

Ms. Perla Tabares Hantman, Vice Chair

SUBJECT: SCHOOL BOARD ENDORSEMENT OF THE MIAMI-DADE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS COMMUNITY TRAFFIC SAFETY TEAM UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

COMMITTEE: INNOVATION, EFFICIENCY AND GOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE

Background

For many years, the School Board and Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) have been partnering to improve student pedestrian/bicycle safety in our communities. In particular, the School District actively participates in the Community Traffic Safety Team (CTST) Program, which was created by FDOT to address community traffic safety issues throughout Miami-Dade County. Team members include representatives from: Miami-Dade County Public Works, Law Enforcement Officers, FDOT, MPO Bicycle Pedestrian Program, local governments and School Board MPO Liaison.

Additional Information

CTST has included many school related safety items during their meetings. However, recognizing that student safety is of primary importance to the community, the team formulated a School Safety Task Force to focus exclusively on public school safety concerns. Since its inception in August 2004, the Task Force has addressed issues dealing with installation and operation of school flashing lights, school speed zone signs, and roadway projects in close proximity to schools. In addition, it is currently working on implementing a District-wide Safe Routes to School Program and educational safety programs for middle and high school students. CTST wishes to build on the success of the Task Force and is recommending enhancing its role by becoming a formal CTST Committee, to be known as the Miami-Dade County Public Schools CTST. While still under the auspices of FDOT, membership would now be expanded to include representatives from the District Division of Safety and Emergency Management, School Police, District Transportation, School Operations, Department of Facilities Planning/MPO Liaison, and representatives from various municipal governments. The Miami-Dade County Public Schools CTST would meet on at least a quarterly basis and report to the Board on issues concerning student safety.

ACTION PROPOSED BY

VICE CHAIR PERLA TABARES HANTMAN: That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, endorse the Miami-Dade County Public Schools Community Traffic Safety Team, under the auspices of the Florida Department of Transportation, and direct the Superintendent to appoint the appropriate District staff to serve on the committee from the District Division of Safety and Emergency Management, School Police, Transportation, School Operations, and Department of Facilities Planning/MPO Liaison.