

MIAMI BEACH

OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

NO. LTC # *075-2014*

LETTER TO COMMISSION

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TO: Mayor Philip Levine and Members of the City Commission

FROM: Jimmy L. Morales, City Manager

DATE: March 5, 2014

SUBJECT: North Beach Revitalization Strategy Commercial Property/Business Owner-Focused Public Input Meeting.

The purpose of this Letter to the Commission (LTC) is to inform you of staff's continuing efforts to gather public input to serve as the foundation for the North Beach Economic Development and Revitalization Strategy Plan. We are committed to insuring the greatest possible input from the public in order to create the plan. To date, two general public input meetings have been held with approximately 130 attendees at each meeting. Staff has now set a meeting that, while open to the public, will be geared towards issues and obstacles facing commercial property owners and business owners of the area. This meeting has been scheduled for:

**8:00 AM on Tuesday, March 25th
at the Ronald W. Shane Rowing Center,
6500 Indian Creek Drive.**

No member of the public will be discouraged from attending this meeting however, it is expected to focus on specific concerns of business and commercial property owners such as commercial building permits, allowable uses, sidewalk dining, and commercial parking. Previous meetings were held in the early evenings which are not ideal for many business owners, thus, after consulting with a number of North Beach businesses, this meeting has been scheduled for 8:00 am to maximize business participation.

As previously mentioned, we have hosted two general public input workshops thus far; each attended by approximately 130 persons. Economic Development staff is working to compile a master list of all of the concerns raised in the meetings and will be working with each department to ascertain issues/concerns that can be resolved immediately, those which require specific allocations through future budgets, and those that may require more time, coordination with other entities, or further study in order to resolve. Additionally, at least one more general public input workshop will be required in order to discuss several issues with the public in greater depth and to work with the public in prioritizing concerns.

The Economic Development staff is also working to undertake interviews with key stakeholders as identified by the Mayor and Commission as well as the Administration. If you have not yet forwarded to Jeff Oris, our Economic Development Division Director, two to three key stakeholders (individuals with an above average knowledge of North Beach who are residents, business owners, or property owners), I ask you to do so at your earliest convenience.

The public has gotten behind our North Beach efforts and they remain quite engaged and involved which has led to the cultivation of some excellent input. Staff will strive to address the concerns and issues raised and to prepare a realistic and implementable plan for North Beach's future for presentation to the Commission during the summer months.

C: Kathie G. Brooks, Assistant City Manager
Max Sklar, Tourism, Culture, and Economic Development Director
Jeffrey Oris, Economic Development Division Director