



Florida Department of Transportation

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GOVERNOR

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Miami, FL 33172-5800

KEVIN J. THIBAUT
SECRETARY

August 16, 2019

Eric Carpenter, P.E.
Assistant City Manager, Public Works Department
City of Miami Beach
1700 Convention Center Drive
Miami Beach, FL 33139

RE: SR 907/ Alton Road Projects - FM 429193-1, FM 440444-1 & FM 440444-2

Dear Mr. Carpenter,

FDOT District Six has committed to the design and construction of three roadway improvement projects and three landscape beautification projects on SR 907/ Alton Road from Michigan Avenue to Allison Road totaling an estimated \$66 million. The projects will raise the roadway profile, provide necessary drainage systems, provide new drivable surface, protect the existing landscape to the best extent possible, and install new landscape beautification.

As you know, FDOT has been coordinating with the City of Miami Beach and the local community. In addition, the Department has hosted several meetings and workshops with you and your staff, including the City's Urban Forester, Mr. Omar Leon; and discussed the following landscape guidelines without any objection:

- Trees documented with failed, failing, or less preferable health conditions will be removed.
- Trees and palms that conflict with overhead electrical distribution line will require removal.
- Where applicable and feasible, concerted efforts will be made during the engineering design and construction to preserve the existing landscape that is deemed to be in good health condition (jointly with the City and FDOT).
- The landscape within the construction limits will be subject to construction project conditions. Tree protection will be included in the roadway plans. Also, the contract documents will include notes, details, specifications, and provisions as precautionary measures for the protection of the existing trees scheduled to remain.

After performing preliminary engineering analysis of raising Alton Road, FDOT anticipates that approximately 85% of the existing mature trees may be removed due to roadway profile changes and the landscape guidelines listed above. In order to proceed with the final design and to align construction funding with the anticipated project letting year, FDOT needs approval from the City for this approach within the next two months. If the Department does not receive the concurrence for this innovative approach, the Department will need to create interim roadway resurfacing projects to prevent further deterioration of the pavement along Alton Road. The pavement resurfacing only projects will not have

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any drainage improvements, signalization, sidewalk, lighting, landscaping, and pavement reconstruction work. Also, the existing Alton Road reconstruction and landscape beautification projects will be deferred by 6 to 10 years.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me by phone at (305) 470-5464 or via e-mail at Harold.desdunes@dot.state.fl.us

Sincerely,



Harold Desdunes, P.E.
Director of Transportation Development

Cc: Daniel Iglesias, District Design Engineer - FDOT
Judy Solaun-Gonzalez, P.E., District Consultant Project Management Engineer – FDOT
Auraliz Benitez, P.E., Project Manager – FDOT
Natalie Garganta, P.E., Project Manager - FDOT