sunrise Group</b>  <b>Victoria Hernandez, Transportation America, STS General Manager</b>  <b>John Williams, Transportation America</b>  <b>Ernie Martinez, resident</b></p>
<p><b>1. Call to Order and Roll Call</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Meeting called to order at 10:52 AM, with eight members present. Quorum achieved.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>2. Approval of Minutes and Agenda:</b> Chairman Gregory asked for a motion to approve the CODI monthly meeting minutes for October, November and December 2024. Theo Karantsalis made the motion and Marilyn Orozco seconded it. Motion passed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chairman Gregory asked for a motion to approve the agenda to be approved. Natalia Wong made the motion; Marilyn Orozco seconded it. Motion passed.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>3. Public Comments (Two minutes per person)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Audience members introduced themselves.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>4. New Business</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Jarice Rodriguez, Victoria Hernandez, and John Williams addressed various STS issues. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Jarice shared a detailed PowerPoint presentation with statistics on STS, as well as improvements happening now and in the future.</li> <li>• The STS program is 40 years old. It has an annual budget of \$54 million and is staffed by 26 people. There are 130,000 riders per month. Transportation America oversees everything. On an average day, they approve 39 applications and receive 168 calls, 10 percent of which are complaints. Their outreach team consists of one person.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	

- The STS target for on-time pickups is 87 percent. Each month, they have 17,800 trips that are late. They are working on service improvements.
- Their upcoming goals are to update the riders' guide, update the website, rebrand the program, require recurring training, introduce distance-based fairs and same-day rides. These innovations will take up to 18 months to implement.
- Mercedes Villar asked how the calls are received. She talked about the riders' app having a survey and complaint section. Natalia Wong asked about late arrivals not being tracked.
- Ms. Rodriguez revealed that data collection for the number of complaints is not completely accurate because they only collect complaints from the Call Center. Therefore, it does not include complaints from staff, commissioners and any other outside sources.
- Ms. Wong asked how involved riders will be in the development of the app. Eddie Sierra asked how the app could have more accurate statistics. Chairman Gregory asked if the app's complaint function would allow the uploading of videos. Ms. Rodriguez said tracking and other helpful features will be available on the new app, as well as more options for paying for rides.
- Joyce Galbut from CAHSD/DSAIL said that they have specific STS routes and time. Mornings work well, but STS in the afternoons is slower and keeps young kids with autism waiting and struggling.

**b. Election of CODI officers for Chair, Vice-Chair, and Secretary/Treasurer**

- Chairman Gregory said that CODI needs to elect officers and opened the floor for nominations. Kat Magnoli and Mr. Karantsalis nominated Ms. Villar as Secretary Treasurer. Ms. Villar accepted the nomination, a vote was taken and she was elected.
- Ms. Villar nominated Ms. Orozco for Vice Chair. Ms. Magnoli nominated Mr. Karantsalis. Mr. Karantsalis accepted the nomination, a vote was taken and he was elected.
- Chairman Gregory requested nominations for the office of Chairman. Mr. Karantsalis nominated Ms. Magnoli. Ms. Magnoli accepted the nomination, a vote was taken and she was elected.

**c. 2025 CODI Calendar**

- Heidi Johnson reminded CODI members not to select "Reply All" when responding to emails about CODI sent from the ADA Office. Members should only select "Reply" to ADA Office emails. Otherwise, this can result in a Sunshine law violation because they will be sending emails to other board members.
- Ms. Johnson announced the proposed CODI meeting dates for 2025. They are: January 28, February 25, March 25, April 22, May 27, June 24, July 22, August 26, September 16, October 28, November 18, and December 16.

- Ms. Villar made a motion to accept the proposed 2025 meeting dates. Ms. Orozco seconded the motion. Motion passed.

**5. Old Business:** all postponed until the next meeting.

**Next Scheduled Meeting and Adjournment:**

- Chairman Gregory adjourned the meeting at 12:56 PM.
- Next meeting: Tuesday, February 25, 2025 - 10:30am-1pm, SPCC 18-4