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315-2019

NO. LTC#

LETTER TO COMMISSION

TO:

Mayor Dan Gelber and Members of the City Commission

FROM:

Jimmy L. Morales, City Manager

DATE:

May 31, 2019

SUBJECT: Upcoming Miami-Dade County Transportation & Public Works Roadwork on

Pine Tree Drive

The purpose of this Letter to Commission is to provide an update on Miami-Dade County's Transportation and Public Works Department's upcoming milling and resurfacing of Pine Tree Drive between 23rd Street and 41st Street. On Tuesday, June 11, 2019 the County will be hosting a public meeting at 6:00 p.m. at the Miami Beach Golf Course (2301 Alton Road). The purpose of the meeting will be to provide details on the scope of the project and how traffic patterns will be impacted during the pruning and construction process.

Following Hurricane Irma in 2017, a tree risk assessment was conducted by two certified master arborists to assess the health of the 271 Australian pines located in the median and right-of-way along Pine Tree Drive between 30th and 46th Street. The trees along this corridor are approximately 100 years old and have exceeded the average lifespan of Australian pines in Florida, which typically range from 40 to 50 years. Per the arborists' report, the Australian pines along the corridor have significant structural problems, resulting primarily from decay at their base. The reduction pruning will remove a large amount of the height and size of the existing canopy, which will impact the visual look of this historic corridor. This structural pruning will help to reduce the risk rating of the trees, however we may lose additional trees as a result of the milling and resurfacing work. The Urban Forestry Master Plan will include a management plan for the existing Australian Pines with goal to minimize the impact of the removal of large trees as they reach the end their life cycle.

Prior to commencement of the milling and resurfacing, structural pruning of the Australian Pine Trees will be required, as recommended by the City's consulting arborist. The structural pruning will result in a dramatic reduction of the tree canopy. The pruning work is anticipated to commence late June or early July dependent upon weather. Pruning is anticipated to be completed four to six weeks after commencement. Following the reduction cuts to the tree canopy, the asphalt will be removed, and selective root cuts will be necessary to complete the roadway improvements. The reduction in structural roots may result in increasing the risk rating of the trees and may warrant the need to remove trees that are a safety risk. The City's consulting arborist who has previous knowledge of the sensitivity of these trees will monitor the work being performed. The Australian Pine Trees along Pine Tree Drive have been designated as historic, and all measures are being taken to increase the longevity of these trees while balancing public safety.

Work within this area will continue from June to October 2019. Traffic will be rerouted around the area however; the County and City have agreed to adjust the project phasing to maintain peak traffic flows during rush hour.

If you have any questions regarding this project, please contact Jennie Lopez (<u>Jennie.Lopez@miamidade.gov</u>), Public Information Officer with Miami-Dade County Department of Transportation and Public Works or Elizabeth Wheaton (<u>ElizabethWheaton@miamibeachfl.gov</u>), Environment & Sustainability Director.

JLM/SMT/ESW/JG/JF/ojl



FACT SHEET

Miami-Dade County

Department of Transportation and Public Works

Project No. 20180176/Work Order No. 1

ROADWAY RESURFACING PROJECT

Pine Tree Drive from 23rd Street to 41st Street

Project Description:

The project is located along Pine Tree Drive from 23rd Street to 41st Street within Miami-Dade County Commissioner Sally A. Heyman's District 4. This project has been initiated to improve the roadway surface and driving conditions. The scope of work includes milling and resurfacing, adjustment of valve boxes and manholes, ADA Ramps and connectors, pavement markings, signage as well as arborist-approved structural tree trimming.

Construction Schedule:

Construction is scheduled to begin in June 2019 and is anticipated to be completed in September 2019.*

*The construction schedule above is weather permitting.

Methodology and Efforts:

All efforts are being made to minimize the impact from the construction activities to area residents, schools, businesses and motorists. The area will be restored to its original condition immediately upon completion of the construction activities. The restoration activities will address any areas impacted by the project, such as grassy areas, sidewalks and others items affected by the construction.

If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact Jennie Lopez, Public Information Officer for Department of Transportation and Public Works, at 305-375-2810 or by email at Jennie.Lopez@miamidade.gov.



PUBLIC MEETING Pinetree Drive Roadwork Project





Tuesday, June 11, 2019 6 PM

Miami Beach Golf Course 2301 Alton Road

Miami-Dade County will be pruning the Australian Pines between 23 and 41 streets followed by milling and resurfacing on Pinetree Drive. The meeting will provide details on the scope of the project and traffic patterns during the pruning and construction process.

For more information contact:
Jennifer Lopez, Public Information Officer
Miami-Dade County Department of Transportation and Public Works
305.375.2810 | jennie.lopez@miamidade.gov

To learn more about this resiliency project and the city's other innovative initiatives, visit www.mbrisingabove.com.

To request this material in alternate format, sign language interpreter (five-day notice required), information on access for persons with disabilities, and/or any accommodation to review any document or participate in any city-sponsored proceedings, call 305.604.2489 and select 1 for English or 2 for Spanish, then option 6; TTY users may call via 711 (Florida Relay Service).