



City of Miami Beach, 1700 Convention Center Drive, Miami Beach, Florida 33139, www.miamibeachfl.gov

MAYOR’S AD HOC BLUE RIBBON 41ST STREET COMMITTEE HYBRID MEETING

Thursday, July 13, 2023 - 5:00 p.m.

First Horizon Bank 400 Arthur Godfrey Rd, Ste 210, Miami Beach, FL 33140

Zoom Link:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/88283591307?pwd=NzRHMHJtRGtLY01GOVFtWjZzMko3dz09>
Passcode: 867269

Minutes

Committee Members:

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

P = Present; A = Absent, E = Excused

Commission/City Staff/Consultants:

- Rickelle Williams, Assistant City Manager
- Heather Shaw, Assistant Director, Economic Development Department
- Jose Gonzalez, Director, Transportation and Mobility Department
- Diana Fontani Martinez, Redevelopment Specialist/Committee Liaison, Economic Development Department

Community Attendance:

Michael Goldberg

Yechiel Ciment opened the meeting at 5:10 p.m. and welcomed everyone to the meeting.

1. **JUNE MINUTES** - Motion to approve made by Seth Gadinsky seconded by Eric Hankin. Motion passes unanimously.
2. **BIANNUAL REPORT**- Motion to approve made by Seth Gadinsky seconded by Eric Hankin. Motion passes unanimously.

3. CITY UPDATES

- A. Transportation and Mobility Department Update - Jose Gonzalez, Director, Transportation and Mobility Department, shared that the requested crosswalk on the south end of Chase Avenue and 40th Street has been approved by Miami-Dade County. Jose anticipates the crosswalk to be installed by the beginning of August 2023.

Jose gave an update on neighborhood traffic signals. The traffic signals are located on 40th Street and Royal Palm Avenue and 40th Street and Prairie Avenue. Miami-Dade County conducted an analysis of these two (2) signals and concluded that the signals can be replaced by a stop sign instead. Jose stated that they are pending a timeline from Miami-Dade County, which will be placing bags over the existing traffic signals and monitor how the signs improve the intersections before removing the signs permanently.

Lastly, Jose reported that the Transportation and Mobility Department is working closely with the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) on the timing of the traffic signals along 41st Street. Even though 41st Street is a FDOT road, Miami-Dade County is responsible for the traffic light/signal synchronization. Miami-Dade County is currently reviewing the process. Jose anticipates that the traffic synchronization will be completed in the next 60-90 days.

Marcella Novela asked Jose why there is not a single crosswalk from 41st Street to the Hebrew Academy. Jose stated that the City Commission recently passed a resolution urging Miami-Dade County to provide more crosswalks on Pinetree Drive and/or 41st Street. However, Miami-Dade County is currently exploring funding to satisfy this request.

- B. **Status of 41st Street Request for Letters of Interest (RFLI) for Mixed - Use Development on City-Owned Parking Lots** — Diana Fontani informed the Committee that the Letter to Commission (LTC) regarding the RFLI and the twelve (12) letters of interest were forwarded to the Committee via email together with a link to access all responses. A Committee member asked if any business could apply to a potential Request for Proposals (RFP) for the Mixed-Use Development for City-Owned Parking Lots Near 41st Street or only businesses that responded to the RFLI. Diana to follow up with Procurement and report back to the Committee. The Committee made the following motion with respect to the RFLI:

Motion: The Mayor's 41st Street Blue Ribbon Committee recommends that, based on the response of the Request for Letters of Interest (RFLI) for Mixed-Use Development on City-Owned Parking Lots near 41st Street, the City of Miami Beach issue a Request for Proposals (RFP), for said lots, as soon as possible.

Motion made by: Seth Gadinsky

Motion seconded by: Michael Burnstine

Motion passed: 9-0

- C. **Status of 41st Street Business Improvement District (BID)** - Diana Fontani informed the Committee that the formation of the BID passed at the June Commission meeting. Rickelle Williams, Assistant City Manager, informed the Committee of the BID election process. Rickelle mentioned that the Commission will take further action on the BID at the next Commission meeting set for July 26, 2023 to certify the election. There is a public hearing set for the approval of a majority of the affected property owners in the election, and pursuant to Chapter 170, Florida Statutes, owners of the affected property to be assessed, or any other interested persons, may be heard by the City Commission as to the propriety and advisability of making the proposed improvements and providing the services (and funding the aforementioned with special assessments on property).

Yechiel asked if the property owner's vote was public record. Rickelle stated that she believed individual votes were not and that the process was the same as a regular election where individual voter information is not disclosed. Rickelle stated that the BID needed 32 yes votes to officially form. The final vote was 34 yes votes. Diana to reach out to City Clerk's office regarding information relating to the BID ballots.

- D. **Status of 41st Street Corridor Streetscape Project**- Diana shared that the design for the 41st Street Corridor Revitalization Project was presented to the Design Review Board (DRB) with a favorable outcome on July 5, 2023. Next steps are to re-evaluate the budget shortfall, consider potential value engineering opportunities, and then consider comments from the DRB to move forward with 60% design. Eric Hankin asked for an explanation of the budget shortfall and Diana to report back to the Committee after consulting with the Office of Capital Improvement Projects (CIP).

4. CHAIR UPDATE

- A. Seth Gadinsky asked about the status of the IKE Smart City Kiosks. Diana to report back to the Committee.
- B. Yechiel asked if the Committee wanted an August meeting. The Committee unanimously agreed to forgo the August meeting.

5. PUBLIC COMMENT – No public comment

MEETING ADJOURNED: 6:10 p.m.

NEXT MEETING DATE: Thursday, September 14, 2023