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MIAMIBEACH
PLANNING DEPARTMENT
Staff Report & Recommendation — Design Review Board

TO: DRB Chairperson and Members DATE: February 6, 2024

FROM: Thomas R. Mooney, AICP for TRM
Planning Director

SUBJECT: DRB23-0970
Intersection of Lincoln Road and Alton Road Right-of-Way

An application has been file, pursuant to Section 2.5.3.2.b of the Land Development Regulations of the City Code (LDR's) requesting the Design Review Board to review a proposed a new sign for Lincoln Road. Such review is in a non-binding, advisory capacity, and the DRB will provide written recommendations on the proposal to the city commission.

Project Description:
The Office of Capital Improvements Projects (CIP) has applied for the construction of a new Lincoln Road Sign, including advisory review by the Design Review Board. The proposed sign is part of the Lincoln Road Master Plan, which is intended to upgrade and improve Lincoln Road, including the gateway streets.

The Lincoln Road Master Plan was approved by the City of Miami Beach Historic Preservation Board in 2015. Following its approval, between 2016 and 2020, designs were advanced and bid documents were developed for Lincoln Road within the following areas:

- Washington to Lenox Avenues;
- Meridian Avenue from Lincoln Road to 17th Street; and
- Drexel Avenue from 16th Street to Lincoln Lane North.

These areas were approved by all applicable regulatory agencies in 2017 and the project's bid set was completed and delivered to the City in February 2020. In March of 2020, the City of Miami Beach declared a state of emergency in response to the COVID-19 pandemic and the bid process was postponed. Since then, the renovation scope of work has been revised and approved by the City of Miami Beach Commission. Included in this revised scope are anti-ram bollards and a "welcoming artistic element" within the 1100 block of Lincoln Road at the Alton Road intersection, which are before the Board for advisory review.

The project area encompasses the pedestrian portion of Lincoln Road east of the Alton Road intersection. The project design proposes permanent bollards along the sidewalk curb to replace the existing concrete barriers, and a new "Lincoln Road" sign along the western edge of the existing water feature, facing the intersection. The proposed sign is composed of 3'-4" high, individual white powder coated letters, spelling out L-I-N-C-O-L-N R-O-A-D, affixed to a 1'-8" high black stone plinth.

The project will provide a permanent barrier between the pedestrian realm of Lincoln Road and the vehicular nature of Alton Road, as well as act as a formal entrance. Staff believes that the proposed "Lincoln Road" sign, along with the bollards, will create a safer and livelier pedestrian realm at the Alton Road entrance to Lincoln Road. The recommendations of the Board will be transmitted via LTC to the City Commission.