

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

SUBJECT: THAT THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, AUTHORIZE THE SUPERINTENDENT TO FINALIZE NEGOTIATIONS AND EXECUTE A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING ("MOU") BETWEEN THE SCHOOL BOARD ("BOARD") AND THE CITY OF MIAMI ("CITY"), COLLECTIVELY THE PARTIES, TO PROVIDE A GENERAL FRAMEWORK UNDER WHICH A COLLABORATION BETWEEN THE CITY AND THE BOARD COULD BE FURTHER FORMULATED TO CO-DEVELOP AND CO-LOCATE A NEW, EXPANDED FIRE STATION AND A FUTURE EDUCATIONAL FACILITY ON THE CITY-OWNED FIRE STATION NO. 4 SITE (1105-1133 S.W. 2 AVENUE) ALL UNDER MUTUALLY ACCEPTABLE TERMS AND CONDITIONS

COMMITTEE: FACILITIES AND CONSTRUCTION

LINK TO STRATEGIC BLUEPRINT: EFFECTIVE AND SUSTAINABLE BUSINESS PRACTICES

Background

As the Board may recall, the District has been exploring opportunities to provide additional educational choices in the general Brickell area south of the Miami River, to meet the demand for new capacity directly resulting from recent and on-going high density residential development. Among the opportunities that have emerged is one which would contemplate a collaborative effort between the City and the Board, to jointly redevelop and co-use a City-owned site (1105-1133 S.W. 2 Avenue) where Fire Station No. 4 is currently located. The subject site is proximate to the existing Southside Elementary School campus and is ideally located within the general Brickell area to meet the neighborhood's goal of a walkable community, where residents are able to work, live and learn with minor reliance on vehicular transportation.

Additional Information

Over the last few months, District, City and DDA (Downtown Development Authority) staff have been discussing the need for additional educational offerings to serve the emerging high density residential areas, both north and south of the Miami River. To that end, funding has been included in the capital plan to address anticipated needs in both areas. Specifically related to the neighborhoods south of the River and now served

primarily by Southside Elementary, discussions among the parties have focused on the scarcity and high cost of land in the area, and the resulting need to identify site solutions that capitalize on the pooling of available public resources as well as co-location and co-funding opportunities.

One such opportunity arises from the City's desire to expand the fire station located on S.W. 2 Avenue, north of S.W. 12 Street, to better serve the area's burgeoning population. District staff has had discussions with both the City Administration and Fire Department officials about the possibility of co-developing and co-locating an educational facility with an expanded fire station facility at this location and, while discussions are on-going, there appears to be considerable common ground warranting further discussions and a more in-depth exploration of this opportunity.

As a result, District staff is proposing that a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) be formulated and executed setting forth the general framework under which the above described collaboration could take place, and as a pre-cursor to a future and more detailed Interlocal Agreement (ILA). Any such ILA would be presented to the Board for approval at the appropriate time and prior to execution.

RECOMMENDED:

That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, authorize the Superintendent to finalize negotiations and execute a Memorandum of Understanding ("MOU") between the School Board ("Board") and the City of Miami ("City"), collectively the Parties, to provide a general framework under which a collaboration between the City and the Board could be further formulated to co-develop and co-locate a new, expanded fire station and a future educational facility on the City-owned fire station no. 4 site (1105-1133 S.W. 2 Avenue) all under mutually acceptable terms and conditions.

JT:sj