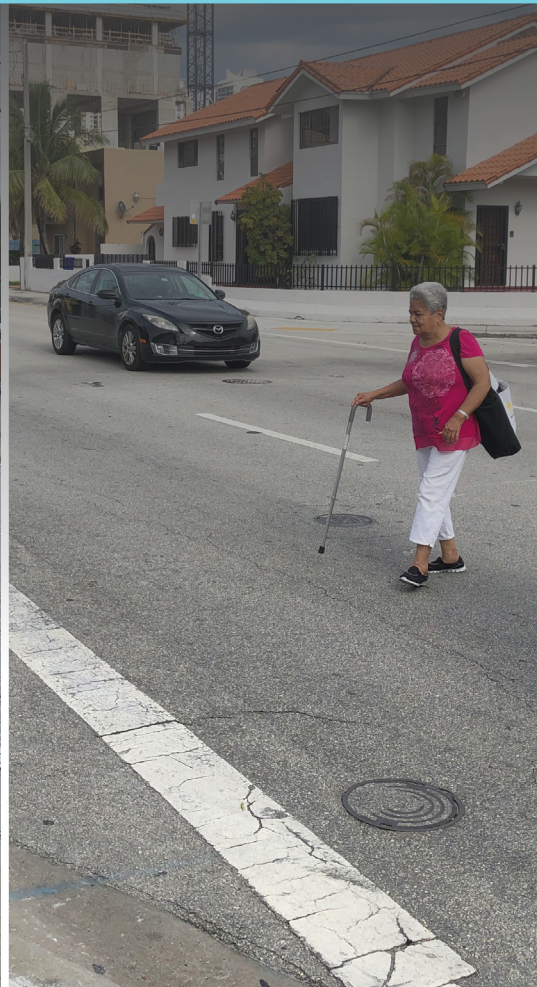


# SENIOR LIVING FACILITIES ROAD SAFETY AUDIT

## WORK ORDER # GPC VII-02

OCTOBER  
2019





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## Executive Summary

The objective of this study is to evaluate traffic safety conditions and recommend improvements around senior living facilities that have been identified as priority locations to minimize potential for future crash occurrences and severity by recommending improvements.

The November 2017 [\*Aging Road Users Strategic Safety Plan\*](#), completed by the Miami-Dade County (MDC) Transportation Planning Organization (TPO), revealed that 11% of all crashes in MDC between 2008-2014 occurred within ¼ mile of older adult living centers. With the increasing trend in overall number of crashes involving 65 and older road users and continuously growing older adult population in the state, the MDC TPO recognizes the need to further investigate road conditions and identify locations to invest in improved safety for older adults.

The MDC TPO analyzed the crash data in the vicinity of over 140 older adult residential living centers and applied a weighted scoring system considering total crashes and crashes involving 65 and older road users within ¼ mile of an older adult living facility. The results of the scoring were a *field analysis priority list of assisted living sites*. Centers at the top of the priority list were considered “Tier 1” sites. Road Safety Audits (RSAs) were recommended to be conducted at the Tier 1 sites followed by Tier 2 and 3 if resources allow. The five (5) older adult living centers included under the Tier 1 sites list are:

- Joe Moretti II (240 SW 9<sup>th</sup> Street, Miami, FL 33130)
- Buena Vista Apartments (521 SW 6<sup>th</sup> Street, Miami, FL 33130) <sup>1</sup>
- Hialeah Residence (1280 W 46<sup>th</sup> Street, Hialeah, FL 33012)
- Vivian Villas (4650 W 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Hialeah, FL 33012) <sup>2</sup>
- Jasmine (128 SW 22<sup>nd</sup> Avenue, Miami, FL 33135)

A RSA is defined as a formal qualitative safety performance examination of a road or intersection. RSAs are conducted by an independent, multidisciplinary team composed of the stakeholders (state and local jurisdictions, law enforcement, community groups, etc.). The goal of an RSA is to identify and report potential road safety issues and opportunities for safety improvement for all road users. These RSAs were commissioned through the FY2019/2020 Unified Planning Work Program to develop short-term maintenance, near-term project, and long-term project suggestions to improve safety for all transportation users.

The multidisciplinary team or Study Advisory Committee (SAC) coordination included representatives from the following agencies and community groups to maximize the range of perspectives:

- FDOT District Six Office (Traffic Operations and Design offices)
- Department of Transportation and Public Works Engineering and Planning Divisions

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<sup>1</sup> The Buena Vista Apartments study area overlapped with the Joe Moretti II study area. A single report is provided for these facilities.

<sup>2</sup> The Vivian Villas study area overlapped with the Hialeah Residence study area. A single report is provided for these facilities.

- City of Miami
- City of Hialeah
- Miami-Dade Age Friendly Initiative
- Live Healthy Little Havana
- Older adult living facilities

Five tasks were performed to complete this project:

1. **Background Research** - a review of the following documents was completed in preparation for the RSAs:
  - 2017 Miami-Dade Aging Road User Strategic Safety Plan;
  - FHWA Road Safety Audit Guidelines;
  - current version of the FDOT Florida Design Manual, Miami-Dade Public Works Manual and the NACTO Urban Street Design Guide; and
  - 2019 Transportation Improvement Program and 2040 Long Range Transportation Plan.
    - No planned projects were identified to be relevant to the study location.
2. **Data Collection** - the following data was collected and summarized:
  - Roadway characteristics: roadway lanes, sidewalks, transit service and features, speed limit, intersection control, crosswalks, safety features, and landscaping;
  - Available traffic volumes, including auto, pedestrian, bicycle and transit ridership;
  - Crash data – Signal 4 Analytics, historical crash trends for the most recent full 5 years was analyzed; and
  - Existing and planned land use including significant destinations.
3. **Community Meetings** - the SAC conducted the outreach to the older adult living facilities, presented the data collected and gathered information regarding safety concerns from the older adult living facilities' residents and staff. Below are some pictures taken during these meetings. At the time of the field reviews and completion of this report, the Jasmine site was under construction and no community meeting was held for this facility.



4. **Field Reviews** - these were conducted during nighttime, daytime peak period, and day-time off-peak period with the support of the SAC. For each older adult living facility, a pre-audit meeting was conducted to debrief the SAC of the historical crash data, trends, and any additional information collected. Below are some pictures of the field review team.



5. **Documentation & Recommendations** - the team conducted an audit analysis with the background research information, collected data, and field review notes. A list of countermeasures to improve safety within the study area was developed for each older adult living facility. The following table provides a summary of the recommended improvements by location in order to address the identified safety concerns. The recommendations include both location specific and general/area wide items.

Improvements	Joe Moretti II and Buena Vista	Hialeah Residence and Vivian Villas	Jasmine
Area wide	11	3	4
Location Specific	47	31	25
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>29</b>

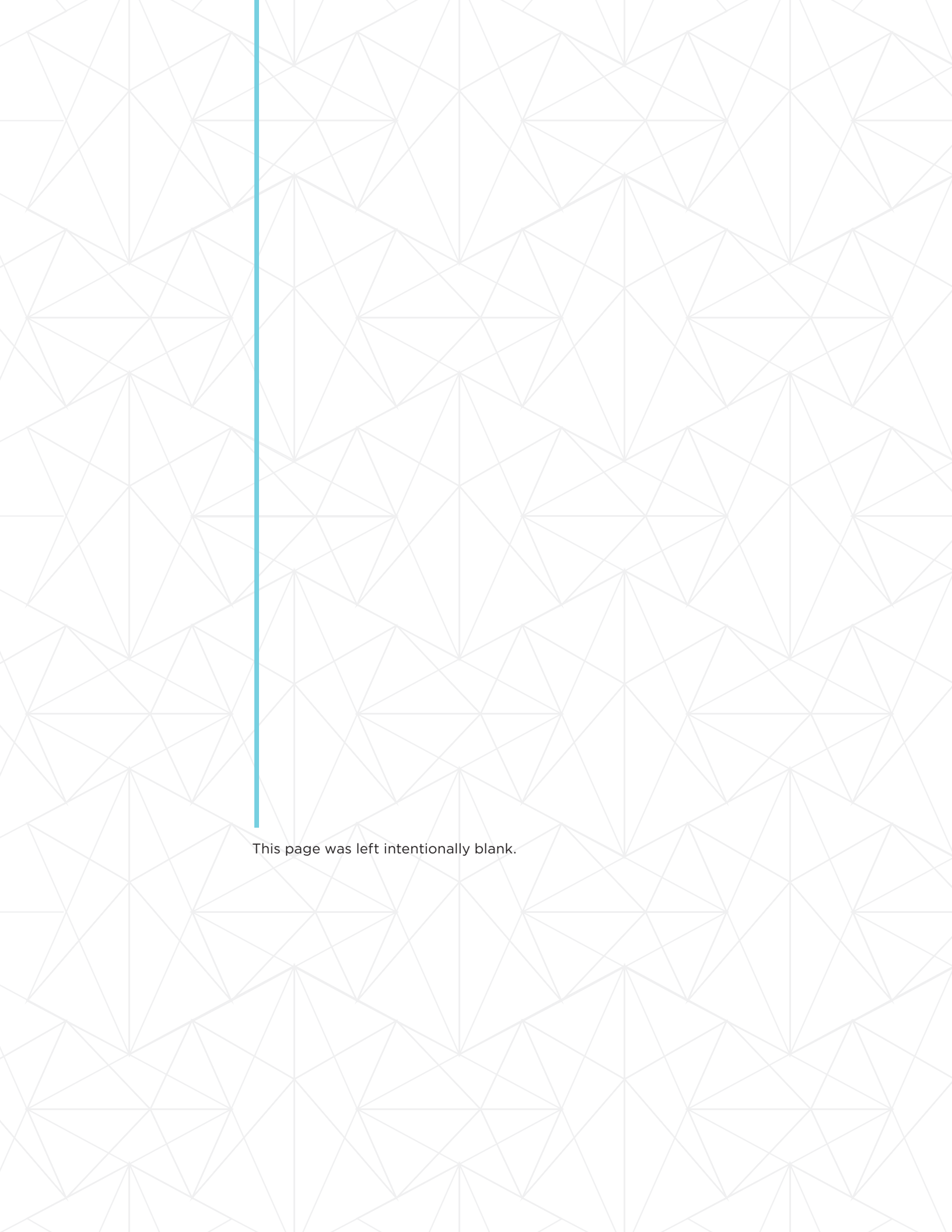
This report presents the findings from the RSAs and detailed observation notes to support the proposed improvements. Each engineering improvement identified in this study is classified into one of three categories:

- **Short-Term or Maintenance Project** – it is anticipated that issues identified for maintenance may be addressed on a short timeframe and at a relatively low cost.
- **Near-Term Project** – activities that may be incorporated into an upcoming construction project in the area, including milling and resurfacing projects, or programmed separately through a pushbutton contract.
- **Long-Term Project** – activities that may be incorporated into upcoming construction projects or may need to be programmed for funding as separate projects and need further evaluation.

The following table provides a summary of the type of recommended improvement by older adult living facility. It is worth noting that for some of the safety concerns, a single engineering improvement was not adequate. For instance, some safety concerns presented a pressing need warranting a short-term solution while further evaluation is needed to find a long-term solution.

Recommended Improvements	Joe Moretti II and Buena Vista	Hialeah Residence and Vivian Villas	Jasmine
Short-Term or Maintenance Project	38	19	7
Long-Term Project	12	5	11
Near-Term Project	15	17	15
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>33</b>

This assessment considered operational and safety related issues for all users near the older adult living facilities. This study was commissioned by MDC TPO to develop recommendations to improve the safety of all users throughout the study area.



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