

REMOTE PUBLIC COMMENTS

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CivicPro

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ABOUT CIVICPRO

CivicPro is a Miami-based social enterprise focused on making it easier to track and engage with the local policy decisions that affect you, your business, and your city.

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Radical Partners
JP Morgan Chase & Co.
Tony Lopez
Town of Miami Lakes
City of Miami Springs

In 2014, the Town of Miami Lakes became the first municipality in Florida to accept public comments via pre-recorded video to maximize public participation during municipal hearings. In 2016, the City of Miami Springs followed suit by allowing video submissions for remote public comment.

This report summarizes the remote public comment programs in Miami Lakes and Miami Springs, surveys national best practices around technology and public engagement, and offers recommendations for implementing a remote public comment program at the County and City-level in South Florida.

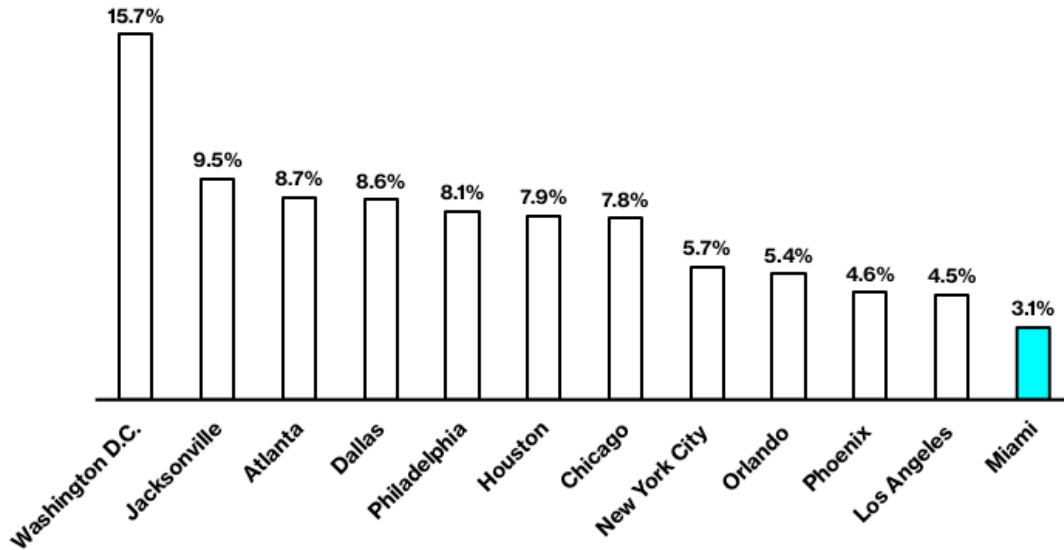
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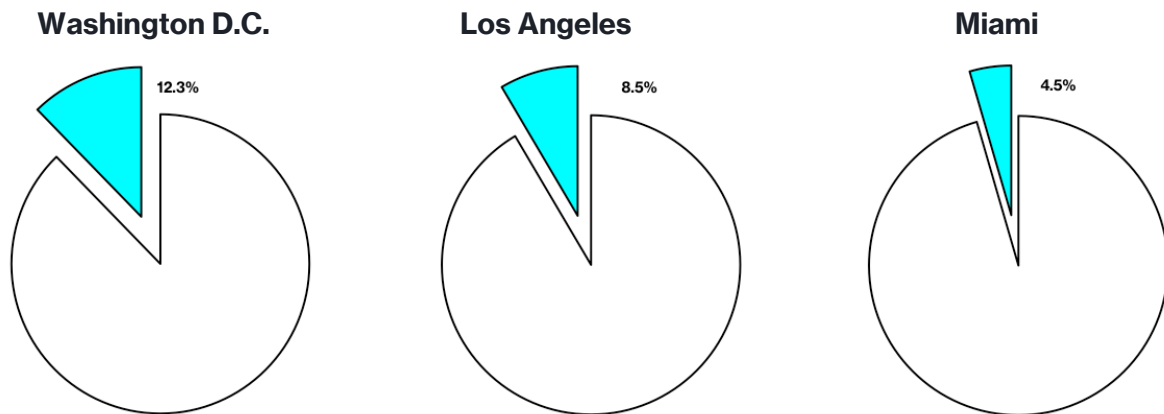
Miami's Civic Health

Recent research indicates that greater Miami has some of the lowest levels of non-electoral political participation in the nation.¹ According to the U.S. Census Bureau's Current Population Survey, Miamians attend public meetings and contact or visit elected officials far less frequently than residents in other metro areas.² Observers have suggested various reasons for Miami's comparatively low levels of participation, including the region's persistent population turnover, relatively young civil institutions, balkanized governance structure, and deep social fragmentation.³

Attended a Public Meeting



Contacted or Visited a Public Official



Florida Civic Health, 2013 & 2015.

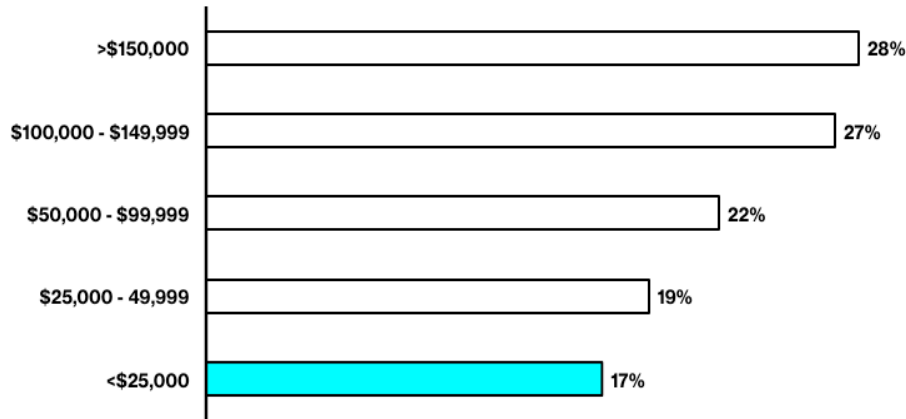
¹ National Conference on Citizenship, *A Tale of Two Cities: 2010 Civic Health in Miami and Minneapolis-Saint Paul*, 2011.

² Lou Frey Institute, *Florida Civic Health*, 2017.

³ Jan Nijman, *Miami: Mistress of the Americas*, 2011.

A 2014 nationwide survey found that young, low-income, and new residents are far less likely to participate in local government meetings than wealthier, older, more settled counterparts.⁴ Part of this disparity is due to access—the timing and format of public hearings excludes broader segments of the population because of work schedule, family responsibilities, and transportation issues. By inviting more of the community to constructively contribute to the formal decision-making process, participation not only becomes more inclusive, but more effective in solving city problems.

Attended Local Public Meetings Once a Month or Less



National Research Center: National Citizen Survey Data, 2014.

Two communities in Miami-Dade County have begun experimenting with using emerging digital technologies alongside traditional in-person engagement to foster broader civic participation. In 2014, the Town of Miami Lakes became the first municipality in Florida and possibly the nation to enable residents to participate remotely in public meetings using pre-recorded videos.⁵ Following the guidelines of Miami Lakes, the City of Miami Springs voted 4-1 in 2016 to allow remote video testimony to be played for the city council during open forum.⁶ A video comment system can make civic participation more convenient and enable more people to effectively contribute to and take an active part in the life of their community.

⁴ Mike Maciag, "The Citizens Most Vocal in Local Government," *Governing*, 7/2014.

⁵ Joey Flechas, "Virtual Town Hall: Miami Lakes May Allow Citizen Comments via Video Conference," *Miami Herald*, 2/2/2014.

⁶ Theo Karantsalis, "Miami Springs Council Allows Citizens Comments via Video-Conference," *Miami Herald*, 8/10/2016.

Sponsors of Local Video Comment Programs



"We have 30,000 residents and on average 10 or 15 [who] show up to a council meeting. I think [remote comments] really is a game-changer overall."

Mayor Manny Cid, Town of Miami Lakes



"I just want to give voice to those folks that can't come here.... handicapped people, sick people, travelers, and mothers with babies...[remote comments] is democracy at its best."

Councilmember Jaime Petralanda, City of Miami Springs

Video Comment Process

Miami Lakes and Miami Springs accept pre-recorded videos as public comments during community meetings. These systems allow residents to submit a video of their comments to the municipal clerk via email, YouTube, or Dropbox to be played during the municipal hearing.

Pre-Recorded Testimony Process



RECORD: The participant records and uploads their public comments.



REGISTER: The participant completes a “Remote” Public Speaker’s Card.



SUBMIT: The participant submits the video and form to the Clerk online.



SCREEN: The Clerk screens the video for decorum.



SHOW: The video is shown during the meeting.

To submit video testimony, the participant must complete a “Remote” Public Speaker’s Card within the designated timeframe before the meeting. The short form requests the speaker’s full name, email, home address, as well as the date of the public meeting, relevant agenda items, and a link to the recorded video (See **APPENDIX A**). After the Speaker’s Card is received, the clerk will send a verification email to the speaker confirming receipt of the form and the video. The clerk’s office will then review the video content to ensure that the comments conform to the municipality’s rules and decorum. Finally, the speaker’s video comments are shown during the meeting after the in-person testimonies are completed.

Pre-Recorded Testimony Guidelines



Videos exceeding three minutes will not be accepted.



Videos must be received within the designated timeframe before the meeting.



Videos are played after those present during the meeting have spoken.



Videos are played in the order that they were received.

Local Use and Costs

In June 2014, Michael Mut became the first resident in Miami Lakes to provide remote video comments. He decided to submit his support for additional traffic calming devices through YouTube after he realized that that he had to take his son to football practice the night of the Town Council meeting.⁷ “I had this prior engagement and understood that no one else had used this system yet. I thought I could demonstrate how easy it was,” he later told the *Miami Herald*.⁸

Mut recorded his comments to the council from the front of his house. “From there,” he said, “it was just a matter (of) posting it to YouTube and I submitted the link to the Town Clerk...it was very simple.”⁹ The video was played for the Council on a flat-screen television during their regular meeting at Town Hall.

Testimony via YouTube, Town of Miami Lakes



Town of Miami Lakes Regular Council Meeting, June 10, 2014.

Miami Lakes has had 4 remote testimonies since 2014 and the City of Miami Springs has received none.^{10 11}

Miami Lakes successfully implemented the remote comment using existing resources and without any additional costs. Beyond the municipal clerk receiving video links and updating the website to notify residents of the process, the video comment program did not require any new software, audiovisual equipment, or staff time. The video comments are played in Town Hall just like any other special presentation and are covered under the Town’s existing IT Services contract as general support.¹² The City of Miami Springs anticipated sending \$1,400 to upgrade its servers for “short-term storage” to house the additional data and videos until the video is shown at the council meeting.¹³

⁷ Jackie Salo, “Miami Lakes Town Council Listens to Resident’s Comments on Video” *Miami Herald*, 6/30/2015.

⁸ Ibid.

⁹ Ibid.

¹⁰ Deputy Town Clerk, Miami Lakes Public Center, 6/22/2018.

¹¹ Interview with Deputy City Clerk Juan D. Garcia, 4/16/2018.

¹² Deputy Town Clerk, Miami Lakes Public Center, 6/22/2018.

¹³ City of Miami Springs, “Pre-Recorded Videos for Open Forum and/or Website, 6/27/2017.

National Best Practices

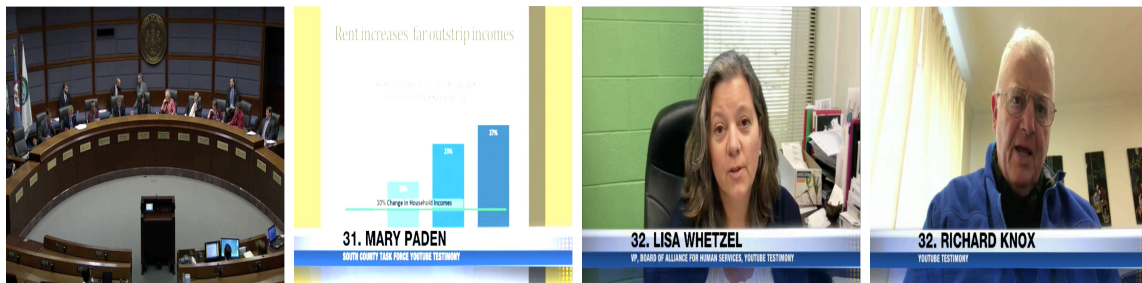
Ten states permit remote participation during legislative hearings, according to the National Conference of State Legislature.¹⁴ For example, the Illinois General Assembly Dashboard enables residents to electronically submit a written statement and their position on upcoming legislation to decision-makers within just a few clicks.

A recent online survey of municipal governments across the U.S. indicates that remote participation through web-based applications is still not as widespread at the city or county-level. Less than 25% of the respondents reported permitting remote testimonies with telephone and regional facilities being the most commonly cited methods.¹⁵ However, there are various municipalities across the country beginning to use new technological tools to strengthen democratic practice.

Countywide Video Testimony Program

Fairfax County, Virginia has accepted pre-recorded public testimony through YouTube since 2017. The program allows the first five YouTube videos submitted to the clerk to be shown during budget hearings. The Board of Supervisors decided to make the remote testimony program permanent after a short pilot in the FY2018 budget. During a FY2019 budget hearing, four or **12%** of the resident testimonies were delivered through remote online submission.

Testimony via YouTube, Fairfax County



Fairfax County Board of Supervisors Public Hearing on Budget, April 12, 2018.

Electronic Public Comments

In 2017, the Cook County Board of Commissioners passed an ordinance that allows residents to submit their position on upcoming legislation online without testifying in-person.¹⁶ The County Clerk, Secretary, and Bureau of Technology are currently implementing the process.

Municipal-level Feasibility Study

Montgomery County, Maryland recently prepared a comprehensive analysis on the potential costs of supporting live and recorded remote testimonies via various video chat applications. The report outlined several prospective implementation pathways, IT workflows, and suggestions on how the County could use new technological tools to increase resident participation.

¹⁴ Paul Greenberg, "Connecting Remotely," *State Legislatures Magazine*, July/August 2016.

¹⁵ Montgomery County Government Operations and Fiscal Policy Committee, Public Engagement Technology Memorandum, 10/31/2017.

¹⁶ Cook County Board of Commissioners, Ordinance Amendment #17-3293, 7/19/2017.

Key Takeaways

Low Associated Costs with Video Comment System

The Town of Miami Lakes and Fairfax County did not incur any additional costs accepting pre-recorded YouTube submissions. Montgomery County’s IT team also projected that it has the capacity to support resident YouTube testimonies using existing resources. The City of Miami Springs, however, anticipated spending \$1,400 to initially upgrade its mail server storage to host the videos before being played.¹⁷ Miami Springs currently operates the program without costs.¹⁸

Costs Associated with Resident YouTube Testimonies

⌘	Miami Lakes	Fairfax County	Montgomery County*
Labor	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Equipment	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Closed Captioning	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Dedicated Broadband Connection	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
TOTAL COSTS	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00

**Projected Costs*

Town of Miami Lakes, Fairfax County, and Montgomery County, 2014 and 2017.

Advantages of Video Comments

While pre-recorded video testimony eliminates the possibility of receiving questions from local decision-makers, it enables residents to incorporate visual content in their comments. For example, during his YouTube testimony to the Miami Lakes Council, Michael Mut used his phone to record cars speeding down the road to further demonstrate the need for additional traffic calming devices before turning the phone camera back to himself to record his message.¹⁹ Similarly, an advocate in Fairfax County used video footage of a community meeting and various data visualizations to advocate for increased affordable housing funding.²⁰ Video testimony enables residents to visually document community issues like potholes and illegal dumping for the public record and could be used to make help make their comments even more compelling.

Reasons for Limited Usage

There are various reasons for the limited use of remote public comments in Miami Lakes and Miami Springs, including their smaller scale, comparatively older residential populations, and limited marketing around the opportunity. By better working in conjunction with community groups, civic organizations, and media, localities could encourage increased remote participation on various issues, especially at larger municipalities like the City of Miami or Miami-Dade County.

¹⁷ Theo Karantsalis, “Miami Springs Council Allows Citizens Comments via Video-Conference,” *Miami Herald*, 8/10/2016.

¹⁸ Interview with Deputy City Clerk Juan D. Garcia, 4/16/2018.

¹⁹ *Ibid.*

²⁰ Fairfax County Board of Supervisors Public Hearing on Budget, 4/12/2018.

Recommendations

Both the City of Miami and Miami-Dade County should consider accepting and playing pre-recorded comments during municipal meetings to make resident participation more accessible. These localities could adopt some of the existing procedures and processes of Fairfax County, Miami Lakes, and Miami Springs.

The remote comment systems in Miami Lakes, Miami Springs, and Fairfax County were implemented through administrative guidelines. **APPENDIX B** includes draft legislation directing both the City and County to prepare a comprehensive report to examine the viability of creating a remote pre-recorded public comment system. Similar to Montgomery County's study, this assessment should outline the potential costs as well as various workflows and implementation pathways around allowing video submissions for public comment.

Below are some additional strategies for the City of Miami and Miami-Dade County to consider while implementing pre-recorded remote comments.

Pilot YouTube Video Testimony during Budget Sessions

Fairfax County's remote public comment program is limited to municipal budget hearings and was first introduced on a trial basis before being extended indefinitely the following year. The City of Miami and Miami-Dade County may also consider accepting remote video comments during budget hearings initially as a pilot. Following the initial trial, the City and County should assess the program's efficacy and determine the next steps.

Connect with the Broader Civic Ecosystem

The City and County should coordinate with community groups, civic institutions, and media to maximize use of pre-recorded public comment. This could include potential partnerships with the *Miami Herald*, *New Tropic*, *Miami New Times*, and *South Florida Business Journal* to notify residents on the opportunity to engage remotely on relevant community issues.

APPENDIX A

“Remote” Public Speaker’s Card, Town of Miami Lakes

"Remote"

Public Speaker's Card

PUBLIC COMMENTS / PUBLIC HEARINGS

(for appearance before the Town Council of the Town of Miami Lakes via pre-recorded video)

Meeting Date:

Agenda Item No. and
Subject:

Source of Video:

Full Name:

Address:

Email Address:

Phone:

Decorum:

Any person making impertinent or slanderous remarks, or who becomes boisterous in the video content shall be barred from further appearance. Public Comments shall be limited to three (3) minutes per person and must register with the Town Clerk from the date the agenda is released (Wednesday before the meeting) to the date before the meeting (Town Council meetings are usually held the second Tuesday of the month except for the month of August.) Once the Town Clerk has confirmed your video URL, you will receive an email confirmation.

Submit to Town Clerk

APPENDIX B Draft Resolution

MIAMI-DADE COUNTY

RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE MAYOR OR DESIGNEE TO PREPARE A REPORT FOR THE CREATION OF A REMOTE VIDEO PUBLIC COMMENT SYSTEM TO MAKE PARTICIPATION IN PUBLIC MEETINGS MORE ACCESSIBLE.

WHEREAS, Miami-Dade County government, like all democratic governments, is strengthened by enhanced transparency, accessibility, and civic participation; and

WHEREAS, this Board supports government transparency and wishes to increase opportunities for public participation that benefit its residents; and

WHEREAS, levels of civic engagement in Miami-Dade County are among the lowest in the United States of America; and

WHEREAS, according to measures in the annual Current Population Survey, collected by the U.S. Census Bureau and the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, South Florida residents have particularly low levels of non-electoral political participation, including public meeting attendance and interaction with local governmental officials; and

WHEREAS, according to a 2017 study on Florida's civic health conducted by the Lou Frey Institute, fewer than 5% of Miamians have attended a public meeting or contacted a public official – far less than residents in other metro areas; and

WHEREAS, a 2014 nationwide survey published by Governing Magazine found that young, low-income, and new residents are far less likely to participate in local government meetings than wealthier, older, more settled counterparts; and

WHEREAS, part of the disparity in civic participation between lower income and wealthier residents is due to the timing and format of public meetings; and

WHEREAS, enabling residents to participate in public meetings remotely through the use of pre-recorded videos, via a remote video public comment system, would help resolve this disparity; and

WHEREAS, a remote video public comment system is any process by which a government accepts public comments via pre-recorded video to maximize resident participation during public meetings; and

WHEREAS, both the Town of Miami Lakes and the City of Miami Springs have implemented remote video public comment systems that allow remote video testimony to be submitted via YouTube, Cloud Service, or e-mail and later played during public meetings; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Miami Lakes and Fairfax County, Virginia have successfully implemented remote video public comment systems without any additional costs and the City of Miami Springs has anticipated spending no more than \$1,400 for costs related to its remote video public comment system; and

WHEREAS, an open government, transparency, and citizen engagement are critical to enlist and empower diverse groups of concerned citizens in the common work of improving our community and are vital to the functioning of a healthy democracy; and

WHEREAS, Miami-Dade County is committed to using technology to foster a more open, transparent, and accessible government; and

WHEREAS, on January 24, 2012, this Board adopted Resolution No. R-56-12, which directed the Mayor or designee to prepare a plan to increase the transparency of County government by expanding County public records available on the County's website for review and copying by the public; and

WHEREAS, on October 6, 2015, this Board adopted Resolution No. R-881-15, which directed the Mayor or designee to prepare a report for the creation of an Open Data Policy for the County; and

WHEREAS, on November 1, 2016, this Board adopted Resolution No. R-1041-16, which directed the Mayor or designee to prepare and implement a program for County zoning hearing agendas to be distributed electronically because electronic distribution of County documents provides for a greater level of transparency and access to government while being more efficient and conserving resources; and

WHEREAS, this Board finds that implementing a remote video public comment system presents the next logical step for many of the commitments Miami-Dade County government has already made in using technology to benefit its residents and encourage civic engagement; and

WHEREAS, this Board finds that implementing a remote video public comment system will contribute to making local government more accessible to Miami-Dade County residents; and

WHEREAS, this Board finds that that implementing a remote video public comment system will serve the public interest;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA:

Section 1. The recitals and findings contained in the Preamble to this Resolution are adopted by reference and incorporated as if fully set forth in this Section.

Section 2. This Board directs the Mayor or designee to prepare a report for the creation of a remote video public comment system to make participation in public meetings more accessible. This report shall, at a minimum, identify the actual costs related to creating and managing a remote video public comment system, present a plan to implement such a system on a trial basis, identify methods by which remote video public comment could be included in Miami-Dade County's budget hearings as part of the trial, and present options for broader implementation of a remote video public comment system after completion of such a trial. The Mayor or designee shall provide the report to this Board within 90 days of the effective date of this resolution and shall place the completed report on an agenda of the Board.

A RESOLUTION OF THE MIAMI CITY COMMISSION DIRECTING THE CITY CLERK, IN COLLABORATION WITH THE CITY MANAGER, TO DEVELOP A REMOTE VIDEO PUBLIC COMMENT SYSTEM AND TO INCLUDE REMOTE VIDEO PUBLIC COMMENTS IN PUBLIC MEETINGS; FURTHER DIRECTING THAT A HYPERLINK TO THE REMOTE VIDEO PUBLIC COMMENT SYSTEM BE PLACED ON THE HOME PAGE OF THE CITY OF MIAMI'S WEBSITE.

WHEREAS, the City of Miami (“the City”), like all democratic governments, is strengthened by enhanced transparency, accessibility, and civic participation; and

WHEREAS, the City Commission (“the Commission”) supports government transparency and wishes to increase opportunities for public participation that benefit its residents; and

WHEREAS, levels of civic engagement in Miami-Dade County are among the lowest in the United States of America; and

WHEREAS, according to measures in the annual Current Population Survey, collected by the U.S. Census Bureau and the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, South Florida residents have particularly low levels of non-electoral political participation, including public meeting attendance and interaction with local governmental officials; and

WHEREAS, according to a 2017 study on Florida’s civic health conducted by the Lou Frey Institute, fewer than 5% of Miamians have attended a public meeting or contacted a public official – far less than residents in other metro areas; and

WHEREAS, a 2014 nationwide survey published by Governing Magazine found that young, low-income, and new residents are far less likely to participate in local government meetings than wealthier, older, more settled counterparts; and

WHEREAS, part of the disparity in civic participation between lower income and wealthier residents is due to the timing and format of public meetings; and

WHEREAS, enabling residents to participate in public meetings remotely through the use of pre-recorded videos, via a remote video public comment system, would help resolve this disparity; and

WHEREAS, a remote video public comment system is any process by which a government accepts public comments via pre-recorded video to maximize resident participation during public meetings; and

WHEREAS, both the Town of Miami Lakes and the City of Miami Springs have implemented remote video public comment systems that allow remote video testimony to be submitted via YouTube, Cloud Service, or e-mail and later played during public meetings; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Miami Lakes and Fairfax County, Virginia have successfully implemented remote video public comment systems without any additional costs and the City of Miami Springs has anticipated spending no more than \$1,400 for costs related to its remote video public comment system; and

WHEREAS, an open government, transparency, and citizen engagement are critical to enlist and empower diverse groups of concerned citizens in the common work of improving our community and are vital to the functioning of a healthy democracy; and

WHEREAS, The Commission is committed to using technology to foster a more open, transparent, and accessible government; and

WHEREAS, on June 8, 2017, the Commission adopted Ordinance No. O-13687, which required all campaign finance reports to be filed electronically; and

WHEREAS, on July 13, 2017, the Commission adopted Resolution No. R-17-0338, which authorized the City Manager to receive resident feedback online by participating in CityGrader.com; and

WHEREAS, on November 16, 2017, the Commission adopted Resolution No. R-17-0538, which directed the City Clerk, in collaboration with the City Manager, to develop a searchable lobbyist registration database for the City's website; and

WHEREAS, the Commission finds that implementing a remote video public comment system presents the next logical step for many of the commitments that the City has already made in using technology to benefit its residents and encourage civic engagement; and

WHEREAS, the Commission finds that implementing a remote video public comment system will contribute to making local government more accessible to City residents; and

WHEREAS, the Commission finds that implementing a remote video public comment system will serve the public interest;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF MIAMI, FLORIDA:

Section 1. The recitals and findings contained in the Preamble to this Resolution are adopted by reference and incorporated as if fully set forth in this Section.

Section 2. The City Clerk is directed to develop, in collaboration with the City Manager, a remote video public comment system that, at a minimum, allows remote video testimony to be submitted via YouTube, Cloud Service, or e-mail and later played during public meetings. The City Clerk, in consultation with the City Manager, may initially implement this system on a trial basis for the City's budget hearings.

APPENDIX C

Live Remote Public Comments Memo, Town of Miami Lakes



Town of Miami Lakes Memorandum

To: Honorable Vice Mayor and Councilmembers
From: Honorable Mayor Manny Cid
Subject: Strategic Plan Initiative
Date: 1/15/2019

Recommendation:

Our "Imagine Miami Lakes – 2025" Strategic Plan calls for: "...a friendly, open, innovative, effective and efficient government for its residents and businesses." Additionally, the #3 Guiding Principle in the plan states: We will be open and transparent, and solicit as much input as possible from our stakeholders. Lastly, one of our Strategic Goals and Objectives is to: **Achieve National Recognition as a "Model Town" for creativity, education, innovation and use of technology.** It would be an honor and great accomplishment for the Town to receive a national award for "Model Town." To that end, the Town will strive to implement processes to enhance our resident's quality of life by becoming more effective and efficient through use of technology. Although the town has previously received national recognition, we continue to strive to be the very best community and to grow beautifully.

In line with the aforementioned strategic goals, I would like to direct staff to implement Live Remote Public Comments beginning in our February Council meeting. We will be the first City in the United States and possibly the world to embrace this type of citizen engagement. Town staff previously tested the system and it works. Residents currently send in pre-recorded videos which are played on our flat screens. This type of accessibility is the future for local governments and I believe that the future is now.

Fiscal Impact: Small (approximately \$600 per year)

PLAYFUL PROTOTYPES

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Radical Partners
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Melissa Gutierrez

Conceptual Designs

Below are some conceptual designs that are meant to provoke a dialogue on how to make participatory experiences more diverse, exciting, welcoming, and accessible.

SOAPBOX

The Soapbox project would disperse an assortment of interactive kiosks across Miami to proactively encourage everyday residents to film and submit their video comments to local officials. Rather than expecting residents to make special trips to attend hearings or meetings at city hall, these playful podiums would serve as a deliberate invitation to the public to voice their thoughts in the places where they are.



The Soapbox kiosks would be placed in publically accessible spaces, including libraries, parks, plazas, streets, transit stations, and more.

The Soapboxes would prompt residents with information on upcoming meetings connected to their community and by creating a more human-centered process for political expression and relevant community information. This system would present typically unrepresented communities without broadband Internet connection or smartphones with a means to express their desires, ideas, and issues to decision-makers. It could also provide curious locals that may not know where or how to get involved with important public information on future meetings.

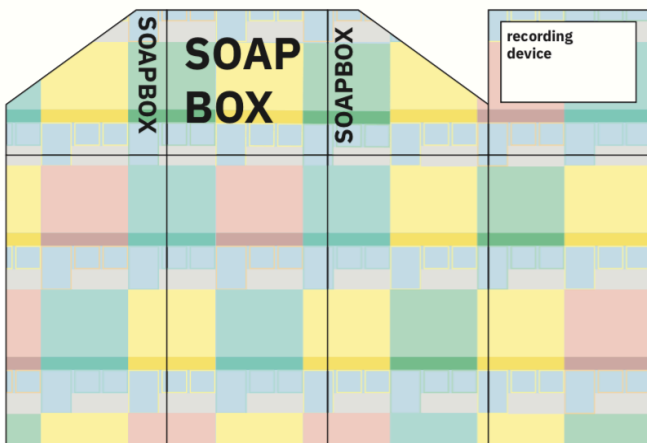
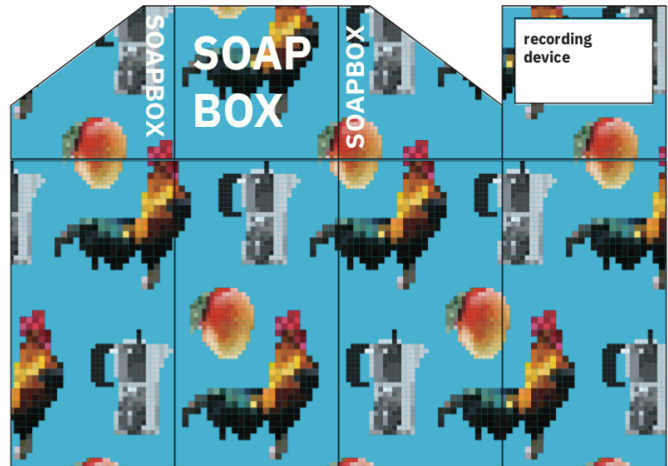
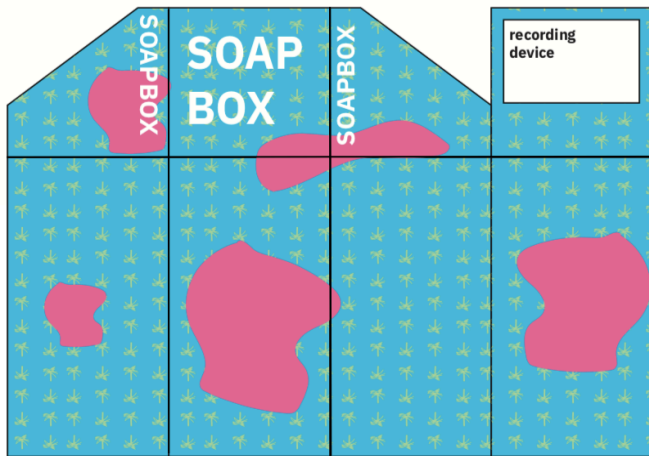
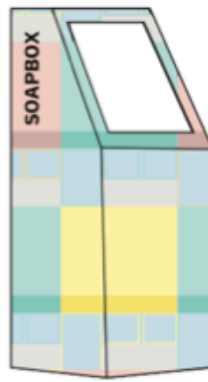
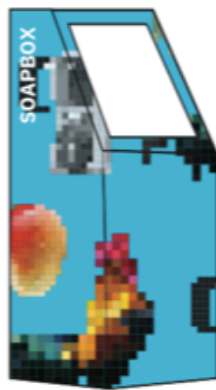
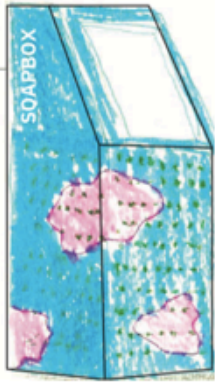
SAMPLE MOCK-UPS

MIAMI

LITTLE HAVANA

LITTLE HAITI

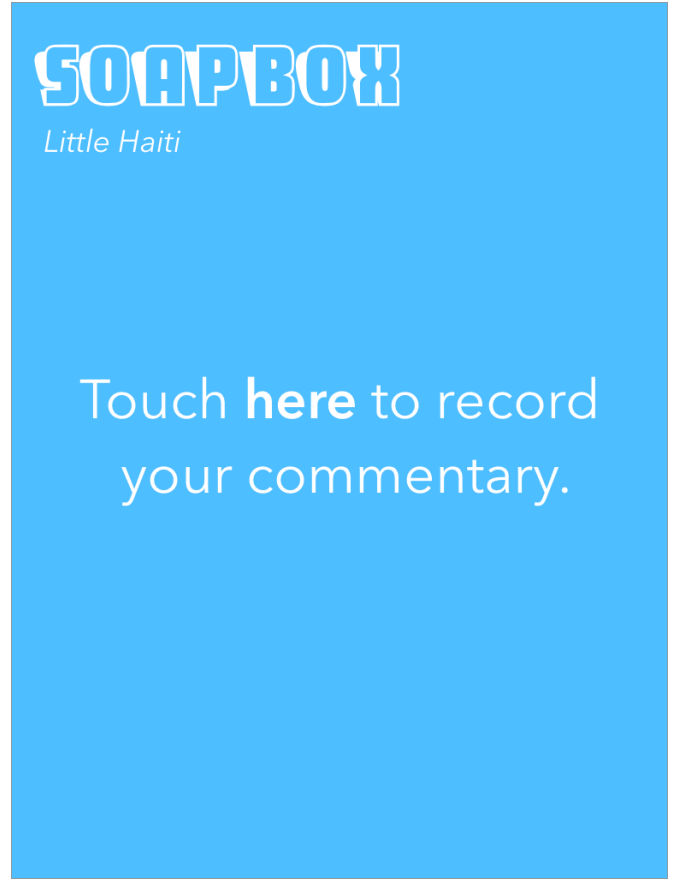
WYNWOOD



Soapbox will help to better distribute civic life across Miami and form more engaging, accessible, and comfortable pathways for resident engagement. To create a culture of engagement and community belonging, the design of the kiosks would be inspired by aspects of Miami's neighborhoods, history, and architecture (see **ATTACHMENT**). The Soapbox project will use the intersections of media, place, and technology to create a new context for engagement and community.

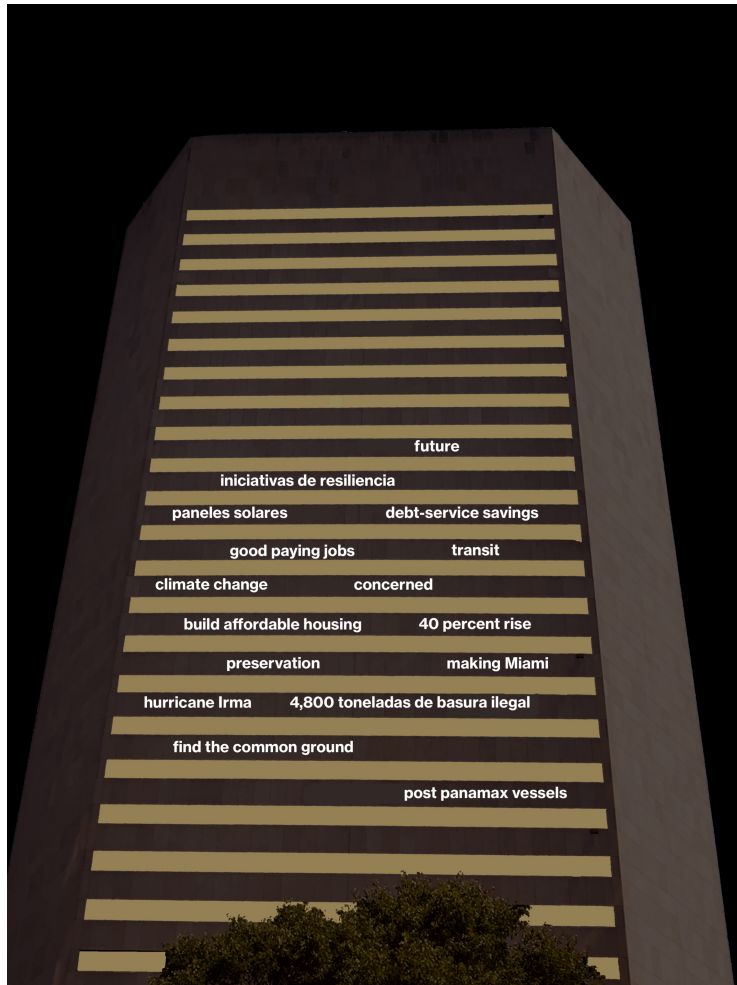


Soapbox user interface



COMMENT CLOUD

Public comments could be turned into a light-based art display by projecting a word cloud of text sourced from Commission meetings onto the façade of County Hall. Comment Cloud would temporarily transform the physical surface of Miami's civic architecture into a captivating expression of participatory democracy, transparency, and public voice.



Building news tickers have been used since the late 1920s to display the latest headlines and stock prices. This reinterpretation of the concept will turn Miami-Dade County's Stephen P. Clark Government Center into a civic bulletin board of public discussion, community action, and policymaking. Software could mine the public meeting's closed caption transcripts to highlight the terms and phrases that have been repeated the most during the commission meeting into a word cloud while excluding any personally identifying information. The word cloud would be displayed in assorted colors, sequences, and movements to create an interesting visual matrix. This experience would combine architecture, lighting design, and resident participation to form a new sounding board for public texts and voices.

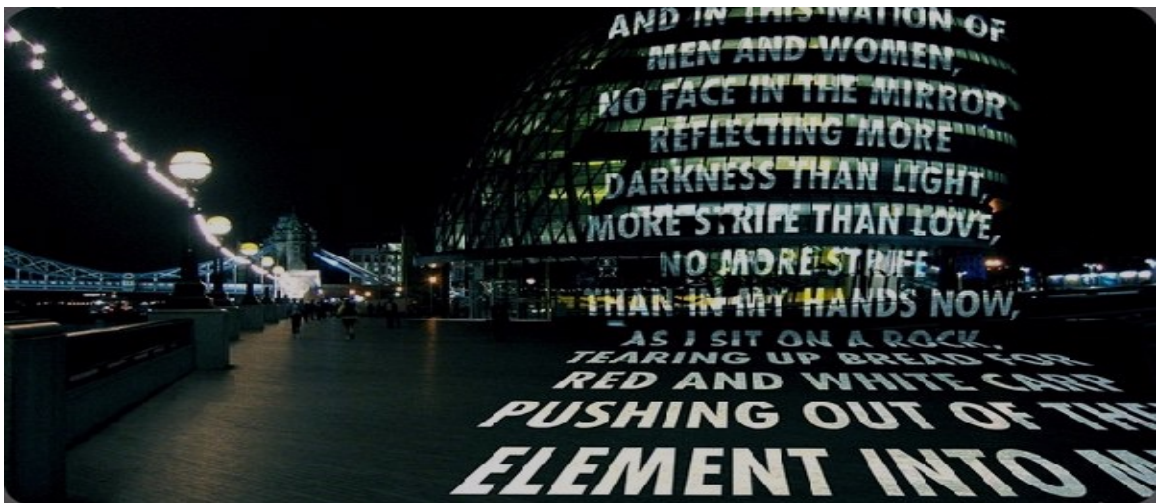
EXAMPLES OF PROJECTION BOMBING



Ben Rubin, And That's the Way It Is, 2012



Marcos Zotes, Your Text Here, 2012



Jennifer Holzer, For London, 2006