MIAMIBEACH

COMMISSION MEMORANDUM

TO: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Commission
FROM: Alina T. Hudak, City Manager
DATE: January 31, 2024

SUBJECT: REFERRAL TO THE FEBRUARY 12, 2024 PUBLIC SAFETY AND NEIGHBORHOOD QUALITY OF LIFE COMMITTEE MEETING TO DISCUSS THE RAISED RUMBLE STRIPS RECENTLY INSTALLED ON COLLINS AVENUE BETWEEN 5700 BLOCK AND 5875 BLOCK BY THE FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION ("FDOT") AS PART OF THE CURRENT RESURFACING, RESTORATION, AND REHABILITATION ("RRR") PROJECT ON STATE ROAD ("SR") A1A/COLLINS AVENUE/INDIAN CREEK DRIVE FROM 5800 BLOCK TO SR 907/W 63 STREET.

RECOMMENDATION

The City Administration ("Administration") recommends that the Mayor and City Commission ("City Commission") refer this item to the February 12, 2024 Public Safety and Neighborhood Quality of Life Committee ("PSNQLC") to discuss the raised rumble strips recently installed on Collins Avenue between 5700 Block and 5875 Block by Florida Department of Transportation ("FDOT") as part of the current Resurfacing, Restoration, and Rehabilitation ("RRR") project on State Road ("SR") A1A/Collins Avenue/Indian Creek Drive from 5800 Block to SR 907/W 63 Street.

BACKGROUND/HISTORY

At the October 14, 2020 City Commission meeting, the City Commission referred an item entitled "Discussion Regarding Methods to Reduce Excessive Vehicular Speeding in Miami Beach" to the Neighborhood and Quality of Life Committee ("NQLC" or "Committee"). The item included a discussion on speeding on Collins Avenue between 5800 Block and 6000 Block and various actions to be taken by the City and FDOT to deter speeding along this portion of the Collins Avenue corridor in Mid Beach. The item was discussed at the December 16, 2020, March 22, 2021 and April 28, 2021 NQLC meetings. Attachment A includes the April 28, 2021 NQLC memorandum.

Based on the City's request to reduce vehicular speeding along the Collins Avenue corridor approaching the horizontal curve at the 6000 Block, in November 2023, FDOT installed raised rumble strips on Collins Avenue between 5700 Block and 5875 Block in the northbound direction only, as part of its current Resurfacing, Restoration, and Rehabilitation ("RRR") project on State Road ("SR") A1A/Collins Avenue/Indian Creek Drive from 5800 Block to SR 907/W 63 Street.

ANALYSIS

Since the installation of the rumble strips, the Administration has received multiple complaints from adjacent residents due to the noise generated by vehicles driving over the rumble strips at all times of the day and night. The City reached out to FDOT to explore the potential removal of all or some of the existing rumble strips. FDOT has advised that if the City deems that the rumble strips should be removed due to quality-of-life concerns, the City may remove these from all travel lanes subject to obtaining a General-Use Permit from FDOT. FDOT does not support a partial removal of the rumble strips due to concerns with speed differential and potential sideswipe accidents due to lane swerving (i.e. drivers changing lanes to avoid the rumble strips).

Furthermore, after the implementation of the rumble strips, the Miami Beach Police Department collected speed data on Collins Avenue at two (2) locations (south of and north of the rumble strips) and found that the 85th percentile speed was lower in the area just north of the rumble strips as compared to just south of the rumble strips. However, it is worth noting that the 85th percentile speed south of the rumble strips was not considerably greater than the posted speed limit.

LOBBYIST DISCLOSURE

In accordance with Resolution No. 2023-32857, adopted by the City Commission on December 13, 2023, the following information has been provided by the Administration as it relates to the subject referral:

1. Was the Agenda Item initially requested by a lobbyist which, as defined in Code Sec. 2-481, includes a principal engaged in lobbying? No.

2. If so, specify name of lobbyist(s) and principal(s): Not Applicable

SUPPORTING SURVEY DATA

N/A

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Should the City Commission direct the Administration to move forward with the removal of the rumble strips, the City would engage a pre-selected (i.e. rotational) contractor to perform this work. The estimated cost of the work would be approximately $12,000.

Amount(s)/Account(s):

N/A

CONCLUSION

Should the PSNQLC, at its February 12, 2024 meeting, recommend the removal of the existing rumble strips on Collins Avenue from 5700 Block to 5875 Block, the Administration will bring the PSNQLC's recommendation to the City Commission at its February 21, 2024 City Commission meeting for acceptance.

Applicable Area

Middle Beach

Is this a "Residents Right to Know" item, pursuant to City Code Section 2-14?	**Does this item utilize G.O. Bond Funds?**
Yes	No

Strategic Connection

Neighborhoods - Work with partners to address regional safety issues.

Legislative Tracking

Transportation and Mobility

ATTACHMENTS:

	Description
🗋	Attachment A - NQLC Memorandum 4-28-21

OLD BUSINESS 8.

MIAMIBEACH

COMMITTEE MEMORANDUM

TO: Neighborhood and Quality of Life Committee Members

FROM: Alina T. Hudak, City Manager

DATE: April 28, 2021

SUBJECT: **DISCUSSION REGARDING METHODS TO REDUCE EXCESSIVE VEHICULAR SPEEDING IN MIAMI BEACH**

HISTORY:

Several residents have voiced concerns to the Office of Commissioner Steven Meiner regarding speeding vehicles in the City. At the October 14, 2020 City Commission meeting, Commissioner Meiner placed a referral to the Neighborhood and Quality of Life Committee (NQLC) to discuss methods to reduce excessive vehicular speeding as an important component of ensuring pedestrian safety.

These concerns were discussed at the December 16, 2020 NQLC meeting, where members of the Police Department and Transportation and Mobility Department explained their respective efforts to reduce speeding through signage, pavement markings, and strategic enforcement. Following the discussion, the Committee requested that staff return in 90 days with an update for the specific problem areas of Normandy Drive and Vichy Drive adjacent to Temples Moses and Terra Beachside Villas located at the 6000 Block of Collins Avenue.

At the March 22, 2021 NQLC meeting, the Administration presented the below update and the Committee requested that the Administration return to the April 28 NQLC meeting with an update.

UPDATE SINCE THE MARCH 22, 2021 NQLC MEETING

FDOT has advised that it is expediting the issuance of a Notice To Proceed to a contractor for the installation of the plastic delineators at the intersection of Normandy Drive and Vichy Drive. Per FDOT, the work will be completed within the next 60 days.

FDOT also advised City staff that it agrees with the City's suggestion of installing rumble strips on the left travel lane of Collins Avenue approaching the horizontal curve at the 6000 Block to reduce speeding. FDOT will include the rumble strips in the upcoming resurfacing project on Collins Avenue from the 5800 Block to 63 Street scheduled to commence in March 2022; however, FDOT is currently exploring ways of advancing this speed calming treatment as a stand along improvement to address the City's safety concerns. Staff will continue to coordinate with FDOT and request that FDOT expedite this safety improvement. In addition, staff has also discussed with FDOT the possibility of installing bollards on the west sidewalk to protect pedestrians from errant vehicles at the curve; however, FDOT has concerns with this option because it does not comply with its lateral offset standard which requires bollards to be placed 4 feet from the face of the sidewalk curb (i.e. creating an obstruction on the sidewalk for pedestrians). Staff has requested that FDOT consider a design exception to allow the installation of bollards on the west sidewalk to protect pedestrians.

ANALYSIS

Normandy Drive and Vichy Drive Intersection

As requested by the Committee at its December 16, 2020 meeting, the City has worked with the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) to review safety concerns due to vehicles turning from the center lane on Normandy Drive onto Vichy Drive adjacent to Temple Moses. As discussed at the meeting, these illegal turns often result in crashes which have caused vehicles to swerve onto the sidewalk in front of the temple and jeopardize the safety of pedestrians.

On January 12, 2021, the City's Transportation and Mobility Department staff and Temple Moses representatives met with FDOT staff to discuss options to improve pedestrian and vehicular safety at the intersection of Normandy Drive and Vichy Drive. During the meeting, the City requested that FDOT consider the installation of bollards on the sidewalk in front of Temple Moses to protect pedestrians from vehicles swerving onto the sidewalk. FDOT advised that this treatment was not feasible at this location because FDOT's minimum lateral offset requirement of 4 feet from the face of the curb would result in the bollards being placed in the middle of the sidewalk which is about 8 feet wide. As an alternative solution, the City requested that FDOT install plastic delineators between the left lane and the center lane on Normandy Drive to deter the illegal left turns from the center lane of Normandy Drive onto Vichy Drive. The installation of the delineators will substantially address the illegal left turns from the center lane causing the accidents. On March 15, 2021, FDOT responded favorably to this request and advised that it will be installing the plastic delineators on Normandy Drive within the next 90 days.

6000 Block of Collins Avenue

On a parallel track, and pursuant to the Committee's recommendation, the City requested that FDOT consider installing bollards or similar protection on the west sidewalk on Collins Avenue adjacent to the Terra Beachside Villas located at 6000 Collins Avenue.

Bollards would protect pedestrians from vehicles swerving onto the sidewalk due to excessive speeding when approaching the horizontal curve adjacent to the Terra Beachside Villas. FDOT advised that the installation of bollards at this location is unfeasible due to FDOT's minimum lateral offset requirement of placing rigid objects at least 4 feet from the edge of the curb since the sidewalk at this location is only about 5 feet wide. Furthermore, the City has suggested that FDOT install rumble strips on the left travel lane of Collins Avenue as a speed calming treatment as vehicles approach the horizontal curve.

FDOT has an upcoming milling and resurfacing project on Collins Avenue from the 5800 Block to 63 Street which includes speed limit pavement markings and raised pavement markers to advise drivers of the reduced speed limit in an effort to reduce speeding along the corridor. At the request of the City, FDOT has included additional speed limit pavement markings as part of the project. The FDOT project is currently at the 90% design stage and is anticipated to commence construction in 2022. It is worth highlighting that due to historic concerns with speeding in this area, FDOT had previously installed two speed feedback signs in the median and a curve advisory speed flashing beacon for northbound Collins Avenue between 5775 Collins Avenue and the 6000 Block.

FDOT is also addressing the needs of the Collins Avenue corridor through a multi-modal planning study extending from 41 Street and 63 Street currently underway. The study will make recommendations to enhance the multimodality of Collins Avenue in Mid-Beach which will include treatments to reduce the operating speed and facilities to improve the safety of pedestrians and bicyclists. The FDOT study is being closely coordinated with the Transportation and Mobility Department and the Middle Beach Neighborhood Association.

Police Update at the March 22, 2021 NQLC Meeting

The Miami Beach Police Department (MBPD) takes speed enforcement seriously. Between December 16, 2021 and March 18, 2021, the Department has issued 767 speeding citations citywide. As part of its daily operations, the MBPD Motor Squad proactively addresses citywide locations historically known for traffic crashes. Traffic crash reports are reviewed and analyzed by the Accident Investigations Unit in an effort to reduce potential for collisions and address crashes involving excessive speed. Additionally, the Police Department occasionally receives complaints of excessive speed. The Community Affairs Unit in concert with Area Captains consequently utilize speed technology to measure data of normal and excessive speed in and around a complaint area over a minimum two-week time frame. If the analysis reveals a speeding condition, the Motor Squad is then deployed to conduct speed enforcement at the complaint location.

CONCLUSION:

The Administration will continue to work with FDOT and track progress on the installation of the plastic delineators along the center lane of Normandy Drive to deter illegal left turns that often result in accidents and vehicles swerving onto the sidewalk in front of Temple Moses. In addition, once FDOT concludes its analysis, staff will provide an update via Letter To Commission on the City's request that FDOT install additional speed mitigation measures on Collins Avenue adjacent to the Terra Beachside Villas. Furthermore, the Police Department will continue to address speeding complaints citywide and conduct speed enforcement at complaint locations such as the two areas included above.

Applicable Area

Citywide

Is this a "Residents Right to Know" item, pursuant to City Code Section 2-14?	**Does this item utilize G.O. Bond Funds?**
No	No

Strategic Connection

Mobility - Improve the walking and biking experience.