



**City of Miami  
Sea Level Rise Committee**

**Workshop Notes**

April 25, 2018

10:30 AM

Miami Rowing Club

3601 Rickenbacker Causeway, Miami, Florida

**MISSION**

*To study sea level rise and its effect on the City of Miami, incorporating all available information on the subject; and make recommendations and help to frame legislation to be considered by the City Commission, for enhancing the resilience and sustainability of all the City's communities from the impact of sea level rise*

***Wayne Pathman, Chair***

***Jose Regalado, Vice Chair***

***Kilan Ashad-Bishop, Member***

***Reinaldo Borges, Member***

***Frances Colon, Member***

***Albert Gomez, Member***

***Pete Gomez, Member***

***David Martin, Member***

***James Murley, Member***

***Patrick Rynne, Member***

***In attendance:*** Wayne Pathman, Jose Regalado, Kilan Ashad-Bishop, Reinaldo Borges, Francis Colon, Albert Gomez, Patrick Rynne

***Absent:*** Pete Gomez, David Martin, James Murley

**Introduction to Frances Colon**

- Moved to Florida from DC to bring her policy expertise to the state (entrepreneurship, climate, technology)
- Served 3 Secretaries of State

**Status of the Sea Level Rise Committee**

- Mayor wants the Committee to focus on Resilience – Jane Gilbert recommends climate change resilience over urban resilience.
  - Committee has been invited to submit an ordinance to solidify new focus.

- Committee seems to agree on expanding the scope of the Committee. Some concerns about making sure their scope is not too broad and whether or not sustainability initiatives would be part of the new scope.
- Building code needs Resilience language built in.
- If scope of Committee expands should the powers expand too? Chairman feels that the Committee should have more power.
- Requests from the Committee to Office of Resilience and Sustainability (ORS)
  - Requests need to be mindful of resources necessary to complete – ORS is a small and stretched office as is.
- Declaring focus areas
  - Kilan recommended establishing 3 focus areas for the committee – the topics are open for discussion.
    - There is political appetite for: elderly care, transportation, housing.
    - Needs to be a focus on equity/inclusivity.
  - Consider time horizons for focus areas.
  - Committee members will email their ideas to Ajani.
- Recommendations for creating movement and action
  - Committee members should advocate for initiatives in their areas of interest/expertise.
  - Need to refocus on advising the Commission by passing resolutions. When Resolutions are passed, City Manager can advise ORS to allocate time and resources for SLRC proposed initiatives.
  - Consider attaching deadlines to agenda items.
  - Community Support
    - Kilan: Committee needs to properly engage the public. Have their involvement on resolutions and have their support once they are brought to Commission.
    - Patrick: Commissioner clout comes from community clout.
    - Frances: Develop a process to engage partners formally, it will ensure the Committee has support.
  - Communication
    - Wayne: Committee members need to meet with the Commissioner that appointed them more frequently. Need to lobby for our resolutions.
    - Patrick: Let's meet with Commissioners and prep them before the Committee puts any Resolutions on the agenda.
    - Albert: Committee should release a statement on the Maggie Fernandez incident. Need to get meeting notes and videos up on the website.
      - Website update is in process. Minutes and notes from meetings are now ORS responsibility.
    - Reinaldo: Resolutions and other recommendations should be brought to the Committee and discussed before they are drafted and put on the agenda.
      - Chairman agrees.
  - Items that the Committee can weigh in on: Miami 21, Stormwater Master Plan, Miami Forever Bond.
    - Regarding Miami Forever Bond, SLRC interaction with Citizens Oversight Committee would need to be discussed.

#### 40 Year Sea Level Rise Action Plan

- Climate Change Risk has been in the news lately: [Miami Herald](#), [Wall Street Journal](#)

- Lenders are asking about resilience – what will developers do to ensure their project is resilient and what cities are doing to ensure resiliency in the surrounding areas.
- 40 Year Plan would instill confidence in the public and business sector that Miami is serious about climate change and is taking action.
- Integrate existing reports and ongoing plans/processes: Comprehensive Plan, Stormwater Master Plan, Biscayne Bay Health Summit, ULI Miami-Dade recommendations
- Process: once the Committee drafts an outline, they will need to propose a resolution to the Committee in order for ORS to work on this.
  - All Committee members have been asked to submit bulleted action ideas for the plan. Bullets cannot be shared with Committee members until next public meeting.
  - Reinaldo printed and shared his 10 suggested points.
- Plan is a good opportunity to define City's stance on when to retreat or give up on a property and what are the mechanisms for that.

#### Public Comment

- Ryan Shedd: Opportunity to integrate 40 Year Plan with the ongoing Comprehensive Plan. Ryan has volunteered to discuss the Comprehensive Plan with the Committee.
- Maggie Fernandez: Creating a new plan is maybe too much for this committee to take on. There is regional planning going on that is effective. We have planning professionals at the City and County – believes the committee should focus on supporting ongoing plans as opposed to coming up with a new plan.
- Jose Gonzalez, civil engineer: Coral Gate resident, doesn't think this committee has the time to develop this plan, that they are already behind. There are things you can do and request from developers now that aren't being done – underground parking, base flood levels, drainage wells. Committee should focus on urgency.
- Penny Tennenbaum: Meetings should be advertised better – use Nextdoor and advertise through community groups. Maybe the committee needs to ask the City for funding for a consultant to make sure the plan or other actions are enacted quickly. Just got her flood insurance policy – her insurance went up 10% this year already so the increases are happening now. If community wants input on 40 year plan, how should community give input?
- David McDougall: MCA is excited to help with expansion to resilience lens. Support Kilan on balancing all the issues. Support that there seems to be a collective effort to engage residents and get them involved.