NORTH MIAMI
FLORIDA
776 N.E. 125 Street, North Miami, Florida 33161

Council Report

To: The Honorable Mayor and City Council

From: Natasha Colebrook-Williams, Governmental Affairs Manager

Date: September 24, 2013

RE: FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FOR FLORIDA HIGHWAY BEAUTIFICATION COUNCIL GRANT

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Mayor and City Council approve the attached resolution approving the submittal of grant applications and authorizing the City Manager and City Attorney to negotiate and execute grants, landscape construction and maintenance agreements between the city of North Miami and the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) for the Florida Highway Beautification Council grants.

BACKGROUND

The funds secured from the FDOT Florida Highway Beautification Council will be used to install approximately 100 medjool date palms along NE 125th Street from NE 6th Avenue to NE 10th Avenue, including dramatic lighting along with high quality benches and trash receptacles. This area is considered the City's downtown core and its visual appearance is critical to the economic health and identity of the City.

The total project is estimated at $800,000 and the amount requested is $400,000. The project will be broken up into phases in order to allow the City to apply for multiple grants with the same grantor. The selected trees, medjool date palms, are considered highly resistant to disease and drought and will grow to up to 70 feet. While expensive up-front, they are considered a long term investment with low maintenance costs. Matching funds will come from the general fund, surtaxes, and gas taxes.

Previous improvements, including the installation of patterned sidewalks and stainless steel bicycle racks, were completed using American Recovery and Redevelopment Act Funds. The trees will build on this foundation and become a statement to prospective businesses and customers that the City is committed to creating a pedestrian and bicycle friendly downtown core with successful cafes and retail businesses. Further

infrastructure investments, including crosswalks at major intersections, bulbouts, and treated on-street parking are planned for the future as the FDOT repaves NE 125th Street in 2015.

ATTACHMENTS

Resolution
Before and After Exhibits

RESOLUTION NO. _____

A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NORTH MIAMI, FLORIDA, APPROVING THE SUBMITTAL OF GRANT APPLICATIONS AND AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER AND CITY ATTORNEY TO NEGOTIATE AND EXECUTE GRANT, LANDSCAPE CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE AGREEMENTS BETWEEN THE CITY OF NORTH MIAMI AND THE FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FOR FLORIDA HIGHWAY BEAUTIFICATION COUNCIL GRANTS; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE AND FOR ALL OTHER PURPOSES.

WHEREAS, many roadside areas and median strips within Florida Department of Transportation ("FDOT") rights-of-way and within the City of North Miami ("City") must be maintained and attractively landscaped; and

WHEREAS, the area surrounding Northeast 125th Street (SR 922) between Northeast 6th Avenue and Northeast 10th Avenue is considered the City's downtown core and its visual appearance is critical to the economic health and identity of the City; and

WHEREAS, the goal of the City and FDOT is to create a **bold** statement with landscaping expenditures bringing attention to the downtown corridor to attract economic growth and provide a more pedestrian friendly environment; and

WHEREAS, the City has already completed the first phase of improvements using American Recovery and Redevelopment Act funding and wishes to continue with additional phases of improvements including the installation of large trees and lighting to beautify the corridor; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and City Council wish to authorize the submittal of Highway Beautification Council Grant applications from the Florida Department of Transportation, as well as to fully authorize the negotiation and execution of Grant, Landscape Construction, and Maintenance Agreements between the City and FDOT.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT DULY RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NORTH MIAMI, FLORIDA:

Section 1. **Approval of Submittal of Grant Applications.** The Mayor and City

Council of the City of North Miami, Florida, hereby approve the submittal of the City of North Miami's applications for Highway Beautification Council Grants.

Section 2. **Authority to City Manager and City Attorney.** The City Manager and City Attorney are hereby authorized to negotiate and execute grant, landscape construction, and maintenance agreements between the City of North Miami, Florida and the Florida Department of Transportation to obtain grant funds.

Section 3. **Effective Date.** This Resolution shall become effective immediately upon adoption.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by a _____ vote of the Mayor and City Council of the City of North Miami, Florida, this _____ day of September, 2013.

_____
LUCIE M. TONDREAU
MAYOR

ATTEST:

_____
MICHAEL A. ETIENNE, ESQ.
CITY CLERK

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND
LEGAL SUFFICIENCY:

_____
REGINE M. MONESTIME
CITY ATTORNEY

SPONSORED BY: CITY ADMINISTRATION

Moved by: _____

Seconded by: _____

Vote:

Mayor Lucie M. Tondreau	_____ (Yes)	_____ (No)
Vice Mayor Scott Galvin	_____ (Yes)	_____ (No)
Councilperson Carol Keys, Esq.	_____ (Yes)	_____ (No)
Councilperson Philippe Bien-Aime	_____ (Yes)	_____ (No)
Councilperson Marie Erlande Steril	_____ (Yes)	_____ (No)

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CAFE

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STAR

GENE FABRICS
mostly
MODERN

GENE FABRICS
mostly
MODERN

BLOCK INCOME TAX

INCOME TAX

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SUBWAY