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September 23, 2010

To: Miami-Dade Commissioners

From: Dade Heritage Trust

On behalf of Dade Heritage Trust, Miami's largest nonprofit organization, we are writing to support the appropriation of \$1.8 million in funding for the Historic Hampton House from the Miami-Dade County GOB Preservation Fund.

Dade Heritage Trust initiated and spearheaded the campaign to have \$20 million for historic preservation funding placed on the County 2004 GOB Bond. Ten million was to be allocated to specific projects, which included the Historic Hampton House.

Another \$10 million was for a Preservation Fund to be administered by Dade Heritage Trust for endangered properties, with Dade Heritage Trust to receive an administrative fee that would have been invaluable in funding its efforts to preserve and promote Miami's historic places. Dade Heritage Trust was denied this opportunity and resource.

With DHT's enthusiastic support, \$3 million from this Preservation Fund has been allocated by the Commission for the Miami Marine Stadium, an incredibly worthy restoration project which had not received prior GOB funding.

With DHT's support, another \$1 million has been allocated by Commissioners to complete the Curtiss Mansion. We likewise support the Hampton House as a very worthy project in need of substantial assistance to complete.

Though we do support these individual allocations, DHT also agrees with Commissioner Katy Sorenson that a process should be in place to request future proposals.

Thank you.

Bertram "Chico" Goldsmith, Chairman of the Board

Becky Roper Matkov, CEO