



MEMORANDUM

AGENDA ITEM #VI.A

DATE: APRIL 4, 2016
TO: COUNCIL MEMBERS
FROM: STAFF
SUBJECT: CORRESPONDENCE AND ATTENDANCE FORM

Recommendation

Information only.

ATTENDANCE RECORD 1/2015-3/2016

Councilmembers	1/5/15	3/2/15	5/4/15	7/6/15	9/9/15	11/2/15	1/4/16	2/1/16	3/7/16
ASSEFF, Patricia Governor's Appointee	P	*	CC	P	P	P	P	P	P
BAILEY, Mario Governor's Appointee	CC	CC	P	P	*	CC	P	CC	*
BATES, Margaret Commissioner, Lauderdale	P	CC	CC	P	P	P	P	*	*
BOGEN, Mark Broward County Commission	-	P	*	*	*	*	A	A	*
CAPLAN, Frank Commissioner, Key Biscayne	P	P	P	P	*	P	P	P	*
CAVA, Daniella Levine Miami-Dade Co. Commission	-	P	*	P	CC	P	*	P	P
DAUBERT, Tim Councilman, Miami Lakes	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
GOLDBERG, Cary Governor's Appointee	-	-	P	*	P	P	P	CC	P
HERNANDEZ, Nelson Governor's Appointee	A	A	*	P	P	A	A	P	*
KIAR, Martin Broward County Commission	P	A	P	CC	CC	P	CC	A	*
NEUGENT, George Monroe County Commission	P	P	P	*	*	*	CC	*	*
RICE, David Monroe County Commission	P	P	P	*	CC	P	CC	*	*
ROSS, Greg Mayor, Cooper City	-	-	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
RYAN, Tim *** Broward County Commission	-	-	-	-	-	-	A	A	*
SUAREZ, Xavier Miami-Dade Co. Commission	CC	P	*	A	*	P	CC	*	P
WALLACE, Paul Governor's Appointee	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
WALTERS, Sandra Governor's Appointee	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
WEEKLEY, Jimmy Commissioner, Key West	P	P	*	CC	*	P	P	*	P

ATTENDENCE RECORD 1/2015-3/2016

Ex Officio Members	1/5/15	3/2/15	5/4/15	7/6/15	9/9/15	11/2/15	1/4/16	2/1/16	3/7/16
Florida Dept. of Transportation	CC	P	CC	P	P	*	D	D	D
CORRY, Laura South Florida Water Management District	P	P	P	P	P	*	P	P	P
Florida Dept. of Environmental Protection	-	-	CC	*	*	*	A	-	-
MARTELL, Roberto Mayor, Town of Medley Department of Economic Development	-	-	-	-	-	P	A	P	*

P = Present

A = Absent

D = Designee Present

* = Excused Absence

- = Not Yet Appointed

CC = Via Conference Call

** Executive Committee Only

*** Replaced by Broward Commissioner Beam Furr

Lisa Colmenares, Designee for the Florida Department of Transportation, VI

Jennifer Smith, Designee for the Department of Environmental Protection



MIAMI-DADE
METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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TOWN OF MEDLEY MAYOR ROBERTO MARTELL
...joins the Miami-Dade Metropolitan Planning Organization Governing Board



(MIAMI, March 17, 2017) – Town of Medley Mayor, Roberto Martell, was appointed by Governor Rick Scott to serve on the Miami-Dade Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Governing Board as the Municipal Representative for a term beginning March 14, 2016 and ending November 23, 2017. The Governing Board is comprised of a twenty-three (23) member board that acts as the authority on all local transportation planning matters, and ensures that all entities engaging in transportation-related activities conform to statutory requirements.

Mayor Martell is the son of Cuban immigrants Zoraida and Jose Martell. He attended Robert E. Lee Jr. High School where he received the American Legion Award and was Valedictorian. He then graduated from American Senior High School before attending Miami-Dade College, majoring in Architecture. He is a State of Florida General Contractor and the president of Martell Consulting Group, Inc., which he founded and also served as President from 1987 to 2008 when he began pursuing his political career. Martell was elected as Councilperson to the Town of Medley serving from 2008 to 2012, and then elected Mayor on November 6, 2012.

Mayor Martell's other accomplishments include: founder and former President of the Town of Medley Chamber of Commerce; recipient of the 2004 AREL Award from the Real State Association of Latin American Builders & La Division de Comerciantes Industriales y Profesionales de Dade County; and a former member of the Latin Builder's Association and the Greater Miami Chamber of Commerce. Mayor Martell and his wife live in Medley with their four children.

For more information about the MPO Governing Board please visit our website at www.miamidadempo.org.

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<http://www.miamiherald.com/news/business/real-estate-news/article68087142.html>

South Florida housing market barrels toward unaffordability

- In Miami-Dade, median home prices rose 9 percent, while wages climbed only 4 percent
- In Broward, median home prices jumped by 11 percent, while wages rose a mere 3 percent.
- Experts say South Florida is quickly moving toward housing inaccessibility for first-time buyers

BY DEBORA LIMA

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The South Florida housing market is barreling toward an affordability crunch, a report published Thursday shows.

Despite homes being more affordable during 2016's first quarter, which runs from Jan. 1 to March 31, compared to levels dating back to 2005, median home prices continue to outpace wage growth, according to a home affordability index crafted by RealtyTrac, a service that aggregates national housing data.

In Miami-Dade, median home prices in 2016 jumped 9 percent year over year, while wages have grown by a mere 4 percent.

In Broward, median home prices rose even greater, 11 percent higher in 2016 than the previous year, and wages rose a paltry 3 percent.

"While [South Florida] markets are still affordable by their own historic standards, they're headed in a direction of becoming not affordable," said RealtyTrac senior vice president Daren Blomquist.

MIAMI HERALD INTERACTIVE: WHERE CAN YOU AFFORD A HOME?

The index, which looked at 456 counties across the United States, measures affordability based on the percentage of average wages needed to make monthly house payments on a median-priced home with a 30-year fixed rate mortgage and a 3 percent down payment, including property taxes, home insurance and mortgage insurance. The 3 percent down payment represents a national average for first-time homebuyers.

By that metric, Miami-Dade earned a score of 111, while Broward scored 116. These are well above the index's baseline of 100. (Scores below 100 indicate reduced affordability relative to "historic normal

levels.”) By comparison, New York County, in Manhattan, scored 89. Other cities with scores indicating decreased affordability include San Francisco, Denver and Brooklyn.

Unfortunately, South Florida’s apparent affordability is artificial.

“It’s mostly because of interest rates coming down. That has helped somewhat mitigate the affordability crunch,” said RealtyTrac senior vice president Daren Blomquist. “But it’s not going to be a long-term solution.”

If the trend continues, the American dream of owning a home will be inaccessible in South Florida, said Ali Bustamante, economics professor with Florida International University’s Center for Labor Research Studies.

“It’s a vicious cycle for would-be buyers,” said Bustamante. “They’re going to have to have a lot more time of savings and renting before being able to jump into the real estate market than they would have in the past ... and the longer they sit out of the market, the higher the real estate prices will grow. So it’s really a game of catch-up.”

According to the index, 9 percent of housing markets across the U.S. analyzed for the report were less affordable than their historic normal levels, a 2 percent increase from 2015.

Blomquist pointed out that the index is not meant to compare affordability across counties.

“Though the raw percentage is good to compare different places, what the index is specifically designed to say is, ‘Is this market affordable by its own historic standards?’” he explained.

By its own historic standards, Blomquist said, the situation in South Florida is “bleak.”

Follow Debora Lima on Twitter @dtdlima

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Read more here: <http://www.miamiherald.com/news/business/real-estate-news/article68087142.html#storylink=cpy>

Fifteen working-class apartment buildings in South Beach just sold for \$59 million. The new landlord plans to renovate the units and raise the rent by as much as 50 percent -- that means many tenants will be forced out. adiaz@miamiherald.com

Legislative inaction imperils Tri-Rail link to Miami

Bill passes without amendment clarifying liability for train accidents on a public-private railway

March 13, 2016 10:20AM

The Tri-Rail Sheridan Street Station (Credit: Wikipedia.org)

Plans to extend the Tri-Rail passenger service to downtown Miami appeared doubtful following legislative inaction on a proposal to clarify liability for accidents on railways shared by trains that are publicly owned and privately owned.

The operator of Tri-Rail, the South Florida Regional Transportation Authority (SFRTA), wanted state legislators to put an amendment clarifying train-accident liability into a transportation bill. But the bill passed without the amendment.

SFRTA officials said enactment of the amendment would have been a crucial step in advancing plans to extend the publicly owned Tri-Rail service to downtown Miami via the privately owned Florida East Coast Railway.

They said enactment the amendment was critically needed because TriRail already has made plans to build a passenger platform within the Miami train station that privately owned All Aboard Florida has started building for its Brightline rail service, expected to start operating by mid-2017.

With train-accident liability still uncertain, the Florida Department of Transportation may terminate its commitment to provide \$20 million that [Tri-Rail needs](#) to extend service to downtown Miami, which, in turn, could discourage [All Aboard Florida](#) from including a Tri-Rail platform in its Miami station.

“We are deeply disappointed in the Legislature’s failure to act,” Jack Stephens, executive director of SFRTA, told the Miami Herald. “In the next week, we will explore what options — if any — to bring Tri-Rail to downtown.” [\[Miami Herald\]](#) — *Mike Seemuth*

Tags: [All Aboard Florida](#), [tri-rail funding](#)

- See more at: <http://therealdeal.com/miami/2016/03/13/legislative-inaction-imperils-tri-rail-link-to-miami/#sthash.7K8B3PRj.dpuf>