



# MIAMI BEACH

OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

NO. LTC # 036-2009

## LETTER TO COMMISSION

TO: Mayor Matti H. Bower and Members of the City Commission

FROM: Jorge M. Gonzalez, City Manager

DATE: February 3, 2009

SUBJECT: NORTH BEACH RECREATIONAL CORRIDOR PROJECT SUBSTANTIAL  
COMPLETION UPDATE

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The purpose of this LTC is to provide an update on the North Beach Recreational Corridor (NBRC). The NBRC Project consists of an on-grade pedestrian pathway that runs behind the oceanfront dunes between 64th Street and 79th Street. The Project is part of the larger Atlantic Greenway Network (AGN), which is a system of bikeways being designed to promote alternative transportation and community enhancement in the South, Middle and North Beach neighborhoods of Miami Beach.


The NBRC traverses fifteen (15) blocks or approximately 5600 feet of coastal development that includes three (3) open-space parks, the Ocean Terrace Business District and adjacent North Shore neighborhoods. The NBRC is a linear, concrete recreational pathway that includes many new amenities, including new showers and water fountains. Way-finding markers that identify cross streets for patrons have also been integrated into the pathway. Coastal dune enhancement such as the removal of exotic species, planting of native dune vegetation, and the installation of protective rope and post around the dunes have been installed. The lighting throughout the NBRC was specially designed for Miami Beach to orient light away from the ocean and thereby minimize the impact on nesting sea turtles and their hatchlings that can become disoriented by artificial lighting. A corner-stone of this project is the Eco-walk Exhibit at Allison Park, which boasts life-size replicas of three (3) endangered sea turtle species. Educational signage has been placed throughout the exhibit to inform visitors and residents about the vegetation and dynamics of the beach and dune ecosystem, as well as the endangered sea turtles that nest on Miami Beach.

Construction of the NBRC began December 10, 2007 and lasted approximately thirteen (13) months. Construction started at 68th Street and continued north to Bandshell Park, and then resumed south from 68th Street to Allison Park. The final phase of construction extended the path from Ocean Terrace to 79th Street.

The project has not yet reached substantial completion and the contractor is currently responsible for delivering all aspects of the contract per the approved plans, including lights, landscaping, and sand fencing. The substantial completion date was delayed due to an electrical engineering issue that hindered the process of energizing the lights, which has since been resolved. In addition, the currently installed light bollards exhibited defects in the paint

quality, which is a condition covered by the manufacturer's warranty. As a result, all of the currently installed light bollards will be replaced by the manufacturer in increments of fifty (50) starting on Monday, February 9<sup>th</sup> at no additional cost to the City. The project will be assessed by the City for deficiencies at the substantial completion inspection, and at such time the contractor will repair any problems, including replacement of any dead or dying vegetation as necessary.

A ribbon cutting ceremony will be held this spring to commemorate the opening of the pathway.

  
JMG/RCM/FV/LEB