

# MIAMIBEACH

City of Miami Beach, 1700 Convention Center Drive, Miami Beach, Florida 33139, www.miamibeachfl.gov

Jimmy L. Morales, City Manager  
Tel: 305-673-7010, Fax: 305-673-7782

NO. LTC # **556-2016**

LETTER TO COMMISSION

TO: Mayor Philip Levine and Members of the City Commission

FROM: Jimmy L. Morales, City Manager

DATE: December 22, 2016

SUBJECT: Beachwalk Projects Update



The purpose of this Letter to Commission is to provide you with a status update and anticipated construction schedule for the various segments of the City's Beachwalk projects.

## **BACKGROUND**

The Beachwalk projects are part of the larger Atlantic Greenway Network (AGN), which is a system of shared use pathways designed to promote alternative transportation. They extend in a north/south direction and run between the erosion control line and the beach dune system. They complement the neighborhood bicycle facilities, which extend in an east-west as well as north-south directions through the south, middle, and north beach neighborhoods. The Beachwalk will connect area business districts, cultural and tourism centers, residential neighborhoods, parking facilities, parks, schools, and the beaches.

At this time, the Beachwalk is complete from:

- South Pointe Park to 3rd Street
- 5<sup>th</sup> Street to 23<sup>rd</sup> Street
- 64<sup>th</sup> Street to 79<sup>th</sup> Street

The gaps in these beachside paths include:

- 3<sup>rd</sup> Street to 5<sup>th</sup> Street (Beachwalk II)
- 23<sup>rd</sup> Street to 47<sup>th</sup> Street (Middle Beach Recreational Corridor Phase 3 - boardwalk replacement)
- 47<sup>th</sup> Street to 64<sup>th</sup> Street (Middle Beach Recreational Corridor, Phase 2)
- 79<sup>th</sup> Street to 87<sup>th</sup> Street (North Shore Recreational Corridor)

## **STATUS**

All uncompleted sections of the Beachwalk are in the design, permitting and pre-construction phase.

### **Beachwalk II**

The Beachwalk II Project was originally slated to connect South Pointe Drive to 5th Street. However, due to delays in obtaining required easements from the properties north of 3rd Street, the Beachwalk II Project was split into two phases: Phase I (South Pointe Drive to 3rd Street) and Phase II (3rd Street to 5th Street). Phase I was completed in 2014. Design and permitting for Phase 2 are complete, and have been approved by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) and the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT). Commencement of construction activities is pending grant funding from FDOT in the amount of \$850,000. The City has requested that FDOT funds be advanced to July 2017. Federal regulations prevent the project from being advertised until these funds are programmed and made available by FDOT. Construction is anticipated to commence during fall 2017.

### Middle Beach Recreational Corridor (MBRC), Phase 2

The Middle Beach Recreational Corridor (MBRC) project will connect 46<sup>th</sup> Street to 64<sup>th</sup> Street. On November 19<sup>th</sup> 2014, the City Commission instructed staff to redesign the pathway to a wider width of 25 feet to better accommodate pedestrians and bicyclists. This change in scope has increased the projected timeline. The 100% design plans of the Middle Beach Recreational Corridor have been approved by the FDEP and FDOT. This project was divided into two parts.

The first section, phase 2, part 1, from Allison Park, at 64<sup>th</sup> street, to Beachview Park at 53<sup>rd</sup> street, will be locally funded and was awarded to a contractor, who is awaiting resolution of encroachments onto State land. The City is currently working with the design consultants to finalize an encroachment assessment identifying those properties with encroachments. Once this is completed and confirmed, an encroachment notification will be delivered to the property owners, providing appropriate time for the removal of the encroachments from State lands. Construction is currently anticipated to commence in the spring 2017.

The second section, phase 2, part 2, from Beachview Park at 53<sup>rd</sup> street, to Indian Beach at 46<sup>th</sup> street, will be partially funded through an FDOT grant. Plans and FDEP permitting are complete. On December 16, 2016, FDOT issued the executed Local Agency Partner (LAP) agreement and the Notice to Proceed for advertisement. The City is now able to proceed with the procurement process to contract for the construction of this section of the Beachwalk. Construction is currently anticipated to commence summer 2017.

### Middle Beach Recreational Corridor, Phase 3- Boardwalk replacement

The City contracted with Calvin, Giordano and Associates, Inc., for the design and permitting of the Middle Beach Recreational Corridor, Phase 3, which includes removing the remaining segments of boardwalk from 23<sup>rd</sup> to 46<sup>th</sup> Street and replacing with an on-grade paver pathway. The City is anticipating an extensive permitting review process through FDEP. The design will also include dune enhancement, removal of exotic vegetation, planting of native vegetation, turtle friendly lighting and where feasible a wider paver pathway ranging between 15 and 25 feet in width. The project survey has been completed and 30% plans are scheduled to be completed by February 2017. This project is also slated for grant funding from FDOT in the amount of \$1,000,000, which are programmed for FY 18/19. Construction is anticipated to commence in the summer of 2018.

### North Shore Open Space Park Beachwalk

The City has contracted with Calvin, Giordano and Associates, Inc., for the redevelopment of the North Shore Open Space Park. As part of that project, the City will be constructing the final and northernmost section of the Beachwalk system, from 79<sup>th</sup> street to 87<sup>th</sup> street. The design consultants have proposed a more curvilinear path which takes advantage of the park's unique characteristics. This section, like the others in the City, will be an on-grade shared use paver pathway which will include dune enhancement, removal of exotic vegetation, planting of native vegetation and turtle friendly lighting. Plans for the park redevelopment and North Beach Recreational Corridor project are approximately 30% complete, and are scheduled to be presented before the Design Review Board on January 3, 2017. This project is programmed to receive FDOT grant funding, fiscal year 2021-2022, in the amount of \$1,000,000.

If you have any questions, please let me know.

  
JM/MT/DM