

Mayor's Blue Ribbon 41st Street Committee

Thursday, April 14, 2022

5:00 p.m.

MINUTES

Committee Members

- Yechiel Ciment, Chair (P)
- Bonnie Crabtree, Vice Chair (P)
- Jerri Hertzberg Bassuk (P)
- Betty Behar (P)
- Michael Burnstine (P)
- Seth Gadinsky (P)
- Robin Jacobs (P)
- Marcella Novela (P)
- Eric Hankin (P)
- Jeremy Watchel (A)

P = Present; A = Absent

City Officials and Staff in attendance

- Steven Meiner, Commissioner
- Herman Fung, Projects Coordinator, Capital Improvement Projects
- Diana Fontani Martinez, Committee Liaison, Redevelopment Specialist, Economic Development
- Colette Satchell, Senior Capital Projects Coordinator, Capital Improvement Projects
- Heather Shaw, Assistant Director, Economic Development
- Rickelle Williams, Director, Economic Development

1. Roll Call for Member Attendance

2. **Approval of March 31, 2022 Minutes** - Motion made by Robin Jacobs and seconded by Michael Burnstine to approve the March 31, 2022 Minutes.

3. City Updates:

- **41st Street Mixed-Use Development on City-Owned Property Community Meetings** - Diana Fontani shared the proposed agenda for the two (2) community meetings to be held on April 27 at 8:30 a.m. via Zoom and May 17 at 6:30 p.m. for an in-person meeting at Muss Park Pavilion. The Committee suggested moving the April 27th meeting time to 9 a.m. instead of 8:30 a.m. The Committee also recommended that the in-person meeting be hybrid. It was noted that Diana will prepare the community invite and explore the possibility of having the hybrid meeting. The Chair Yechiel Ciment requested if Tom Mooney could address the general development of up zoning in the area during these community meetings. Diana to follow up. Erik Hankin would like for the community meetings

to be a celebration of what the 41st Street Committee has done and be an open discussion about mixed use development near 41st Street. The Committee requested that there be visuals of the 41st Street Corridor G.O. Bond projects as well. Colette Satchell shared that she would check with Procurement to ensure that they can share the renderings with the public now. The Committee would like to emphasize that the G.O. Bond project has been a long process, with numerous community input, and the community should be informed of the status and that the design process is beginning now. The Chair also requested that for the in-person meeting, some light snacks provided.

- **Meet and Greet Walk on 41st Street** - Vice Chair Bonnie Crabtree stated that she, Heather Shaw and Diana walked and met with some of the business owners on 41st Street. It was a very productive walk. Some of the business owners did not know about the G.O. Bond Revitalization project or Miami Beach business incentives. The Vice Chair stated that it was a good experience to talk, one on one, with each of the business owners and these walks should be done on a quarterly basis. The Chair would like to be included in the next walk. Diana will schedule in September. The Vice Chair also stated that it was eye opening to see the conditions of 41st Street. She stated that more can be done to clean the street. Robin Jacobs stated that the cobblestones need repairing. Betty Behar stated that if you report a broken cobble stone to Officer Hazzi, it will be fixed immediately. Michael Burnstine stated that calling Officer Hazzi each time that there is a broken cobblestone is not the right way to approach this solution. Robin stated that the long-term solution will be addressed by the G.O. Bond project, but we need to find a better short-term solution. Robin suggested that someone from Public Works Department should walk the street to check the cobblestones, each morning. Commissioner Steven Meiner added that he reached out to Joe Gomez, the Public Works Director, to address this issue a few weeks ago and he has seen Public Works employees working on cobblestone repairs on 41st Street. Diana to invite Public Works Director to the next meeting.
- **41st Street Corridor Brooks + Scarpa Agreement** - Herman Fung, Office of Capital Improvement Projects (CIP), stated that CIP has executed an agreement with Brooks + Scarpa. Brooks + Scarpa has started the permitting for the geotechnical studies of the area. In addition, Herman stated that CIP and Economic Development obtained the latest list of businesses with a Business Tax Receipt (BTR) along 41st Street to begin community outreach. Public Works GIS team also provided a list of building owners. Herman shared that, for this project, CIP is engaging a constructability consultant to assist the CIP team with the review of the schedule and budget. The consultant will assist CIP with the phasing process and the Maintenance of Traffic (MOT) plan to minimize disruption during construction. Herman suggested the 41st Street Committee meet with Brooks + Scarpa in July 2022, when they will be more informed and familiar with the site. Eric asked if there was an electrical engineer included in the scope of work. Collette confirmed an electrical engineer is included in the scope of services.
- 4. **Chair Update** – The Chair stated that he had no major updates, but he encourages the Committee to reach out to the Mayor and Commissioners regarding the redevelopment for 41st Street. Seth Gadinsky stated that he would like to know if there is any data on the opening of Indian Creek Drive and how this has affected traffic. The Chair stated that he feels that anecdotally, it has made

a huge difference in reducing traffic along Pine Tree Drive and 41st Street. Diana to reach out to Transportation to present at the next meeting.

5. New Initiatives - Take Pride in Our Streets Campaign - The Vice Chair shared that business owners must take more responsibility for the cleanliness of the sidewalk directly in front of their businesses. The Vice Chair proposed a clean-up educational awareness campaign for 41st Street. The Chair added that new trash bins installed along 41st Street would be helpful. He shared that the old trash receptacles are overflowing with trash and are attracting the homeless, who reach into the trash bins. Bradford Kaine, Sanitation Director, shared that the Sanitation team identified 28 trash bins on 41st Street in January 2022 that require repair. Deep cleaning is done on a 15-day rotation on 41st Street. Overall, Bradford stated that he believes 41st Street is better, and his team is working to continue to improve conditions. The Vice Chair would like to have a plan for the Take Pride in Our Streets Campaign. Betty stated that she would be willing to go on the “Meet and Greet” with the Vice Chair as she knows many of the owners in the area. Betty suggests that the city give a friendly warning to businesses and encourage them to comply with cleaning their adjacent sidewalks on 41st Street. The Vice Chair would like to see an educational campaign about keeping 41st Street clean. Robin stated that she would like “reserve pride” for something so she would like to explore a different tagline. Diana will contact the Communications and Sanitation Departments to share the Committee’s feedback and discuss a possible flyer. Seth stated that the 41st Street Business Improvement District (BID) is in its final stage and when formed, the BID can address the cleanliness of 41st Street. Eric stated that the formation of the BID should be highlighted at the community meetings.

6. Public Comment - No public comment.

7. Adjournment

Next Meeting: Thursday, May 12, 2022 at 5:00 p.m. via Zoom