

Mayor and Commissioners
City of Miami Beach
1700 Convention Center Drive
Miami Beach, Florida 33139

May 5, 2021

RE: SOUTH of FIFTH ST STORMWATER PUMP STATION

Dear Mayor and Commissioners:

In April, you kindly deferred discussion of the pump station location South of Fifth in response to SOFNA's resolution and request for additional time to engage our members regarding optional locations. In the few weeks since then we worked with City Staff and reached out extensively to members both in writing and in two meetings where members presented their opinions and concerns. We also received numerous emails (over 50) in response to our engagement around this issue. Below are the results of our outreach, which inform our resolution.

Project-specific results from members' testimony:

- o The City Public meeting had 217 participants and 32 speakers.
- o The SOFNA meeting had 144 participants and 28 speakers.
- o SOFNA received over 50 emails
- o Overwhelmingly members were opposed to and rejected Option 1, South Pointe Park.
- o Of the 60 speakers not a single speaker favored South Pointe Park.
- o Of the 52 emails not a single email favored South Pointe Park
- o Majority of speakers expressed a preference for Option 6, 2nd Street and Washington.
- o Members most impacted by Option 6 expressed a need for further information, outreach, design and construction specifics.
- o Most members agreed that outreach to provide more specific project information must be done as soon as possible and before any project implementation occurs.
- o Members most impacted by Option 6 expressed a need for a deferral until outreach and project specifics have been developed and provided.

Process-specific issues: Our community highlighted several crucial process issues that the City should address in a project of such magnitude and importance.

1. For the Commission to make a truly informed decisions, City staff assessments must include metrics that assess not just costs and engineering concerns, but impacts on stakeholders' quality of life. Such human factors include data on residential impacts, including recorded density within a pre-determined area, levels of noise, aesthetics, construction and ongoing operational impacts as well as environmental disturbance. We believe that the City must not simply assess if any project is technically, legally and financially viable, but if it works in the proposed human environment. That is the dimension that has been missing from the formal decision matrix. Our members brought this point up repeatedly and clearly in over 3 hours of testimony.

2. Outreach to determine these stakeholder impacts should be done well in advance of presentations and decisions, then factored into any decision matrix. Members expressed great concern not just over a seeming lack of attention to human impacts, but a dearth of specificity in presentations to stakeholders regarding the aspects that matter most to people: appearance, scale, operational impacts. Without this type of information, people cannot possibly determine their level of support, nor can they have meaningful input to help move a project forward.

3. Stakeholders should be given ample opportunity for input regarding flexible factors including design, overall aesthetics, and landscaping. Outreach should also include as much detail as possible on all impacts to ensure that those directly affected are fully informed so as to minimize confusion and misunderstandings.

Roy Coley, Director of Public Works (PW) has stated during multiple presentations that PWs determination criteria is based solely on engineering factors and considerations. SOFNA believes such criteria is extremely limited and lacking crucial community impact factors that are essential and must be considered in making a holistic decision.

Community Impact Factors Used by SOFNA ([Click here to see attached chart](#))

- Per person population density of location (250 ft)
- Residential units within 250 feet of location
- School, playground, dog park, recreational facilities within or adjacent to the location
- Visual impacts
- Surrounding noise measurements (250 ft)
- Legal impediments
- Traffic impact, Green space, Loss of parking
- Proximity to the flooding zone/area for which the pump station is most needed

The attached resolution ([please click here](#)) sets forth our conclusions and requests.

Warm regards,

South of Fifth Neighborhood Association Inc., Board of Directors

Alyson Herman, President

David Podein, Vice President

Keith Marks, Secretary

Brian Harris, Treasurer

Pamela Brumer, Commercial Director

Clare McCord, Director

*South of Fifth Neighborhood Association, Inc.
2021 RESOLUTION NO.2 - LOCATION OF STORMWATER PUMP STATION IN SOUTH OF FIFTH NEIGHBORHOOD*

SOUTH OF FIFTH NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION, INC.

May 5, 2021

TO: Mayor and Commissioners of the City of Miami Beach; Alina Hudak, City Manager; and Rafael Paz, Esq., City Attorney.

RE: 2021 RESOLUTION NO.2 - LOCATION OF STORMWATER PUMP STATION IN THE SOUTH OF FIFTH NEIGHBORHOOD

WHEREAS, the final selection of the location of the Stormwater Pump Station is an issue of critical importance to the SOFNA Community;

WHEREAS, on Tuesday, April 27, 2021 City staff presented its analysis of the six (6) location options to the Miami Beach Residents. There were approximately 217 attendees and 32 speakers;

WHEREAS, on Thursday, April 29, 2021 SOFNA presented its analysis of the six (6) location options to SOFNA Residents. There were approximately 147 attendees and 29 speakers;

WHEREAS, SOFNA received over 55 emails relating to the storm water pump;

WHEREAS, the community has made strong, vocal and continuous objections to a Stormwater Pump Installation in South Pointe Park, the “Jewel” of South Beach as well as objections to placement in the Triangle at 1st Street and Alton Rd. SOFNA does not support an installation of the Storm Water Pump Station in South Pointe Park or its parking lot, or the Triangle area;

WHEREAS, SOFNA used an objective set of community impact” factors to evaluate the six (6) locations and make its recommendation These factors include:

- Residential density impacts & Proximity to school(s)
- Visibility: Aesthetics/physical appearance, footprint, placement on site
- Impacts on existing greenspace
- Legal issues
- Noise and Traffic impacts
- Proximity to targeted flooding areas

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT IS DULY RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS AS FOLLOWS:

- 1. There is strong and vocal community opposition to the pump station in South Pointe Park and SOFNA recommends this location be removed from consideration. Of the 70 speakers and 55 emails not one supported placing the pump station in South Pointe Park.**
- 2. SOFNA has reviewed all current options and based on the options available, SOFNA**

South of Fifth Neighborhood Association, Inc.

2021 RESOLUTION NO.2 - LOCATION OF STORMWATER PUMP STATION IN SOUTH OF FIFTH NEIGHBORHOOD

recommends Option 6, at the unused MB police station as far North and West as possible at the dog park for the underground pump and the fenced parking lot of the unused MB police station for the above ground Control Station with Optional Generator.


- 3. SOFNA has received overwhelming rejection of Option 1.**
- 4. The majority of the speakers and emails were in favor of Option 6 for the Stormwater Pump.**
- 5. SOFNA has received requests for deferring the Commission vote on Option 6 so that more outreach and information can be provided to those in the affected area.**
- 6. SOFNA believes that inadequate information has been provided to our community on crucial project elements including: Pump Design, Size, Footprint, Site Placement and Visibility; Impacts on Greenspace and Canopy; Generator Options, Appearance, and Siting; Street and Traffic Impacts; Construction Timeline; Potential for Odors and Noise; Ongoing Maintenance and Operational Impacts.**
- 7. We request significant outreach from Public Works to SOFNA residents on the above issues immediately and prior to any final decision on project location.**
- 8. SOFNA requests that the City Administration stays fully engaged with SOFNA concerning the design and implementation of the 1st Street Project with Storm Water Pump. We believe that communication is a two-way process between the City and the Taxpayers/Stakeholders.**

On **April 29th, 2021**, SOFNA held a duly noticed Meeting wherein this Resolution was proposed and adopted by a vote of the majority of the Board of Directors.

By: 
 By: alyson herman (May 5, 2021 10:40 EDT)

Print Name: alyson herman

Title: President

By: 
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Print Name: Keith Marks

Title: Secretary

Options Analyzed by MB Public Works as of 5/03/2021 RED = HIGH IMPACT YELLOW = MODERATE IMPACT GREEN = LOWER IMPACT	Park, Dog Park, Green Space Impacts	Per person resident density within 200 feet	Noise in surround ing area (street noise)	Unit density within 200 ft	Loss of parking spaces	School in or adjacent	Negative Traffic Impacts	Close to flooding area	Visibility of Above Ground Controls. Housing, etc	Legal Issues
Number 1 - SPP	YES	2250 ppl	Quiet	1200 units	10	YES	YES	NO	YES	YES
Number 2 - SPP	YES	2250	Quiet	1200	12	YES	YES	NO	YES	NO
Number 3 - Triangle	YES	1125	Moder ate	625	2	NO	NO	YES	YES	NO
Number 4 – Median of 1 st and Washington	NO	450	Loud	250	25	YES	YES	YES	YES	NO
Number 5 – Parking next to Milo	NO	450	Loud	250	15	NO	YES	YES	YES	NO
Number 6 – Police Station near Washington Dog Park	YES	370	Loud	210	2	YES	NO	YES	NO	NO