José F. Montes de Oca, Chief Auditor Office of Management and Compliance Audits

SUBJECT:

MIAMI PARTNERSHIP FOR ACTION IN COMMUNITIES

TASKFORCE (PROJECT MPACT)

COMMITTEE:

INNOVATION, EFFICIENCY & GOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS

LINK TO STRATEGIC

FRAMEWORK:

FINANCIAL EFFICIENCY/STABILITY

At the request of School Operations, we performed an audit of Project MPACT, a now defunct program of the school district. The audit examined the program's activities from the 2002-03 through the 2009-10 fiscal years while it was still active in the District. Although we completed our audit fieldwork in August 2010, the issuance of our audit report was delayed pursuant to a communication from the former Chief of Police of the Miami-Dade County Schools Police Department, that was confirmed by the State Attorney's Office, which initiated joint criminal investigations of Project MPACT while our audit fieldwork was in progress. The U.S. Department of Labor's Office of Inspector General had also initiated a concurrent investigation of Project MPACT. On May 15, 2013, the Acting Chief of Schools Police officially informed us that the three investigative agencies had closed out their investigations and we were able to issue our report.

Our audit disclosed numerous instances of material weaknesses, misfeasance, lax management practices, apparent conflicts of interest, waste, abuse and a small case of payroll fraud. We also noted several instances of non-compliance with grant requirements. The administration has provided appropriate responses to our recommendations and is further reviewing possible courses of action to address the issues noted in our report.

The School Board Audit and Budget Advisory Committee reviewed this report at its June 25, 2013, meeting and recommended transmitting it to the School Board.

Copies of this report were distributed and placed on file in the Office of the Recording Secretary to the School Board and in the Citizen Information Center. Additional copies will be provided upon request.

RECOMMENDED: That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, receive and

file the Miami Partnership for Action in Communities Taskforce

(Project MPACT).

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