



# MIAMI BEACH

OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

NO. LTC # 318-2009

## LETTER TO COMMISSION

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

FROM: Jorge M. Gonzalez, City Manager

DATE: October 15, 2009

SUBJECT: **Assistant City Manager Appointment**

The purpose of this LTC is to advise you of an Assistant City Manager appointment I have made. As you know, Robert C. Middaugh retired effective September 25, 2009, which has left an Assistant City Manager vacancy.

Effective October 19, 2009, Jorge G. Gomez, AICP will be promoted to Assistant City Manager. Jorge has worked for the City of Miami Beach since 1981 and has held a number of positions within the City, the most recent being that of Planning Director. A detailed resume of Jorge's employment history is attached for your review.

As noted, Jorge has served as the Planning Director since 1999 where he has had overall oversight for the department that has been an integral part of forming the City's current community fabric. Jorge has served our City with distinction through his 28 years and has risen through the ranks in the Planning Department, demonstrating a desire, ambition, and ability to continually grow.

Jorge has been an outstanding performer throughout my tenure with the City and I am extremely pleased to be able to interest him in serving in yet another significant capacity in my administration. As you can see from his resume, Jorge brings a unique perspective to my senior management team, as he has served at virtually all levels of our organization and has been able to view first hand the changes that the City has gone through over the past three decades. It is this mixture of abilities and experience that is invaluable as we move the City through the current economic climate and position us to take advantage of the economic recovery as it happens.

Please join me in congratulating Jorge on his promotion. He is a highly qualified professional that brings a wealth of City government experience with him.

As you know, one of my priorities since I became your City Manager has been the organizational development of the Administration and continuously refining the organizational structure as appropriate to ensure that we are responsive, efficient, and continuously improving to provide better services to our residents and community. I will be meeting with all the Assistant City Managers to further refine the organizational structure and determine which functional areas each Assistant City Manager will lead. Once these assignments are made, I will certainly communicate with you.

If you have any questions or need any additional information, please feel free to contact me.

JMG\DM

Attachment

Electronic Copy: Management Team

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# JORGE G. GOMEZ, AICP

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## EXPERIENCE

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### **Planning Director**

City of Miami Beach, Planning Department

July 1999 to present

Instrumental in shaping the fundamental planning policies and documents of the City. Direct and coordinate the Zoning, Planning, Historic Preservation, Design Review and Neighborhood Sections of the Department. Supervise a staff of 26 and an operating budget of approximately \$2 million. Evaluate and refine the land development regulations to ensure the managed growth of the City and maintain the balance between preservation and economic development. Administer and make recommendations to the Planning Board, Board of Adjustment, Historic Preservation Design Review Board and the Commission's Land Use and Development Committee. Represent the administration on all planning issues at City Commission meetings.

### **Planning and Zoning Manager**

City of Miami Beach, Planning Department

June 1998 to July 1999

In addition to former duties, manage and coordinate all aspects of the Planning and Zoning Section, including interviewing and hiring new personnel, budget preparation, information technology and other administrative functions. Principal staff to the Planning Board and Board of Adjustment, prepare reports and presentations to City Commission regarding Land Development Regulations and Comprehensive Plan amendments. Edit and review all staff reports to the Planning Board, Board of Adjustment and City Commission. Supervise and coordinate the work of Planning and Zoning staff. Represent the Planning Department in absence of the Director at public hearings and meetings. Elected Chairperson of the Unclassified Employees and Elected Officials Retirement System.

### **Principal Planner**

City of Miami Beach, Planning, Design & Historic Preservation Services Feb. 1993 to June 1998

Principal staff to Zoning Board of Adjustment, duties include reviewing plans for compliance with the City's Zoning Ordinance, preparing staff reports and presentations to the Board. Principal author of amendments to the Zoning Ordinance dealing with development and land use regulations. Assist in the preparations of staff reports to the Planning Board, Design Review Board and Historic Preservation Board. General analysis work on the selection of the Convention Center Hotel R.F.P. including socio-economic and land use issues. Coordinate the City's Comprehensive Plan Amendment process. Assist and advise in the preparation of the Division's budget. Supervise and coordinate the work of support staff. Since April 1991, appointed as Trustee of the Unclassified Employees and Elected Officials Retirement System. Department coordinator for the LMS and computer systems.

### **Senior Planner**

City of Miami Beach, Planning & Zoning Department

Oct. 1986 to Feb. 1993

Principal staff to the Planning Board – prepare and present planning recommendations to the Board regarding change of zoning requests, conditional use applications, amendments to the Zoning Ordinance and Comprehensive Plan. Prepare recommendations to the Zoning Board of Adjustment, Design Review Board and the Historic Preservation Board. Provide technical assistance to citizens, architects and developers in areas of zoning, consistency with the Comprehensive Plan and overall project compliance with City regulations. Supervise and coordinate the work of support staff. Staff to the Design Review Board while assigned to the Historic Preservation Urban Design Department. Principal author and staff for the preparation of the City's Zoning Ordinance. Assisted in the preparation of the "Museum District Plan." Served as Chairperson of the Land Management System User's Group.

### **Planner**

City of Miami Beach, Planning & Zoning Department

May 1985 to Oct. 1986

Principal author and coordinator in the preparation of the City of Miami Beach Capital Improvement Program. Assisted in the preparation of the publication entitled "Espanola Way, Renaissance of the Spanish Village." Preparation of reports and recommendations to the Planning Board regarding change of zoning requests, conditional use applications, amendments to the Zoning Ordinance and Comprehensive Plan. Assistance to developers in areas of zoning and conditional uses.

### **Management Intern II & III**

City of Miami Beach, Planning Department

June 1981 to May 1985

Technical staff to the Historic Preservation Board. Principal author of the Historic Site Designation Report for the 21<sup>st</sup> Street Community Center. Prepared "Determination of Eligibility Reports" for submission to the Federal Government as part of Section 106 Compliance Review process. Other tasks involved zoning matters and text amendments to the Zoning ordinance, site plan analysis and recommendations to the Planning Board and Board of Adjustment. Assisted in the preparation of the publication entitled "Ocean Drive, an Urban Design and Planning Strategy." Responsibilities included data collection and analysis for various types of planning reports. Tasks involved research, field investigations, surveys, preparation of planning and zoning reports and presentation graphics

## **EDUCATION**

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American Institute of Certified Planners – Membership Certificate No. 017094  
University of Miami, Coral Gables, Florida  
Bachelor of Architecture, May, 1981  
Five year degree with emphasis on Urban Planning

Honors:           Dean's List  
                      Honor Scholarship

## **AWARDS**

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University of Miami  
2006 Faculty Award for Outstanding Contribution to the Profession

## **ADDITIONAL SKILLS**

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Licensed Real Estate Broker – Voluntary Inactive  
FEMA NIMS Certified