

**PALMER LAKE AREA CHARRETTE
MEETING SUMMARY**

*Orlando Urra Allapattah Community Center
2257 N.W. North River Drive
Miami, Florida 33125*

May 17, 2010 · 3:00 P.M.

Steering Committee Members Present

Wendy Pomerantz, Jordan Monocandilos, Brett Bibeau and Debi Sokolow Keene

Community Members Present

Nick Monocandilos, Gary Donn (FDOT) Carlos Saenz, Marino Llamas, Lisa Spadafina, Gwin Tate, David Picciollo, Bill Hamlin, Fran Bohnsack, David Snow (City of Miami), Rogelio Madan (City of Miami), Bradley Siddall, Vilma Licea-Camejo, Dewayne Nall, Mike Hatami, Bill Rodriguez and Barbara Rodriguez

County Staff Present

Department of Planning and Zoning (DPZ): Eric Silva, Shailendra Singh, Gilberto Blanco, Kimberly Brown, Jess Linn, Alex Zizold and Josh Rak

District Commissioner's Office: Betty Gutierrez

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Eric Silva began the meeting with introductions and outlined the agenda for the meeting.

Vice-Chair Bibeau questioned whether the committee had a quorum since less than fifty percent of the steering committee members were present. He recommended postponing approval of the minutes until the next meeting. Approval of the minutes was deferred to the next steering committee meeting.

In response to an issue raised at the previous steering committee meeting, Eric Silva indicated that the study area boundary would not be expanded to include parcels on the northeast side of the Miami River since the area is not connected to the MIC and is not within the Urban Center Boundary. Recommendations related to beautification and aesthetic improvements may be included for the northeast area but parcel-specific recommendations such as land use and zoning should not be included.

Mr. Silva addressed another issue raised at the prior meeting regarding adding additional members to the steering committee. Mr. Silva directed interested parties to contact the Commissioner's office to inquire about being added to the steering committee.

Gary Donn with FDOT presented a Powerpoint presentation on the proposed MIC project. The project includes roadway improvements, a MetroRail connection, a rental car facility, a Tri-Rail connection, Amtrak, Greyhound & local bus service, as well as, an additional platform for a possible future high-speed rail connection. Mr. Donn indicated that once the MIAMover is operational, shuttle service to the off-site rental car facilities will cease. The facility is scheduled

to open in July. The joint development property, located east of the MIC, has already been approved for 1.4 million SF of commercial development. At the end of 2010 or beginning of 2011, a Request for Proposals (RFP) will be issued for the joint development site.

The committee discussed and agreed to hold at least one additional steering committee meeting before proceeding with the charrette.

Fran Bohnsack informed the group that the American Institute of Architects (AIA) will be conducting a study of the Miami River as part of their annual convention. Mr. Silva indicated that the AIA study findings could be used as a reference for the Palmer Lake Study Area recommendations.

Discussion ensued regarding the agenda for the next steering committee meeting. Vice-Chair Bibeau requested that the next meeting contain discussion on issues rather than voting. Mr. Silva asked participants to come prepared to discuss two issues at the next steering committee meeting.

Vice-Chair Bibeau offered five issues that he sees as important. They are as follows:

- 1) Maintenance, dredging and environmental clean-up of the Tamiami Canal.
- 2) Replacing the Tamiami Canal swing bridge. A PD&E study was completed for bridge replacement but full construction funding has yet to be allocated.
- 3) Provision of an on-road greenway, which will not to be located on private property, running from the Tamiami Canal to NW 25 Street then connecting to the Central Station.
- 4) Replace the NW South River Drive fixed bridge with a moveable bridge.
- 5) Provide multi-modal connectivity for freight between the airport, the Miami River and the Port of Miami.

Fran Bohnsack offered the suggestion that warehousing may be needed in conjunction with the freight connections. Bill Hamlin recommended that the area be developed as a multi-modal/multi-use facility, designed utilizing "green design" principles, with a multitude of freight connections and services (truck freight, dock freight, ocean freight, cross-docking and centralized examination stations).

The meeting was adjourned.

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