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The Downtown Development Authority **Board of Directors** met on Friday, October 17, 2008 at 8:30 a.m. at the DDA office, 200 South Biscayne Blvd., Suite 2929, Miami, Florida 33131.

**PRESENT:**

Com. Joe M. Sanchez, Chairman  
Neisen Kasdin (*State Cabinet Rep.*)  
Alvin West, Treasurer  
Jose Goyanes  
Jerome Hollo  
Oscar Rodriguez  
Rodrigo Trujillo  
Tony Alonso  
Jay Solowsky (*Via Teleconference*)  
Alan Ojeda  
Danet Linares  
Dr. Rolando Montoya

**ABSENT:**

Comm. Audrey M. Edmonson (*County Commission Rep.*)  
Nitin Motwani  
Hank Klein

Chairman Sanchez called the meeting to order at 8:40 a.m.

I. Special Recognition

Chairman Sanchez presented special recognition plaques to former board members for their service, dedication, time, and expertise while serving on the Miami DDA Board of Directors.

II. Presentation

- Miami Worldcenter Project

Stephen Colamarino presented an overview of the Miami Worldcenter Project. Brief discussion ensued concerning general elements of the project.

For the record, Tony Alonso stated that he owned property within the project site and therefore would be abstaining from any discussions and/or voting on this matter. Therefore, Mr. Alonso left the room during the presentation and discussion portion of the meeting. Neisen Kasdin stated he was representing Miami Worlcenter Project and therefore abstained from any discussions and/or voting. Mr. Kasdin left the meeting prior to Board discussion of the item.

III. Approval of the Minutes ~ (*September 19, 2008 & September 26, 2008*)

**Jay Solowsky motioned to approve the minutes of July 18, 2008 and August 15, 2008, Tony Alonso, seconded and the item passed unanimously by the board members present.**

IV. Financial Report ~ *As of September 30, 2008*

Cecelia Core, from GLSC & Company, CPA, presented the Financial Report as of September 30, 2008 and stated that there were no reporting conditions.

V. Executive Director Report

Alyce Robertson addressed the board on the following items:

- Budget Update: An updated FY 2009 Budget will be presented at the November Board meeting.

- Staff Re-organization: An updated table of organization will be presented at the November Board meeting.

- ULI Fall Meeting and Urban Land Expo (October 27-30): DDA is heavily involved in several events including a booth and mobile tours. The board will be contacted shortly concerning opportunities for them to participate in the conference.

Susan Apple, from The Apple Organization, informed the board that TAO is outreaching to media expected and/or registered to attend ULI.

VI. Committee(s) Update

A. Operational Committees

• Finance Committee

Al West reported that the Finance Committee had met recently to discuss the security of DDA's funds/accounts, which currently are in Qualified Public Depository accounts with Wachovia Bank. Subsequently, the committee agreed that it was in DDA's best interest to move half of their funds/accounts to City National Bank of Florida.

B. Program Committees

- Economic Development / Research Program
- Marketing-Communications Program
- Service Delivery Program
- Urban Design, Transportation & CIP Program

*(The above items were all deferred).*

VII. Legislative Item(s) [Note: The Executive Director recommends all Legislative Items]

1. A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE MIAMI DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY ("DDA") OF THE CITY OF MIAMI, FLORIDA, SUPPORTING THE MIAMI WORLDCENTER PROJECT IN DOWNTOWN MIAMI.

**Oscar Rodriguez motioned to approve this item, Danet Linares seconded and the item passed unanimously by the board members present.**

2. A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE MIAMI DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY ("DDA") OF THE CITY OF MIAMI, FLORIDA, RATIFYING THE AUTHORIZATION FOR THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO CLOSE CERTAIN DDA BANK ACCOUNTS AT WACHOVIA BANK NA AND AUTHORIZING THE OPENING OF NEW ACCOUNTS IN SUBSTITUION THEREOF AT CITY NATIONAL BANK OF FLORIDA AS RECOMMENDED BY THE MIAMI DDA FINANCE COMMITTEE; AND FURHTER AUTHORIZING THE SIGNATORIES FOR THE NEW DDA ACCOUNT(S) AT CITY NATIONAL BANK OF FLORIDA.

**Tony Alonso motioned to approve this item, Jerome Hollo seconded and the item passed unanimously by the board members present.**

3. A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE MIAMI DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (“DDA”) OF THE CITY OF MIAMI, FLORIDA, DIRECTING THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO FIND THE RESOURCES FROM THE DDA FISCAL YEAR 2008-2009 BUDGET TO FUND THE ORANGE BOWL FAN FEST 2009 IN THE AMOUNT OF FORTY THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$40,000) AS REQUESTED BY THE ORANGE BOWL COMMITTEE AND RECOMMENDED BY THE MARKETING-COMMUNICATIONS PROGRAM COMMITTEE.

**Al West motioned to approve this item, Rodrigo Trujillo seconded and the item passed unanimously by the board members present.**

VIII. Other Business

- Miami Dade Transit (“MDT”) Update

Clinton Forbes, Miami-Dade Transit Chief of Staff, on behalf of Harpal Kapoor attended the board meeting to address questions/concerns concerning Miami-Dade Transit relating to Metro Rail and Metro Mover. Mr. Forbes informed the board of the following:

- Miami Dade Transit is the 12<sup>th</sup> largest transit department in the country
- The largest in Florida
- 22 Metro Rail Stations
- 21 Metro Mover Stations
- Budget of \$500 million
- Capital Budget of \$4.5 billion
- Approximately 3,000 employees
- People’s Transportation Plan: ½ penny sur-tax adopted in 2002 as a dedicated funding source for transportation initiatives. However, there is not enough money to implement everything contained in the plan.
- Transportation Summit: Scheduled for November 15<sup>th</sup> at the Miami Mart for the purpose of informing the public on the status of the People’s Transportation Plan and prioritizing the projects left to do.
- New Metro Mover cars have been purchased and are running
- Metro Rail cars will also be re-placed
- \$20 million recurring deficit in fuel costs alone

Board comments and questions included:

- Oscar Rodriguez proposed that a way of alleviating maintenance costs is to earmark some of the money generated from developers having to pay for “spotters” when constructing near metro rail lines to go towards maintenance.
- Neisen Kasdin stated that it’s been realized that the People’s Transportation Plan (“PTP”) can’t fulfill all of its original promises; how are the priorities going to be re-established. With regard to that, MDT is going to hear from the voice of downtown as it relates to ridership. Downtown has some of the heaviest transit ridership and demand on the system and the system as it is today with regard to maintenance and performance isn’t what it should be. It has been shown that the best investment of transit dollars can be made to connecting and circulating to downtown because it’s the greatest employment center, the greatest density, and the largest activity center.

- Dr. Rolando Montoya and Jay Solowsky stated that posting signage/communication mechanism letting the public know that MDT is getting ready to upgrade, paint, repair, etc. would go a long way in strengthening public perception and increasing credibility.
- Jerome Hollo and Jose Goyanes stated they would be in favor and believe that the board would support reestablishing a fare on the Metro Mover if MDT agreed that any money generated would remain in downtown for maintenance and security.
- Jay Solowsky stated the frequency between cars needs to be increased especially during peak lunch time to encourage riders to travel between Brickell, CBD, and Omni in a reasonable time, because currently it takes too long.

Chairman Sanchez stated that DDA wants to establish a strong working relationship with MDT to help find solutions to problems that effect downtown today and in the future.

- Miami Police Department Update

Commander Socorro informed the board that several PSA's (Public Service Aides) have been deployed throughout Downtown, especially to assist with traffic in peak AM and PM hours. Brief discussion ensued.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned.