

THE 5TH STREET CORRIDOR REVITALIZATION FINAL WORKSHOP PUBLIC COMMENT/CITY STAFF WORKSHOP

TUESDAY, APRIL 9, 2002

Miami Beach Garden Conservancy
Miami Beach, Florida

Report of Proceedings

MORNING SESSION: PUBLIC COMMENT

WELCOME

The meeting was opened by Elyse Sitomer, Business Liaison, City of Miami Beach, who thanked everyone for coming and thanked the Miami Beach Garden Conservancy for donating the use of their facility for the day. Ms. Sitomer stated that this was the final meeting in a series of five meetings all designed to gain public input on several topics related to the City's grant with the Florida Department of Community Affairs. The purpose of the meetings was to gather citizen input to be used in the development of revitalization strategies for the City. She summarized the public input process and acknowledged that the City had already incorporated a number of the citizen recommendations received throughout the process. She thanked those citizens who had participated in the previous four meetings and encouraged them to review the meeting summary materials provided to ensure that all issues raised by the participants during the workshops were included, to add any issues that were not already identified, and to identify priority areas. The input gained will provide the basis for the City's developing a meaningful and effective revitalization plan for the 5th Street Corridor.

The meeting was then turned over to the Facilitator, Janice M. Fleischer of the South Florida Regional Planning Council Institute for Community Collaboration.

Citizen Participants at the meeting:

Jim Silvers
David Kelsey
Frank Del Vecchio
Graham Penn
Martin Tritt
Gil Zriny
Erika Brigham
Richard Gray

AGENDA REVIEW, DISCUSSION GUIDELINES

Ms. Fleischer welcomed everyone and explained the role of the South Florida Regional Planning Council as neutral facilitator for these meetings. She reviewed the meeting Objectives and Agenda for the day. The Objectives were:

- To review results of first four meetings
- To refine and prioritize issues

- To allow City Staff to begin formulating implementation strategies/action steps and performance measures

A copy of the Agenda is attached as Exhibit A.

A copy of the materials for use by the citizen participants is attached as Exhibit B.

The Facilitator directed the participants to their packets and explained that the participants should review the meeting materials and write down any comments they may have about the meeting summaries and to identify priority issues. She explained that the comments received would be incorporated into the final Report of Proceedings. All participants were invited back for the afternoon to observe the City Staff Workshop. During this morning session, City staff worked with the participants to clarify issues and to answer questions. After the issue summaries were reviewed by the participants, their comments were collected by Ms. Fleischer and the morning session of the workshop was adjourned.

The additional comments received were:

PUBLIC SAFETY

- Eliminate surface crossings with escalators
- Utilize bridges for homeless shelters and provide porta-potties and telephones
- Detour traffic heading to Ocean Drive via Alton, Washington, Collins and 1st Street
- Improve signage at McArthur Causeway
- Less lanes and provide angled parking on 5th Street
- Put lights in trees
- Too many accidents at crosswalks
- Reckless driving
- Reduce drug traffic with better lighting
- Restrict the single serving alcoholic beverage sales at hours after school

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

- Use electric marquis at Convention Center and other locations to advertise community meetings
- Place affordable housing in least expensive properties and have professionally managed
- Need a supermarket in Arthur Godfrey area
- Provide parking and parking enforcement
- Periodically review where City is going
- Supermarket and Home Depot really needed
- Need lower City permit fees
- Parking impact fees a major problem for small business
- Allow larger signage because of width of street
- Increase building zone heights

SCHOOLS

- Include visits to local business in after school programs
- Diversify School Board

TRANSPORTATION

- Make flyover wider including a south/north flyover at 5th Street
- Shift traffic flows from Alton Road to 6th Street

- McArthur Causeway will be closed because of development activity on Watson Island including Parrot Jungle, Flagstone Project, Children's Museum, Visitor and Convention Bureau, and Aquatic Center
- Light Rail should cross McArthur Causeway, continue south on Alton, East on 1st to beach with stations at 1st and 5th, Lincoln Road, Convention Center, 71st and 95th and should be fed by busses traveling in small squares.
- Traffic and hurricane evacuation will be major problem with Watson Island development
- Photo ticketing
- Angled parking is the best solution for parking need
- Light rail will make traffic worse

HOUSING

- High rise means high rent
- Three story max height/mixed use

PRESERVATION

- Keep heights low in residential areas
- Leave satellite dishes alone

AESTHETICS

- Get rid of green buttonwood trees
- Have an art competition for entry feature at west side of east bridge over/on DOT structure.

ENVIRONMENT

- Less code enforcement

INFRASTRUCTURE

- Frequent power outages
- Sidewalks, curbs and gutters need repair

PARKS

- Free parking at South Pointe Park

AFTERNOON SESSION: CITY STAFF WORKSHOP

WELCOME

Ms. Sitomer opened the second half of the day by thanking City Staff for coming. She explained that this was the final meeting in a series of five meetings. She summarized that staff's purpose for the afternoon workshop would be to review issues identified previously by the public in the first four meetings in this series. Staff input from this meeting would be to comment on the feasibility and responsibility for objectives identified during the previous public meetings. The input gained will provide the basis for the City's developing a meaningful and effective revitalization plan for the 5th Street Corridor. She asked those present to assist in identifying the appropriate agencies and programs available to address each of the objectives contained on their worksheets. David Dahlstrom, Senior Planner, South Florida Regional Planning Council, pointed out that staff should specifically identify the programs already in place or identify what programs, staff, or funding would be necessary to accomplish each objective.

The meeting was then turned over to the Facilitator.

Ms. Fleischer explained that the objectives identified at the four previous meetings had been solicited within the following issue groups:

Transportation	Exhibit C
Public Safety	Exhibit D
Job Training	Exhibit E
Preservation	Exhibit F
Infrastructure	Exhibit G
Schools	Exhibit H
Aesthetics	Exhibit I
Economic Development	Exhibit J
Environment	Exhibit K
Senior/Youth Services	Exhibit L
Parks and Recreation	Exhibit M
General Issues	Exhibit N

Staff Participants at the meeting:

Daniel A. Rosemond
Al Zamora
Joseph Johnson
Maria Ruiz
Olga L. Vazquez
Zhayda Garzon
LysetteR. Cripps
Miguel Del Campillo
Fred Berkman
Caroline Defreze
Henry Johnson
Kevin Smith
Reuben Caldwell
Thomas Thompson
Judy Evans
Alejandro Bello
Eric Wardle
Lt. Dan Reid
Donald P. Shockey
Ronnie Singer

The staff worksheets were divided into the same categories and contained all objectives previously identified. She directed the staff to their packets and explained that they should work in small groups to review the materials and fill in the columns with as much information as possible. If a group finished its work, the members of that group could either join another small group still working or fill in a worksheet individually. The results of the staff input are contained in Exhibits C-N.

When all small groups had completed their materials, the meeting was adjourned.

THE 5TH STREET CORRIDOR REVITALIZATION WORKSHOP V

COMMENTS RECEIVED

Olga L. Vazquez:

(Today's meeting) provided an opportunity to brainstorm. Great idea.

Lyssette R. Cripps:

This series of workshops are an excellent idea and provide the opportunity for a holistic view of the corridor's present and future. Good Idea!

Eric Wardle, Assistant Director Code Compliance:

Provide a dedicated code compliance officer for the 5^h Street Corridor. This would allow concentrated enforcement which would result in more and faster compliance. Cost \$40,000-\$50,000 per year. Program could be temporary until desired results achieved.