

Shared Pathways: Reimagining Mobility in Coconut Grove

Table of Contents

Shared Pathways: Reimagining Mobility in Coconut Grove.....	1
1 Executive Summary.....	3
2 Worksheet Data.....	5
2.1 DISCOVER.....	5
2.2 FRAME.....	6
2.3 IDEATE.....	8
2.4 BUILD.....	10
3 Next Steps.....	11
4 Acknowledgements.....	11
5 Coconut Grove Mobility Planning Committee.....	11

1 Executive Summary

Coconut Grove is Miami-Dade’s oldest continuously inhabited community. The region’s first hotel opened here (1884), its first schoolhouse (1889), and first public library in (1896). By the time of its annexation by the City of Miami in 1925, Coconut Grove was a thriving and self-contained village of diverse residential neighborhoods radiating from two distinct commercial hubs – one, abutting the coastline, to serve the mostly white population of residents and visitors; and the other, toward its western boundary with U.S. 1, serving a predominately African-American population of Bahamian descent.

Throughout the ensuing century Coconut Grove has remained one of the region’s most desirable locations. The community’s proximity to the bay, its lush tree canopy, and its compact walkable scale continue to attract significant development and investor interest in both the residential and commercial sectors. Current growth, along with its position along key transportation corridors linking countywide residents, challenge the walking and biking networks integral to maintaining Coconut Grove’s village character.

On November 2, 2019 the community workshop *Shared Pathways: Reimagining Mobility in Coconut Grove*, convened 75 community stakeholders to “explore the goal of connecting all Coconut Grove residents and visitors through a flexible, connected network that accommodates walking, cycling and other public and private transit options.” The workshop was cosponsored by Grove 2030, the Coconut Grove Village Council and Bike Coconut Grove, and was hosted by Ransom Everglades School.

Following an overview presentation by speaker Victor Dover of the town planning firm Dover, Kohl & Partners, event participants addressed Coconut Grove’s mobility challenges through a series of group exercises adapted from the IDEO design thinking and Phillips Cocreate processes.

Despite a range of viewpoints and perspectives represented at each of eight work tables, an assessment of present mobility conditions in Coconut Grove produced three consistent themes: concern for pedestrian and bicyclist safety; insufficient infrastructure to support alternative transportation options; and policy-making inefficiencies that deter effective action planning.

Recommended solutions fell within a framework of four general areas: Natural Environment, Built Environment, Operations, and Policy. Within those categories the most commonly referenced action items included infrastructure projects to improve pedestrian connectivity and safety; street and pathway configuration to allow protected bicycle lanes; incentivizing alternatives to automobile use; and improved traffic calming measures.

These findings and other workshop data will be the foundation of a Coconut Grove Mobility Action Plan to address the current and expected challenges facing the community in the years ahead.

List of Figures

Figure 1: Word Cloud of the DISCOVER worksheets representing dominance of key words mentioned by the stakeholders at each of the eight tables	5
Figure 2: The pie charts in (A) through (C) show the frequency stakeholders mentioned Topic Categories for each of the Existing (A), Ideal (B) and Challenge (C) sections. Histograms (D) through (F) focus on the Ideal section, prioritizing the topics by frequency.....	7
Figure 3: Summary of the BUILD worksheet. A. shows the categories of organizations. C. shows the names of organizations. Those in yellow were mentioned the most and those in grey were mentioned the least. Graph B shows a histogram of category frequency.....	10

List of Tables

Table 1: Summary of the eight FRAME worksheets. Under the six main Topic Categories (column 1), all mentioned Topics for the; Existing, the Ideal and the Challenge are listed together with the frequency mentioned.....	6
Table 2: Condensed form of Table 1, showing the frequency that topics were mentioned within the six Topic Categories.....	7
Table 3: Summary of the eight IDEATE worksheets. Concepts are listed under four main Headings; Operational, Policy, Built Environment (Table 4) and Natural Environment (Table 4). Concepts in bold are mentioned multiple times with the frequency recorded	8
Table 4: Summary of the eight IDEATE worksheets. Concepts are listed for main Headings; Built Environment and Natural Environment. Concepts in bold are mentioned multiple times with the frequency recorded	9

2 Worksheet Data

2.1 DISCOVER

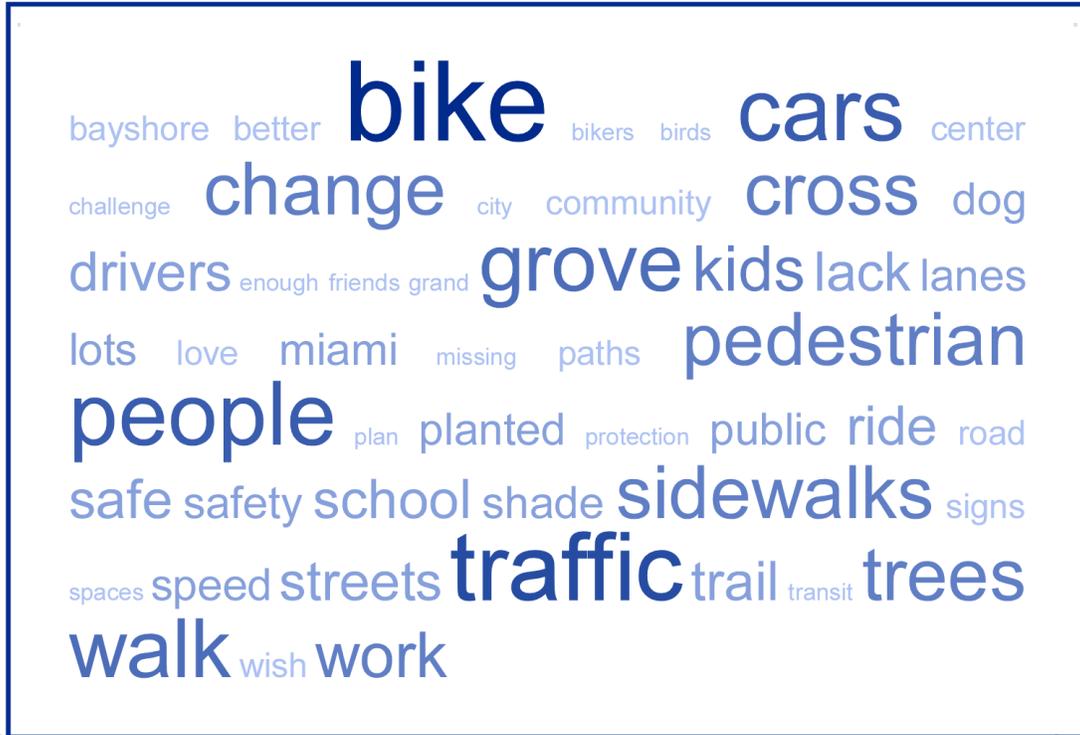


Figure 1: Word Cloud of the DISCOVER worksheets representing dominance of key words mentioned by the stakeholders at each of the eight tables

2.2 FRAME

Table 1: Summary of the eight FRAME worksheets. Under the six main Topic Categories (column 1), all mentioned Topics for the; Existing, the Ideal and the Challenge are listed together with the frequency mentioned

Topic Categories	FRAME					
	Existing		Ideal		Challenge	
	Topics	#	Topics	#	Topics	Frequency
Safety	Unsafe - particularly for cyclists and pedestrians	3	Safe travel for all forms of mobility throughout the Grove	1		
	Crossings are dangerous	1	Better crosswalks & signals with flashing lights	1	Elevated flashing lights at pedestrian crossings	1
	Bayshore / S. Miami Ave. have dangerous pedestrian crossings	1	Decrease speeds	1	Slower speeds - narrow lanes, bumpouts, pedestrian islands, road diets, traffic calming with art representing Coconut Grove	2
	Pedestrians are not prioritized - unsafe	1	Pedestrian focussed signage & street markings to facilitate more cohesion and consistency for rules and expectations throughout the Grove	3		
	Overlapping uses of limited space for pedestrians, cars, scooters and trolleys	1	Separate and protected lanes for different modes of transport	4	Create protected lanes	1
	TOTAL	7	TOTAL	10	TOTAL	4
Connectivity	Discontinuous sidewalks, bike lanes and trolley lanes throughout the Grove	5	Seamless connectivity throughout / full pedestrian network within the Grove	5	Targeted improvement to identify routes - known corridors that people already use, but more people are afraid to try	2
					Better Freebie interconnectivity	1
	No flow for any forms of mobility	1	Free flowing, safe, walking, biking and scooters network not threatened by cars	1	Reallocate space with ROW	1
	Tigertail has no sidewalks or bike lanes	1			Take lanes	1
	TOTAL	7	TOTAL	6	TOTAL	5
Policy, Management & Financing	Implementation processes are bureaucratic, chaotic, long, redundant and divisive	2	Partnerships between local leadership and city/county officials	1	Elected officials that support initiatives / identify leaders at the top levels to represent all stakeholders	1
					Need money	1
	Many local organisations wishing to fund initiatives, but are not coordinated or collaborating with each other or policy makers effectively	1	Establish goals for community and private organizations	1	Community leaders, business owners & elected official to organise goals, improve transparency and create awareness	1
	No shared master plan for the Grove	1	Centralised unified approach including all municipalities. Bring all decision makers into one organization with one master plan	2	Identify community leaders to facilitate collaboration, organise and participate in the process	1
TOTAL	4	TOTAL	4	TOTAL	4	
Education & Outreach	School traffic	1			Education and outreach	1
	Car mindset	1				
	Poor behaviour / lack of respect	1	People engaging with each other on a daily basis and having positive social interactions / creating an environment that encourages connections	2	Education and enforcement	1
	TOTAL	3	TOTAL	2	TOTAL	2
Urban Landscape	Unshaded hot streets	1	Shade trees/larger tree canopy that provides protection to the public, more engagement with nature	3		
	Bayshore / S. Miami Ave. have flooding issues	1			More vegetation that can adapt to flooding issues	1
					Elevated flashing lights at pedestrian crossings	1
TOTAL	2	TOTAL	3	TOTAL	2	
Noise Pollution	Cars, horns, blowers, peacocks etc ...	1	Prioritization of non-motorized and electric vehicles	1	Electric vehicles, more bikes, less cars, vehicle sharing programs, no car days (roads only open to pedestrians and bikes on weekends or certain days)	2
	TOTAL	1	TOTAL	1	TOTAL	2
	TOTAL EXISTING	24	TOTAL IDEAL	26	TOTAL CHALLENGE	17

Table 2: Condensed form of Table 1, showing the frequency that topics were mentioned within the six Topic Categories

Existing		Ideal		Challenge	
Safety	7	Safety	10	Safety	4
Connectivity	7	Connectivity	6	Connectivity	5
Policy, Management & Financing	4	Policy, Management & Financing	4	Policy, Management & Financing	4
Education and Outreach	3	Education and Outreach	2	Education and Outreach	2
Urban Landscape	2	Urban Landscape	3	Urban Landscape	2
Noise Pollution	1	Noise Pollution	1	Noise Pollution	2

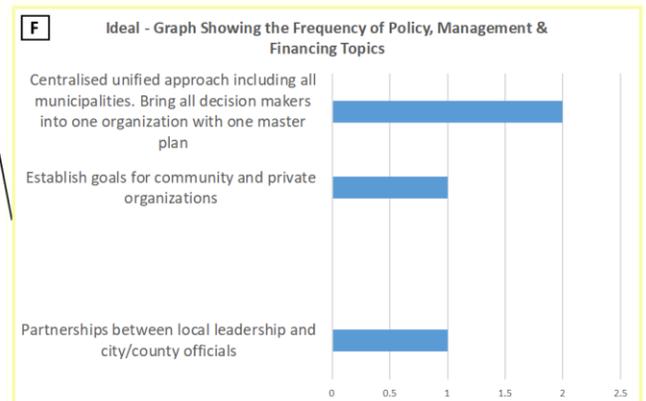
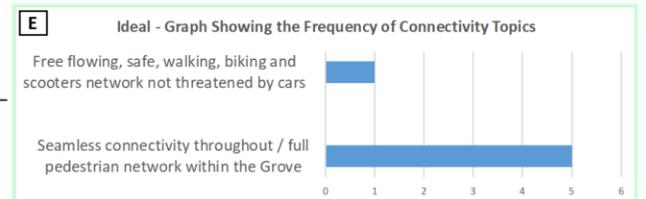
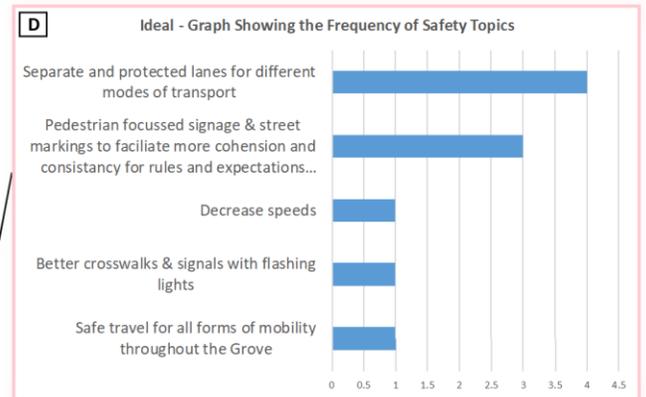
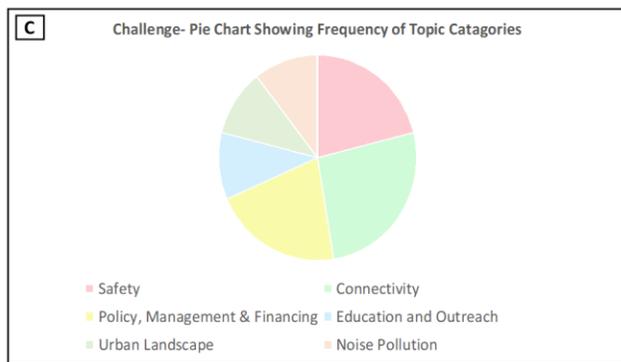
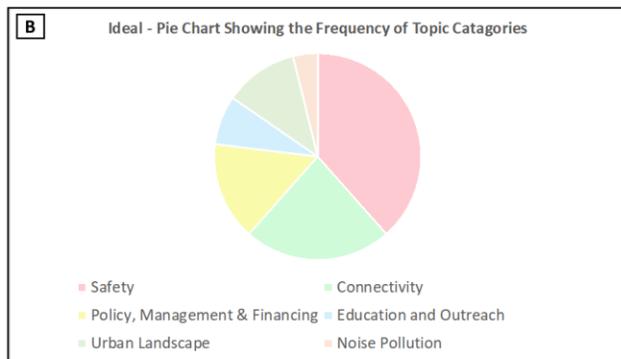
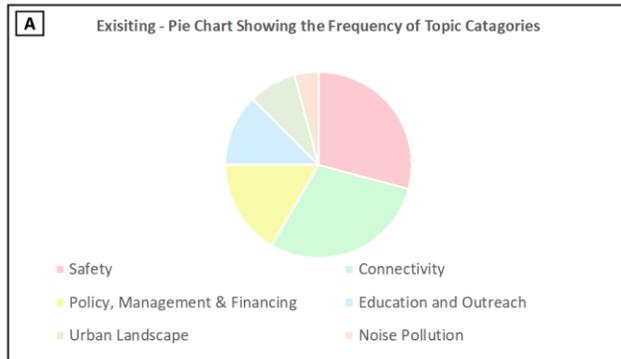


Figure 2: The pie charts in (A) through (C) show the frequency stakeholders mentioned Topic Categories for each of the Existing (A), Ideal (B) and Challenge (C) sections. Histograms (D) through (F) focus on the Ideal section, prioritizing the topics by frequency

2.3 IDEATE

Table 3: Summary of the eight IDEATE worksheets. Concepts are listed under four main Headings; Operational, Policy, Built Environment (Table 4) and Natural Environment (Table 4). Concepts in bold are mentioned multiple times with the frequency recorded

Operational		Policy	
Concept	#	Concept	#
Bike Incentives-- parking stations, cameras to prevent theft, use encouragement through art & signage, free registrations, repair stands with tools, bike parking at farmers market, collaboration with schools (high school incentives, competitions, safe routes), free bike share day, community bike events	10	Develop public transit incentives and options-- urban adventures for families; campaign to encourage use; discount; public busses and trolley routed by all schools / people mover	6
Education relating to road rules for pedestrians, cyclists and drivers through schools and civic programs; Educating residents to Coconut Grove masterplan i.e. concerns, follow-up, enforce	8	Lower speed limits and expand traffic calming	4
Enhanced enforcement of traffic regulations (speed, crosswalk, failure to yield to bikes and pedestrians, delivery and drop-off violations)	6	Establish school bussing mandate- no private cars; Common bus for all Grove schools with pick up and drop off outside center	2
Dog care-- water stations, poop bag stations	2	Freebie interconnectivity among municipalities (Coral Gables, Grove, Brickell, Pinecrest, South Miami, Palmetto Bay, UM, Metrorail)	
Add charging stations for electric scooters, bikes and vehicles		Establish No Deliveries Day (UPS, FedEx, Car)	
Say hello to your neighbors		Change regulations to protect tree canopy	
Use alternative nodes of transportation		More walkable stores for household needs (grocery, hardware, affordable family friendly stores)	
Encourage people to use the streets		Water taxi	2
Add water bottle stations		Establish Pedestrian-first policies	2
Develop a budget & business goals		Establish requirement for greater community information to encourage engagement on future development projects	2
		Promote local business frontage along Main Hwy.	
		Partner with ride/share company for free/reduced ride share for first time users FREE PASS	
Free public community events			
Ride share more		Prioritize Scooter/moped/bike parking over cars	
Breakdown big challenges into small groups and create task forces and workshops		Allow only electric vehicles within 3 mile radius	
Community workshops		Restrict Blower Days	
Getting City & County buy-in		CDE or CDFC (non-profit financing model)	
Volunteers needed		Official support by city on a plan	
Open playhouse		Advocate for reducing pollution - less cars	
Identify unsafe areas		Lower speed limits	
Neighborhood night out		Reduce vehicle speed limits	
		Peacock population management/relocation	
Organizing outreach & events		Divert traffic outside village center	
Holding government accountable		Change zoning to greater density around transit and center grove to foster compact development	
Identifying leaders in different organizations to drive fundraisers & awareness		Divert traffic outside village center	
Political will/ Capital		Increase restaurants & coffee shops in residential areas	
Street furniture		More police	
Impose Change		Cameras for bike theft X 2	
Fund finding		Try it pilot project	
		FREE transportation	
(Park)ing day participation		Adopt better bus plan	
Change traffic patterns		8 level apartments – no parking requirements	
Getting county agencies to work together		Create central approach of alternate modes	
Coalition to intermediate interaction with local governments		Require increased setbacks in new developments	
Get planning czar		Rewards program for using transit	
Get corporate buy in		Fix pedestrian light	
Neighborhood outreach to get advocates		Take back on street parking	
		Get the County onto City Bike and build more stations	
		Change Miami 21 to include greater bike facilities	
Get buy in then just do it!		Restricting car access at specific times to promote business	
Groups and organizations not working together		Center grove only - pedestrian & bike only on first sundays	
Daily bike community through Grove (as is)			
Public maps to show transit networks			

Table 4: Summary of the eight IDEATE worksheets. Concepts are listed for main Headings; Built Environment and Natural Environment. Concepts in bold are mentioned multiple times with the frequency recorded

Built Environment		Natural Environment	
Concept	#	Concept	#
Protected bike lanes; Divided bike lane pilot program – temporary barriers; Tigertail protected lanes; Dedicated safe lanes for bikes and pedestrians		Amend polices to require additional tree canopy in new projects	
Bike lanes x 2	3	Bay walk; incentives for homeowners to protect bay from sea level rise, i.e. natural/living shoreline	
Grand/McFarlane intersection; Create traffic separator between McFarlane and Main with a pedestrian island/ isthmus; All red lights @ Grand/McFarlane/Main		Curbless sidewalks & tree canopy along sidewalks with seating	
Improve lighting, wayfinding, daylight, Larger fonts		Plant local resilient landscaping that mitigates flood issues	
Bike parking w/water, shade; Bike racks		Plant trees and increase the shade on 27th Ave.	
Median @ 17th and US1 too slow, merge traffic, add shade; Reconfigure and reduce car lanes		Tree and shade structures	
Identify pathways; Mark and map from north, west, south, into Center Grove		Plant trees	
Identifying congestion points, building traffic circles, expanding sidewalks, speed bumps; Traffic circles at major intersections; Traffic calming grove wide; Traffic Calming; Pedestrian oriented traffic calming		Street full of trees	
Traffic circles at major intersections; Fix things - sidewalks, crosswalk flashers, ???		Street trees!	
Beautifying traffic circles		Boardwalk to spoil islands	
More traffic circles with "Art" sculptures and lighting at night			
More crosswalks; Increase safety at the Viscaya crosswalk			
US overpass for pedestrians, 27th Avenue, 32 Avenue, Vizcaya; Redesign 27th Ave., to connect Metrorail to center Grove; Redesign Aviation & 27th to the waterfront; Hanging garden bridge across US1 for pedestrians & cyclists			
Intermittent lights; Less traffic lanes; Fix lights to cross the street			
Safety" separation of lanes for cars, bikes & walking			
Safe biking pathways connecting Commodore Trail to the Underline; Fix Commodore trail			
S.Bayshore, 2 lanes with bike path; Add bike lanes; Manage sidewalk zones—bikes, scooters, pedestrians; Protected bike lanes			
Painted eye catching crosswalks ;Different paving patterns in the Grove to differentiate from rest of Miami			
Make pedestrian areas attractive with art and activations			
Paint streets bright colors			
Pedestrian scramble x 2 (with rotary) ; Pedestrian safety project: Capital - paint & concrete			
Widen sidewalks ; Build sidewalks			
Widen existing sidewalks			
Add sidewalks at east one side of all streets with heavy traffic ; Wide sidewalks on Main highway			
Longer pedestrian crossing times at lights ; Add more time for pedestrians at US1 & Metrorail			
Speed bumps; Elevated pedestrian crossings with flashing lights			
Traffic calming			
Review and revise street signage			
Scooters			
Freebie			
Pets welcome environments			
Bury overhead traffic lines			
Complete streets			
Create gateways when entering & leaving coconut grove- you are somewhere different			
Improve trails			
i-tree			
Improve signage from transit to center Grove and waterfront ; Signage to bike trails form Metrorail			
Complete street connections to Metrorail stations ; Rethink 27 ave. as connector artery			
Improve waterfront access for bikes and pedestrians			
Fix commodore trail			
Connected networks to Metrorail and neighborhoods			
Raised crosswalks to prioritize pedestrians			
Lighting			
Improve mobility to and from main hubs			
Retractable bollards			
Mixed/shared use street space			

2.4 BUILD

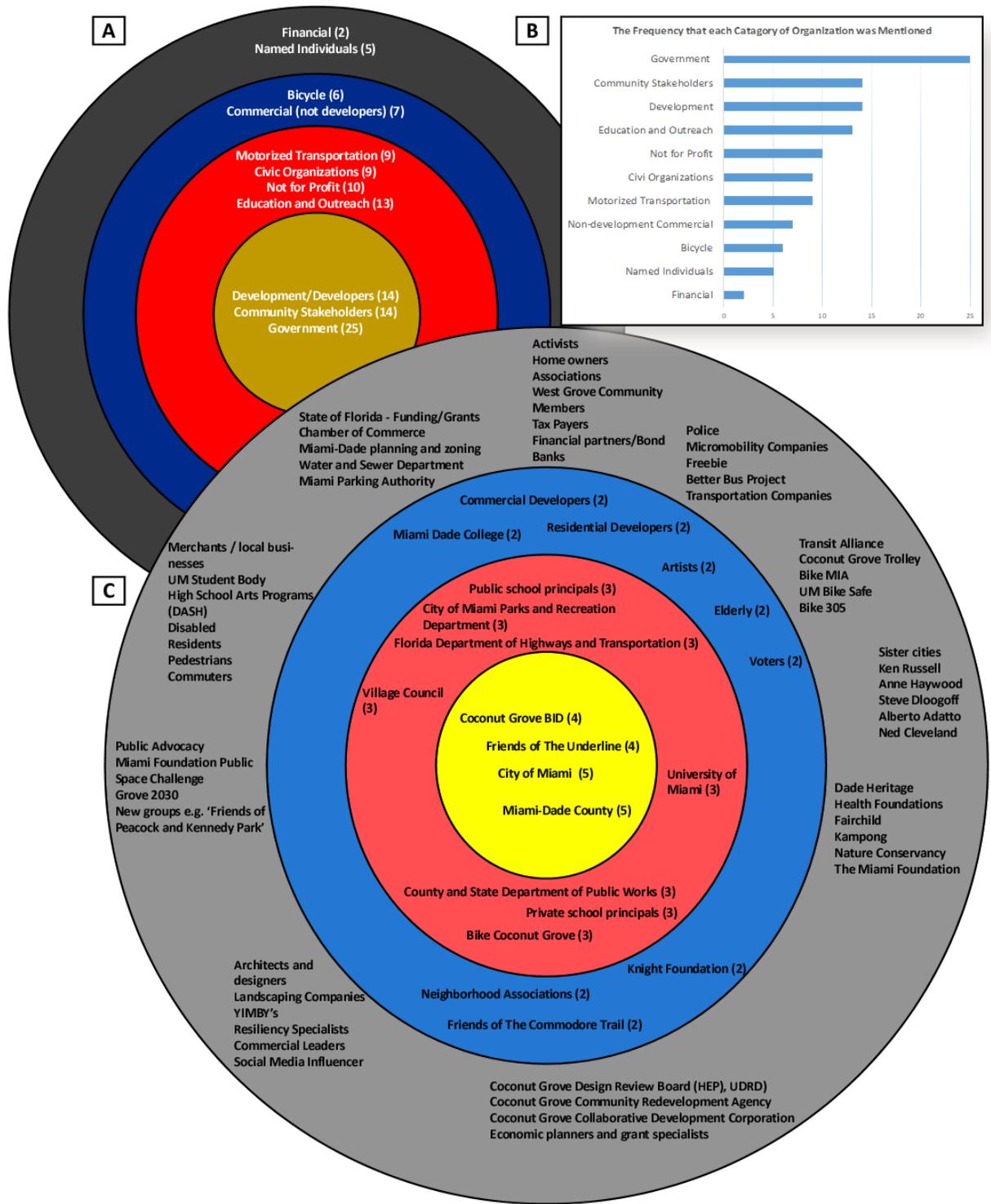


Figure 3: Summary of the BUILD worksheet. A. shows the categories of organizations. C. shows the names of organizations. Those in yellow were mentioned the most and those in grey were mentioned the least. Graph B shows a histogram of category frequency

3 Next Steps

The Planning Committee will transition into the *Coconut Grove Mobility Working Group* with additional representation from community groups and stakeholders. Upon its review of workshop data, the Group will develop and prioritize three strategic goals which, when achieved, will move Coconut Grove's mobility systems and infrastructure toward a preferred future. The Group will identify action steps in support of each goal. Upon completion, the resulting action plan will be presented by the Group to local officials and community members.

4 Acknowledgements

Acknowledgements: Special thanks to Victor Dover and his team at Dover, Kohl Partners for their workshop support and guidance; to event sponsors Grove 2030, the Coconut Grove Village Council and Bike Coconut Grove; to Ransom Everglades School for generously hosting the visioning workshop; and to the office of City of Miami Commissioner Ken Russell for providing refreshments.

5 Coconut Grove Mobility Planning Committee

Dave Villano, chair
Rachel Cardello
Amy Clement
Marcelo Fernandes
Joanna Lombard
Lotte Purkis
Hank Resnik

February 27, 2020