

RECEIVED 2014 OCT 13 PM 1:59 CITY CLERK'S OFFICE

OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

NO. LTC# 344-2014

LETTER TO COMMISSION

TO:

Mayor Philip Levine and Members of the City Commission

FROM:

Jimmy L. Morales, City Manager

DATE:

October 9, 2014

SUBJECT: BICYCLE/PEDESTRIAN MASTER PLAN UPDATE

The purpose of this Letter to Commission is to provide an update on the status of the Miami Beach Bicycle/Pedestrian Master Plan Update. This project started in March 2014 and is anticipated to be completed in March 2015. The City engaged a team of bicycle experts comprised of Atkins (prime consultant) and The Street Plans Collaborative (sub-consultant). As part of the Public Involvement task of this project, a second Bicycle/Pedestrian Master Plan Update workshop has been scheduled for November 6, 2014 at the Miami Beach Police Athletic League at 999 11th Street, from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm. The first workshop took place on May 13, 2014 at the Miami Beach Golf Course. Based on the feedback received at the initial workshop, the consulting team has been developing the subsequent tasks of this project.

As part of the Data Collection and Analysis task, the consultant team will be conducting counts during the month of October. Conducting bicycle and pedestrian counts at key locations and time of day will allow the City to understand patterns of use and general estimates of bicycling and walking mode share. The consultant team has been reviewing current capital improvement project plans that are in planning and early design, with the goal of developing a series of design recommendations. The consultant team is working on providing a memorandum detailing the analysis for each neighborhood improvement project, including street sections that prescribe design recommendations. Additionally, the consultant team has been working on the development of the Street Design Guide. The Guide will include a full range of bicycle and pedestrian facilities, traffic calming measures, and intersection treatments that will be used by City planners and engineers as part of future projects.

The update of the Bicycle/Pedestrian Master Plan will focus on context-sensitive facilities to attract more vulnerable and risk-averse populations so that active transportation can continue to play a key role in advancing the City's role as a bicycle-friendly City. As part of the network analysis, the consultant team will identify specific physical barriers that may need to be overcome to make some of the on-street and off-street connections comfortable and safe for users. The consultant team is currently working on providing a draft Network Plan by November 2014.

While bikeways are the most visible element within a bicycle network, bicyclists must also have safe and convenient places to store their bicycles for short term and long term periods. The consultant team is working on a Bicycle Parking Plan with a preliminary draft to be completed this month. The following are the preliminary locations that the consultant team has identified as the most in need of bicycle racks:

- 1. Washington Avenue & 5th Street at CVS pharmacy
- 2. 100 Lincoln Road at Walgreens
- 3. 1265 Washington Avenue at Irish Pub
- 4. 1155 71st Street at Gym
- 5. At Lincoln Lane and Drexel Avenue (in Soundscape Park)
- 6. At North Shore Park
- 7. At locations along 41st Street and 71st Street

The installation of 40 bicycle racks at various locations throughout the City, including locations 1 through 4 above, has been completed. This also includes installation of bicycle racks in response to requests from businesses and residents. Locations 5 through 7 above have been field-verified for the placement of bicycle racks within the next 45 days. Transportation Department staff has been working with the consultant team to identify additional locations where bicycle racks are needed and with Property Management to expedite the installation.

The following tasks are anticipated to begin after the second public workshop is held:

- Education, Encouragement, Enforcement and Evaluation
- Funding, Maintenance and Implementation Plan

The Administration anticipates completing a draft Bicycle/Pedestrian Master Plan by January 2015 for review and Commission approval by March 2015.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

NOB/JRG/XRF

F:\TRAN\\$ALL\LTC\LTC - Update of the Bicycle Pedestrian Master Plan 10082014.docx