



Neighborhood Resiliency Projects Advisory Committee

Committee Members

Clare McCord, Chair
Curt Dyer, Vice Chair
Galen Treuer
Alon Alexander
Ronald Starkman
Karin Matos
Julie Basner

City Liaison
Amy Knowles

TO: Members of the Neighborhood Resiliency Projects Advisory Committee

DATE: November 13, 2024

SUBJECT: Minutes of the Neighborhood Resiliency Projects Advisory Committee on November 18, 2024 Meeting

Present: Clare McCord, Curt Dyer, Karin Matos, Ron Starkman, Alon Alexander, Julie Basner

Absent: Galen Treuer

City Staff: Amy Knowles, Sabrina Batlle, Juanita Ballesteros, Cristina Ortega, Noel Webber

CALL TO ORDER AND WELCOME

C. McCord calls meeting to order.

COMMITTEE BUSINESS

Approval of Minutes

C. McCord motions to accept the minutes from the October 23, 2024, meeting, and R. Starkman seconds. The motion was unanimously approved.

C. McCord brought to the committee's attention LTC 472-2024, a result of the motion made in the October meeting which recommends formalizing a policy requiring design alternatives for blue-green stormwater infrastructure in major city projects.

A. Knowles noted that the LTC may be on the City Commission meeting as a referral item on the agenda per Commissioner Dominguez and for the Committee to review the agenda when it comes out.

ONGOING ASSESSMENT/MONITORING OF STORMWATER PROJECTS, FLOODING AREAS.

C. McCord moved to the next item on the agenda, ongoing assessment/monitoring of stormwater projects and flooding areas.

A. Knowles mentioned that an internal dashboard exists which monitors safe tidal gauges, and cases where the elevation of the tide exceeds the former height of the roadway is categorized as an avoided tidal flood incident.

Committee Members

Clare McCord, Chair
Curt Dyer, Vice Chair
Galen Treuer
Alon Alexander
Ronald Starkman
Karin Matos
Julie Basner

City Liaison
Amy Knowles

C. McCord inquired about ways to inform the community that these metrics are being actively monitored, then transitioned the conversation to Julie Basner, who initially raised this topic during the last meeting.

J. Basner emphasized that residents would like to be informed and give feedback.

A. Knowles suggested that the Community Satisfaction Surveys could serve as an example of gauging public opinion on projects. She then addressed several questions and provided an explanation of how the survey operates. N. Webber added further insights.

J. Basner suggested surveying areas impacted by a project both before and after its completion to assess whether the project yields a positive outcome.

C. Ortega mentioned that a contract through communications facilitates regular interactions between construction, the public, and Public Information Officers (PIOs).

A. Knowles pointed out that it is challenging to determine which people are affected by flooding because of variations in elevation but noted that platforms are available where residents can submit pictures and report issues.

J. Basner raised the point that without collecting this information, how is it determined whether projects should be replicated or to assess if they were effective and well-received.

Staff outlines how complaints are received and how staff responses are provided. These are workload/efficiency measures and data observations by engineering staff and the Public Works control room. Engineering firms produce modeling and plans to prioritize areas for stormwater work.

Discussion ensued among committee members regarding social media platforms to receive flooding photos and comments as well as making metrics/data more publicly available; however, this is not a resourced function in the City. Followed by discussion about flood sensor monitoring systems, including the associated equipment, maintenance needs, and cost-effectiveness, as well as resource challenges.

A. Knowles and C. Ortega shared the new Flood Awareness page on the Miami Beach website and explained its contents.

ADAPTATION PLAN

A. Knowles shared a draft of monitoring metrics and tipping points for projects as an example of how these could be integrated into the adaptation plan. And noted that the draft Sea Level Rise Adaptation Plan will be shared with the community at a meeting scheduled for February 20, 2024.



Neighborhood Resiliency Projects Advisory Committee

Committee Members

Clare McCord, Chair
Curt Dyer, Vice Chair
Galen Treuer
Alon Alexander
Ronald Starkman
Karin Matos
Julie Basner

City Liaison
Amy Knowles

CURRENT/FUTURE PROJECT UPDATES

C. McCord opens the floor to the Committee members on if there are additional topics that the Committee Members would like to discuss during future meetings.

C. McCord encouraged committee members to reach out to Commissioners to foster open communication and encourage the referral of more discussion items that align with the committee's goals.

Summary of Feedback:

- The Committee stressed the importance of remaining updated throughout the holidays on current events and developments, as there will be no meeting in December.
- Ensure all Committee member appointments are followed up on into the new year as we transition into 2025.
- Encourage enhanced communication between residents and the City regarding flooding, with a focus on making existing information more accessible across a variety of platforms to ensure broader reach and ease of access.

PUBLIC COMMENT

- No public comment.

ADJOURNMENT

C. McCord makes a motion to adjourn. J. Basner seconds.