



COMMISSION MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor Matti Herrera Bower and Members of the City Commission
FROM: City Manager Jorge M. Gonzalez
DATE: May 12, 2010
SUBJECT: **REPORT OF THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS OVERSIGHT
COMMITTEE MEETING OF MARCH 8, 2010**

The meeting was called to order at 5:38 p.m.

Please note: These minutes are not a full transcription of the meeting.

Full audio and visual record of this meeting is available online on the City's website:

<http://www.miamibeachfl.gov/video/video.asp>

ATTENDANCE

See attendance sheet, attached

REVIEW AND ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

MOTION: Acceptance of Minutes of the February 1, 2010 CIPOC Meeting

Changes were made to the minutes of the February 1, 2010 meeting.

MOVED: (as Amended) C. Cuervo 2nd: D. Kraai

PASSED: Unanimous

PUBLIC COMMENTS

No one came forward with items for Public Comments

REFERRAL ITEMS

Referral to the Finance and Citywide Projects Committee: 5:46 p.m.
Discussion Regarding the Proposed Sunset Islands 3 and 4 Entryway Improvements.

CIPOC recommended that this go through the formal referral process through Finance and Citywide Projects Committee (FCWP) and then through Commission. The FCWP has the authority to make the recommendation to Commission add the beautification to the project and the Commission has the power of the purse. There are still questions about ownership of the guardhouse at Sunset III & IV entrance.

Referral to the Neighborhood and Community Affairs Committee: 5:52 p.m.
Discussion Regarding Central Bayshore Neighborhood

This item was brought to the Neighborhoods and Community Affairs Committee, because residents and property owners in the Central Bayshore Neighborhood were seeking items that were included in the BODR, but were not shown on the plans. The Neighborhoods Committee referred the item to CIPOC. Staff declared that all the funded items that are in the BODR will be included. The residents and property owners want additional items and those will have to be brought before Commission to approve modifying the BODR.

John Corey (2372 Prairie Avenue) presented on behalf of the Homeowners Association. The HOA is asking for six key items:

- 1) Road Narrowing for traffic calming (Prairie, Meridian, Sheridan, 28 Street and 34 Street) The BODR calls for Sheridan to be narrowed from 28 to 40 Street to make way for parking improvements for the multi-family units. 28 Street will remain the current width, and a multi-use lane is proposed for within the right-of-way, which can serve as a bike lane as well as be incorporated into the Vita-course plans for the Par3 site. (Staff is to investigate how this multi-use lane will tie in to the walkway alongside the Scott Rakow Youth Center) 34 Street is included in the Bike Master Plan, and would require widening, but the City will make the request of the County to have 9-foot travel lanes for vehicles, in order to keep the road as narrow as possible.
- 2) Fairgreen Drive – residents want this street to remain the current width, asking for an exception from the County. The City will approach the County with the recommendation. Barry Miller (2800 Fairgreen Drive) explained that the HOA asked Coral Gables how they maintained historic widths on their streets. He asked that the City go through the same process with the County, which includes proving that there is support from the neighborhood leadership when the request is made.
- 3) Eliminate the plan for mid-block paving because they are not traffic-calming devices, but are aesthetic. Residents asked that any savings realized from eliminating this item be applied elsewhere. Saul Gross expressed concern that the request for the pavers came from the community and that the people attending the CIPOC meeting were not representative of the entire neighborhood. Mr. Corey said that the HOA discussed this and they felt that narrowing the roadways would be a more effective means of implementing traffic calming. Gary Hunt (resident) said that traffic calming was the number one request from the neighborhood, and the number two request was for large canopy trees. Mr. Hunt indicated that the neighborhood would be willing to hold off on the project in order to review the issues.
Residents at the meeting expressed approval of the speed cushions that have been placed along Prairie Avenue as part of the pilot program to address traffic-calming.
- 4) Remove the crosswalks on 34th Street
- 5) Plant more canopy trees on 40th Street, rather than Royal Palms. (The BODR calls for canopy trees)
- 6) Bike Lanes: The neighborhood is requesting moving the planned bike lanes because they don't want additional asphalt. One suggestion was to perhaps split the bike lanes so that a north-bound bike lane exists on one street, while a south-bound bike lane exists on another street. This would result in less area taken for bike lane use. The bike lanes were not included in the BODR, but are part of the Bicycle Master Plan that was adopted by the City Commission. Saul Gross pointed out that the adoption of the Bike Master Plan included the agreement that no green space would be taken for the installation of the lanes. Keith Mizell, Project Manager for the Bayshore Neighborhood project, said that widths would remain as they are with the exception of Sheridan Avenue. If the bike lane can be included within the existing width the City will implement the plan accordingly. If not, the City will make the request of the County to add the bike lanes without adding extra asphalt. Gabrielle Redfern (4539 Royal Palm Avenue) spoke in favor of the bike lanes, because the City had worked for years to establish a Bike Master Plan.

STAFF ACTION: Charlie Carreño, CIP Director, requested a letter from the Central Bayshore HOA, highlighting all the requests, which will be used to present to Commission for all the items, including those that entail modifications to the BODR.

Jennifer Massolo, (34th & Prairie Ave) thinks that the speed pillows have benefited Prairie Avenue and requested that the City look at installing a traffic circle at 34th Street and Prairie for traffic calming. Fred Beckmann, Public Works Director, said that the speed pillows are part of a test program. Installation of a traffic circle will require approval from the County, who will look at data of speeding and traffic volume in the neighborhood. Traffic circles are somewhat difficult to get County approval, but the City will inquire.

STAFF ACTION: Approach the County with the three requests:

- 1) Keep the width of Fairgreen Drive
- 2) Get permission to install a traffic circle at 34th and Prairie
- 3) 9ft roadways on Meridian.

Richard Barron, resident, also spoke in favor of the bike lanes and asked that they not be taken out.

STAFF ACTION: Bring back an update on the Bayshore Neighborhood information once the County is contacted.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Construction Claims Process

7:41 p.m.

Presented in printed format in the agenda packet. This was brought to CIPOC by request of Commissioner Weithorn, because the Committee had requested that a handout with claim information be made available to the public.

Results of the Water Line Investigation in Normandy Shores Neighborhood 7:43 p.m.

Based on the condition of the water lines that were tested, the City cannot recommend replacement of the lines. This item is being brought to Commission on March 10.

Fred Beckmann, Public Works Director, introduced Neil Hampton, an engineer with CDM, who is an expert on piping and corrosion. There has been concern over tuberculation and its role as a factor in determining the safety of water quality. Mr. Hampton explained that he has inspected water mains of varying ages, some dating back to the 1800's. Overall, it is his determination that tuberculation in water lines does not result in any danger to the public. He added that age is not a factor. There are various tests that are done to monitor water quality and the City of Miami Beach conducts these tests. He pointed out that soil resistivity testing (which is done externally around the pipe) is a better way to test pipes than to cut coupons. The City conducts water quality testing, in which samples are taken and sent to an independent lab.

Eleanor Carney said that she heard from a former Fire Department staff member that the City Fire Department does not do hydrant flow tests in the Venetian Islands because the lines are so corroded. Fred Beckmann cautioned that this was hearsay and that fire hydrant testing is done on a regular basis. Mike Alvarez, Public Works Infrastructure (Operations) Division Director, stated that the department has not heard complaints about flow on the Venetian Islands, or any other neighborhood. All hydrants are flushed once per year.

STAFF ACTION: Confirm with the Fire Department that they have tested the fire hydrants and obtain their schedule and test results to show to CIPOC.

Eleanor Carney asked how to more effectively determine the validity of water pipes throughout the City, specifically mentioning pipes that have crumbled. She asked for a wholesale approach to locating pipes that are in danger of spontaneous breaks. Mr. Beckmann indicated that recent computerization of the data into the system has improved the City's ability to determine how to address this. Mr Hampton stated that it is unusual for a City to address breaks in the line with wholesale water line replacement.

Greg Carney asked for a professional opinion on the installation of C-900 plastic pipes versus metal pipes. Mr. Hampton and Mr. Beckmann both opined that plastic piping is not superior and would recommend against it for installation in Miami Beach. He sees no cost-benefit to installing plastic pipe when factoring in long-term maintenance.

MOTION: Support the Administration's recommendation not to replace the water lines in Normandy Shores, but asks staff to look into any complaints that were reported and to find another way to address it.

MOVED: E. Carney 2nd: E. Agazim

PASSED: Unanimous

REQUESTED REPORT

GIS Presentation: Water Line Prioritization

Deferred

OLD BUSINESS

7:39 p.m.

CIP Project Status Report

Construction Update: Normandy Shores Neighborhood Improvement Project

Status Report: Venetian Island Neighborhood Improvement Project

Status Report: Sunset Islands I & II

Status Report: Sunset Islands III & IV

Status Report: Royal Palm Avenue and 44th Street Flooding Mitigation

Status Report: Palm & Hibiscus Island Undergrounding

Status Report: Flamingo/West Avenue ROW

STAFF ACTION ITEMS

Status Report: Venetian Island Neighborhood Improvement Project

7:08 p.m.

Greg Carney (440 West Dilido Drive) had a number of issues to discuss.

- 1) Status of the street end parcels. Assistant City Attorney Raul Aguila spoke and said that as soon as his office receives the results of the inquiry he will prepare a report on the ownership of the street ends. A copy of this report will go to the HOA.

STAFF ACTION: CAO to provide a report on the ownership of the Venetian Islands street ends to the HOA.

- 2) Wants to include the design for utility undergrounding incorporated into the engineering plans for the neighborhood improvement project.
- 3) Water main extensions on the Causeway and the budget impact. Once the pricing comes in (it is out for bid) the City will coordinate how to incorporate this additional work, which was requested by Commission, into the Venetian Islands plan.

Roberto Rodriguez, Project Coordinator, said that Ric-Man has been issued the first NTP. Now there is some delay while waiting for DERM permits, and Ric-Man is waiting to see if they are awarded the County contract as well. David Mancini, President of Ric-Man, explained that their company is still waiting to see if they are awarded the Causeway contract. This issue is currently under the Cone of Silence.

- 4) Questions about the coordination of the County project on the Venetian Causeway and the Venetian Islands neighborhood project. Eleanor Carney asked that the City do everything possible to coordinate the work with the County contractor in an effort of expediency and cost savings.

Status Report: Sunset Islands I & II

The geotechnical survey has been completed. Once the information is discussed with the HOA engineer and Mr. Goldsmith, the findings will be incorporated into the plan documents. There is some concern that the amount of unsuitable material in the ground will impact the cost and approach of construction material used. The plans could be at 100% as early as April.

Status Report: Sunset Islands III & IV

7:22 p.m.

Terry Beinstock,(2312 Bay Avenue), said that the neighborhood wants to fight the County on the issue of widening the roadway, since the plans also include the installation of valley gutters.

Status Report: Flamingo/West Avenue Neighborhood ROW

7:27 p.m.

Judy Robertson (8th & Lenox) discussed the neighborhood's expectations for timeline. 7th to 9th Streets from Washington to Meridian project has been sent by the County for review and approval of the grant to the State. Denis Russ (940 Pennsylvania Ave) offered help with people within the MBDC who work with CDBG Block Grants all the time.

Denis and Judy also asked about the status of the Stormwater Master Plan. The Commission gave direction at the February meeting to move forward with the top-ranked firm. Fernando Vazquez, City Engineer, said that the City had begun discussions with CDM to define scope of services. Once final cost is agreed upon, it will be brought back to Commission for approval. This should be brought back to Commission in May.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

JMG/JGG/COC/GME

**ATTENDANCE REPORT FOR
CIP OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE
JANUARY THROUGH DECEMBER 2010**

	<u>LAST NAME</u>	<u>FIRST NAME</u>	<u>Jan</u>	<u>Feb</u>	<u>March</u>	<u>April</u>	<u>May</u>	<u>June</u>	<u>July</u>	<u>Sept</u>	<u>Oct</u>	<u>Nov</u>	<u>Dec</u>	<u>Discipline</u>
1	Gross	Saul	P	P	P									Chair
2	Agazim	Erik	P	A	P									Developer
3	Camargo	Elizabeth	P	P	P									Architect
4	Carney	Eleanor	N/A	P	P									Engineer
5	Cuervo	Christina	P	P	P									Citizen-at-Large
6	Karlton	Fred	P	P	P									Developer
7	Kendle	Rick	P	P	A									Engineer/ Citizen-at-Large
8	Kilroy	Stacy	P	P	A									Construction
4	Kraai	Dwight	P	P	P									Engineer

A: Absent

P: Present

N/A: Not appointed / *Not serving

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