MIAMIBEACH

OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER NO. LTC # 255-2014

LETTER TO COMMISSION

TO:

Mayor Philip Levine and Members of the City Commission

FROM:

Jimmy L. Morales, City Manager

DATE:

July 22, 2014

SUBJECT: Upgrade of MB Radio (1670AM) Station

As part of Miami Beach's ongoing efforts to provide enhanced information and transparency to the community, we have begun the process of upgrading the City's highway advisory radio (HAR) station, MB Radio (1670 AM), from analog to digital.

When the upgrade is complete, MB Radio will be more technically dependable and have new enhanced capabilities such as the following:

- Digital communication via pre-recorded radio broadcasts to the public including, but not limited to, construction-related traffic information, major event information, emergency information, and targeted public service announcements.
- Multiple programmable access points at approved city departments.
- Allows live broadcasts to interrupt recorded programming from pre-approved access points, in the event of an emergency.
- Simplifies the process of remotely (outside the city) updating the broadcast.
- Live simulcast link on the city's website.

The upgrade will require the replacement of technical components that will cause a cessation of the city broadcast for up to 15 days, beginning approximately Wednesday, July 23, 2014. During this time, the radio station will instead broadcast a simulcast of NOAA weather radio.

MB Radio (1670 AM) can be heard throughout Miami Beach and on major highways leading into the city and on www.miamibeachfl.gov/news.

JM/MM/NR/js

CITY CLEAN'S OFFICE