

**MIAMI-DADE EXPRESSWAY AUTHORITY (MDX)  
INTER-GOVERNMENTAL AND PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS  
COMMITTEE MEETING  
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2016  
10:00 AM**

**SUMMARY MINUTES**

Present Committee Members:

Javier L. Vázquez, Esq., Chair  
Maurice A. Ferré, Vice Chair  
Alfredo L. Gonzalez, Esq.  
Luz Weinberg – in attendance via phone

Absent Committee Members:

Cliff Walters

Present Board Members:

Leonard Boord  
Maritza Gutierrez  
Arthur J. Meyer

Staff Present:

Javier Rodriguez, P.E., Executive Director  
Carlos Zaldivar, General Counsel  
Marie Schafer, Director of Finance/CFO  
Juan Toledo, Director of Engineering  
Steve Andriuk, Director of Toll Operations  
Helen Cordero, Procurement Manager  
Francine Steelman, Associate General Counsel  
Bernardo Escobar, Special Projects Manager  
Mario A. Diaz, Public Information Manager  
Maria Luisa Navia Lobo, MDX Board Secretary

Consultants:

Fausto Gomez, Gomes Barker Associates  
Manny Reyes, Gomez Barker Associates  
Albert Sosa, HNTB GEC-A  
Tere Garcia, Bermello Ajamil – GEC-A  
Reynaldo Cortez – EAC Consulting, GEB-B

## **CALL TO ORDER**

Mr. Vázquez, Chair of the of the Inter-Governmental and Public Communications Committee, called the meeting to order. Ms. Navia Lobo called the roll and announced that a quorum was not present.

## **DECLARATION OF VOTING CONFLICTS**

- Potential Conflict of Interest Report

Mr. Zaldivar asked if Members had any Conflicts of Interest to declare regarding the agenda. No conflicts were declared.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

No public comments were received.

There was no quorum present. Mr. Vázquez recommended addressing the Discussion Items and asked Mr. Escobar to give a brief summary of the County's Transit Committee meeting, chaired by Commissioner Bovo. An ordinance in first reading sponsored by Commissioner Zapata was presented and co-sponsored by Commissioner Jordan putting into effect House Bill 299 that would reduce the number of Miami Dade County appointed MDX Board Members from 7 to 5 members, as well as eliminate language related to voting and non-voting Members of the original ordinance.

### MDX Fact Sheet/ Transportation Dollars

Mr. Escobar presented in draft form the MDX Fact Sheet, which provides the following: a brief history of MDX, how projects are funded, MDX impacts in the last 20 years, and the MDX Frequent User Program. The fact sheet also provides information regarding transportation in Miami-Dade County with a toll comparison appendix.

Ms. Weinberg recommended that the fact sheet be distributed to elected officials. Mr. Escobar informed Members there will be one-on-one meetings with elected official.

Mr. Vázquez welcomed Board Member Leonard Boord and Board Member Maurice Ferré to the meeting.

Mr. Rodriguez informed Members that when the toll rates were set for SR 836 and SR 112, the Board took into consideration the time of construction, reconstruction and modernization of SR 836 from 15 years of construction and includes various small projects as opposed to a final completion by 2018 and only completing two projects. Various types of analysis were performed and they indicated that only 8% of the MDX users travel the entire highway in a round trip. The Board also approved the Multi Axle Discount Program and the Cash Back Dividend Program. Mr. Escobar informed Members that the MDX Fact Sheet will be distributed at focus groups and meetings with elected officials.

[The MDX Fact Sheet is filed with the Board Secretary]

## **DISCUSSION ITEM**

- A) Legislative Issues

Mr. Gomez briefed Members on the upcoming Legislative session of 2017 and regional transportation issues. He informed Members that there is a negative perception about MDX. The following topics were discussed:

- Position of MDX and alternatives – diversion of toll dollars for transit
- MDX created by the BCC and State of Florida. Mr. Ferré gave a brief history of the creation of MDX.
- Multi modal transportation facility

The item was thoroughly discussed.

B) Commissioner Juan Zapata Petition - 836 Extension

Mr. Escobar presented the petition that Commissioner Zapata supports related to SR 836 extension to Kendall Drive. This project would improve mobility for the residents in the west end of the County. The petition states that the Commissioner will file legislation that will amend the comprehensive development Master Plan to allow transportation facilities outside the Urban Development Boundary. The petition supports that effort. The SR 836 southwest extension project is currently under the PD&E process.

**INFORMATIONAL ITEM**

A) Market Research update

Mr. Diaz gave an update of the market research analysis; the focus group sessions were targeted by regions in Miami-Dade County.

B) Speaker Corcoran Article on Lobbyist

The article was distributed with the agenda package

C) SR 836 Timeline – Public Education Presentation

Mr. Diaz presented the MDX timeline that can be found on the newly updated MDX website.

**ACTION ITEM**

A) Approval of Summary Minutes:

- Inter-Governmental and Public Communications Committee Meeting April 6, 2016 due to lack of quorum the Summary Minutes will be presented at the next meeting for approval.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- Joint Budget & Finance and Operations Committee Meeting, 11/30/16, 11:00 a.m. William M. Lehman MDX Building
- Board of Directors Meeting, 12/6/16, 4:00 p.m., William M. Lehman MDX Building

**ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Vázquez adjourned the meeting.