

CITY OF MIAMI BEACH
Office of the City Manager
Letter to Commission No. 057-2004



To: Mayor David Dermer and
Members of the City Commission

Date: March 9, 2004

From: Jorge M. Gonzalez
City Manager

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jorge".

Subject: **TRAFFIC ANALYSIS REPORT/INDIAN CREEK DRIVE AT 63RD STREET AREA**

This is an update to LTC No. 303-2003, dated December 19, 2003, which included a copy of the traffic analysis report for the Indian Creek Drive at 63rd Street Area, prepared by HNTB Inc., at City Commission request.

Subject report was referred to both the Transportation and Parking Committee (T&PC) and the North Beach Development Corporation (NBDC) Executive Board Members for review. Both groups met jointly on February 24, 2004, to review the report.

Attached is a copy of the presentation made by Girish Kumar, HNTB Project Manager, at the meeting. The Traffic Analysis Summary (last page of the presentation) indicates that, utilizing 2003 traffic data collection and projected 2021 traffic conditions, the study conclusions are as follows:

- At-Grade solution and New Flyover alternatives both operate better than No-Build.
- In the AM peak hour, critical southbound right-turn movement operates at same Level of Service (LOS) with all three (3) alternatives.
- In the PM peak hour, critical eastbound left-turn movement operates as follows:
 - At-Grade - LOS 'D'
 - New Flyover - LOS 'F'
 - No-Build - LOS 'F'

The T&PC had previously recommended the at-grade solution that was ultimately endorsed by Commission Resolution No. 2000-23965, dated June 7, 2000. At the February 24, 2004 meeting, eleven of the eighteen T&PC members present at the end of the HNTB presentation and subsequent discussions decided to take no action regarding the report.

It is important to understand that the 63rd Street project is regarded by FDOT as a safety issue and classified as such. For safety projects, FDOT has a higher level of responsibility to correct the identified problem. Pursuant to this safety classification, and a City Commission action of June 7, 2000, which endorsed the at-grade solution, FDOT is presently completing the final design plans for the At-Grade Intersection/Bridge Restoration Project. Construction is programmed to begin in October 2005 and end by September 2006. The current FDOT plan is to have one of the bridge sides operational at all times during construction.

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As the consultant has confirmed that an at-grade solution is the best available alternative for the intersection, and no facts to contradict the consultant findings have been introduced by the various reviewers, the Administration will consider this supplemental analysis phase closed and focus efforts on the project implementation details.

I intend to place an item on the March 17, 2004 Commission Agenda, submitting FDOT's request for a 1578 sq.ft. perpetual easement on a strip of land out of Brittany Bay Park. Such easement is required in order to finalize the plans and construct the at-grade project.

Please contact me if you have any concerns or questions.


JMG/JG/RM/FB/AJ

Attachments:
HNTB Presentation

c: Robert Middaugh, Assistant City Manager
Fred Beckmann, Director of Public Works
Amelia Johnson, Transportation Coordinator (files)