

200 S. Biscayne Boulevard Suite 300, Miami, FL 33131

www.brzoninglaw.com

305.377.6236 office 305.377.6222 fax MLarkin@brzoninglaw.com

### VIA ELECTRONIC SUBMITTAL

October 9, 2023

Michael Belush Planning & Design Officer City of Miami Beach 1700 Convention Center Drive, 2nd Floor Miami Beach, Florida 33139

RE: DRB23-0968 – Design Review Approval for <u>Digital Information Kiosks at 4 Locations in the City</u>

Dear Mr. Belush:

This law firm represents IKE Smart City, LLC (the "Applicant"), recipient of a Request for Proposal from the City of Miami Beach (the "City") to install a total of fifteen (15) Digital Information Kiosks throughout the City. Four (4) of the Digital Information Kiosks (the "Kiosks") are located outside the boundaries of a historic district, and therefore subject to Design Review Board review. <u>See</u> Composite Exhibit A, Kiosks Map and List. This letter serves as the required letter of intent for Design Review Approval for the four (4) Kiosks located in the City. The Applicant has filed a concurrent Historic Preservation Board application for the elevent (11) Kiosks located within a local historic district, HPB23-0590.

<u>City Partnership.</u> In August 2021, the Applicant submitted an unsolicited proposal to the City to manufacture, install, maintain and operate Kiosks at approved locations throughout the City. In April 2022, the City issued Request for Proposal No. 2022-040-KB that requested alternatives to the Applicant's proposal. In August 2022, after a competitive bid process for similar proposals, the City Commission awarded the Applicant the Request for Proposal. In June 2023, the City Commission adopted Resolution 2023-32627 which approved of the business terms of the agreement with the Applicant for the manufacturing, installation, maintenance and operation of the Kiosks (the "Agreement"). As a part of the Agreement, the Applicant is required to obtain approval from the City's applicable Land Use Boards, such as the Design Review Board.

<u>Kiosks Description.</u> The Applicant is committed to pursuing a community-oriented model of outdoor media that makes strong aesthetic contributions and balances a dynamic mix of community content, art, and advertising. Each of the proposed Kiosks offers a hyper-local experience that drives discovery, mobility, and equity across the economic spectrum.

The design of the Kiosks is sleek and modern. Each Kiosk is appropriately placed in areas with high pedestrian traffic. The Kiosks are 99.5" in height with two interactive touch screens. The Kiosks will be a significant public amenity with free Wi-Fi and emergency call capabilities. The Agreement allows the Kiosks to feature commercial advertising which creates a new revenue stream for the City.

Adding the Applicant's network to the City will provide valuable benefits, including:

- Fostering economic development by promoting local business through proximity-based directory listings,
- Improving navigation to civic and cultural institutions, restaurants, retail, and other businesses through interactive mapping and multimodal trip-planning tools,
- Driving the use of public transit through real-time information and availabilities,
- Enhancing access to social services and resources,
- Providing information on local events,
- Acting as a surveying tool for the City to solicit feedback from residents and visitors,
- Bringing emergency functionality to the right-of-way, including security cameras and an emergency call system,
- Serving as a critical communication tool to rapidly disseminate vital emergency information such as weather alerts, and
- Delivering valuable smart city services such as free public Wi-Fi and air quality monitoring.

<u>Design Review Approval.</u> Design Review Approval is required prior to issuance of any permit for signage in the City. The Kiosks are designed to be compatible with the surrounding area. The Kiosks are purposefully located in areas with high pedestrian traffic. The Kiosks are not blocking entrances of immediately abutting buildings. The design, scale, massing, and arrangement of the Kiosks are consistent with the City's intent and will not negatively impact or detract from the character of the surrounding area.

<u>Sea Level Rise and Resiliency Criteria.</u> The Proposed Project advances the sea level rise and resiliency criteria in Section 7.1.2.4 of the Resiliency Code as follows:

#### (1) A recycling or salvage plan for partial or total demolition shall be provided.

A recycling and salvage plan for any potential demolition will be provided at permitting.

## (2) Windows that are proposed to be replaced shall be hurricane proof impact windows.

Kiosks will be hurricane proof. The Kiosks are designed to withstand hurricane force-storm winds of up to 165 mph, including the glass and foundation. Additionally, the shatterproof tempered glass will be laminated with optical clear skin resin that can withstand high heat and strong sun weather conditions in Miami Beach.

## (3) Where feasible and appropriate, passive cooling systems, such as operable windows, shall be provided.

Passive cooling systems are not applicable to the Kiosks.

## (4) Whether resilient landscaping (salt tolerant, highly water-absorbent, native or Florida friendly plants) will be provided.

Landscaping is not applicable to the Kiosks.

### (5) Whether adopted sea level rise projections in the Southeast Florida Regional Climate Action Plan, as may be revised from time-to-time by the Southeast Florida Regional Climate Change Compact, including a study of land elevation and elevation of surrounding properties were considered.

The Applicant has adequately considered sea level rise projections in deciding on the locations of the design of the proposed Kiosks. Additionally, the Kiosks are designed to be constructed at a slight elevation from the right-of-way.

## (6) The ground floor, driveways, and garage ramping for new construction shall be adaptable to the raising of public rights-of-ways and adjacent land.

The Kiosks will be installed in such a way that they will be adaptable to the raising of public rights-of-ways and adjacent land.

## (7) Where feasible and appropriate. All critical mechanical and electrical systems are located above base flood elevation.

Where feasible, all mechanical and electrical systems will be located above base flood elevation. Additionally, the Kiosks are designed in such a manner that protects the electrical conduits for each Kiosk underground, and the Kiosks contain the majority of their electrical components raised from the ground.

## (8) Existing buildings shall be, where reasonably feasible and appropriate, elevated to the base flood elevation.

Not applicable to this application.

# (9) When habitable space is located below the base flood elevation plus City of Miami Beach Freeboard, wet or dry flood proofing systems will be provided in accordance with Chapter of 54 of the City Code.

Not applicable to this application.

#### (10) Where feasible and appropriate, water retention systems shall be provided.

Not applicable to this application.

#### (11) Cool pavement materials or porous pavement materials shall be utilized.

Cool pavement and porous materials are proposed where appropriate.

(12) The design of each project shall minimize the potential for heat island effects on-site.

The proposed Kiosks are designed to decrease the amount of heat reflected from the glass which will minimize the potential for heat island effects.

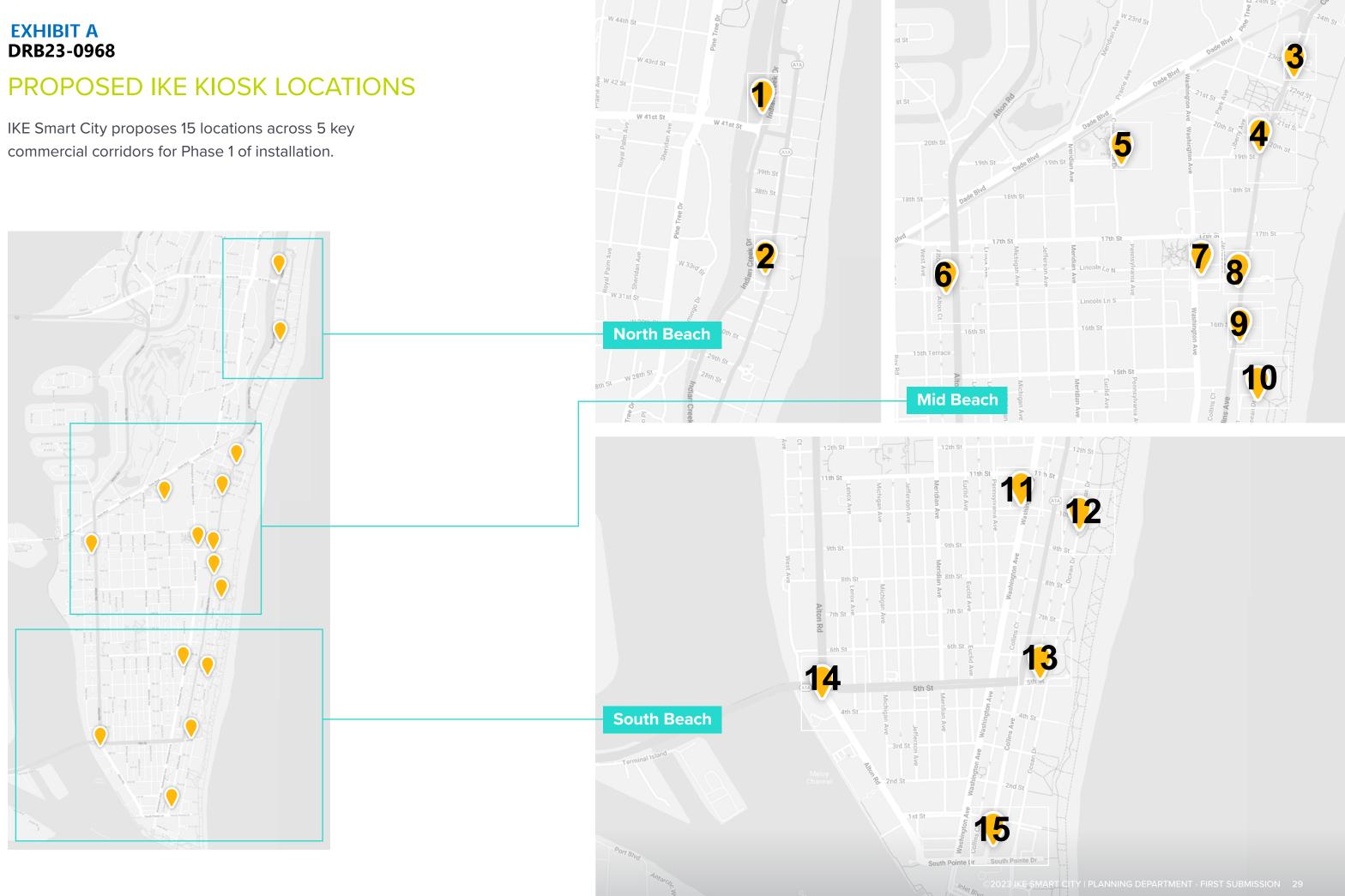
<u>Conclusion.</u> The Kiosks are an important part of the revitalization the City and improving the pedestrian experience. The proposed Kiosks comply with all applicable land development regulations and are designed to be accessible, user-friendly, and resilient. Design Review Approval will allow for an innovative addition to the City's streetscape.

Accordingly, we respectfully request your favorable review and recommendation with respect to the proposed Kiosks. Should you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Michael Larkin

cc: Eric Carpenter, City of Miami Beach, Deputy City Manager
P. Rodney Knowles, City of Miami Beach, Assistant Public Works Director
Anna Baerman, Orange Barrel Media + IKE SMART CITY, Senior Development
Director
Katherine Perdomo, Orange Barrel Media + IKE SMART CITY, Development
Director
Emily K. Balter, Esq.



#### List of Sites - DRB23-0968

No.	Location	Intersection Placement	Application
5	Convention Center Drive and 19	East side of Convention Center Drive	DRB
	Street		
6	Lincoln Road and Alton Road	After construction, exact location to be reviewed	DRB
		and approved by staff	
14	Alton Road and 5 Street	SW side of Alton	DRB
15	Collins Avenue and South Pointe	East side of Collins	DRB
	Drive		

\* Sign nos. 1-4 and 7-13 are subject to review and approval of the Historic Preservation Board.