

The Commission found the Conflict of Interest and Code of Ethics ordinance permits you to attend and speak at Homeowner's Association meetings regarding the development at the Coconut Grove Metrorail Station. The ordinance does not prohibit employees from participating in public discussions regarding policy issues as long as the employee does not disclose any confidential information.

Therefore, you are permitted to attend meetings and participate in Homeowner association meetings and discuss any proposed development plans regarding the Metrorail Station.

This opinion construes the Miami-Dade Conflict of Interest and Code of Ethics ordinance only and is not applicable to any conflict under state law. Please contact the State of Florida Commission on Ethics if you have any questions regarding possible conflicts under state law.

If you have any questions regarding this opinion, please call Ardyth Walker, Staff General Counsel at (305) 579-2653 or the undersigned at (305) 579-2594.

Sincerely Yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Robert Meyers", followed by a horizontal line.

ROBERT MEYERS
Executive Director



April 18, 2001

ETHICS COMMISSIONERS

Kerry E. Rosenthal, Chairperson
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STAFF GENERAL COUNSEL

Thomas Spehar
Principal Planner
Department of Planning and Zoning
111 N.W. First Street
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Miami, FL 33133

RE: REQUEST FOR ADVISORY OPINION 01-14

Dear Mr. Spehar:

The Commission on Ethics and Public Trust considered your request for an advisory opinion at its meeting on April 14, 2001 and rendered its opinion based on the facts stated in your letter.

You requested an opinion regarding your professional involvement in the proposed Coconut Grove Metrorail Development and participation in discussions regarding the development as a member of the Coconut Grove Park Homeowner's Association.

In your letter, you advised the Commission that you serve as a member of a team that is responsible for the development and review of the Master Plan Development Standards for the Coconut Grove Rapid Transit Station. The team will develop the standards for the RFP that will be issued by the City of Miami. The City of Miami has final approval of the site plan and chooses the contractor for the project.

You also advised the Commission that you are a member of the homeowner's association. You will attend association meetings where the proposed development will be discussed and answer general questions regarding the development.