



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION DISTRICT SIX  
I-395 PRELIMINARY DESIGN PROJECT  
FIN NO. 251668-1-52-01  
AESTHETIC STEERING COMMITTEE (ASC) MEETING NO. 3  
ADRIENNE ARSHT CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS  
JOHN S. AND JAMES L. KNIGHT CONCERT HALL  
JOYCE AND M. ANTHONY BURNS GREEN ROOM  
1301 BISCAYNE BLVD., MIAMI, FL 33132  
MAY 9, 2014 AT 9:00 A.M.

**MEETING TYPE:**

Aesthetic Steering Committee (ASC)

**ATTENDEES:**

Committee Members in Attendance:

- Irene Hegedus (IH), Zoning Administrator, City of Miami
- The Honorable Audrey M. Edmonson (AE), Miami-Dade County Commissioner
- Alyce Robertson (AR), Executive Director, Miami Downtown Development Authority
- M. John Richard (MJR), President and CEO, Adrienne Arsht Center for the Performing Arts
- Brian Blanchard, P.E., (BB), FDOT Assistant Secretary for Engineering & Operations

Elected Officials:

- The Honorable Audrey M. Edmonson (AE), Miami-Dade County Commissioner

FDOT Staff:

- Gus Pego (GP), P.E., FDOT District Six Secretary
- Vilma Croft (VC), P.E., FDOT Senior Project Manager
- Harold Desdunes, P.E., (HD), Director of Transportation Development
- Tomas Martinelli (TM), FDOT, Government Affairs

FDOT Consultant Project Team:

- Joe Gómez (JG), P.E., T.Y. Lin
- Michael Fitzpatrick (MF), T.Y. Lin
- Tasha Cunningham (TC), Cunningham Group
- Beth Steimle, P.E. (BS), T.Y. Lin
- Sandra Buitrago (SB), T.Y. Lin

Miami-Dade County Staff:

- Gerald K. Sanchez (GS), Assistant County Attorney and Chief, Transportation and Ethics & Accountability Sections

Members of the Public:

- Please see attached sign-in sheet

**ATTACHMENTS:**

- Sign-in sheet

**SUMMARY OF MEETING:**

GP opened the meeting at 9:10 a.m. Roll call was taken. GP turned the meeting over to AE. AE announced the public comment portion of the meeting and asked if any member of the public had comments. No public comments were received and AE closed that portion of the meeting. AE then introduced IH and explained that she was a new committee member from the City of Miami. GP welcomed IH to the committee. IH discussed her background and role at the City of Miami. She indicated that she was the Zoning Administrator for the City of

Miami and also an architect. AE then called for the introduction of the committee attorney, GS. GP introduced GS and stated that he was asked to assist the committee as he has done with the MPO. GP asked GS to tell the committee about himself. GS provided brief comments regarding his background. GS also discussed his role on the committee to provide advice and counsel when needed. GS will also serve as parliamentarian of the committee.

AE asked JG to address old business. JG indicated that he would give a presentation that included a side-by-side comparison of the Wishbone and Lotus bridge designs, which was asked for at the previous ASC meeting by AE. JG pointed out that the meeting was being held in the Sunshine and that those laws applied. GS pointed out that the Sunshine Law does apply and that public records laws apply to the meeting as well. GP asked GS to elaborate on that for the benefit of the committee. GS discussed that documents received and documents created in the course of member's duties serving the committee are public records and subject to the law. He also stated that the public or anyone else can make a request for such documents. JG announced that all documents from the meeting, including the presentation, agenda, etc. will be posted on the project website after the meeting.

During and after the presentation the following points were discussed:

- A side-by-side comparison of the Wishbone and Lotus designs
- JG showed different renderings of what the Wishbone and Lotus designs would look like from northbound and southbound Biscayne Blvd.
- Animations of the Wishbone and Lotus designs were shown to the committee.
- Renderings of the current existing conditions along the I-395 corridor were shown, along with renderings of what the areas will look like once the bridge is built. JG discussed the three-zone concept, with Zone 1 being closest to the Midtown Interchange and Zone 3 being closest to Biscayne Blvd.
- MF conducted the presentation and reviewed each of the bridge designs under consideration
- MJR asked JG what the height change was in the renderings between what is there now and how it will be when the bridge is built. JG stated that the height in the renderings is 26 ft. and that the existing clearance is 14 ft.
- AE asked if one of the buildings in the renderings of the Overtown area is going to be taken as part of imminent domain. AE did not want anything to be shown on the renderings that will not be part of reality once the bridge is built.
- GP noted that an action item be recorded to verify the renderings versus the takings. He stated that to AE's point, what is shown in the renderings is what will be delivered to the community and that FDOT wants to make sure that it is correct.
- AR asked about a water feature looking west on Miami Avenue and whether that would be excavated. JG stated that the area will be used for a drainage pond and potentially a reflecting pool.
- GP pointed out that if the water feature is implemented, FDOT would be looking to the local government to be the maintaining agency of it. He stated that if the City of Miami nor the County want to be the maintaining agency of the water feature, it may not become part of the project.
- IH stated that she agreed with GP's comments. She pointed out that if fencing was going to be used, it should not be a railing. She stated that perhaps FDOT should work with the City of Miami to develop a concept that limits the fencing. GP stated that there are some elements under the structure that are in flux at this time. He stated that the committee is going to be integral in pulling those elements together from an aesthetics point of view.
- AE said that whatever elements are being put under the structure need to take the homeless into account. The features under the bridge should be for public enjoyment and should keep the homeless safe.
- AE said that the settlement agreement would be discussed next. AE turned the meeting over to GS for discussion of the agreement.
- GS stated that the settlement agreement was approved by Judge Miller and that it has a number of provisions to it, the first of which is that FDOT create the Aesthetic Steering Committee (ASC). GS stated that the role of the committee is to serve as an advisor to FDOT. He stated that before December 31, 2014, the committee shall perform the following functions.

- Evaluate and recommend to FDOT the one signature bridge design that best meets the commitments set forth by FDOT through the Environmental Impact Statement and the Record of Decision
- MJR stated that so far there have only been two designs. He asked whether there would be other designs for the committee to consider. GS said yes, although FDOT is seeking input on two particular designs. GS stated that there could be other designs that the committee will need to review depending on what comes out of the procurement process.
- AE stated that it was already decided that if a contractor comes in through the RFP process with something better and that is under the \$600 million budget cap, it would be considered. BB stated that the contractors could come to the committee with Alternative Technical Concepts (ATC), they would be considered.
- IH asked how the committee falls into the procurement process. If the committee recommends a design, how will the design be implemented? GS stated that the settlement agreement addresses that and that implemented would take place in three phases that include one, deciding which is the preferred concept; two, the selection phase that requires the committee to provide input on the selection criteria; and third, during the procurement process, the committee will provide advice and counsel regarding the RFPs submitted by the contractors. GS stated that the committee would be involved in all phases of the procurement. GP stated that if the committee picks the Wishbone, the bridge will be a Wishbone. He stated that FDOT has already committed to the community that a signature bridge would be built.
- The Request for Proposal and how the ASC would be integrated into the process was discussed by the committee. A discussion of the technical requirements of the RFP followed. The committee discussed whether proposals would be reviewed by FDOT ahead of time, prior to coming to the committee.
- IH asked BB how the RFP process will be safeguarded. He stated that the contractors will be allowed to bid on the Wishbone and the Lotus. IH asked if the process is open to a third option. BB stated that it is something worth being considered, but criteria needs to be established for that. AE stated that the ATC is the option to bring in alternate designs. BB said he agreed.
- MJR stated that he would like to emphasize that the beauty of the structure needs to be strongly considered, but that the committee needs to be open to other design options if they are better.
- BB stated that a fall back design is needed, such as the Lotus or an ATC.
- GP stated that the RFP will be written so that contractors can put forth different ideas.
- BB stated that a draft RFP will be drawn up for the committee to review.
- GP stated that the committee will receive the draft RFP in July for review.
- MJR stated that it is his understanding that the Wishbone is just one of several designs to be considered. BB said that FDOT would like to fulfill the committee's wishes.
- BB stated that the Wishbone and the Lotus could be just conceptual designs, but that the teams would have to come before the committee to get approval of their alternate concepts. He stated that the technical score and the price would be the selection criteria.
- The meeting minutes were unanimously approved.
- GP stated that FDOT would work with the committee's schedules regarding the next meeting date in July. He stated that FDOT will follow up with committee members.
- AE asked that the seating be changed in the future so that the committee faces the public.
- Chairman of MDX and a member of the FTC Maurice Ferre spoke about the project regarding the future of MDX in the legislative session. MDX will be working with FDOT to see how they can participate in this project. He said MDX was considering adding \$280 million into the pot for the project.
- The meeting adjourned at 11: 12 a.m.

**ACTION ITEMS CREATED AT MEETING:**

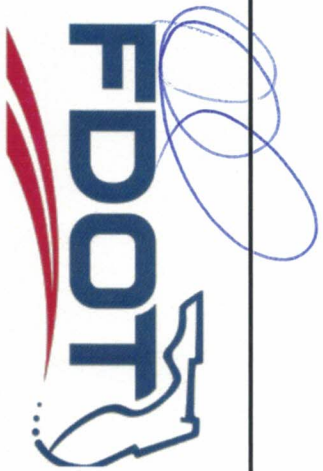
<b>ITEM NO.</b>	<b>ACTION</b>	<b>INITIATOR</b>	<b>ASSIGNEE</b>	<b>DEADLINE</b>
1	Verify the renderings against the takings for the project	GP	JG	July 25

**The following minutes will be considered an accurate record of the meeting unless T.Y. LIN and FDOT are notified otherwise in writing within ten (10) business days following the distribution date.**

Minutes Prepared By: \_\_\_\_\_

Tasha Cunningham  
District VI Design Public Information Specialist

**Distribution Date: 08/25/14**



# Florida Department of Transportation District 3 Aesthetics Steering Committee Meeting Sign-in Sheet

**PROJECT:**  
SR 836/I-395 from West of I-95 to the  
MacArthur Causeway Bridge  
Project Identification Number: 251688-1-52-01

**MEETING VENUE**  
Adrienne Arsht Center  
1301 Biscayne Blvd.  
John S. and James L. Knight Concert Hall

Name	Representing (Name of business or group)	Address	Phone Number	E-mail address
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Walter R. Bell	TSUD & ASST Center	ASST Center		
Gerald Sanchez	County Agency, DPH	111 W. W. 1st St Miami, FL 33140	(305) 375-5151	gfs@mi.doh.state.fl.us
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