

Distinguished Councilmembers and Staff,

I've looked at the proposed projects as part of the Imagine Mami Lakes campaign and I am quite impressed. Great job to all involved.

There is one objective (Transportation Goal, Objective 1.6 *Improve Pedestrian Mobility*) that I'd like to, if possible, make a couple of suggestions that the town would benefit from and are not yet included. The primary concern of these suggestions is pedestrian safety. Which if improved, would also encourage more residents to leave their cars at home choose to walk down our beautifully, shaded, tree-lined sidewalks.

### **NW 67<sup>th</sup> Avenue**

There are two intersections on 67<sup>th</sup> avenue that should be considered for improvement:

**1. NW 67<sup>th</sup> Avenue and Miami Lakeway North (3-D View Link)**

Improvement to this intersection would connect more than half of east side residents that happen to be west of 67<sup>th</sup> avenue to three major areas of interest that receive thousands of visits daily since it would help connect residents to:

- Optimist Park (including marina, tot lot, tennis, basketball courts and other events)
- Our Lady of the Lakes School and Church (plus annual festival)
- Miami Lakes Middle School

**2. NW 67<sup>th</sup> Avenue and Miami Lakeway South (3-D View Link)**

Improvement to this intersection would help connect east side residents that reside east of 67<sup>th</sup> Ave to three major areas of interest:

- Miami Lakes K-8 Center
- Miami Lakes United Church
- Future Par 3 Passive Parks

### **Turnberry Dr. (coming out of Loch Lomond)**

*Crosswalk into Graham Park - park with bridge over lake near Main Street*



A recent project removed a piece of sidewalk (circled in red above) and grass was placed over. This makes it difficult for residents of Loch Lomond to walk/bike to Main Street – something our family does often – because there aren't any safe crosswalks coming out of our neighborhood. Could this be corrected? In addition, being that this street is long, many cars tend to speed here, and this mid-block crosswalk could benefit from some sort of safety signal like the one being proposed on Montrose by Councilman Alvarez.

I am not a civil engineer or town planner but I'm sure that something could be done to make these three crosswalks more "crossable". This in turn will take cars off the road, alleviate traffic, allow our residents to walk more, be healthier and further enjoy our lovely town that we are blessed to live in.

Here's a link I'd kindly like to share with you regarding innovative ideas for pedestrian crosswalks:  
<https://nextcity.org/daily/entry/walkable-cities-intersection-design-for-pedestrians>

And another link regarding bike paths (another topic close to heart and very much related):  
<https://nextcity.org/daily/entry/dutch-city-protected-intersection-bikes-new>

**Palmetto Underpass at 154<sup>th</sup> (Miami Lakes Drive)**

This is more of a pipe dream since I cannot imagine what could be done to improve this situation but the stretch of sidewalk on 154<sup>th</sup> westbound starting at the new 7-Eleven all the way to 79<sup>th</sup> Ave (Royal Oaks Blvd) loses any space between the street and the sidewalk. Walking along this stretch of Miami Lakes Drive (especially with children) is nerve-racking. Since there isn't any space, could a "aesthetically pleasing" steel barrier be added in order to protect pedestrians? This is the heart of Miami Lakes and is the only corridor that connects the East and West sides. It should be a priority to make this corridor more pedestrian friendly. Perhaps my suggestion of a barrier is not feasible or cost effective but perhaps staff or Town Planner could come up with something more creative and doable.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Kind regards,

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