

MIAMI BEACH

Mayor's 41st Street Committee
5:00pm Monday, April 9, 2018
City of Miami Beach
1700 Convention Center Drive, Miami Beach

MINUTES

Committee Members in Attendance:

- Seth Gadinsky, Chair
- Betty Behar
- Michael Burnstine
- Yechiel Ciment
- Francisco Diez-Rivas
- Jerri Herzberg Bassuk
- Kayla Rynor
- Robin Jacobs

Committee Members Absent:

- Eric Hanken
- Jeremy Wachtel

City Staff Present:

- Michelle Huttenhoff, Staff Liaison/Economic Development Manager
- Eva Silverstein, Director Tourism, Culture and Economic Development
- Kathie Brooks, Assistant City Manager
- Heather Shaw, Assistant Director Tourism, Culture and Economic Development
- Jose Gonzalez, Transportation Director
- Nick Kallergis, Senior Assistant City Attorney

Seth Gadinsky opened the meeting at 5:10 p.m. and welcomed all in attendance. Mayor Gelber welcomed the Committee and provided a historical overview of 41st Street and put forth the vision for the 41st Street Committee.

Sunshine Law: City Attorney, Nick Kallergis reviewed the Sunshine Law with the Members and explained the policy as it pertains to the functions of the 41st Street Committee.

Oath of Office and Committee Application Forms: Michelle Huttenhoff reviewed the Committee application form and issued the Oath of Office to the Members.

41st Street Committee Goals and Objectives: The Members each presented and stated their vision for 41st Street. Each member had an opportunity to express their concerns for the corridor and where they saw the greatest opportunity. A list of ideas and comments are as follows:

- The balance between residents in Mid Beach and business owners along the corridor as it pertains to the use of on-street parking and sidewalk cafes
- Visibility and lack of lighting along the corridor. The lack of lighting effects economic activity in the evening hours and has created a safety issue for residents and business patrons.
- The need to create a *town center* for Mid Beach, which puts pedestrians first
- Uniformity among the streetscape and a need for facade improvements
- Increase public works activity in the area. The vegetation and trees on 41st Street need to be more properly cared for and maintained.
- Synchronization of lights and traffic calming to help increase pedestrian activity, especially for the elderly residents walking from the nearby neighborhoods
- Sidewalk improvements, the current sidewalks are uneven and broken which create a safety hazard
- Add bicycle protected lane and create a better system for advancing bike access throughout 41st Street
- Fractured ownership, need to create incentives for landlords to activate their storefronts
- Find creative ways for buses and trolleys to make stops along the street (remove parking to create drop-ins or cut-ins for public transit)
- Reduce and/or remove on-street parking to expand sidewalks, while adding parking in the backside
- Enhance the overall vibrancy of 41st Street to make it the true gateway to Miami Beach from the mainland
- To find creative ways to partner with the Roosevelt Hotel

Review of existing transportation plan: Jose Gonzalez briefed the Committee on the current City-wide transportation master plan that was conducted in 2016. He provided a high level overview of current activity that is being examined within the 41st Street corridor. These assessments will be incorporated into any future design plans.

GO Bond Schedule: Michelle Huttenhoff reviewed with the Committee the upcoming GO Bond that the City of Miami Beach is proposing for the November 6th ballot. The General Obligation Bond is used to finance additional citywide infrastructure improvements such as public safety, public works, traffic and mobility. All ideas and proposed projects are to be submitted to City Administration by June 30, 2018. The City Commission will review and approve the final list of projects on July 25, 2018. Michelle explained that the immediate three month goal of the Committee is to identify the high level priorities of 41st Street to inform the GO Bond projects.

Discussion of draft scope of work for initial concept plan: Michelle Huttenhoff discussed with the Committee that the City will retain an urban design firm to assess and analyze the 41st Street corridor. The intention of this scope of work is to create a high level report that will be used to inform the GO Bond project list. The proposed firm is Alta Planning who will subcontract to Gehl Studios. The scope of work will cover a 4-week time period and include (1) Committee brainstorm session, (1) stakeholder meeting, (1) public charrette, and conclude with a design report. The contract is in process and will be executed by the next Committee meeting.


Meeting Frequency and dates: The Committee discussed the frequency of meetings for the next three months. It was agreed upon that biweekly meetings would be set in the evenings either at City Hall or in a location within the Mid-Beach neighborhood. Michelle Huttenhoff will coordinate with the Members for the second meeting which should occur at the end of April.

ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 6:55 p.m.

Minutes Approved by the Mayor's 41st Street Committee

on: 5/15/18



Seth Gadinsky, Chair