How to make change happen NOW!

Tony Garcia

CNU Florida, 2016
Real Change is Hard!
Demand for services is high

Miami Dade
Area: 1,900 sq mi
Population: 2.5 million

‘Compact Urban’ Areas =
6% of Land Area
25% of Population
Large regional plans increasingly difficult to implement...

People’s Transportation Plan, 2002
faith in public officials is low
Like Millennials, More Older Americans Steering Away From Driving

Fewer Drivers Among Younger Generations

Proportion of licensed drivers in 1983 and 2014, by age

Source: University of Michigan Transportation Research Institute
key trend: peak driving
**Estimated Vehicle Miles Traveled on All Roads**

**Recessions**
- Nov 2007
- New High

**Miles Traveled: 12 Month Moving Average**
- Nov 2011 trough at 48 months after peak, 3.65% off high
- 39 months below previous peak -3.2% at trough

**A Close Look Since 2007**

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key trend: a demographic shift

Figure ES-2. Aggregate Vehicle-Miles Traveled in the United States under Several Scenarios of Future Travel Growth, 1946-2040

U.S. PIRG Education Fund and Frontier Group
key trend: a demographic shift

Driver’s license attainment declining
1983-2008

19% 12% 10% 5%
17 year olds 19 year olds 20 somethings 30 somethings

Source: University of Michigan Transportation Research Institute, Dec 2011

equinoxcenter.org

...people do not want to drive anymore.
...limited transportation budgets are misallocated

Proposed Near Term Highway Construction:
- US27 Polk County
- I-75 Lee County
- SR9B Duval County
- Quincy By-Pass Gadsden County
- SR79, Holmes & Washington counties
- I-95 Indian River County
- I-95 Brevard County
- SR823/NW 57 Avenue Miami-Dade County
- SR50 Hernando County
- Pinellas Bayway, Pinellas County
- Veterans Expressway Hillsborough County
- sections of the Wekiva Parkway, Orange County
- First Coast Outer Beltway Jacksonville
- widening of the HEFT Miami-Dade County
- widening of Turnpike in Osceola & Orange counties

"While FDOT’s current [annual] budget is about $7.9 billion, we must identify creative financing alternatives to get more projects through the production pipeline...we must diversify our sources of revenues."

- Ananth Prasad, Secretary of Florida Department of Transportation
How Can We Make Change Happen NOW?
Make the change you want to see...

**STREETPLANS**
- Transportation planning + policy
- Urban + architectural design
- Public outreach
- Research + advocacy
- Teaching + workshops

**GREEN MOBILITY NETWORK**
- Infrastructure advocacy → trails + bike facilities
- Public outreach → culture shift
- Lobbying + public policy

...advocacy is a professional responsibility!
- 6,000 mailing list
- 4,000 combined Facebook fans
- Founded in 2007 – oldest bike/ped advocacy in MD
- $70,000 budget
GMN Mission:

Only countywide organization focused on implementation of countywide trail and greenway network + better on-street bicycle infrastructure through:

1. Outreach (public, elected)
2. Marketing / Social Media
3. Events / rides
4. Membership
5. General Fundraising

Only 25% of trail network built out – time to get moving!
In some cases GMN is the primary organization advocating, while in other cases, we augment the work of others to reinforce the vision.

- Friends of the Ludlam Trail
- M-Path (Underline)
- Commodore Trail
- Rickenbacker Causeway (Plan Z)
- Snapper Creek Trail
- Black Creek Trail
- Snake Creek Trail
- Biscayne Everglades Greenway
- East Coast Greenway (M-Path, South Dade Trail)
- South Dade Greenway
- Old Cutler Trail
- Flagler Trail
- Atlantic Trail
- MacArthur Causeway
- Venetian
What have we done to push the vision of better infrastructure?

– Closing the gap – finishing the MPath
– M-Path/Underline rides (7 rides 2010 - 2014)
– Coral Gables Bike/Ped Plan Implementation + Miracle Mile (Bike Walk Coral Gables)
– Stopped encroachments on M-Path (Underline)
– South Miami Greenways (Bike SoMi)
– Bike Miami Beach Plan – Protected Bike Lane Implementation
– US1 Corridor Bicycle Pedestrian Mobility Plan
– Bike Coconut Grove – Commodore Trail (May 2014)
– Bike Coconut Grove – Main Highway Cycle Track (2015-16)
– ARTCycle Exhibit, Coral Gables Museum (March 2015)
– Supported allocation for Black Creek Trail
– Started rides along the future Snapper Creek Trail (2016)
– Saved the Ludlam Trail!
how to be an effective advocate...
1. build a constituency...
1. build a constituency
2. Educate (or shame) elected officials
2. educate elected officials

Should we trust WSDOT Traffic Projections?
Actual weekday traffic on SR-520 vs. WSDOT forecasts.

Weekday traffic volume, SR-520 mid-span

- 1996 WSDOT forecast
- 2002 WSDOT forecast
- 2011 WSDOT forecast

Actual trend, 1996 - 2010
3. find a champion
New Urbanism - the charrette process, “propose and dispose”
BUILD, MEASURE, LEARN

TEST
PLAN, TEST AGAIN
PLAN, INVEST

LEARN
IDEAS
BUILD
PROJECT
MEASURE
DATA

Adapted from The Lean Startup by Eric Ries
Mayor Gimenez to build Complete Streets demonstration project after county-wide civic leaders forum with transportation innovator Gabe Klein

MIAMI (January 19, 2016) — On the heels of the Safer Streets Forum with 75 elected officials and key transportation leaders, Miami-Dade Mayor Carlos A. Gimenez announced the County would build a Complete Streets demonstration project to highlight the benefits of designing streets for all modes of transportation and all users.

“Forward looking communities are those that plan for everyone, whether you are getting around on two feet, two wheels or more wheels,” said Mayor Gimenez. “To enhance walking and biking opportunities in Miami-Dade, I am committed to implementing a Complete Streets demonstration project this year. From this effort, I am confident we will learn how to move more people through our streets and increase mobility for all.”

In an effort to tackle the critical problem of bicyclist and pedestrian safety in Miami-Dade, public officials gathered last week at University of Miami Medical School for a presentation and panel discussion led by Gabe Klein, author of Start-Up City and former transportation director for both Chicago and Washington, D.C. Klein’s visit was underwritten by the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation and The Miami Foundation and coordinated with the Miami-Dade Local Action Team for Safer People, Safer Streets (LAT).

“Reshaping Greater Miami’s streets into multimodal corridors is a major step toward improving local transit,” said Javier Alberto Soto, president and CEO of The Miami Foundation. “It’s exciting to see Mayor Gimenez and Miami-Dade County use national best practices to create much-needed solutions here in our community.”
1. Build broad coalitions and alliances – businesses, community groups.. etc

BUILD A CONSTITUENCY

2. Educate elected officials –

3. Find a champion!

4. Don’t wait for government to change! Make change happen yourself!
THANKS!

Tony Garcia

[Emails]

GREEN MOBILITY NETWORK