Police and Traffic Advisory Board

Special Meeting Minutes

Veteran Recognition Vehicle Initiative Discussion

Date: April 6, 2026

Time: Meeting called to order at 1:34 p.m.

Location: Doral Police Headquarters, 6100 NW 99th Avenue, Doral, FL 33178

Meeting Room: Roll Call Room

Roll Call

The following board members were present:

- Andy Abbate — Chair
- David Yglesias — Vice Chair
- Monica Barkhausen — Secretary
- Peter Espinosa — Alternate Member

Guest Attendees

The following guests and community attendees were present:

- Denis Schiavi
- Rob Paisley
- Steven Paisley
- Javier Rodriguez

Call to Order

The special meeting of the Police and Traffic Advisory Board was called to order at 1:34 p.m. by the Chairperson. Members, staff, and attendees were welcomed and thanked for their participation, continued support of the board, and commitment to the Doral community.

Purpose of the Meeting

The purpose of the special meeting was to discuss the creation of a special police vehicle initiative honoring veterans within the Doral community. Concept artwork for the proposed vehicle, prepared by Peter Espinosa, was distributed to board members for review and discussion.

Opening Discussion

The Chairperson invited Peter Espinosa to introduce the initiative and provide opening remarks regarding the proposal.

Remarks by Peter Espinosa

Mr. Espinosa explained that the initiative was developed to demonstrate continued appreciation and support for veterans and active-duty military personnel within the community. He emphasized the importance of recognizing the service and sacrifice of military members, particularly during a time of increased global conflict and military activity.

Mr. Espinosa stated that the proposed vehicle could serve as a visible symbol of support for veterans, active-duty service members, and returning military personnel. Suggested design elements included veteran-themed graphics, ribbons, patriotic imagery, and symbolic features reflecting honor, appreciation, and respect.

Mr. Espinosa also acknowledged the strong veteran presence within the Doral Police Department and expressed confidence in the department's leadership to ensure that any design or implementation would remain respectful, professional, and consistent with departmental standards and military traditions.

Additionally, Mr. Espinosa highlighted Doral's strong sense of community and emphasized the importance of health, wellness, public engagement, and community partnerships throughout the city.

Remarks by the Chief of Police

The Chief thanked board members, department personnel, and community supporters for their continued support of the police department and acknowledged the significance of honoring veterans and military families.

The Chief shared personal remarks regarding family members and friends who have served in the military and recognized the sacrifices made by service members nationwide. He expressed support for the initiative and committed to exploring appropriate opportunities for the department and city to recognize and honor veterans.

The Chief stated that additional discussions would take place with city leadership, including the City Manager and community stakeholders, to determine the most appropriate approach and timing for the initiative. He further noted that future recognition efforts could potentially coincide with Veterans Day observances or annual September commemorative events honoring military service and national remembrance.

Operational Updates from the Police Department

The Chief provided an overview of several major public safety initiatives and upcoming events currently requiring departmental planning and coordination, including:

- PGA Golf Tournament activities and anticipated presidential visits
- Formula One events

• FIFA World Cup-related events and official watch parties within Doral
• Preparations related to the upcoming G20 World Summit
• Coordination efforts involving the Secret Service, FBI, and additional law enforcement agencies
• Public safety monitoring related to international political developments affecting the local community

The Chief emphasized that the City of Doral continues to experience substantial growth and increasing operational demands requiring ongoing coordination, planning, and strategic public safety initiatives.

Department Growth and Public Safety Initiatives

The Chief highlighted several recent departmental accomplishments and public safety initiatives, including:

• More than a 40% increase in marked police unit visibility over the past three years
• Hiring of more than 55 police officers
• Continued recruitment and academy training efforts
• Development of a Strategic Enforcement Team focused on Downtown Doral and commercial district safety
• Expanded community policing and proactive enforcement initiatives

The Chief also discussed the importance of maintaining public safety within entertainment and commercial areas due to increased visitor activity and regional tourism impacts.

Community Recognition and Public Engagement

Mr. Espinosa recognized the efforts of the Doral Police Department during recent community events, including a local running event attended by more than 100 participants.

He commended officers and command staff for their engagement with residents and emphasized the positive relationship between the police department and the community. Mr. Espinosa also acknowledged the professionalism and growth of recently hired officers and reiterated the board's support for future public safety initiatives and departmental resources.

Traffic Enforcement and Road Safety Discussion

Board members raised concerns regarding traffic enforcement and driver education, particularly at four-way intersections and school zones throughout the city.

The Chief noted that the department currently maintains the largest traffic enforcement unit in its history, consisting of approximately 20 dedicated officers focused on proactive traffic safety enforcement efforts.

The department reported issuing more than 35,000 traffic citations during the previous

year and emphasized the importance of balancing enforcement with education, warnings, community outreach, and social media awareness campaigns.

Discussion topics also included:

- Enforcement of truck restriction zones
- School zone traffic safety initiatives
- Community traffic education efforts
- Ongoing proactive traffic enforcement strategies

School Zone Speed Camera Program

The department provided updates regarding the implementation of school zone speed cameras throughout the city.

It was reported that during the initial warning phase of the program, approximately 1,900 to 2,000 violations were recorded within the first 30 days. Enforcement applies to vehicles exceeding the posted school zone speed limit by 11 miles per hour or more during active school hours.

Department representatives explained that the program is intended to improve pedestrian and student safety throughout school zones citywide.

Community Outreach and Social Media Initiatives

Board members commended the department's recent public education and social media campaigns, particularly initiatives related to micro-mobility safety awareness and youth education.

Additional appreciation was expressed to department personnel assisting residential communities and property managers with security concerns and youth-related issues within large residential developments throughout the city.

Future Meetings and Community Participation

The Board announced that the next regularly scheduled meeting is anticipated to take place on May 20 at 1:30 p.m., and members of the public were encouraged to attend.

Department leadership encouraged board members to participate in future department and community events, including:

- Coffee with a Cop events
- Promotional ceremonies
- Officer swearing-in ceremonies
- Community engagement initiatives

The department also committed to improving communication and notification efforts to

ensure board members receive timely information regarding upcoming events and participation opportunities.

Closing Remarks and Adjournment

The Chairperson thanked all attendees, board members, department personnel, and community participants for attending the meeting and for their continued support and involvement.

A motion to adjourn was made, seconded, and unanimously accepted.

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

_____

Peter Espinosa, Alternate Member

Motion to approve the minutes of April 6, 2026, Police and Traffic Committee Meeting made by Board Member _____ and seconded by Board Member _____.

Andy Abbate, Chair ____

David Yglesias, Vice Chair ____

Monika Barkhausen, Secretary ____

Peter Espinosa, Alternate Member ____

APPROVED and ADOPTED this 20th day of May 2026.

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Andy Abbate, Chair