

Ms. Perla Tabares Hantman, Vice Chair

SUBJECT: SCHOOL BOARD ENDORSEMENT OF TEN SCHOOLS FOR SUBMITTAL UNDER THE SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL INFRASTRUCTURE GRANT PROGRAM, SPONSORED BY THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

COMMITTEE: INNOVATION, EFFICIENCY AND GOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE

LINK TO DISTRICT STRATEGIC PLAN: IMPROVED SAFETY THROUGHOUT THE DISTRICT BY IMPLEMENTING PREVENTATIVE MEASURES AND EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMMING

Background

The Safe Routes to School (SRTS) Infrastructure Grant Program enables and encourages children, including those with disabilities, to walk and bicycle to school, by making pedestrian routes safer and more appealing, thereby encouraging a healthy and active lifestyle from an early age. The U.S. Department of Transportation implemented federal-aid highway funds legislation providing federal grant dollars for infrastructure improvements to establish SRTS programs at public elementary schools nationwide for five fiscal years. The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) is processing all SRTS grant applications at the local level.

At its February 14, 2007 meeting, the School Board endorsed the following 35 schools for inclusion in the SRTS Program, which were submitted and approved by FDOT for infrastructure funding totaling approximately \$2 million.

1. Arcola Lake Elementary School
2. Charles R. Drew Elementary School
3. Earlington Heights Elementary School
4. Holmes Elementary School
5. Kelsey L. Pharr Elementary School
6. Lenora Braynon Smith Elementary School
7. Liberty City Elementary School
8. Lillie C. Evans Elementary School
9. Martin Luther King Elementary School
10. Miami Park Elementary School

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11. Olinda Elementary School
12. Orchard Villa Elementary School
13. Poinciana Park Elementary School
14. Thena C. Crowder Elementary School
15. Dr. Henry W. Mack/West Little River Elementary School
16. Eugenia B. Thomas K-8 Center
17. Bob Graham Education Center
18. Van E. Blanton Elementary School
19. North Miami Elementary School
20. Riverside Elementary School
21. W.J. Bryan Elementary School
22. Pine Villa Elementary School
23. Amelia Earhart Elementary School
24. Miami Shores Elementary School
25. Caribbean Elementary School
26. Ludlam Elementary School
27. Henry M. Flagler Elementary School
28. Joella C. Good Elementary School
29. Southside Elementary School
30. Melrose Elementary School
31. South Pointe Elementary School
32. Barbara Hawkins Elementary School
33. Fulford Elementary School
34. Opa Locka Elementary School
35. Flamingo Elementary School

These schools were chosen in collaboration with the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) and the Miami-Dade County Public Works Department (Public Works), based on having a large population of students that walk to school and are located in areas where there have been high instances of pedestrian traffic accidents involving children between the ages of five and thirteen.

Additional Schools Identified

Based on these criteria, School District staff and our transportation partners (MPO and Public Works) identified the following additional ten elementary schools, which are located in the southern areas of Miami-Dade, for submittal under the next round of SRTS grant applications for fiscal year 2010.

1. Avocado Elementary School
2. Campbell Drive Elementary School
3. Leisure City K-8 Center
4. Naranja Elementary School
5. Irving and Beatrice Peskoe Elementary School
6. Redondo Elementary School
7. South Miami Heights Elementary School
8. Laura C. Saunders Elementary School
9. West Homestead Elementary School
10. William A. Chapman Elementary School

ACTION PROPOSED BY

MS. PERLA TABARES HANTMAN VICE CHAIR: That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, endorse ten additional schools for submittal under the Safe Routes to School Program federal grant program and direct the Superintendent to formalize the grant applications accordingly.