Memorandum

MIAMI-DADE COUNTY

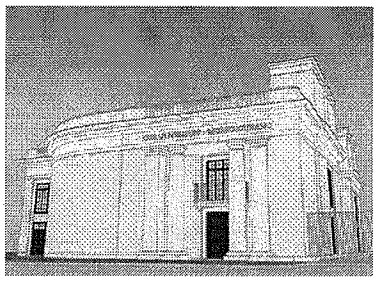
Date: August 18, 2011

To: Members, Citizens Advisory Committee

From: Michael Spring, Director

Subject: Cuban Museum Project Update

Cuban Museum



Total GOB Allocation:	$10 million
Amount Under Contract:	$4.110 million
Amount Spent to Date:	$4.090 million
Balance Remaining:	$5.910 million

Project Summary: GOB funds are designated for site acquisition, design, and construction of an approximately 15,000 square foot exhibition and office space for the Cuban Museum Inc., an organization dedicated to showcasing Cuban cultural heritage through music, dance, literature, history, theater, and the plastic arts.

Status: A bid opening for the construction phase of the project occurred on September 27, 2010. TGSV Enterprises, Inc., a local construction firm, submitted the lowest bid for approximately $2.9 million, with the next lowest bid being less than $20,000 apart. The Museum is proposing an aggressive 9-month construction schedule. Commencement of construction is subject to the availability of GOB funding and the development of a viable business, programming and operating plan.

In early November 2010, Ofelia Tabares-Fernandez resigned as President of the Cuban Museum. Rafael Robayna subsequently became the new President and has expressed his intention to expand the board, raise $1 million for the 1st year of operations and establish a $10 million endowment. Fundraising is planned to be spearheaded by a local foundation specializing in fundraising efforts.

Attachment: August 3, 2011 Letter from the Organization

CUBAN museum

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CONSULTANTS

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Cultural and Art
Consultant

Ricardo J. Fernández
President
Indigo Services Corp.
Project Manager
Consultant

August 3, 2011

Mr. Alex Peraza
Cultural Affairs Department
111 NW 1st Street,
Miami, Fl. 33128

Re: Cuban Museum Project
Status Report

Dear Alex:

As per your request we are happy to provide you with an update of the present status of the Cuban Museum Project as well as a brief chronology of past milestone events.

- Property for the Museum Building was purchased in January 2007.
- Asbestos abatement and partial demolition of the interior was completed in 2009.
- Construction Documents were completed by Rodriguez and Quiroga Architects in May 2010.
- Permits Dry-Run plans approval process is essentially complete; contractor will have to be added to the permit and impact fees paid.
- Project went out to bid in 2010 and bids were received in September 27, 2010. The low bidder was TGSV Enterprises, Inc. for $2,916.000 with a construction time of 270 days.
- Plans were grandfathered by the City of Miami exempting compliance with the new Miami 21 Ordinance. This exemption expires December of 2011. Unless permits are pulled prior to that date, redesign will be necessary to comply with Miami 21 Ordinance.
- The Museum is ready to start construction as soon as a contract is signed and the balance of approved GOB Program Funds is released.

Other activities of the Cuban Museum

Looking toward the opening of the Museum in 2012, the Board of Director has taken the following actions.

- Continued with activities such as the Guateque Cubano, which was a success with over 300 people in the present economic environment.
- Recognized three Cuban Artists by awarding them lifetime achievements awards. They were Tony Lopez, Rafael Soriano and Roberto Estopiñan.
- Opened an Endowment Account with The Miami Foundation for future allocation of funds to this account as fundraising is further implemented.
- Modernized the Museum Logo and Branding for appeal and recognition.
- Added influential members of the community to the Board of Directors
- Created and implemented a fundraising campaign titled "The One Hundred Pillars of the Cuban Museum" expected to raise $100,000 in a short time.
- Applied for funding from the Knight Art Challenge Miami and we were selected as a finalist.
- Has contacted other institutions with similar interest to establish cooperative future relations.
- Has developed a list of major local and national large potential donors for contact and follow up.

Sincerely yours,

Rafael L. Robayna
President

The Museum Depends on your Donations and Support
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