



MEMORANDUM

AGENDA ITEM #VII.B

DATE: SEPTEMBER 23, 2019
TO: COUNCIL MEMBERS
FROM: STAFF
SUBJECT: CORRESPONDENCE AND ARTICLES

Recommendation

Information only.



From: MDCLC <mdclc@bellsouth.net>
Date: September 12, 2019 at 1:09:02 PM EDT
To: "Jordan W. Leonard" <jleonard@bayharborislands-fl.gov>
Subject: MDCLC Ninth Annual Best Practices Conference



Dear Councilman Leonard:

It is with great pleasure that I write this letter. The MDCLC's commitment to bettering our community by ensuring Home Rule is always at the forefront of our organization. Additionally, we are proud to be the only Local League that has successfully offered an informative Best Practices Conference for the past eight years and with your continued support we will be hosting our Ninth Annual Best Practices Conference on Thursday, October 3, 2019 at the Hilton Miami Downtown Hotel, 1601 Biscayne Blvd., Miami, FL 33132 from 8:00 a.m.- 5:00 p.m.

The conference is a one day forum that is substantive and worth attending, with sessions that include: cybersecurity, the 2020 census and others. I am requesting your assistance in distributing the conference information to your colleagues and members of the [South Florida Regional Planning Council](#). This will help the MDCLC attain the conference's goal of helping introduce new best practices to our local government.

The conference includes an exhibition hall, access to our sessions and discussions, a continental breakfast, a luncheon with a guest speaker and a reception at the end of the conference. Please see the attached information on the MDCLC Ninth Annual Best Practices Conference.

Below is the link to register. Please feel free to forward this link to anyone that shows interest or that you feel will benefit from the MDCLC's Best Practices Conference.

<https://mdclc.typeform.com/to/gBeCiJ>

If you have any questions or need further information, please feel free to contact the League office. Thank you in advance for your commitment to the Miami Dade County League of Cities.

Richard Kuper, Esq.
Executive Director
Miami-Dade County League of Cities
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19 West Flagler Street, Ste. 707
Miami, FL 33130
[\(305\) 416-4155](tel:(305)416-4155)
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mdclc@bellsouth.net
www.mdclc.org





REGISTER NOW!

FOR THE
9TH ANNUAL BEST PRACTICES CONFERENCE

3 WEEKS LEFT

SESSIONS
EXHIBITION HALL
GUEST SPEAKERS
PROGRAM TO FOLLOW

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 3, 2019
HILTON MIAMI DOWNTOWN HOTEL
1601 BISCAYNE BLVD., 33132
8AM- 5PM

Registration- \$95.00

Exhibitors: **SOLD OUT!!**
Associate Members- \$500.00
Non- Members- \$800.00
Municipalities- Complimentary
(Does NOT include registration fee)



Miami-Dade
Transportation Planning Organization
 111 NW 1st Street, Suite 920
 Miami, Florida 33128

September 16, 2019

Chairman
 Oliver G. Gilbert III

Vice Chairman
 Esteban L. Bovo, Jr.

Members
 Juan Carlos Bermudez
 Philippe Bien-Aime
 Daniella Levine Cava
 Jose "Pepe" Diaz
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 Eileen Higgins
 Barbara J. Jordan
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 Roberto Martell
 Joe A. Martinez
 Jean Monestime
 Dennis C. Moss
 Stephen R. Shelley
 Rebeca Sosa
 Sen. Javier D. Souto
 Francis Suarez
 Xavier L. Suarez

Miami-Dade TPO
 Executive Director
 Aileen Bouclé, AICP

Honorable Oscar Braynon, Senator
 Chairman
 Miami-Dade County Legislative Delegation
 412 Senate Office Building
 404 South Monroe Street
 Tallahassee, FL 32399-1100

Dear Chairman Braynon:

On September 13, 2019, the Miami-Dade Transportation Planning Organization (TPO) Fiscal Priority Committee unanimously forwarded the attached resolution with a favorable recommendation to the TPO Governing Board for its consideration at its next meeting scheduled on September 26, 2019.

I am forwarding this to your attention and express my deep concerns about the potential reallocation of funds estimated in the amount of \$1.8 Billion from the Golden Glades Interchange and Palmetto Expressway East/West projects. In addition to being important mobility projects, an anticipated 30,000 jobs are estimated to be generated by these projects. To the extent that the Florida Department of Transportation is contemplating reallocating these funds, said funds could be allocated for the North Corridor of the Miami-Dade Strategic Miami Area Rapid Transit (SMART) Plan, and/or said funds could remain within Miami-Dade County for other Miami-Dade priority projects.

I trust that you also support these critical transportation projects and jobs generated by the infrastructure investments in our community. As a fellow Miami-Dade County resident, I am sure that other residents of our County will not be pleased to know that our elected officials in Tallahassee, allowed a \$1.8 Billion investment in critical infrastructure and an estimated 30,000 jobs to be taken away from our community.

Sincerely,

Dennis C. Moss, Chairman
 TPO Fiscal Priorities Committee

- c. Members of Miami-Dade County Legislative and Congressional Delegations
 Honorable Carlos Gimenez, Mayor, Miami-Dade County
 Honorable Oliver G. Gilbert III, Chairman and Members of the TPO Governing Board
 Honorable Audrey M. Edmonson, Chairwoman and Members, Board of County Commissioners, Miami-Dade County

Aileen Bouclé, AICP, Executive Director, Miami-Dade TPO
Bruce Libhaber, Assistant County Attorney, Miami-Dade County
Zainab Salim, TPO Clerk of the Board

Attachment(s)

TPO RESOLUTION #

RESOLUTION URGING THE FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (FDOT) IF IT PROPOSES TO REMOVE FUNDING COMMITTED IN THE ADOPTED FDOT WORK PROGRAM FOR THE RECONSTRUCTION OF THE GOLDEN GLADES INTERCHANGE (GGI) AND STATE ROAD 826/PALMETTO EXPRESSWAY EAST/WEST PROJECTS TO ALLOCATE SAID FUNDS TO THE NORTHERN QUADRANT OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, SPECIFICALLY THE NORTH CORRIDOR OF THE STRATEGIC MIAMI AREA RAPID TRANSIT (SMART) PLAN

WHEREAS, the Interlocal Agreement creating and establishing the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the Miami Urbanized Area requires that the Miami-Dade Transportation Planning Organization (TPO), in its role as the MPO, provide a structure to evaluate the adequacy of the transportation planning and programming process; and

WHEREAS, on June 20, 2019, the TPO Governing Board adopted Resolution #33-19 approving the Fiscal Years 2020-2024 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) for the programming of projects to be implemented in this 5-year cycle; and

WHEREAS, the reconstruction of the Golden Glades Interchange (GGI) and the State Road 826/Palmetto Expressway East/West (Palmetto) projects are included in the TIP document representing approximately \$1.8 billion; and

WHEREAS, the adopted TIP has established regionally significant priorities to improve mobility in South Florida, including the Strategic Miami Area Rapid Transit (SMART) Plan; and

WHEREAS, the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) District Six has advised that the GGI and Palmetto projects may no longer be feasible in the adopted TIP and FDOT Work Program; and

WHEREAS, Florida Statutes 339.135 establishes that the Florida Transportation Commission (FTC) shall evaluate the FDOT Work Program for compliance with all applicable laws and Departmental policies, including stability, which specifies that changes in the four common years between the adopted and tentative work program be minimized; and

WHEREAS, the North Corridor of the SMART Plan is an immediate priority funding need located in the same area of the region that FDOT proposes to remove funding for GGI and Palmetto; and

WHEREAS, the removal of the GGI and Palmetto reconstruction projects from the adopted FDOT Work Program and TIP will be a significant impact to stability and negatively affect mobility and economic development of the region, including but not limited to a loss of potentially 30,000 jobs estimated to be generated with this level of infrastructure investment; and

WHEREAS, the residents of Miami-Dade County have an expectation of mobility improvements and investment in the community therefore the TPO Governing Board believes funding for GGI and Palmetto should remain in the same region and more specifically for the North Corridor of the SMART Plan,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BOARD OF THE TRANSPORTATION PLANNING ORGANIZATION IN ITS ROLE AS THE MPO FOR THE MIAMI URBANIZED AREA, that this Governing Board urges the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) if it proposes to remove funding committed in the adopted FDOT Work Program for the reconstruction of the Golden Glades Interchange (GGI) and State Road 826/Palmetto Expressway East/West projects to allocate said funds to the northern quadrant of Miami-Dade County, specifically the North Corridor of the Strategic Miami Area Rapid Transit (SMART) Plan.

The adoption of the foregoing resolution was sponsored by Board Member Dennis C. Moss and moved by . The motion was seconded by , and upon being put to a vote, the vote was as follows:

Chairman Oliver G. Gilbert III
Vice Chairman Esteban L. Bovo, Jr.

Board Member Juan Carlos Bermudez	-	Board Member Barbara J. Jordan	-
Board Member Philippe Bien-Aime	-	Board Member Vince Lago	-
Board Member Daniella Levine Cava	-	Board Member Roberto Martell	-
Board Member Jose “Pepe” Diaz	-	Board Member Joe A. Martinez	-
Board Member Audrey M. Edmonson	-	Board Member Jean Monestime	-
Board Member Shelley Smith Fano	-	Board Member Dennis C. Moss	-
Board Member Dan Gelber	-	Board Member Stephen R. Shelley	-
Board Member Perla T. Hantman	-	Board Member Rebeca Sosa	-
Board Member Carlos Hernandez	-	Board Member Javier D. Souto	-
Board Member Sally A. Heyman	-	Board Member Francis Suarez	-
Board Member Eileen Higgins	-	Board Member Xavier L. Suarez	-

The Chairperson thereupon declared the resolution duly passed and approved this day of 26th day of September, 2019.

TRANSPORTATION PLANNING ORGANIZATION

By _____
Zainab Salim, Clerk
Miami-Dade TPO

200-bed Palmetto Bay hospital caught in zoning battle

Written by [Gabriel Poblete](#) on August 20, 2019



A proposed 71-acre, 200-bed waterfront hospital campus in Palmetto Bay won't be built anytime soon, with a drawn-out court battle expected between the village and the intended developer. The dispute boils down to what the property's zoning allowed prior to its purchase, as well as whether zoning changes by the village after the land purchase are an encroachment on the property owner's rights.

Luxcom Builders bought the land from Florida Power & Light last December for \$33 million with appropriate zoning for a hospital, said Michael Moskowitz, Luxcom's attorney.

However, Mr. Moskowitz alleges, the Village of Palmetto Bay subsequently changed the zoning to one home an acre because council members opposed the project.

"It's our belief that they did so intentionally to derail the project because they, the village, and perhaps certain citizens did not want a hospital campus to be constructed on this site," Mr. Moskowitz said.

As a result, he is saying that Luxcom will sue the village to have the rezoning overturned. But beyond that, he said, Luxcom will sue the village for \$50 million for damages to his client under the Bert J. Harris Private Property Rights Protection Act.

Mr. Moskowitz said Luxcom is willing to hash things out with the village but the village has thus far not cooperated. "If the village wants to be constructive, and wants to be reasonable, there is always a method to reach a constructive resolution, but so far that has not occurred," he said. "We would love that opportunity. They haven't done so, therefore we are going to court."

The village council, however, doesn't believe the property was zoned to allow for a hospital, according to Vice Mayor John DuBois. He said that prior to its rezoning, the land had had institutional land use and interim zoning.

"There was no use that they were entitled to other than continuing to use it as a power plant without us changing the zoning on it," Mr. DuBois said.

Mr. DuBois said he was the one who drafted the legislation to properly define what was allowed on the property. He said the legislation was drafted about a year prior to Luxcom buying the land – and had passed first reading – after FPL had bounced around the idea of having a large development on the property.

"The intent was to say 'turn down your power plant, [FPL]. Stop going around town telling people you're going to put an 800-home development there, which is not going to happen,'" He said.

Mr. DuBois continued, "That was our message, because that is what they were doing. They were going around before this stuff was zoned trying to make everybody believe there was going to be this beautiful super high-density development there, and it was starting to panic the residents, and that was part of the reason I wrote the legislation to go ahead and give it a land-use designation and give it a zoning designation in the absence of an application."

Luxcom CEO and Chairman Oscar Barbara said in a press statement that the hospital would help serve Miami-Dade's growing population and that "this new hospital will help address that need by serving the citizens of Palmetto Bay and the surrounding areas."

Mr. Moskowitz said, "We believe that Palmetto Bay is an ideal location for a general hospital. Right now, with the current population numbers, if you look at the hospital and the services area, there's one bed for every 307 residents. We believe that there is an absolute need for another hospital."

When the project was first proposed, anyone interested in building a hospital would have had to obtain a certificate of need in order to house inpatient beds. However, that provision was scrapped during the most recent Florida legislative session.

The waterfront property is at 6525 SW 152nd St. If built, the state-of-the-art hospital there would feature about 200 beds, a 24-hour emergency room, an emergency helipad and an emergency dock.