

**GENERAL OBLIGATION BOND OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
DECEMBER 3, 2001**

1. Attendance – See Attendance Sheet Attachment

Mayor Dermer recognized Mitch Novick, as Mr. Novick had requested to make a presentation regarding the connection between GO Bond funds and Water and Sewer and Stormwater Bonds. Mr. Novick requested that his presentation be deferred.

2(a). Review and Acceptance of October 8, 2001 meeting minutes

ACTION: A motion to approve the minutes of October 8, 2001, Committee meeting was made by Frank Del Vecchio and seconded by Leonard Wien. The minutes were unanimously approved.

2(b). Bay Link Study

DISCUSSION: Mr. Del Vecchio discussed the purpose of the Bay Link Project, which is a proposed transit connection that would provide a link between downtown Miami and Miami Beach via the MacArthur Causeway (south on Alton Road to 1st Street, east to Washington Avenue, north on Washington Avenue to the Convention Center, west on 17th Street to Alton Road and south on Alton Road to the MacArthur Causeway). Mr. Del Vecchio explained that this light rail transit system had its origin in a 1988 study, which the City of Miami Beach never acted upon because it was thought that it would impede traffic on Washington Avenue. Mr. Del Vecchio also explained that former Mayor Joe Carollo of the City of Miami and former Mayor Neisen Kasdin of the City of Miami Beach had sent out a mailing to the citizens of Miami and Miami Beach encourage participation in the formation of a Citizens Advisory Committee for this major proposal. Mr. Del Vecchio also explained that Marty Hyman, GO Bond Oversight Committee member, was elected as co-chairperson of the Citizens Advisory Committee representing the City of Miami Beach. Mr. Hyman asked Mr. Del Vecchio to serve as a technical committee chairperson. Mr. Del Vecchio recommended that the Administration evaluate the impact and feasibility of this proposed transit system because the project would impact the GO Bond South Beach streetscape projects, the South Pointe RDA streetscape projects, and other elements of the City's Capital Improvement Program. It should be considered whether streets such as Washington Avenue and Collins Avenue would be too narrow to accommodate such a system.

3(a). Project Status Report

DISCUSSION: Robert Middaugh advised the Committee that Community Design Workshops previously reported as scheduled for January and February should be disregarded. The Administration will be rescheduling those workshops and advising the Committee as appropriate.

Mr. Middaugh informed the Committee that they are all voting members; that the City Commission passed the amendment that the Committee had asked to be included in the Ordinance that forms the General Obligation Oversight Committee.

Mr. Middaugh explained that the Espanola Way project is under construction and is proceeding well. The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) is scheduled to begin construction on the Alton Road, 20th Street & Sunset Drive Intersection project in January 2002. Mr. Middaugh also explained to the Committee that the Sunset Islands 29th Street Entrance Enhancement project is scheduled for completion by early January 2002.

Jean-Francois LeJeune addressed the desire of the Planning Board to have some level of general oversight of the General Obligation Bond projects. Assistant City Manager Middaugh will be addressing this issue with the Planning Board at its next meeting.

Michael Rotbart asked the A/E status on the Biscayne Pointe Neighborhood project. Mr. Middaugh explained there were two proposals received for the project. The A/E firm that was chosen was Civil Works. The Administration had been in contractual negotiations, which have come to an impasse point. An amount has not been agreed for the scope of work that Civil Works has proposed to the Administration. Mr. Middaugh also explained that at this point the Procurement Department either has or is in the process of notifying the second ranked A/E firm, Carr Smith Corradino, that the City would like to negotiate with them on the Biscayne Pointe Neighborhood project.

Amy Rabin raised concerns regarding the content/format of the New Horizons mailer announcing the Community Design workshops. It was the sense of the Committee that it was unclear that the mailer announced a City meeting regarding General Obligation Bond Improvements.

Mr. Del Vecchio asked if the public participation process ended for the South Pointe Park project and the Lummus Park project. Mr. Middaugh responded that it has not yet ended.

Donald Shockey, Senior Planner for the South District also responded that it has not yet ended because of a complicated financial issue related to reimbursable monies for survey work and other work that was in the contract with Bermello and Ajamil which is the firm handling the projects. The Administration is still resolving that issue. Mr. Shockey stated that as soon as the issue resolves the plan is to restart the community involvement.

4(a). Recommendation to Appropriate Funds – Normandy Isle Park and Pool Construction

DISCUSSION:

Mr. Middaugh presented a request for the recommendation from the General Obligation committee to appropriate the amount of \$89,000 from the \$92M General Obligation Bond Fund. Mr. Middaugh explained to the Committee that the Administration is requesting \$40,000 from the ADA City-Wide Renovations Project to cover the cost of construction of accessible walkways and ramps included in the Normandy Park and Pool Improvements Project and \$49,000 to cover the cost of construction for twenty-two (22) new on-street parking spaces on Trouville Esplanade and Rue Granville from the original allocation for the Normandy Isle and Normandie SUD Neighborhood Improvement project. Mr. Middaugh also explained that the project started significantly larger in scope than what the Administration is able to actually get because of a shortfall in the funding. The Administration has trimmed the project down in scope and if it goes any further it can destroy the original intent and not be able to produce for the citizens in that neighborhood what was hoped or expected to be accomplished there. The Administration is currently meeting with the Finance Department and talking about potential sources to make up the difference and will be also discussing this shortfall at the next City Commission meeting on the December 19, 2001.

Mr. Rotbart asked if the pool is going to be like the one that is there now. Mr. Middaugh responded that the pool is elevated but not a second floor arrangement. He explained that the pool does sit on a ground level with a sand-filled bed around it and paved deck around that. The pool is comprised of two (2) pools instead of the one pool that is currently there. There is a lap pool and a leisure pool included in the design.

Roberto Sanchez asked what would be the exact shortfall if the recommendation to appropriate the \$89,000 was approved since the project is over-budget. Mr. Middaugh responded that if the \$89,000 is approved the balance of the shortfall would be \$300,000, but explained that it is largely the contingency that would be unfunded.

Mr. Sanchez emphasized the significance of the project, that no corners should be cut and that if \$300,000 is short from the project that the monies should be allocated in some form because it is important that the project meet the needs of the community.

Frank Del Vecchio stated that any unfunded items should be identified for possible future funding.

Larry Herrup asked where exactly are the monies coming from on each project where appropriations would be taken from. Mr. Middaugh responded that the monies are being subtracted from the construction line from each of the projects identified. Mr. Herrup asked what impact would that have on the projects. Mr. Middaugh responded that it reduces the construction budget but that this is an improvement generally to the neighborhood. Mr. Herrup asked if this had been discussed at any of the community meetings. Mr. Middaugh responded that this had not been discussed with the community and that it would only be discussed if something had to be displaced.

Mr. Hyman asked that if the project would be started if there were no clearly identifiable 10% contingency for the project. Mr. Middaugh responded that the project would not be initiated; the Administration would inform the GO Bond Oversight Committee and the City Commission and ask how the Administration should proceed (i.e. whether it should be re-bid or redesigned). Mr. Hyman stated that at the selection committee meeting, most of the contractors mentioned that monies would be saved if pilings were not used. Mr. Middaugh responded that the Administration and Regosa Engineering did discuss this issue thoroughly but did not achieve staying within the budget. Mr. Hyman asked if the pilings were still in the plan. Michel Magloire, Senior Capital Projects Coordinator for the North District, responded that the pilings are being used on the pool and pavers will be used on the pool deck.

Mr. Sanchez asked if there is a liability issue with the firm. Mayor David Dermer asked about the architects' liability in a project, which mandated to be designed within a certain budget and if that was not the case on this project. What necessary steps would have to be taken? Lawrence Levy, First Assistant City Attorney, responded that the contract and all of the actions that have been thus far been taken would have to be reviewed.

Mr. Rotbart asked for the status on the Flamingo Pool project. Mr. Middaugh responded that the project is moving ahead well.

Mayor Dermer asked about the funding on Flamingo Park and Pool and Normandy Isle Park and Pool. Todd Osborn of URS responded that the Flamingo Park complex was broken down prior to the pool being constructed into two (2) components; one being the park improvement and the other being the pool structure. As for the Normandy Isle Park and Pool, the park improvement (soccer field, site lighting, etc.) was included in the bid package along with the swimming pool.

ACTION: Larry Herrup made a motion to deny the request to recommend that the City Commission appropriate the amount of \$89,000 from the General Obligation Bond, which includes \$49,000 to cover the cost of construction for a new 22 on-street parking spaces on Trouville Esplanade and Rue Granville from the original allocation for the Normandy Isle and Normandie SUD Neighborhood Improvement project and \$40,000 to cover the cost of construction of accessible walkways and ramps included in the Normandy Park and Pool Improvements project until the Administration can provide a more defined outline of funding for the complete project without using the City's unappropriated general fund balance. Frank Del Vecchio seconded the motion. After discussion, Larry Herrup amended his motion to table the item until the Administration could come back with a more defined outline of funding on all park projects. Frank Del Vecchio seconded the amended motion. The motion passed unanimously.

- 4(b).** Recommendation to Appropriate Funds – Nautilus Neighborhood Reynolds, Smith & Hills A/E Contract Amendment, and
- 4 (c).** Recommendation to Appropriate Funds – West Avenue/Bay Road Neighborhood Gladding Jackson A/E Contract Amendment

Mr. Middaugh presented a request for the recommendation from the General Obligation committee to appropriate the amount of \$51,523, which includes \$24,028 from the General Obligation Fund Series 2000, to provide additional professional services associated with the area known as Orchard Park within the Nautilus Neighborhood Streetscape project. This would provide the same level of planning within the Orchard Park area as the Nautilus area.

Mr. Hyman asked what would be the scope of services if the monies were appropriated. Charlie Carreno of Hazen and Sawyer responded that the monies would represent what is included in the task one planning which was previously in the scope of services that were approved in May 2001.

It would include the community workshops, preparation for the community workshops, adding the other half of the neighborhood (which is the Orchard Park area) in the planning to present to the neighborhood proposed improvements. It does not include construction costs, and improvements may need to be deferred until later, as funding becomes available.

Mr. Del Vecchio stated that the request for additional planning fees for the streetscape project in the Nautilus Neighborhood and the request for additional fees for the streetscape planning for the West Avenue project are very poorly conceived. He explained that on the West Avenue project it was clearly noted on the RFP that it was for the streetscape project design for the entire area encompassed by the boundaries for which there is an allocation of GO Bond funds. It was understood that from the first neighborhood meetings that maybe only 25% of the funds ideally needed to complete the whole area streetscape were available.

Mayor Dermer asked what impact would the Orchard Park Neighborhood have if both the GO Bond Oversight Committee and the City Commission rejects the request for appropriation. Bert Vidal of Hazen and Sawyer responded that master planning would not occur for the areas in question.

ACTION: Frank Del Vecchio made a motion to reject a request to recommend to the City Commission that \$51,523, which includes \$24,028 from the \$92M General Obligation Bonds Series 2000, be appropriated towards Amendment No. 1 to the agreement between the City of Miami Beach and Reynolds, Smith, Hills to provide additional professional services associated with the area known as Orchard Park within the Nautilus Neighborhood Streetscape project and a request to recommend to the City Commission that \$22,247 be appropriated for Amendment to the professional services agreement the City and Glatting Jackson for the West Avenue/Bay Road Neighborhood Streetscape project. The amendment would have incorporated the east west cross streets into the A/E consultant's scope of work. Mr. LeJeune seconded the motion. Five (5) committee members voted in favor and eight (8) members opposed. The motion failed.

ACTION: Roberto Sanchez made a motion to approve a request to recommend to the City Commission that \$51,523, which includes \$24,028 from the \$92M General Obligation Bonds Series 2000, be appropriated towards Amendment No. 1 to the agreement between the City of Miami Beach and Reynolds, Smith, Hills to provide additional professional services associated with the area known as Orchard Park within the Nautilus Neighborhood Streetscape project. The motion passed by a vote of nine (9) to four (4).

ACTION: Frank Del Vecchio made a motion to oppose to recommend to the City Commission that \$22,247 be appropriated for Amendment to the professional services agreement between the City and Glatting Jackson for the West Avenue/Bay Road Neighborhood Streetscape project. The amendment would have incorporated the east-west cross streets into the A/E consultant's scope of work. Leonard Wien seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Hyman recommended to include on the next agenda an item regarding the budget for Capital Improvements Projects Office showing what was reviewed previously by the Committee and what the office budget is now.

5(a-e). INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

Mr. Middaugh informed the Committee that the following Neighborhoods had their Community Design Workshop(s): **a.** Normandy Isle/Normandie SUD; **b.** Oceanfront; **c.** West Avenue/Bay Road; **d.** Star, Palm, and Hibiscus Islands; **e.** Venetian Causeway Master Plan Phase I, Venetian Islands.

Matthew Rigg, of Venetian Islands Homeowner's Association, expressed concern that the concerns and/or comments that had been voiced by the homeowners during the citizens' meeting have not been incorporated into the plans, which are being developed by the Architect/Engineer. He also was concerned with how the community-input process worked regarding involvement in the planning process versus just providing input after planning is underway. Mr. Middaugh explained the community-input process to the Committee.

Mr. Middaugh informed the Committee of a scheduled public meeting on January 10, 2001, at 5:30pm to discuss the possible Equity One building behind City Hall to provide some additional space.

Leonard Wien requested ID cards for the Committee Members. Mr. Middaugh responded that he would look into it.

Amy Rabin reminded the Committee that some members' terms were expiring. Mayor Dermer advised that the City Commission would make appropriate appointments.

6. Change Orders

Mr. Middaugh explained that there was only one change order reported this month. It was a credit from a Contractor to the City on the Tatum Park project. Marty Hyman questioned the software and hardware systems of the Program Managers and the CIP Office with regards to tracking change orders. He requested a report at the next meeting relative to that issue. Larry Herrup questioned how change orders could be reported from dates prior to the issuance of the GO Bond. Mr. Middaugh responded that those projects have a GO Bond funded component, but work funded through other sources was performed prior to the GO Bond issuance. The Change Orders being reported were relative to the work funded through other sources.

The Meeting adjourned at 8:21 p.m.

JMG/RCM/TH/KLM/JV

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