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

FROM: Jorge M. Gonzalez, City Manager 

DATE: March 22, 2010

SUBJECT: South Pointe Park receives the 2010 William Lyman Phillips Award

This Letter to Commission is intended to inform you that the City of Miami Beach has been recognized with the 2010 William Lyman Phillips Award for excellence in park, recreation, and conservation open space planning and design for our South Pointe Park.

The award was presented in conjunction with the 3rd Biennial "Great Parks Summit". The Summit is a collaboration of key administrators of all 35 municipalities, as well as local corporations, foundations and citizens interested in preserving parks and open space. Miami Dade County Mayor Carlos Alvarez hosted the mayors of all the County's municipalities at the Mayors' Dinner and Award ceremony that took place at the Charles Deering Estate in Palmetto Bay on March 4, 2010. Vice-Mayor Jerry Libbin and Director of Parks & Recreation Kevin Smith accepted the award on behalf of the City.

The City of Miami Beach was recognized for having made substantial contributions to the County's vision of healthy, sustainable living. This recognition occurs through awards named after significant figures in the Miami-Dade County and Parks & Recreation's history. William Lyman Phillips (design excellence award) was a landscape architect best known for his work in Florida during the 1920s to 1950s. His projects included Bok Tower (Lake Wales), Crandon Park (Key Biscayne), Fairchild Tropical Garden (Coral Gables), Matheson Hammock (Miami), Mountain Lake Sanctuary (Lake Wales) and Royal Palm State Park (now part of Everglades National Park).

The City of Miami Beach is proud to have received this award, as it recognizes our understanding of the benefits in conserving the City's open spaces, as it is vital to our health, economy and well-being of our community.

Should you have additional questions, please contact Kevin Smith at (305) 673-7730.

JMG/HMF/KS/JM/jg

c: Hilda M. Fernandez, Assistant City Manager
Kevin Smith, Parks & Recreation Director
Julio Magrisso, Assistant Parks & Recreation Director