


CITY OF CORAL GABLES

--MEMORANDUM--



The City Beautiful

TO: Mayor and City Commission
City Manager, Cathy Swanson-Rivenbark

FROM: Commissioner Vince Lago 

DATE: May 7, 2018

SUBJECT: TPO Funding Opportunity via SMART Plan Demonstration Projects, General transportation update postponed to 5/22 Commission Meeting.

- 1) As the TPO Governing Board member representative for the City of Coral Gables, I am pleased to announce the SMART Demonstration Projects Cycle for Fiscal Year 2019. The Miami-Dade Transportation Planning Organization (TPO) unanimously approved Resolution #14-18 endorsing the identification and implementation of demonstration projects that advance elements of the Strategic Miami Area Rapid Transit (SMART) Plan. The TPO is seeking SMART Plan demonstration project proposals with a duration of up to no more than three years, with a commitment to continue the project if deemed successful by the project sponsor. Funding is a collaborative effort, and depending on the scope and cost of the demonstration project, the TPO may seek federal and/or state funds to be allocated up to one half of the net project cost. SMART Plan demonstration project eligibility is categorized as follows: 1) New Routes with connectivity to the SMART Plan; 2) New Stations with connectivity to the SMART Plan; and 3) New Transit Facilities with connectivity to the SMART Plan, that advance elements of the SMART Plan, and increases service to the traveling public.

The Miami-Dade TPO has invited local agencies located in Miami-Dade County to submit applications that can be developed for Fiscal Year 2019. A local match minimum pledge of 50% of estimated project cost is required of all applicants. Recognizing the importance of this opportunity, I encouraged City staff to meet with TPO Deputy Director, Jesus Guerra on May 2nd so that project guidelines could be discussed in further detail.

I highly encourage the City of Coral Gables to submit a project idea no later than the deadline on May 21, 2018, 5:00 pm to ensure we are in the applicant pool. The City should take advantage of opportunities such as this one so that we can enhance our city's services. Your support is instrumental so that we can secure this funding. (Please see related documentation enclosed).

2) On a separate topic, I was hoping for a comprehensive update on transportation related initiatives such as the interlocal agreement, traffic calming measures and any other pending updates pertaining to ongoing transportation initiatives. After a conversation with Public Works Director Ed Santamaria, I have agreed to defer the update and would like for it to take place during the May 22 Commission meeting.

CC:

Assistant City Manager, Peter Iglesias
City Attorney, Miriam Ramos
Public Works Director, Ed Santammaria
Parking Director, Kevin Kinney