

date December 21, 2005
 to Coconut Grove Waterfront Master Plan Project Team
 cc Mark Dawson
 from Lynn Hoffman
 project name Coconut Grove Waterfront Master Plan
 project # 44394.00
 subject Summary of Meeting with Coconut Grove Community

DECEMBER 15, 6:30 PM

Issues

- Area should be for Miami residents but only 20% of Seminole Boat Ramp users are Miami residents; residents end up using Matheson Hammock because it is easier
- City owns all the property along the waterfront but is run by several different department, need to consider the waterfront as one entity with one vision
- Where is the money from the anchorage going right now?
- Will there be a multi-story building in the park?
- People won't put there boats here if there isn't security
- We're losing out to Ft. Lauderdale
- Need to get deeds and lease to land and look at the deeds that committed land to public waterfront (deeds and leases on the internet)
- The fuel dock at Pier 7 has not had a lot of public input, concerned there may be other plans the public doesn't know about
- If people don't want to walk then why talk about pedestrian connections
- Los Olas and Lincoln Road are more upscale and there are things to see and do – need more of it in the Grove; Cocowalk is not being taken care of
- What are the advantages of the fuel dock? You can't leave your boat at the pump
- Scale is the problem, should be an upscale place but you lose that when you bring in the Gap and Just for Feet
- Coconut Grove merchants need the community's support, please use the Code 33 resident discount card
- The Grove needs to thrive culturally, a conference facility will help
- Retail in the park will kill the retail in the Grove
- The skate park in Peacock Park is the best in Miami, need to recognize it
- Have never had to wait for fuel; there are fuel docks at Scotty's, Grove Harbor and Monty's; question the need for a gas dock; if there is a need, may be there is a better location especially since in the hurricanes all the boats crash into that area
- Large tourist buses block the boat ramps
- Small sail boats sail out near there and the fuel dock will make it very difficult to get out

- The real estate taxes are confiscatory, where does it all go? It is a shame that they will have to raise money for the park because the residents are already paying a lot in taxes
- The fuel dock is only appropriate for small boats, most of which get their gas at service stations
- Fuel dock: awarded June 04, approved August 04 – has been suspended pending the outcome of the master plan

Goals

- Need to decrease the perception of distance between waterfront and Grove
- Change non-Miami residents to use the Seminole Dock
- Want a park, not Bayside
- Make Bayshore 2 lanes, may sit longer in traffic but would leave more room for the park and a larger pedestrian area on McFarlane
- Yvonne McDonald offered to host the meeting in Village West; residents on the west side walk to Kennedy Park and use Shake-A-Leg and the Sailing Club – would like the meeting to be in combination with an existing meeting in January
- A few members of the community would like the opportunity to present their ideas to the team
- Have mosaic tiles in the sidewalk from the Grove to the waterfront to lead people; have a competition for an art deco bridge over Bayshore; marine themed
- Want to see a timeline for getting rid of the Expo
- Put some restaurants near the waterfront and people will come
- The Grove waterfront is one of the few places where you can walk along the waterfront, needs places to sit at anytime, coffee shop, cafes, ice cream
- Need small shops to bring the people
- Want the parking near the marina turned into park space with a tram; if the majority of the park parking is my the Grove shops then the shops will benefit
- More water sports, kayaks, trapeze school
- Put parking underneath the park
- Do something with the Spoils Islands
- Dinner Key marina should be a sailing mecca and will then get people up into the Grove
- Need a maintenance plan for the islands
- Close South Bayshore Drive from the Sonesta to Mary's Road except for access to the hotels and redirect the traffic onto Mary's Road and Grand Avenue
- Want benches and handicap accessibility
- Need better boat ramps, also great site for tourists
- Spoil Islands should be like the ones in north coastal Miami with look outs and picnic areas
- Need to capitalize on the historic value of the area
- Would rather see the money help the Grove stores than the Spoil Islands
- Respect the meaning of the Grove, want to see the green and the blue
- If fuel dock is necessary, locate it near the bigger yachts at the end of the T so it's easier to get to
- Need to tap into the regatta events, will bring revenue to the Grove
- Would come to the Grove waterfront to stroll if there was a dynamic waterfront, develop what's here naturally
- Expo Center could become a parking structure
- Observation deck, 3 stories high, on top of Expo Center-turned-parking garage
- Needs lots of plant life and nighttime lighting

- Use the area in front of the Cloisters for day boats to stop and come into the Grove, need a place for boats to stop and be brought into the Grove
- Set up a Park Trust Fund
- Need an easement for walkway from Main Highway thru St. Stevens to Peacock Park

Facts

- Seminole boat ramp is run by the parking department
- The Chamber, the NET and the Grove Skate Park management are all in the Peacock Park Building
- Shake-A-Leg has funding to clean up the Spoil Islands in a plan with the Army Corp and DERM to remove non-native species, the master plan will address the programming of the islands
- There will be mega-yacht docks at the new Grove Harbor
- Commodore Plaza was the old center of the Grove then the center moved to Cocowalk
- Fuel Dock will be 40' x 60' and will be flush with the pier
- Vote over fuel dock – majority oppose it
- Vote over closing part of South Bayshore – majority support it
- Women's Club was the Housewives Club
- Peacock Park charrette – Sasaki teams need to see documentation and presentation