# Memorandum COUNTY

Date:	December 1, 2021	
To:	Honorable Chairman Jose "Pepe" Diaz and Members, Board of County Commissioners	Agenda Item No. 5(G)
From:	Lourdes M. Gomez, Director Department of Regulatory and Economic Resources	Resolution No. R-1138-21
Subject:	Class I Permit Application by Miami-Dade Cou Transportation and Public Works	inty, through its Department of

# **Recommendation**

I have reviewed the attached application for a Class I permit by Miami-Dade County, through its Department of Transportation and Public Works, and based upon the applicable evaluation factors set forth in Section 24-48.3 of the Code of Miami-Dade County (Code), I recommend that the Board of County Commissioners (Board) approve the issuance of a Class I permit for the reasons set forth below.

Pursuant to Ordinance No. 16-73, this quasi-judicial matter may be submitted directly for placement on the Board's meeting agenda by the Director of the Department of Regulatory and Economic Resources.

# **Scope**

The project site extends along Northeast 151 Street from the intersection of U.S. Route 1 to Bay Vista Boulevard within the City of North Miami, Florida, in Commission District 4, which is represented by Commissioner Sally A. Heyman.

# **Delegation of Authority**

This item has no delegation of authority. Upon approval of this item, Section 24-48.2(C)(2) of the Code authorizes the Department to issue the permit, provided that other Code requirements are satisfied, such as submittal of final plans and bonds, and to require additional conditions, limitations, and restrictions if consistent with this Board's approval.

# **Fiscal Impact/Funding Source**

This resolution is a regulatory approval and does not have a fiscal impact.

# Track Record/Monitor

The Coastal Resources Section Manager, McKee Gray, in the Department of Regulatory and Economic Resources, Division of Environmental Resources Management (DERM), will be responsible for monitoring the proposed permit.

# Background

The subject Class I permit application requests authorization for the filling of 14,969 sq. ft. of wetlands that support halophytic (salt tolerant) vegetation and the removal of 4,014 sq. ft. of mangrove canopy in association with the proposed improvements along an approximately 4,600 foot long section of road extending along Northeast 151 Street from the intersection of U.S Route 1 to Bay Vista Boulevard in the City of North Miami, Miami-Dade County, Florida. To be approved, this application must be reviewed and decided by the Board after a public hearing because the filling of halophytic wetlands and the trimming of mangroves in a Coastal Band Community is specifically referenced in Section 24-48.2 of the Code as work that shall be processed with a standard form application, including a public hearing.

Honorable Chairman Jose "Pepe" Diaz and Members, Board of County Commissioners Page 2

The subject project area contains an existing asphalt road that serves as the sole access route, including during emergency evacuations for FIU Biscayne Bay Campus, Alonso and Tracy Mourning Senior High School, Marine Academy of Arts and Sciences (MAST) Magnet High School, and David Lawrence Jr. K-8 Center. The roadway also serves as the primary access to the Sole Mia residential community. The Applicant has indicated that the road as currently constructed frequently floods and does not adequately address traffic and emergency evacuation needs. Furthermore, the existing road does not include a designated bike lane or continuous sidewalks for pedestrian access. While the majority of the proposed work will take place on upland property and within the footprint of the existing road, median and road shoulders. However, in order to elevate the road to alleviate flooding and provide for operational safety enhancements, a portion of the work would result in the filling of wetlands and trimming of mangroves. Specifically, this proposed filling of wetlands and trimming of mangroves. No temporary impacts to wetlands are proposed under the subject along the adjacent uplands. No temporary impacts to wetlands are proposed under the subject application.

Filling work proposed in a Class I application shall comply with at least one of the criteria listed in Section 24-48.3(2) of the Code. While the elevation of this area would necessarily impact the wetlands adjacent to the current linear upland, the proposed work has been designed to minimize impacts to the wetlands, including the installation of a retaining wall in lieu of side slopes. The elevation of the existing roadway and infrastructure, including the existing sidewalk, is needed to reduce flooding of the roadway and sidewalk. For example, in times of a major weather event this proposed elevation of the existing roadway and infrastructure would also help to adequately and safely facilitate transportation and emergency evacuations of the adjacent schools and areas. As the work is a physical modification necessary to protect public or private property, the proposed project complies with the requirements in Section 24-48.3(2)(f) of the Code, which applies to dredging and filling work proposed in a Class I permit application.

The proposed work would impact mangroves that have been designated by the Miami-Dade County Comprehensive Development Master Plan (CDMP) as a Mangrove Protection Area. Cutting, trimming, pruning or other alteration including dredging or filling of mangroves within a Mangrove Protection Area must be consistent with the criteria outlined in the Coastal Management Element of the CDMP. In addition, the project must be consistent with the criteria outlined in the Conservation, Aquifer Recharge, and Drainage Element of the CDMP. The proposed work includes operational safety enhancements such as elevating the road and the sidewalk to alleviate flooding along an emergency evacuation route for the adjacent schools and residential community. The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) conducted a feasibility study to evaluate potential roadway alternative routes to alleviate traffic concerns in the area, including improving access for emergency response vehicles (Improving Access at Florida International University Biscayne Bay Campus, July 2020 on file with the Department). The alternative routes were evaluated based on various factors, including potential environmental impact. The FDOT study concluded that the improvements proposed to Northeast 151 Street would result in significantly less environmental impacts as compared to the other alternatives, several of which would have necessitated substantial filling of halophytic wetlands and the removal of Coastal Band Community mangroves within designated Mangrove Protection Areas. The proposed elevation and improvements to Northeast 151 Street under the subject Class I permit application would primarily occur within the footprint of the existing road or within the adjacent uplands. As discussed above, the project has been designed to minimize the impact to wetlands and only impacts a narrow area of wetlands along the existing linear uplands. Furthermore, the project avoids any impacts to

Honorable Chairman Jose "Pepe" Diaz and Members, Board of County Commissioners Page 3

wetlands in the area subject to the Clean Water Act Section 404(c) along the south side of the existing road. For all of the reasons stated herein, the proposed work is consistent with the CDMP as the work is clearly in the public interest and is in a location where no reasonable upland alternative exists. Furthermore, the proposed mangrove trimming and alteration has been minimized and would be done in a manner that preserves the function of the mangrove system and does not adversely affect habitat. The Class I permit would include authorization for future maintenance trimming and alteration of mangroves along the road to maintain clearance, should mangroves grow into this area.

Pursuant to Section 24-48.4 of the Code, potential adverse environmental impacts and cumulative adverse environmental impacts for a proposed project must be avoided and minimized and mitigation is required for permittable projects that otherwise result in adverse environmental impacts. While the proposed road would be installed in generally the same footprint as the existing road, in order to prevent flooding and provide operational safety enhancements, the roadway would be elevated and expanded to the north resulting in the filling of 14,969 sq. ft. of wetlands and the removal of 4,014 sq. ft. of mangrove canopy. In order to minimize impacts to adjacent wetlands by the subject road improvements, the Applicant is proposing to install a retaining wall in lieu of side slopes. Furthermore, drainage improvements associated with the proposed roadway would eliminate direct runoff from the existing roadway and is therefore reasonably expected to reduce water quality impacts associated with direct roadway runoff and associated soil erosion. Any temporary water quality impacts would be minimized through the implementation of proper turbidity controls, including silt fencing, throughout construction operations to ensure that State and County water quality standards are met. The project area would be maintained free of exotic pest plants and nuisance species in accordance with the Class I permit conditions. To mitigate for otherwise permittable impacts to wetlands and the trimming of mangroves, the Applicant has proposed the purchase of saltwater mitigation bank credits from the Florida Power and Light Company's Everglades Mitigation Bank (FPL EMB), which would restore, enhance, and preserve coastal wetlands in accordance with federal, State and local regulations.

The project has been designed in accordance with all relevant Miami-Dade County coastal construction criteria and is consistent with all other Miami-Dade County coastal protection provisions. Please find attached a DERM Project Report which also sets forth the reasons the proposed project is recommended for approval by DERM pursuant to the applicable evaluation factors and criteria as set forth in Section 24-48.3 of the Code. The conditions, limitations, and restrictions set forth in the Project Report attached hereto are incorporated herein by references hereto.

#### **Attachments**

- Attachment A: Class I Permit Application
- Attachment B: Owner/Agent Letter, Engineer Letter and Project Sketches
- Attachment C: Names and Addresses of Owners of All Riparian or Wetland Property within Three Hundred (300) Feet of the proposed Work.
- Attachment D: Zoning Memorandum
- Attachment E: DERM Project Report

Attachment A

**Class I Permit Application** 

# Class I Permit Application

FOR DEPARTMENTAL USE ONLY				
Date Received:			on Number:	
		Applicati	on Fee:	
Application must be filled out in its enti	rety. Please indicate N/A	for non-appl	icable fields.	
Phone #: (305) 468-5900 Fax#: Email: Miguel.Soria@miamida * This should be the applicant's information for contact par	ami, Florida Code: <u>33312</u> ade.gov	Apent is a the applic Name: Bria Address: 2 Fort Laud Phone #: Email: bvo	ation and bind the applicant to all n an Voelker/E Sciences 224 SE 9th Street erdale, Florida Zip Fax nelker@esciencesinc.com	furnish supplemental information relating to equirements of the application.
3. Location where proposed activity exis Folio #(s): N/A - (roadway improvements) Street Address: NE 151st Street and Biscayne In City or Town: North Miami Name of waterway at location of the activity	Boulevard S	atitude: <u>25°</u> Section: <u>16,17,</u> Near City or To	21,22 Township: 52S	de: 80° 08'57.17"
New/Replacement Seawall Pie	ock(s) Boat	ring Piles er Piles	Dredging Maintenance New Filling	Mangrove Trimming Mangrove Removal
Other: Roadway improvements				
Estimated project cost = \$_\$2,082,572				
Are you seeking an after-the-fact approval	(ATF)? ☐Yes ☑No	If "Yes", de	scribe the ATF work:	
5. Proposed Use (check all that apply): Single Family Multi-Family Private Public Commercial Industrial Utility	(please also indicate if t Proposed Vessel Type (s) Vessel Make/Model (If k	he applicant c ): N/A mown): .):	does not have a vessel): Length (s)(range in feet	
7. List all permits or certifications that	have been applied for or a	obtained for t	he above referenced wo	rk:
Issuing Agency Type of Appro			Application Date	Approval Date
USACOE Sec 404	SAJ-2009	9-00204	4-23-2018	4/22/2019

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8. Contractor Informat	ion (If known):		
Name: Pending		License	# (County/State):
Address:			Zip Code:
Phone #:	Fax #:	E-mail:	

9. IMPORTANT NOTICE TO APPLICANTS: The written consent of the property owner is required for all applications to be considered complete. Your application WILL NOT BE PROCESSED unless the Applicant and Owner Consent portion of the application is completed below. You have the obligation to apprise the Department of any changes to information provided in this application.

Application is hereby made for a Miami-Dade County Class I permit to authorize the activities described herein. I agree to or affirm the following:

- I possess the authority to authorize the proposed activities at the subject property, and ٠
- . I am familiar with the information, data and plans contained in this application, and
- To the best of my knowledge and belief, the information, data and plans submitted are true, complete and accurate, and
- I will provide any additional information, evidence or data necessary to provide reasonable assurance that the proposed project will . comply with the applicable State and County water quality standards both during construction and after the project is completed, and
- I am authorizing the permit agent listed in Section 2 of this application to process the application, furnish supplemental information ٠ relating to this application and bind the applicant to all requirements of this application, and
- I agree to provide access and allow entry to the project site to inspectors and authorized representatives of Miami-Dade County for ٠ the purpose of making the preliminary analyses of the site and to monitor permitted activities and adherence to all permit conditions.

#### A. IF APPLICANT IS AN INDIVIDUAL

Signature of Applicant	Print Applicant'	's Name		Date	e
IF APPLICANT IS OTHER THAN		ATURAL PER	SON		
(Examples: Corporation, Partnership,	, , , , , ,				
Miami-Dade County Department of Transportation and P	Public Works Gov't			FL	
rint Name of Applicant (Enter the complete name a egistration/Incorporation	as registered) T	ype (Corp, LLC, LL	P, etc.)	State of	
der the penalty of perjury, I certify that I	have the authority to sign th	is application on	behalf of the A	onlicant, to b	ind the
plicant, and if so required to authorize the	issuance of a bond on beha	If of the Applican	t. (If asked, yo	u must provid	e proof of s
hority to the Department). ***Please No	te: If additional signatures	are required, put	suant to your	governing doc	uments,
erating agreements, or other applicable ag		attach additional			
to half	Miguel Soria, P.E.		Assistant	Director	10/26
ignature of Authorized Representative	Print Authorized Represent	ative's Name 7	ïtle		Date
	s registered) T	ype (Corp, LLC, LLI	, etc.)	State of	
rint Name of Applicant (Enter the complete name a	is registered) T	ype (Corp, LLC, LLI	P, etc.)	State of	
	is registered) T	ype (Corp, LLC, LLI	P, etc.)	State of	
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egistration/Incorporation rint Name of Applicant (Enter the complete name a egistration/Incorporation	is registered) T	ype (Corp, LLC, LLI	P, etc.)	State of	
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10. WRITTEN CONSENT OF TH	E PROPERTY OWNER OF	THE AREA OF THE P	ROPOSED WORK			
I/We are the fee simple owner(s) of the real property located at NE 151st Street and Biscayne Boulevard Miami-Dade						
County, Florida, otherwise identified in the public records of Miami-Dade County as Folio No. N/A						
I am aware and familiar with the contents of this application for a Miami-Dade County Class I Permit to perform the work on or adjacent						
to the subject property, as described in Section 4 of this application. I possess the riparian rights to the area of the proposed work (if						
applicable) and hereby consent to the work identified in this Class I Permit application.						
A. IF THE OWNER(S) IS AN IN	DIVIDUAL					
Signature of Owner						
Signature of Owner	Print Owner's Name		Date			
Signature of Owner	Print Owner's Name		Date			
-						
B. IF THE OWNER IS OTHER (Examples: Corporation, Partnershi						
Miami-Dade County Department of T	ransportation and Public Works	Gov't	FL			
Print Name of Owner (Enter the complete n	ame as registered)	Type (Corp, LLC, LLP, etc.)	State of Registration/Incorporation			
111 NW 1st Street, 15th Floor, Mia	ami, Florida, 33312					
Address of Owner						
Under the penalty of perjury, I certify	that I have the authority to sign	this application on behalf o	of the Owner, to bind the			
Owner, and if so required to authorize	the issuance of a bond on behal	f of the Owner, (If asked, vo	an much anomide manufal inch			
authority to the Department). ***Ple:	ase Note: If additional signatur	es are required, nursuant to	ou must provide proof of such			
authority to the Department). ***Ple: operating agreements, or other applic	ase Note: If additional signatur	es are required, pursuant to	your governing documents,			
operating agreements, or other application	ase Note: If additional signatur	es are required, pursuant to	your governing documents,			
authority to the Department). ***Ple: operating agreements, or other applic: Signature of Acthorized Representative	ase Note: If additional signatur able agreements or laws, you mu Print Authorized Representative's ?	es are required, pursuant to st attach additional signatu Name Title	re pages. *** Date			
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Operating agreements, or other applics	ase Note: If additional signatur able agreements or laws, you mu Print Authorized Representative's Miguel Soria, P.E.	es are required, pursuant to st attach additional signatu Name Title Assistant Dire	Date Date 10/26/2020			

# Please Review Above

Appropriate signature(s) must be included in:

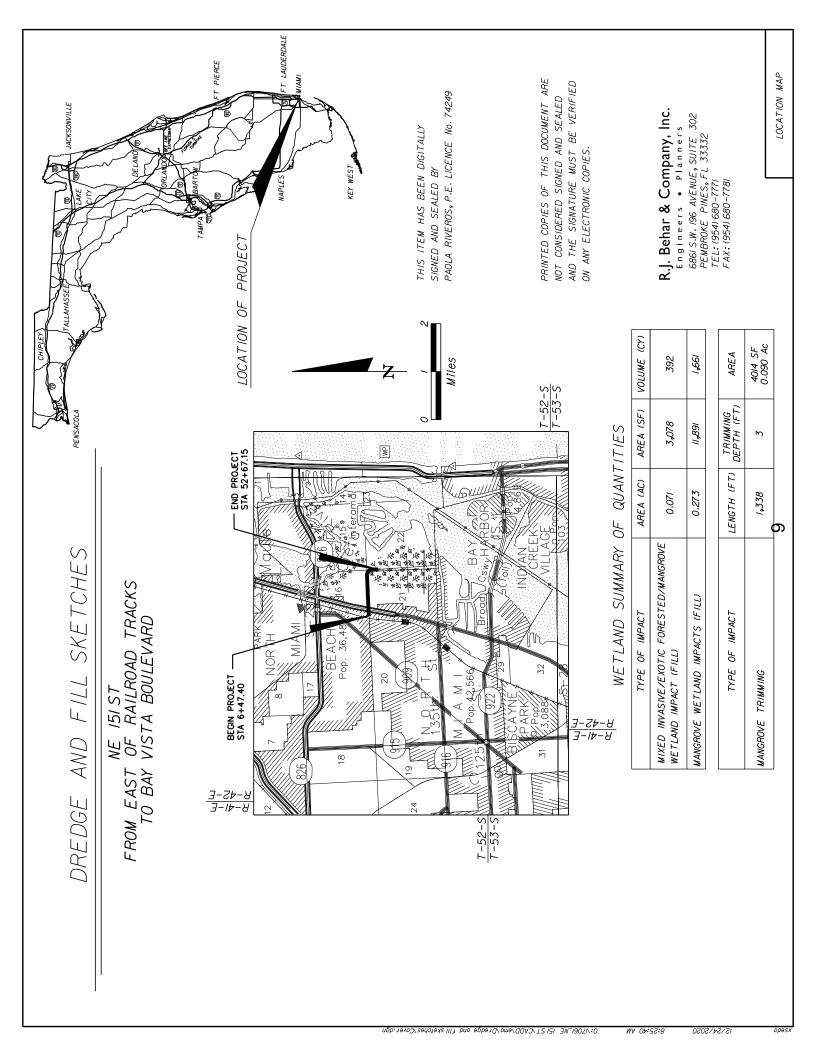
Box 9: either A, B or C

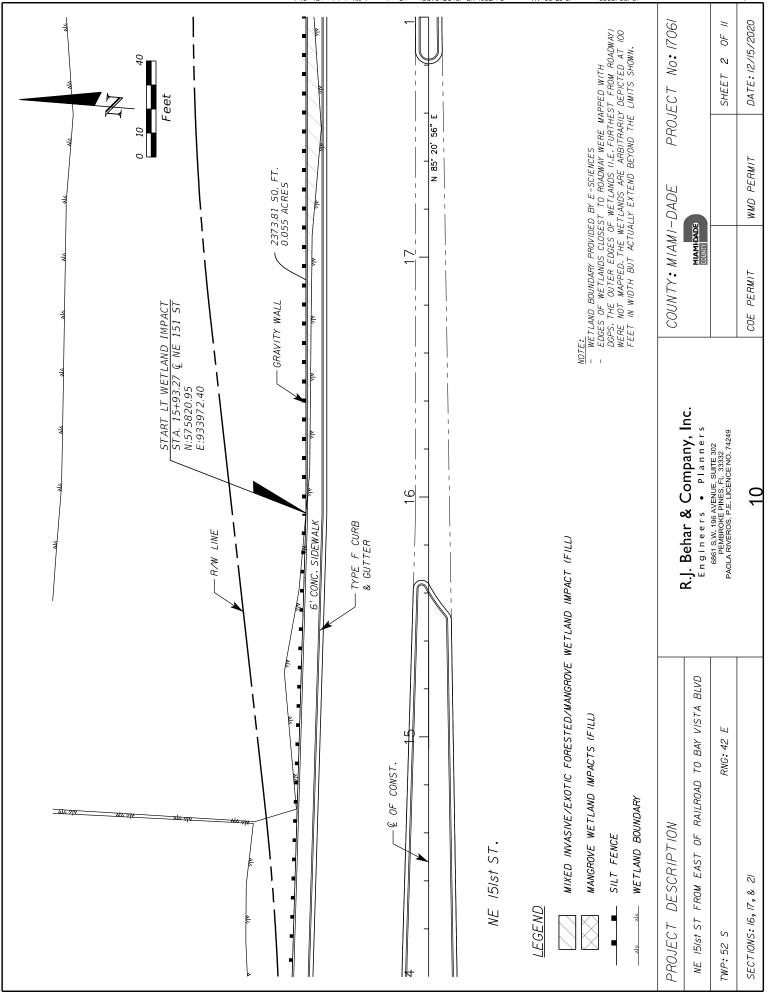
<u>AND</u>

Box 10: either A or B

Attachment B

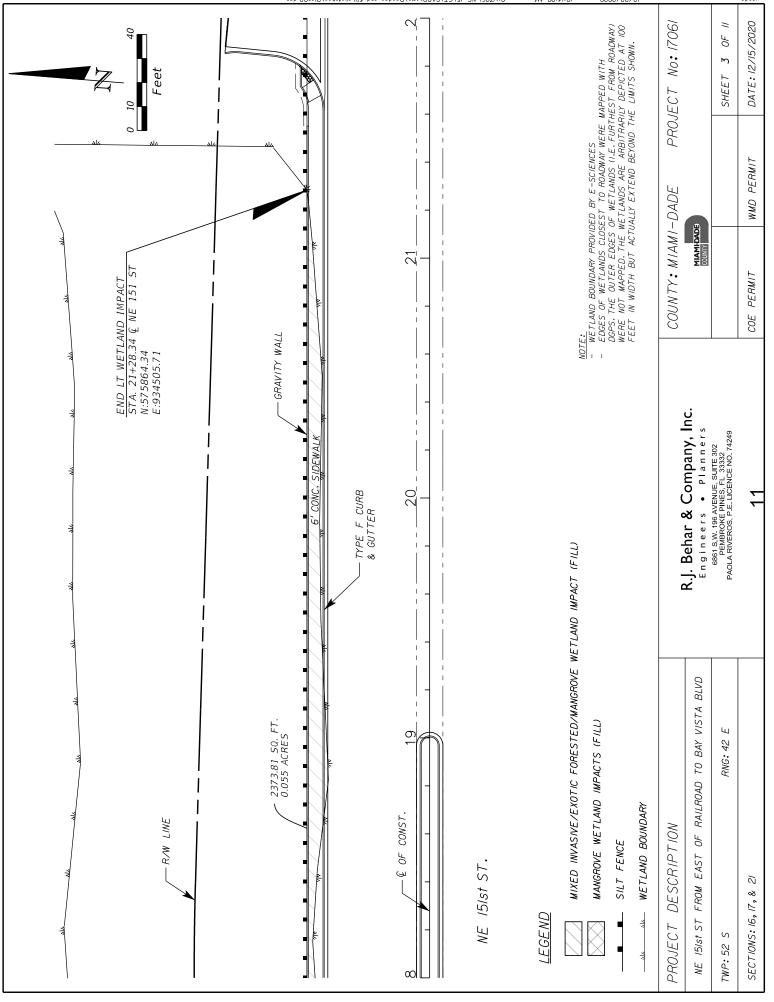
**Owner/Agent Letter, Engineer Letter and Project Sketch** 





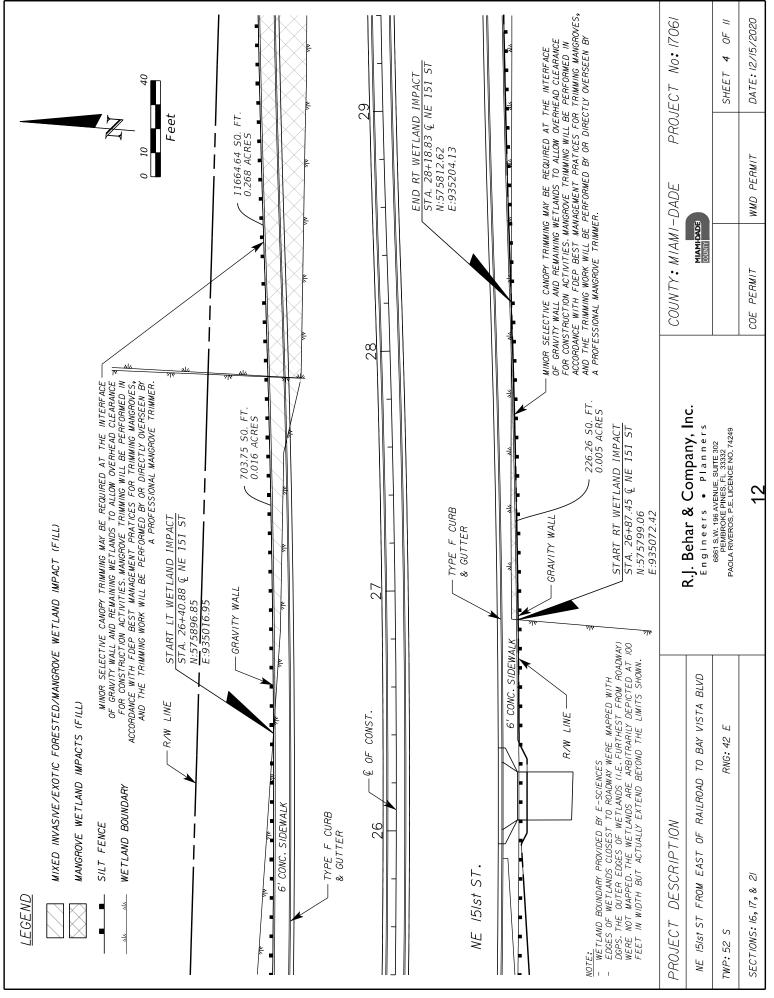
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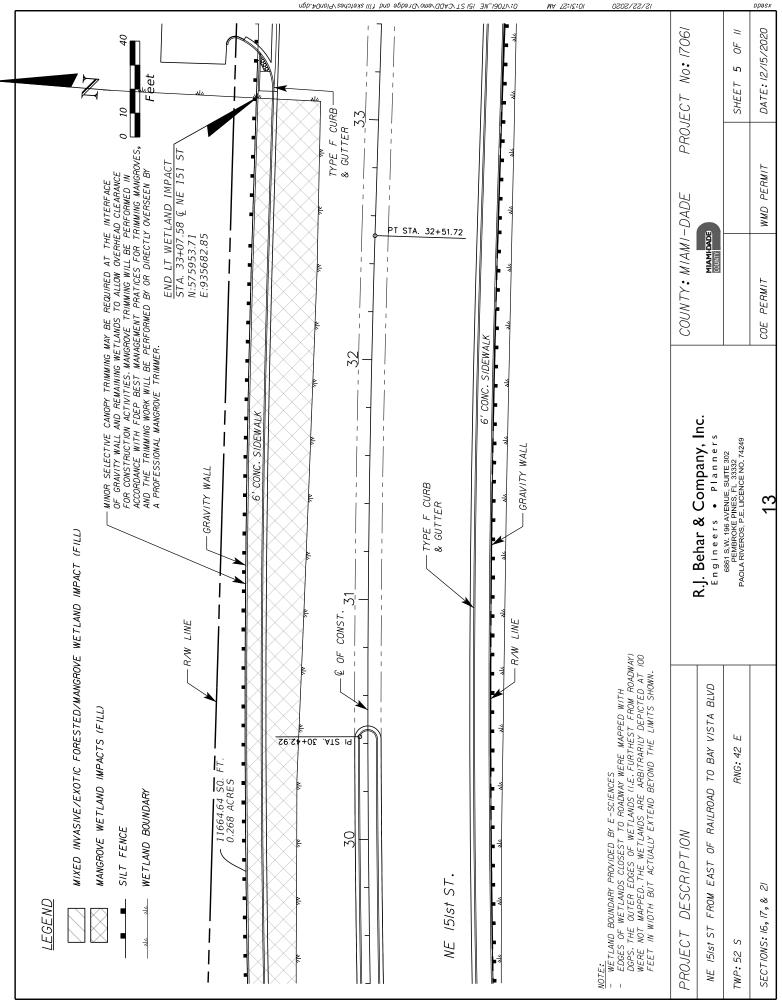
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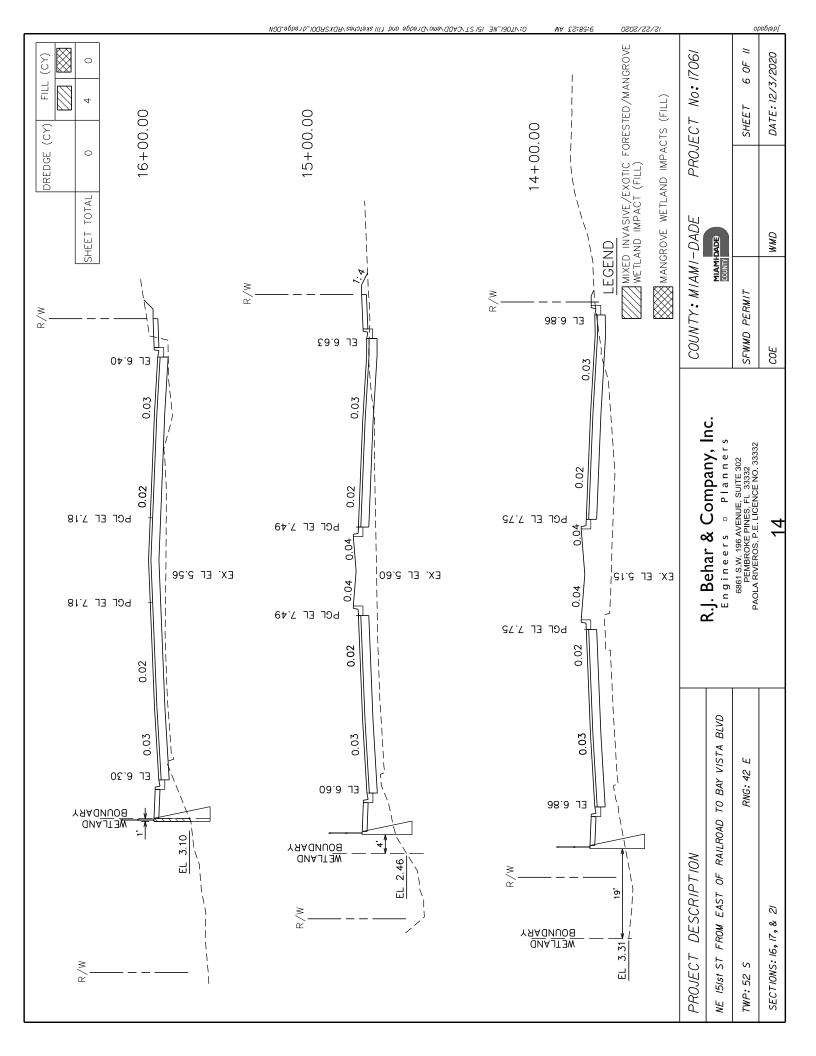
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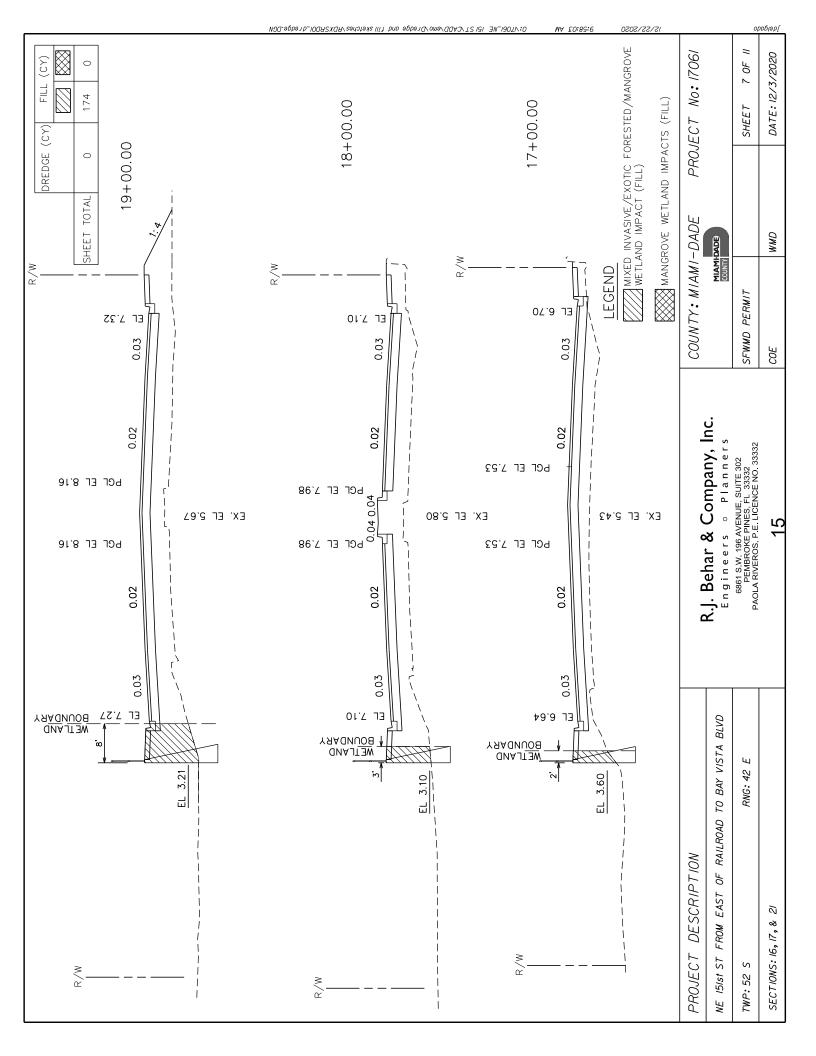
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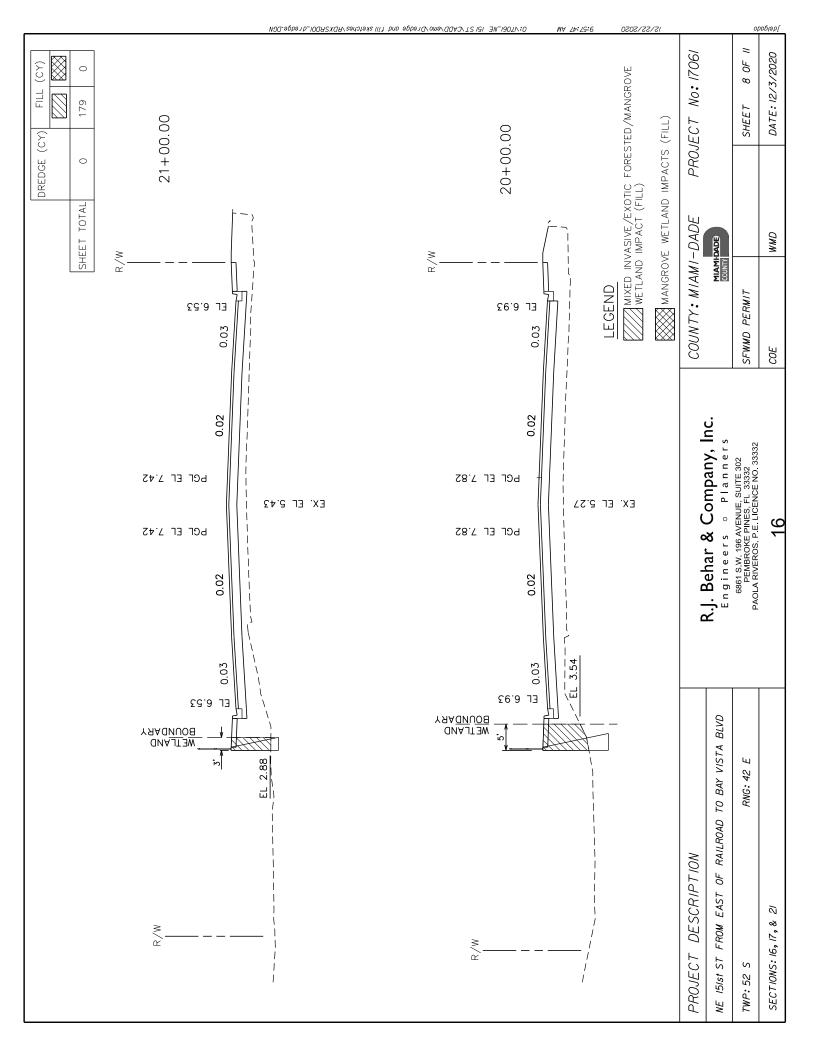


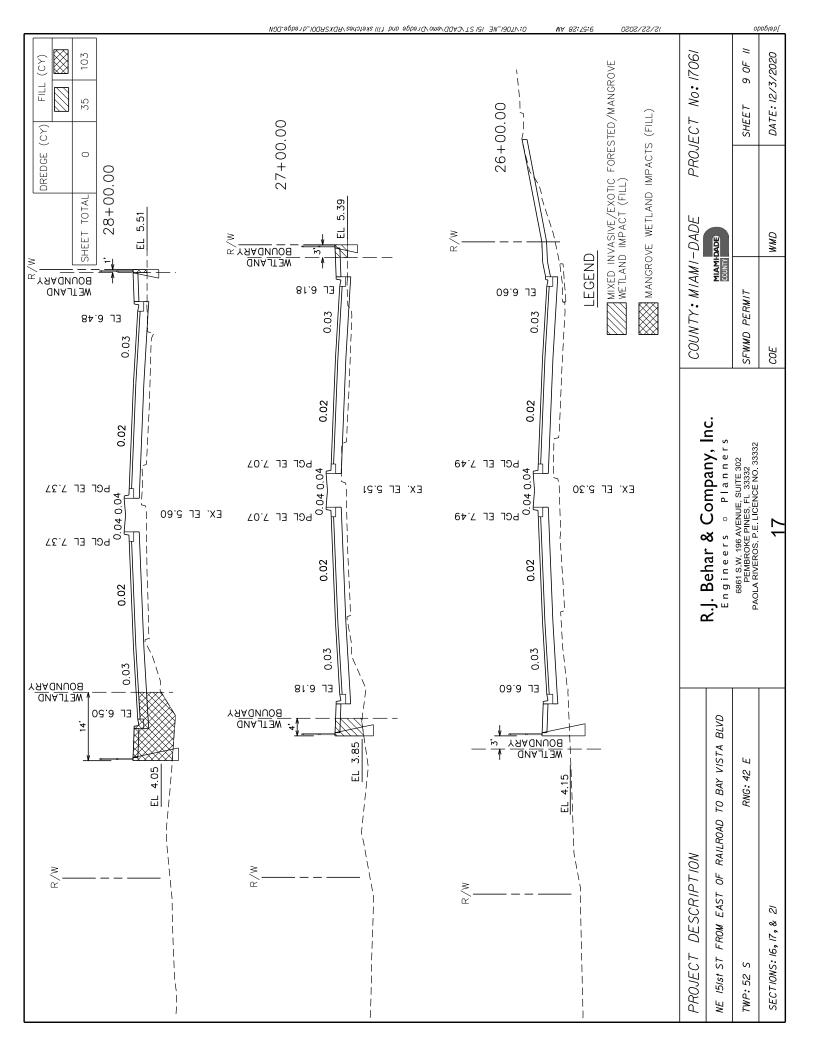
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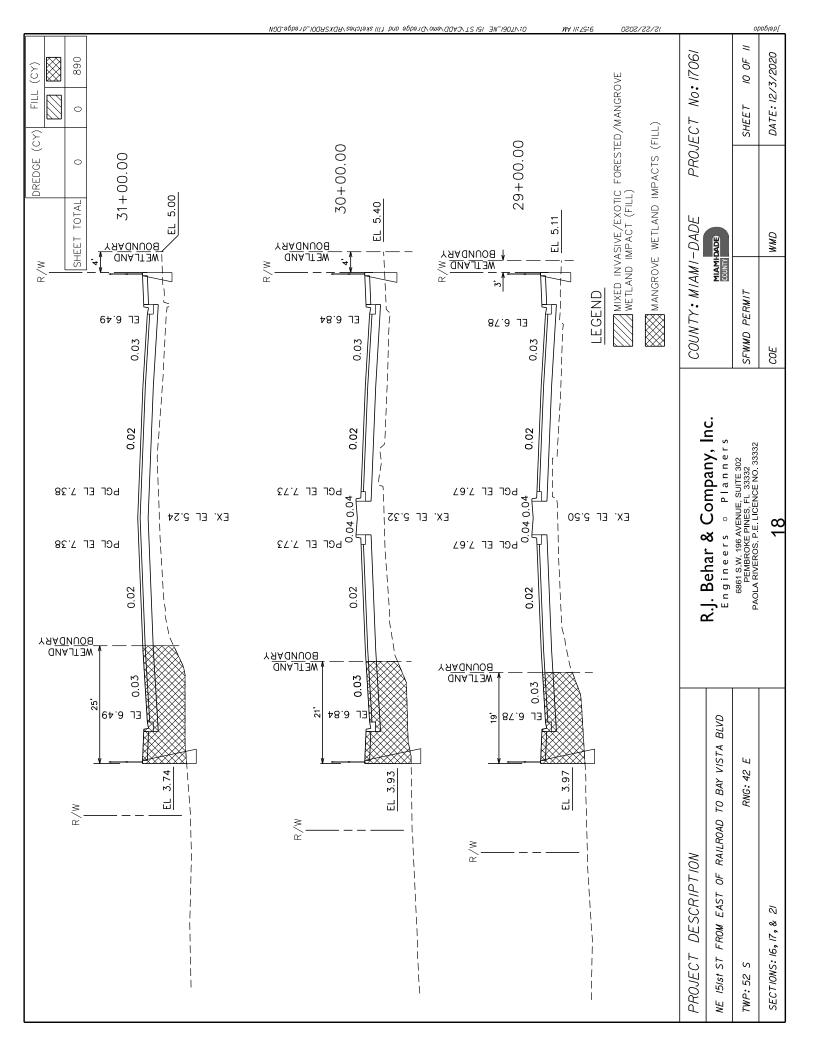
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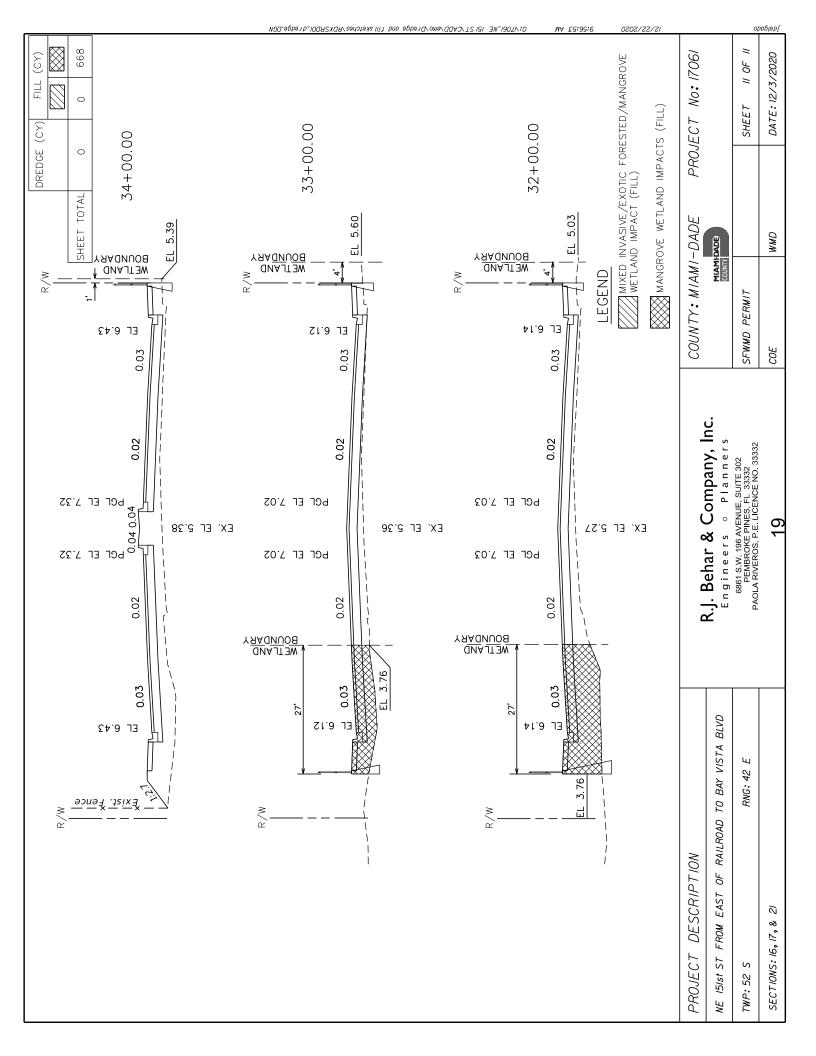












#### PERMIT APPLICANT / AUTHORIZED AGENT STATEMENT

Date: 2/2/2021

Miami Dade County Department of Regulatory and Economic Resources Class I Permitting Program 701 NW 1<sup>st</sup> Court Miami, FL 33136

Re: Class I Standard Form Permit Application Number CLI-2018-0478

By the attached Class I Standard Form permit application with supporting documents, I, Brian Voelker, am the authorized permit agent and hereby request permission to perform the work associated with Class I Permit Application CLI-2018-0478. I understand that a Miami-Dade County Class I Standard Form Permit is required to perform this work.

If approval is granted for the proposed work by the Board of County Commissioners, complete and detailed plans and calculations of the proposed work shall be prepared by an engineer licensed in the State of Florida in accordance with the minimum requirements of Chapter 24 of the Code of Miami-Dade County, Florida. Said plans and calculations shall be subject to the review and approval of the Department. The permit applicant will secure the services of an engineer licensed in the State of Florida to conduct inspections throughout the construction period, and said engineer shall prepare all required drawings of record. In the event that the proposed work which is the subject of this Class I Permit application involves the cutting or trimming of a mangrove tree(s), a detailed plan of the proposed cutting or trimming shall be prepared by a licensed landscape architect and submitted to the Department for review and approval, and the permit applicant will secure the services of a licensed landscape architect to supervise the trimming or cutting.

Respectfully submitted,

1 an Voella

#### ENGINEER LETTER OF CERTIFICATION

Date: 2/2/2021

Miami-Dade County Department of Regulatory and Economic Resources Class I Permitting Program 701 NW 1<sup>st</sup> Court Miami, Florida 33136

RE: Class I Permit Application Number CLI-2018-0478

Ladies and Gentlemen:

This letter will certify that I am an engineer licensed in the State of Florida, qualified by education and experience in the area of engineering design and inspection, and that to the best of my knowledge and belief, the proposed work does not violate any laws, rules, or regulations of the State of Florida or any provisions of the Code of Miami-Dade County which may be applicable; that diligence and recognized standard practices of the engineering profession have been exercised in the engineer's design of the proposed work; and in my opinion based upon my knowledge and belief, the following will not occur:

- a. Harmful obstruction or undesirable alteration of the natural flow of the water within the area of the proposed work.
- b. Harmful or increased erosion, shoaling of channels or stagnant areas of water. (Not applicable to class IV permits)
- c. Material injury to adjacent property.
- d. Adverse environmental impacts from changes in water quality or quantity. (Applicable to class IV permits only)

Further, I have been retained by the applicant to provide inspections throughout the construction period and to prepare a set of reproducible record prints of drawings showing changes made during the construction process based upon the marked-up prints, certified surveys, drawings, and other data furnished by the contractor to me.

Sincerely,

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<u>Robert J. Behar, PE</u> <u>Principal</u> <u>R.J. Behar & Company</u>, Inc. P.E. #<u>21755</u>

Attachment C

Names and Addresses of Owners of All Riparian or Wetland Property within Three Hundred (300) Feet of the Proposed Work City of North Miami Finance Department PO Box 610847 North Miami, FL 33261

One Fifty One at Biscayne Condo Association, Inc Lessee 15051 Royal Oaks Lane Miami, FL 33181

City of North Miami 776 NE 125<sup>th</sup> Street North Miami, FL 33161-5654

City of North Miami Finance Department PO Box 610847 North Miami, FL 33261

TIITIF/DNR-DIV Rec and Parks Oleta River State Recreation Area % DNR Douglas Building Tallahasee, FL 32399

# Attachment D

Zoning Memorandum



Date: October 15, 2021 To: Hrace Charg McKee Gray, Manager **Coastal Resources Section** Department of Regulatory and Economic Resources From: Tammy Burton, Biologist II **Coastal Resources Section** Department of Regulatory and Economic Resources Subject: Class I Permit Application by Miami-Dade County, through its Department of Transportation and Public Works for the Filling of Wetlands Supporting Halophytic Vegetation in Association with Improvements to 151 Street, located between U.S. Route 1 and Bay Vista Boulevard, in the City of North Miami, Miami-Dade County, Florida.

Pursuant to Section 24-48.2(II)(B)(7), of the Code of Miami-Dade County, Florida, a substantiating letter or plan approval shall be submitted by the applicant stating that the proposed project does not violate any zoning laws. Said letter or plan approval will be submitted after approval by the Miami-Dade County Board of County Commissioners and prior to issuance of the Class I permit.

Attachment E

**DERM Project Report** 

# **CLASS I PERMIT APPLICATION NO. CLI-2018-0478**

Class I Permit Application by Miami-Dade County, through its Department of Transportation and Public Works for the Filling of Wetlands Supporting Halophytic Vegetation in Association with Improvements to 151 Street, located between U.S. Route 1 and Bay Vista Boulevard, in the City of North Miami, Miami-Dade County, Florida.

DATE: October 8, 2021

Staff's recommendation of approval for the above-referenced permit application is based on the applicable evaluation factors under Section 24-48.3 of the Code of Miami-Dade County, Florida (Code). The following is a summary of the proposed project and staff's opinion to its conformance with respect to each applicable evaluation factor:

- 1. Potential Adverse Environmental Impact Pursuant to Section 24-48.4 of the Code, potential adverse environmental impacts and cumulative adverse environmental impacts for a proposed project must be avoided and minimized and mitigation is required for permittable projects that otherwise result in adverse environmental impacts. While the proposed road would be installed in generally the same footprint as the existing road, in order prevent flooding and provide operational safety enhancements, the roadway would be elevated and expanded to the north resulting in the filling of 14,969 square feet of wetlands and the removal of 4,014 square feet of mangrove canopy. In order to minimize impact to adjacent wetlands by the subject road improvements, the Application is proposing to install a retaining wall in lieu of side slopes. As discussed above, the Applicant has proposed the purchase of saltwater mitigation bank credits from the Florida Power and Light Company's Everglades Mitigation Bank. Furthermore, it is reasonably expected that the direct runoff associated with the existing asphalt road would be eliminated through the drainage improvements associated with the proposed roadway, and therefore is expected to increase water quality in the adjacent halophytic wetlands. The project area would be maintained free of exotic pest plants and nuisance species in accordance with the Class I permit conditions. Any temporary water quality impacts would be minimized through the implementation of proper turbidity controls, including silt fencing, throughout construction operations to ensure that State and County water quality standards are met. In addition, the installation of retaining walls along the sides of the improved road reducing the direct road runoff would further eliminate erosion and turbidity into the future.
- 2. <u>Potential Cumulative Adverse Environmental Impact</u> The proposed project is not reasonably expected to result in cumulative adverse environmental impacts as set forth in Number 1 above.
- 3. <u>**Hvdrology**</u> The proposed project is not reasonably expected to adversely affect surface water drainage or retention of stormwater.
- 4. <u>Water Quality</u> The proposed project may affect surface water quality on a temporary basis during construction operations. Any temporary water quality impacts will be minimized through the implementation of proper turbidity controls, including silt fencing, throughout construction operations to ensure that State and County water quality standards are met. In addition, the Applicant is proposing to install a retaining wall between the road and the existing adjacent wetlands to further eliminate erosion and turbidity. Furthermore, in portions of the existing roadway, stormwater runoff is directly discharged into the adjacent wetlands. This direct runoff associated with the existing road would be eliminated through the installation of stormwater drainage improvements with curb and gutter on either side of the newly constructed roadway. By eliminating the direct runoff, these improvements are expected to increase water quality in the adjacent halophytic wetlands
- 5. <u>Wellfields</u> The proposed project is not reasonably expected to adversely affect wellfields.
- 6. <u>Water Supply</u> The proposed project is not reasonably expected to adversely affect water supply.
- 7. <u>Aquifer Recharge</u> The proposed project is not reasonably expected to adversely affect aquifer recharge.

- 8. <u>Aesthetics</u> The proposed project is not reasonably expected to adversely affect aesthetics.
- 9. <u>Navigation</u> The proposed project is not reasonably expected to adversely affect navigation.
- 10. <u>Public Health</u> The proposed project is not reasonably expected to adversely affect public health.
- 11. Historic Values The proposed project is not reasonably expected to adversely affect historic values.
- 12. <u>Archaeological Values</u> The proposed project is not reasonably expected to adversely affect archaeological values.
- 13. Air Quality The proposed project is not reasonably expected to adversely affect air quality.
- 14. <u>Marine and Wildlife Habitats</u> The proposed project is not reasonably expected to adversely affect marine and wildlife habitats as set forth in Number 1 above.
- 15. <u>Wetland Soils Suitable for Habitat</u> –The proposed project involves the filling of wetlands which would be mitigated as set forth in Number 1 above.
- 16. <u>Floral Values</u> The proposed project involves the filling of wetlands which would be mitigated as set forth in Number 1 above.
- 17. **Fauna Values** The proposed project involves the filling of wetlands which would be mitigated as set forth in Number 1 above.
- 18. <u>Rare, Threatened and Endangered Species</u> The proposed project is not reasonably expected to adversely affect rare, threatened and endangered species.
- 19. <u>Natural Flood Damage Protection</u> The proposed project is not reasonably expected to adversely affect surface water drainage or retention of stormwater.
- 20. <u>Wetland Values</u> The project involves the filling of wetland habitat which would be mitigated as set forth in Number 1 above.
- 21. <u>Land Use Classification</u> Pursuant to Section 24-48.2(II)(B)(7) of the Code of Miami-Dade County, Florida, applications by the County within its own jurisdiction shall not be required to submit a substantiating letter or plan approval from the local zoning authority.
- 22. <u>Recreation</u> The proposed project does not conflict with the recreation element of the Miami-Dade County Comprehensive Development Master Plan.
- 23. <u>Other Environmental Values Affecting the Public Interest</u> The proposed project is not reasonably expected to adversely affect other environmental values affecting the public interest. The proposed project would occur on lands owned by the applicant.
- 24. <u>Conformance with Standard Construction Procedures and Practices and Design and</u> <u>Performance Standards</u> – The proposed project complies with the standard construction procedures and practices and design and performance standards of the applicable portions of the Code of Miami-Dade County and the Miami-Dade County Public Works Manual.

- 25. <u>Comprehensive Environmental Impact Statement (CEIS)</u> In the opinion of the Director, the proposed project is not reasonably expected to result in significant adverse environmental impacts or cumulative adverse environmental impacts. Therefore, a CEIS was not required by DERM to evaluate the project.
- 26. <u>Conformance with All Applicable Federal, State and Local Laws and Regulations</u> The proposed project is in conformance with applicable State, Federal and local laws and regulations:
  - a) Chapter 24 of the Code of Miami-Dade County
  - b) United States Clean Water Act (US Army Corps of Engineers permit is required and must be obtained prior to performing work)
  - c) Florida Department of Environmental Protection (regulatory permit is required and must be obtained prior to performing work)
- 27. Conformance with the Miami-Dade County Comprehensive Development Master Plan (CDMP) In the opinion of the Director, the proposed project is consistent as required by CDMP policy LU-3A, with the goals, objectives and policies contained in the Conservation, Aquifer Recharge and Drainage and Coastal Management Elements of this Plan, and with all applicable environmental regulations, as well as other elements of the CDMP. The following is a summary of the proposed project as it relates to the CDMP:

# LAND USE ELEMENT I:

<u>Objective 3/Policies 3A, 3B, 3C</u> - Protection of natural resources and systems. – The proposed project is consistent with all applicable environmental regulations, is compatible with surrounding land uses in Biscayne Bay and does not involve development in the Big Cypress area of Critical State Concern or the East Everglades.

# TRANSPORTATION ELEMENT II

<u>Aviation Subelement/Objective AV-5A</u> - Aviation System Expansion - There is no aviation element to the proposed project.

<u>**Port of Miami River Subelement/Objective 3**</u> - Minimization of impacts to estuarine water quality and marine resources. The project is not located within the Miami River.

# **CONSERVATION, AQUIFER RECHARGES AND DRAINAGE ELEMENT IV:**

- **Objective 3/Policies 3A, 3B, 3D** Wellfield protection area protection. The proposed project is not located within a wellfield protection area.
- **Objective 3/Policy 3E** Limestone mining within the area bounded by the Florida Turnpike, the Miami-Dade/ Broward Levee, N.W. 12 Street and Okeechobee Road. - The proposed project is not located within this area.
- <u>**Objective 4/Policies 4A, 4B, 4C</u>** Water storage, aquifer recharge potential and maintenance of natural surface water drainage. The proposed project is not reasonably expected to adversely affect water storage, aquifer recharge potential or natural surface water drainage.</u>
- <u>**Objective 5/Policies 5A, 5B, 5F**</u> Flood protection and cut and fill criteria The proposed project would not compromise flood protection.

- <u>Objective 6/Policy 6A</u> Areas of highest suitability for mineral extraction. The proposed project is not located in an area proposed or suitable for mineral extraction.
- **Objective 6/Policy 6B** Guidelines for rock quarries for the re-establishment of native flora and fauna.
- The proposed project is not located in a rock quarry.
- **Objective 7/Policy 7A** Wetland protection and restoration. The proposed work includes operational safety enhancements such as elevating the road and the sidewalk to alleviate flooding along an emergency evacuation route for the adjacent schools and residential community. To mitigate for otherwise permittable impacts to wetlands and the trimming of mangroves, the Applicant has proposed the purchase of saltwater mitigation bank credits from the Florida Power and Light Company's Everglades Mitigation Bank (FPL EMB), which would restore, enhance, and preserve coastal wetlands in accordance with federal, State and local regulations.
- **Objective 7/Policy 7C, 7D, 7J** Wetland protection and restoration. Not applicable to this project.
- <u>**Objective 9/Policies 9A, 9B, 9C</u>** Protection of habitat critical to Federal or State-designated threatened or endangered species. The proposed project is not reasonably expected to adversely affect habitat critical to Federal or State-designated threatened or endangered species, and the impacts have been minimized and will be mitigated as set forth in Number 1 above.</u>

# COASTAL MANAGEMENT ELEMENT VII:

**Objective 1/Policy 1A** – Mangrove wetlands within Mangrove Protected Areas – As discussed above, the proposed work includes operational safety enhancements to alleviate flooding along an emergency evacuation route for the adjacent schools and residential community.. The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) conducted a feasibility study to evaluate potential roadway alternative routes to alleviate traffic concerns in the area, including improving access for emergency response vehicles (Improving Access at Florida International University Biscayne Bay Campus, July 2020 on file with the Department). The alternative routes were evaluated based on various factors, including potential environmental impact. The FDOT study concluded that the improvements proposed to Northeast 151 Street under the subject Class I permit application would result in significantly less environmental impacts as compared to the other alternatives, several of which would have necessitated substantial filling of halophytic wetlands and the removal of Coastal Band Community mangroves within designated Mangrove Protection Areas. The proposed elevation and improvements to Northeast 151 Street would primarily occur within the footprint of the existing road or within the adjacent uplands. As discussed above, the project has been designed to minimize the impacts to wetlands and only impacts a narrow area of wetlands along the existing linear uplands. Furthermore, the project avoids any impacts to wetlands in the area subject to the Clean Water Act Section 404(c) along the south side of the existing road. For all of the reasons stated herein, the proposed work is consistent with the CDMP as the work is clearly in the public interest and is in a location where no reasonable upland alternative exists. Furthermore, the proposed mangrove trimming and alteration has been minimized and would be done in a manner that preserves the function of the mangrove system and does not adversely affect habitat. The Class I permit would include authorization for future maintenance trimming and alteration of mangroves along the road to maintain clearance, should mangroves grow into this area.

- <u>**Objective 1**/ Policy 1B</u> Natural surface flow into and through coastal wetlands. The proposed project would not affect natural surface flow into and through coastal wetlands.
- <u>**Objective 1**/ Policy 1C</u> Elevated boardwalk access through mangroves. The proposed project does not involve the construction of an elevated walkway through mangroves.
- **Objective 1/Policy 1D** Protection and maintenance of mangrove forests and related natural vegetational communities. The project involves the filling of wetlands which will be mitigated as set forth in Number 1 above.
- **Objective 1/Policy 1E** Mitigation for the degradation and destruction of coastal wetlands. Monitoring and maintenance of mitigation areas. The project involves the filling of wetlands which would be mitigated as set forth in Number 1 above.
- <u>Objective 1/Policy 1G</u> Prohibition on dredging or filling of grass/algal flats, hard bottom or other viable benthic communities, except as provided for in Chapter 24 of the Code of Miami-Dade County, Florida. The proposed project does not involve the dredging or filling of grass/algal flats, hard bottom, or other viable benthic communities.
- <u>**Objective 2/Policies 2A, 2B</u>** Beach restoration and renourishment objectives. The proposed project does not involve beach restoration or renourishment.</u>
- **Objective 3/Policies 3E, 3F** Location of new cut and spoil areas for proper stabilization and minimization of damages. The proposed project does not involve the development or identification of new cut or spoil areas.
- **Objective 4/Policy 4A, 4C, 4E, 4F** Protection of endangered or threatened animal species. The proposed project is not reasonably expected to result in impacts to endangered or threatened species.
- <u>**Objective 5/Policy 5B</u>** Existing and new areas for water-dependent uses. The proposed project does not involve a water-dependent use.</u>
- <u>**Objective 5/Policy 5D</u>** Consistency with Chapter 33D, Miami-Dade County Code. (shoreline access, environmental compatibility of shoreline development) The thresholds for review under the Shoreline Ordinance do not apply and the proposed project is not subject to shoreline development review.</u>
- <u>**Objective 5/Policy 5F</u>** The siting of water dependent facilities. The proposed project does not involve the creation of new water dependent facilities.</u>
- 28. <u>Conformance with Chapter 33B, Code of Miami-Dade County</u> (East Everglades Zoning Overlay Ordinance) The proposed project is not located within the East Everglades Area.
- 29. <u>Conformance with Miami-Dade County Ordinance 81-19</u> (Biscayne Bay Management Plan Sections 33D-1 through 33D-4 of the Code of Miami-Dade County) The proposed project is in conformance with the Biscayne Bay Management Plan.
- 30. <u>Conformance with the Miami-Dade County Manatee Protection Plan (MPP)</u> The MPP is not applicable to the proposed project.
- 31. Consistency with Miami-Dade County Criteria for Lake Excavation The proposed project does

not involve lake excavation.

- 32. <u>Zoning Recommendation</u> Pursuant to Section 24-48.2(II)(B)(7) of the Code of Miami-Dade County, Florida, a substantiating letter stating that the proposed project does not violate any zoning laws, or a plan approval, will be submitted prior to permit issuance. Said letter or plan approval will be submitted after the approval by the Board of County Commissioners and prior to the issuance of a Class I permit.
- 33. <u>Coastal Resources Management Line</u> A coastal resources management line was not required for the proposed project, pursuant to Section 24-48.2(II)(B)(10)(b) of the Code of Miami-Dade County.
- 34. <u>Maximum Protection of a Wetland's Hydrological and Biological Functions</u> The project involves the filling of wetlands which would be mitigated as set forth in Number 1 above.
- 35. <u>Class I Permit Applications Proposing to Exceed the Boundaries Described in Section D-5.03(2)(a) of the Miami-Dade County Public Works Manual</u> Not applicable.

The proposed project was also evaluated for compliance with the standards contained in Sections 2448.3(2), (3), and (4) of the Code of Miami-Dade County, Florida. The following is a summary of how the standards relate to the proposed project:

**<u>24-48.3 (2)</u>** Dredging and Filling for Class I Permit – The proposed project complies with the following criteria:

(f) The work is a physical modification necessary to protect public or private property.

24-48.3 (3) Minimum Water Depth Required for Boat Slips Created by the Construction or Placement of Fixed or Floating Docks and Piers, Piles and Other Structures Requiring a Permit Under Article IV, Division 1 of Chapter 24 of the Code of Miami-Dade County – The Coderequired water depth criteria is not applicable to the proposed project.

<u>24-48.3 (4) Clean Fill in Wetlands</u> The project involves the filling of wetlands; all fill would meet the definition of clean fill as defined in Section 24-5 of the Code of Miami-Dade County.

BASED ON THE FOREGOING, IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT A CLASS I PERMIT BE APPROVED.

Meller Charger McKee Gray, Manager

McKee Gray, Manager Coastal Resources Section

Tammy Burton

Tammy Burton, Biologist II Coastal Resources Section



**MEMORANDUM** 

# (Revised)

TO:Honorable Chairman Jose "Pepe" DiazDATE:and Members, Board of County Commissioners

December 1, 2021

onzon-Keenan

FROM: Con Bonzon-Kee County Attorney **SUBJECT**: Agenda Item No. 5(G)

Please note any items checked.

	"3-Day Rule" for committees applicable if raised
v	6 weeks required between first reading and public hearing
	4 weeks notification to municipal officials required prior to public hearing
	Decreases revenues or increases expenditures without balancing budget
	Budget required
	Statement of fiscal impact required
	Statement of social equity required
	Ordinance creating a new board requires detailed County Mayor's report for public hearing
	No committee review
	Applicable legislation requires more than a majority vote (i.e., 2/3's present, 2/3 membership, 3/5's, unanimous, CDMP 7 vote requirement per 2-116.1(3)(h) or (4)(c), CDMP 2/3 vote requirement per 2-116.1(3)(h) or (4)(c), or CDMP 9 vote requirement per 2-116.1(4)(c)(2)) to approve
	Current information regarding funding source, index code and available balance, and available capacity (if debt is contemplated) required

Approved	Mayor	Agenda Item No. 5(G	
Veto		12-1-21	
Override			

#### RESOLUTION NO. R-1138-21

RESOLUTION TAKING ACTION ON CLASS I PERMIT APPLICATION BY MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, THROUGH ITS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC WORKS, FOR THE FILLING OF WETLANDS SUPPORTING HALOPHYTIC VEGETATION AND THE REMOVAL OF MANGROVES IN ASSOCIATION WITH IMPROVEMENTS TO NORTHEAST 151 STREET, LOCATED BETWEEN U.S. ROUTE 1 AND BAY VISTA BOULEVARD, IN THE CITY OF NORTH MIAMI, MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA

**WHEREAS**, this Board desires to accomplish the purposes outlined in the accompanying memorandum, a copy of which is incorporated herein by reference,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, that this Board having considered all the applicable factors contained within Section 24-48.3 of the Code of Miami-Dade County, hereby approves the application by Miami-Dade County, through its Department of Transportation and Public Works, for the filling of wetlands supporting halophytic vegetation and the removal of mangroves in association with improvements to Northeast 151 Street, located between U.S. Route 1 and Bay Vista Boulevard, in the City of North Miami, Miami-Dade County, Florida, subject to the conditions set forth in the memorandum from the Miami-Dade County Department of Regulatory and Economic Resources, a copy of which is attached hereto and made a part hereof. The issuance of this approval does not relieve the applicant from obtaining all applicable Federal, State, and local permits.

# Agenda Item No. 5(G) Page No. 2

The foregoing resolution was offered by Commissioner Sally A. Heyman , who moved its adoption. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Raquel A. Regalado and upon being put to a vote, the vote was as follows:

Jose "Pe	epe" Dia	z, Chairman <b>aye</b>	
Oliver G. Gil	lbert, III	l, Vice-Chairman <b>aye</b>	
Sen. René García	aye	Keon Hardemon	aye
Sally A. Heyman	aye	Danielle Cohen Higgins	aye
Eileen Higgins	aye	Joe A. Martinez	aye
Kionne L. McGhee	aye	Jean Monestime	aye
Raquel A. Regalado	aye	Rebeca Sosa	aye
Sen. Javier D. Souto	aye		

The Chairperson thereupon declared this resolution duly passed and adopted this 1<sup>st</sup> day of December, 2021. This resolution shall become effective upon the earlier of (1) 10 days after the date of its adoption unless vetoed by the County Mayor, and if vetoed, shall become effective only upon an override by this Board, or (2) approval by the County Mayor of this resolution and the filing of this approval with the Clerk of the Board.



# MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA BY ITS BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

HARVEY RUVIN, CLERK

Melissa Adames

By:\_\_\_\_\_

Deputy Clerk

Approved by County Attorney as to form and legal sufficiency.

Abbie Schwaderer-Raurell Christopher J. Wahl