MEMORANDUM
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

DATE: September 14, 2005

TO: Commissioner Heyman

FROM: Carlos Alvarez, Mayor
Miami-Dade County

SUBJECT: Workforce Housing

The September 13, 2005 sunshine meeting on workforce housing represents an important step in the future of Miami-Dade County. I am grateful to Commissioner Heyman for calling the meeting, to Commissioner Jordan for her leadership on the issue and to Commissioner Sorenson for her insight into the matter. Given the importance of the task at hand it is encouraging to see County staff from so many agencies working together with the common goal of meeting the housing needs of Miami-Dade County's workforce.

The dialogue I participated in during the sunshine meeting, among elected officials, private citizens, and County staff is the kind of teamwork that will prove critical in addressing this problem. Yet, if we are going to overcome this challenge, it will require the full participation and effort of government at all levels: city, county, state and federal. We must work together and move quickly to begin putting families into affordable homes in the immediate future.

It will take innovative and creative thinking to find the multiple measures, such as Inclusionary Zoning, that will be needed to properly combat the current affordable housing crisis. The resounding support voiced for the mandatory form of Inclusionary Zoning is a clear indication of the resolve felt by all involved to aggressively address this issue.

Again, I am grateful to Commissioners for their leadership and participation in addressing the workforce housing need. It is apparent that we are all up to the challenge and I look forward to continuing the dialogue with both the public and private sectors in pursuit of this shared goal.

c: Honorable Chairman Joe A. Martinez and Members,
Board of County Commissioners
George Burgess, County Manager
Murray A. Greenberg, County Attorney
Kay Sullivan, Director, Clerk of the Board