



MIAMI BEACH

290-2012

LETTER TO COMMISSION

2012 NOV 10 AM 10:49  
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TO: Mayor Matti Herrera Bower and Members of the City Commission

FROM: Kathie G. Brooks, Interim City Manager

DATE: November 9, 2012

SUBJECT: **NEW CENSUS DATA PLACES CITY OF MIAMI BEACH IN THE TOP TEN U.S. CITIES WHERE PEOPLE BIKE TO WORK**

The purpose of this Letter to Commission is to inform you that new census data has revealed Miami Beach to be the Number Ten (10) City in the Country where people are more likely to use bicycles to commute to work. The City of Miami Beach enters the list with an estimated 6.3% of total workers using bicycles as their mode of transportation to reach their workplace. It is important to note that the country's average for commuter bicycle trips is 0.56% and the figure is even lower for Miami-Dade County. The full article can be found by clicking on the following link: <http://www.governing.com/blogs/by-the-numbers/bike-to-work-map-us-cities-census-data.html>.

The League of American Bicyclists, a non-profit membership organization which promotes cycling for fun, fitness and transportation through advocacy and education, praised the top U.S. cities in the list by stating that the places that are making an investment in cycling have seen dramatic growth in bicycle commuting. The League is one of the largest membership organizations of cyclists in the United States and provides incentives, hands-on assistance, and award recognition for communities that actively support bicycling.

The City is actively pursuing to build upon this national recognition through its ongoing efforts to update the Atlantic Greenway Network/Bicycle Master Plan and implement a safe and connected network of bicycle facilities throughout the City. In addition, the City is currently seeking a designation as a Bicycle Friendly Community from the League of American Bicyclists. A Bicycle Friendly Community welcomes cyclists by providing safe accommodation for cycling and encouraging people to bike for transportation and recreation.

A Bicycle Friendly Community designation from the League would allow Miami Beach to join the ranks of cities such as Portland, San Francisco, New York, Washington D.C., and Miami and will help our ongoing efforts to create a more livable, bikeable, sustainable, and healthier City.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

JGG/FHB/JF/RWS/JRG/JFD