



MIAMI BEACH

OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

NO. LTC # 314-2013

LETTER TO COMMISSION

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

FROM: Jimmy L. Morales, City Manager

DATE: September 5, 2013

SUBJECT: Security Beach Access Gates

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This Letter to Commission provides a status update on the security beach access gates. The purpose of the beach access gates is to visually show visitors and residents that the beach is closed at midnight, serving as a deterrent and keeping people off the beach, with the goal of reducing crime and improving public safety.

In February, a contractor was selected to design and install the proposed beach access gates. However, following the selection of the contractor the City was unable to obtain the necessary field permit from the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) for the proposed design. The FDEP requires that all construction east of the Coastal Construction Control Line (CCCL) obtain a permit prior to construction. The purpose of this permit is to protect the coastal system from improperly sited and designed structures, which can destabilize or destroy the beach and dune system.

The City Administration and elected officials have been working with the FDEP legal staff and coastal permit program administration to obtain consent for the installation of 36 security beach access gates adjacent to Lummus Park from 5th Street to 14th Street. Thanks to the efforts of the Mayor's office, the FDEP has reconsidered their initial determination and the project is now moving forward. The City has initialized the CCCL permit process. Permitting is expected to take between six and nine months.

This project will provide the Police Department with an additional tool to protect the public safety. Staff will continue to work FDEP to expedite this permitting process and keep the project on schedule.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call me.



WT/ETC/JJF/DCS/ESW