



MIAMI BEACH

OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

NO LTC # **162-2011**

LETTER TO COMMISSION

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

FROM: Jorge M Gonzalez, City Manager

DATE: June 28, 2011

SUBJECT: Full Re-Accreditation of the Public Works Department

In May 2007, the Miami Beach Public Works Department became only the 42nd agency in the United States, out of 27,000 public agencies, and third in the State of Florida; the only large full service agency to have been awarded full accreditation by the American Public Works Association (APWA). This national accreditation was achieved after over two years of dedicated and focused effort by all members of the Public Works team in its first attempt to gain this official recognition.

I am pleased to report that following a rigorous examination and evaluation of operations, during a recent three-day site visit, a team of APWA professionals awarded the City's Public Works Department Full Re-Accreditation status.

This prestigious recognition speaks volumes of the dedication and professionalism of our Public Works employees in exceeding nationally established practices for the public works industry. The APWA Re-Accreditation press release is attached for your information.


JMG/DB/FHB/JC

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

June 23, 2011

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APWA Awards Re-Accreditation to City of Miami Beach Public Works Department

KANSAS CITY, MO. – The Public Works Department of the City of Miami Beach, Florida recently was awarded a prestigious Re-Accreditation by the American Public Works Association (APWA). Miami Beach is the sixth city in Florida to have achieved Accreditation. First earning an APWA Accreditation in May, 2007, the APWA Re-Accreditation will be awarded in a presentation at the City Commission meeting on July 13, 2011.

For Re-Accreditation, a team of APWA public works professionals from Arizona and Missouri completed a thorough evaluation of operations during a May 22-24, 2011 site visit. “The APWA Re-Accreditation of Miami Beach’s Public Works Department is an acknowledgement of all the hard work over the years done by the public works employees to meet national standards,” said Public Works Director Fred Beckmann. “We are delighted to be the only public works agency in South Florida that meets the APWA rigorous standards established by a cross section of public works professionals. The Re-Accreditation assures our community and its leaders that tax payer and rate payer dollars and funds that we are entrusted to manage, are being spent wisely through the application of national standard practices,” said Beckmann.

The APWA Accreditation program recognizes public works agencies that go beyond the requirements of the management practices established nationally in the public works industry. On a daily basis, accredited agencies meet or exceed standards of performance in areas such as water distribution, wastewater treatment, street/sewer repair and maintenance, engineering, airport management, stormwater drainage, traffic safety, administrative services and vehicle maintenance.

“It’s exciting to complete a detailed review of an agency’s policies and procedures, and then recommend them for a Re-Accreditation,” said APWA Accreditation Director Ann Daniels. “The City of Miami Beach’s Public Works Department is to be highly commended for continuing their commitment to improving operations to enhance their internal performance and assuring their community they meet or exceed national standards through Re-Accreditation.”

For more information, contact Public Works Director Fred Beckmann with the City of Miami Beach at fredbeckmann@miamibeachfl.gov or call 305.673.7080. For APWA media queries, contact APWA Media Relations/Communications Manager Laura Bynum at lbynum@apwa.net, or call 202.218.6736.

About APWA

The American Public Works Association (www.apwa.net) is a not-for-profit, international organization of more than 28,500 members involved in the field of public works. APWA serves its members by promoting professional excellence and public awareness through education, advocacy and the exchange of knowledge. APWA is headquartered in Kansas City, Missouri, has an office in Washington, D.C. and 63 chapters in North America.