

MIAMI BEACH

PLANNING DEPARTMENT

Staff Report & Recommendation

Historic Preservation Board

TO: Chairperson and Members
Historic Preservation Board

DATE: May 8, 2018

FROM: Thomas R. Mooney, AICP
Planning Director



SUBJECT: Discussion - Consider the adoption of a Resolution to study a pedestrian-friendly promenade linking the Miami Beach Botanical Garden to all open spaces adjacent to Drexel Avenue and Lincoln Road, such promenade continuing to and ending at the corner of Drexel Avenue and 16th Street (the site of the upcoming Time Out Food Court).

BACKGROUND

At the March 7, 2018 City Commission meeting, the Mayor and City Commission referred a discussion to the Historic Preservation Board to consider the adoption of a Resolution to study a pedestrian-friendly promenade linking the Miami Beach Botanical Garden to all open spaces adjacent to Drexel Avenue and Lincoln Road, such promenade continuing to and ending at the corner of Drexel Avenue and 16th Street (the site of the upcoming Time Out Food Court). [Item C4 O]

Attached please find a letter from Clotilde Luce and Nina and Don Worth, providing additional information.

Granado, Rafael

Subject: FW: creating a green-spaces promenade could be a visionary lasting public amenity for Miami Beach (and legacy for those who support it!)

From: Clotilde L Luce <clluce@bellsouth.net>

Date: February 19, 2018 at 10:53:06 PM EST

To: Kristen Rosen Gonzalez <kristen@rosengonzalez.com>

Subject: creating a green-spaces promenade could be a visionary lasting public amenity for Miami Beach (and legacy for those who support it!)

THIS IS THE CHURCH GARDEN — *TODAY*



To: the HPB

We the following, having no financial interests related to this proposal, request that the HPB adopt a resolution to study a pedestrian- friendly promenade linking the Botanical Garden to all open spaces adjacent to Drexel and Lincoln Road, such promenade continuing to, and ending at the corner of, Drexel Avenue and 16th street (site of the upcoming Time Out Food Court.)

As Nina Worth points out, such an "Emerald Necklace" linking public gardens exists in Boston. <https://www.emeraldnecklace.org/park-overview/emerald-necklace-map/>

Ours would link the Botanical Garden, the future Convention Center park, the NWS park, a to-be-negotiated open and public-access Community Church garden, and the block along the Church's set-back gardens on Drexel.

We realize that the Community Church garden is property of the Church.

We remember how retail development was approved to go into the garden, with a 10 foot separation from the eastern wall of the church.

Given the parlous condition of retail, the retail building approved for the Church garden by an earlier HPB may no longer be realistic.

The developer might welcome an exit at this point.

The HPB, the City and the Church, can now consider how the Church could continue maintaining the garden free of construction.

The City might consider a long-term agreement with the Church in which gardening costs are assumed by the City, or by a Lincoln Road merchants association.

The City might consider paying some form of 'rent' in exchange for retaining an open-space public garden.

It is in the interest of residents and of visitors to enjoy a north-south Drexel promenade including this historic 'place-making' corner garden on Lincoln Road.

It is *not* in the interest of the City's image to jam more empty retail on Lincoln Road, in a structure blocking views onto the historic basilica architecture.

The structure of the Church has been very well maintained for years, as studies of its upkeep have proven, and is in no way endangered or in need of costly restoration.

This is an opportunity to create a new pedestrian and environment- friendly promenade linking and activating important future destinations and open spaces.

Signed,

Clotilde Luce
Nina and Don Worth

again, I will get **more resident supporters** to sign

You are so busy Kristen, but any thoughts or input would be welcome.