

From: jpcaccamo <jpcaccamo@cs.com>

Date: Wednesday, April 18, 2018

Subject: Big impacts of pumps depleting groundwater. Please read...

To: MichaelGongora <MichaelGongora@miamibeachfl.gov>, DanGelber <DanGelber@miamibeachfl.gov>

Dear Sirs,

When you are touring Miami Beach to evaluate the impact of sea rise mitigation efforts please make note if you detect a strong methane odor. odor. Sadly, it is coming from storm drains when pumps are operating. However, it is not only ruining the surrounding areas aesthetic, it is also indicative of the impact of pumps on the underground structural composition of Miami Beach.

This odor is not the more common mild but obnoxious odor that can be detected in some spots occasionally, but gigantic and pervasive. It is due to the pumps and happens whenever they are operating, and not only when it rains.

I spoke with the city's engineer , Mr. Eric Carpenter, about this problem. He said that it is known and happens when the pumps are operating because pipes are not properly sealed. It seems that decomposing mangroves is the source of the odor.

It can be fixed, he said, but there is no change on 5th St and Alton in these two years since we have a pump. Do we want all of Miami Beach to smell strongly of gas? Think twice and then once more!!!

I also discussed the possibility of rot to the subterranean mangrove foundations of Miami Beach if water is removed , water preserves them, and the impact to the ground caused by the loss of this substrate that actually is significant for the integrity of the land in much of Miami Beach. We do not have a stone substrate like Miami.

Well, you get the idea. Please think about below ground impacts that will cause harm to MB and the quality of life of residents.

Recently, I read an article about the Netherlands, renowned for land reclamation, recreating sand drainage conditions in their sea rise effort that mimic Miami Beach conditions! They are abandoning pumps as ultimately destructive and not as effective as natural drainage achieved with sand berms. By the way, they made high berms and built housing on top!

Thank you.

Respectfully,
Jennifer Caccamo
Yacht Club