



City of Miami Beach, 1700 Convention Center Drive, Miami Beach, Florida 33139, [www.miamibeachfl.gov](http://www.miamibeachfl.gov)

## Mayor's Blue Ribbon 41st Street Committee

Thursday, May 12, 2022

5:00 PM

### MINUTES

#### Committee Members

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

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
- Lys Desir, Infrastructure Director, Public Works

#### 1. Roll Call for Member Attendance

2. **Approval of April Minutes-** Motion to approve the April 2022 minutes was made by Robin Jacobs and seconded by Seth Gadinsky.

#### 3. City Updates-

- **41st Street Mixed-Use Development on City-Owned Property** - Diana Fontani gave an update on the first community meeting regarding potential Mixed-Use Development on 41st Street that was held on April 27, 2022, via Zoom. Diana informed the Committee that there were fifty-seven (57) attendees, and the meeting was productive, and the City received positive feedback. Additional feedback included:
  - In favor of putting padel courts;
  - Supports public access behind the Roosevelt Theater at P60;
  - More recreational amenities for residents; and
  - Concerns about traffic on 41st Street.

Diana mentioned that all comments after the second community meeting, scheduled for May 18, 2022 at the Miami Beach Golf Course, will be summarized in a Letter to Commission (LTC). Chair Yechiel Ciment also mentioned that he thought the first community meeting went well and that there was positive feedback from the community.

- **Conditions of the cobblestones on 41st Street** - Commissioner Meiner stated that he has been in contact with Joe Gomez, the Director of Public Works, to discuss tackling this issue. Public Works has fixed some of the cobblestones, but this is not a permanent solution. Commissioner Meiner stated that it will never be perfect, and the community must stay on top of it. Lys Desir, from Public Works, stated that they still have a lot of work to do regarding the cobblestones and that they are on top of this project.
- **41st Street Corridor Brooks + Scarpa (A&E)** -- Capital Improvement Projects (CIP) Department - Herman Fung advised that they met with Brooks + Scarpa onsite and walked up and down 41st Street to understand day-time and night-time conditions. Brooks + Scarpa is still finalizing the permits for the surveys and geotechnical studies. Herman also mentioned that they received the Constructability Consultant's proposal, and they are reviewing and negotiating with the consultant.
- **Pine Tree Drive/41st Street City Control/Traffic Mediation on 41st Street - Transportation and Police Departments-** Diana shared that she spoke with Josiel Ferrer, the Assistant Director of Transportation, who is leaving the City to work with the County, about the data on Indian Creek traffic and how opening that road has affected traffic. Josiel told Diana that the data was not available yet but Dani Fawaz, from the Transportation Department, will present that data at the next Committee meeting. Commissioner Meiner stated that he had a meeting this week with Transportation regarding traffic on 41st Street. He stated that one of the options that they are considering is returning Collins Avenue southbound to two lanes versus the current one lane. The City is also contemplating whether to shut down the flow from Collins Avenue westbound to 41st Street. All these options must obtain FDOT approval. Commissioner Meiner stated that a long-term solution option could be to place a second traffic light on Collins Avenue southbound onto 41st Street. Chair Yechiel commented that he thought those options would still create backup on the side streets, as they did when Indian Creek was closed for construction. Commissioner Meiner commented that he thinks traffic has improved in the last week and has requested the City to have more police motor units there to assist in the flow of traffic.

**4. Chair Update-** Chair Yechiel stated that he would like to have a summer recess, as done in previous years. After a lengthy discussion, it was determined that the Committee would recess for the months of July and August. Diana mentioned that Co-Chair Bonnie wants to bring up two items to the Committee in her absence. The first item was regarding a private development on Pine Tree Drive and no discussion was held on this. The second item is that she and Diana are working with the Communications and Sanitation Departments on the clean street initiative. Lastly, Diana mentioned that at the next Public Safety and Neighborhoods Quality of Life Committee, which is set for May 17, 2022, at 3pm, an agenda item - Discussion Regarding Methods to Improve Lighting and Camera Functionality at Henry Liebman

Square – will be heard. Diana to request a time certain to the Chair of the Committee and will let the committee know.

**6. Adjournment**

**Next Meeting:** Thursday, June 9, 2022