

Office of School Facilities  
Jaime G. Torrens, Chief Facilities Officer

**SUBJECT: AUTHORIZATION FOR THE SUPERINTENDENT TO WORK COLLABORATIVELY WITH THE CITY OF OPA-LOCKA, OPA-LOCKA COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION AND OTHER RELEVANT PARTIES CONCERNING PROPOSED COMMUNITY REVITALIZATION WITHIN THE CITY OF OPA-LOCKA, INCLUDING THE AREA IMMEDIATELY SURROUNDING DR. ROBERT B. INGRAM ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

**COMMITTEE: FACILITIES PLANNING AND CONSTRUCTION**

**LINK TO STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK: FINANCIAL EFFICIENCY/STABILITY**

On July 21, 2014, District staff met with representatives of the City of Opa-Locka ("City"), City of Opa-Locka Community Development Corporation ("OLCDC"), and Civil Engineering/Design professionals, to discuss the City's concept for a collaborative effort to revitalize and improve targeted areas within the City, including the area immediately surrounding Dr. Robert B. Ingram Elementary School ("School"). The City is seeking to beautify public spaces, including major corridors and gateways to the City, through art and the creation of iconic nodes along Ali Baba Avenue, a portion of which runs adjacent to the School. Among the many proposed improvements, the project envisions aesthetic enhancements to the corridor as well as possible landscaping improvements within the School grounds that could be used by the School as an educational and learning tool.

Development and implementation of the City's project holds the potential of increasing use of public spaces by creating a sense of place for the community. At this juncture, staff is seeking the Board's authorization to continue working with the City, OLCDC and any other relevant parties to further refine the project, including possible educational tie-ins at the School. Should these discussions yield concrete recommendations; a follow-up item will be presented to the Board for review and action.

**RECOMMENDED:**

That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, authorize the Superintendent to work collaboratively with the City of Opa-Locka, Opa-Locka Community Development Corporation and other relevant parties concerning proposed community revitalization within the City of Opa-Locka, including the area immediately surrounding Dr. Robert B. Ingram Elementary School, with a follow-up item to be provided to the Board at such time as the scope of the project and potential educational benefits are further refined.

**MAL:**