




MIAMI BEACH

City of Miami Beach, 1700 Convention Center Drive, Miami Beach, Florida 33139, www.miamibeachfl.gov

COMMISSION MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor Matti Herrera Bower and Members of the City Commission

FROM: Jorge M. Gonzalez, City Manager 

DATE: February 25, 2009

SUBJECT: **Referral to the Land Use and Development Committee – Transportation Element of the Comprehensive Plan**

ADMINISTRATION RECOMMENDATION

Refer to the Land Use and Development Committee meeting of April 6, 2009.

BACKGROUND

On April 16, 2008, the Mayor and City Commission approved the issuance of Request for Qualifications (RFQ) No. 26-07/08, for the Development and Update of the Transportation Element of the City of Miami Beach Comprehensive Plan in compliance with the Evaluation and Appraisal Report (the "RFQ").

The Plan currently contains a Traffic Circulation (inclusive of a Pedestrian/Bike Circulation Objective), Mass Transit and Ports and Related Facilities Elements, which now must be combined in an all-encompassing Transportation Element. The data and analysis used in the Traffic Circulation and Mass Transit Elements were last updated in the year 2000. The entire Plan must be updated and receive preliminary approval by the City Commission before transmittal to the South Florida Regional Planning Council and the Florida Department of Community Affairs (DCA) for their review and approval. Within sixty (60) days thereafter, DCA will issue the Objections, Recommendations and Comments Report (ORC) and the Plan must be amended in accordance with the recommendations of the report.

The Transportation Element will build from information and data contained in existing multimodal plans; already in existence such as the Municipal Mobility Plan, the Coastal Communities Transportation Master Plan and Transit Study, and the Atlantic Greenway Network Master Plan. The scope of work will consist of the following components:

- TASK 1: PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT AND AGENCY COORDINATION
- TASK 2: REVIEW EXISTING STATE, COUNTY AND CITY PLANS AND POLICIES
- TASK 3: INVENTORY OF EXISTING TRANSPORTATION FACILITIES
- TASK 4: FORECAST FUTURE TRAVEL DEMAND WITHIN MIAMI BEACH
- TASK 5: DEVELOP TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM ALTERNATIVES
- TASK 6: DEVELOP TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM PLAN AND LEVEL OF SERVICE THRESHOLDS
- TASK 7: DEVELOP TRANSPORTATION FINANCING PROGRAM
- TASK 8: PREPARE FINAL REPORT AND IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

Agenda Item C4F

Date 2-25-09

In general, the project objectives are in compliance with Florida Administrative Code (FAC) Rule 9J-5.019 for the development of a Transportation Element. The Element must include roadway, freight, pedestrian and bicycle plans, planned improvements including local street extensions and connections, needed sidewalks, pedestrian crossings, and bicycle facility improvements; local street connectivity plan, street design standards, functional classification, access management standards, financing strategies, and amendments to implementing ordinances; analysis of growth scenarios for transportation impacts, and development of recommended mitigation measures.

ANALYSIS

The Corradino Group, Inc. ("Corradino"), which has been providing transportation master planning and traffic services since 1971, was selected on July 2008; the City Commission approved the appropriation of the October 7, 2008 by Resolution No. 2008-26921. Corradino's project team will be writing all ordinances and resolutions and updates to the City Code in order to implement the goals, objectives and policies of the Transportation Element.

Corradino proposed an aggressive six-month schedule to implement this project and has moved forward with the early production of required methodologies, review of existing materials, development of data and analysis, and public involvement to build consensus on the elements' recommendations. There have been two community meetings regarding the project, one at the Botanical Gardens during the month of October 2008, and the latest one on Thursday, February 5, 2009 at the North Shore Youth Center Auditorium. Other public meetings will take place at the Planning Board and City Commission before this Comprehensive Plan amendment is transmitted to the state and county reviewing agencies.

At this time, the project is at Task 6, which involves articulating the Goals, Objectives and Policies (GOPs). In anticipation of completion of the project and finalizing GOPs for presentation to the Planning Board for a recommendation to the City Commission, the Administration is requesting the referral to the Land Use and Development Committee for its input and comments.

CONCLUSION

The Administration recommends that the City Commission refer the Transportation Element of the Comprehensive Plan to the Land Use and Development Committee meeting on April 6, 2009.

JMG/TH/JGG/ML 

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