Memorandum

MIAMI-DADE COUNTY

Date: August 5, 2011

To: Honorable Joe A. Martinez, Chairman
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

From: Carlos A. Gimenez
Mayor

Subject: Mayoral Appointment – Interim Transit Director

As you know, a national recruitment for a permanent director of the Transit Department is being conducted and an appointment will be presented at a future Board of County Commissioners meeting in accordance with the Rules of Procedure. In the interim, pursuant to the authority vested in me under the provisions of Section 2.02 D of the Miami-Dade County Home Rule Charter, effective immediately I hereby appoint Ysela Llort to the position of Interim Director, Miami-Dade Transit Department. This appointment shall serve to provide business continuity until a permanent director is appointed but shall not exceed February 1, 2012.

Ms. Llort is a well qualified transportation professional with more than 26 years of experience in this field. Her educational credentials include a Bachelor of Arts in Economics and Anthropology from Duke University, and a Master of City and Regional Planning, Clemson University.

Most recently, she served as Assistant County Manager with responsibility for a portfolio of major transportation departments including Aviation, Seaport, Transit, Public Works, and Consumer Services as well as the MPO. In addition, Ms. Llort previously served as Assistant Secretary for Intermodal Systems Development at the Florida Department of Transportation.

Ms. Llort is a leader in her field and I am confident that she will competently fulfill the responsibilities of this challenging position during this transitional period. Ms. Llort's resume is attached for your review.

Attachment

c: Honorable Harvey Ruvin, Clerk of the Courts
Robert A. Cuevas, Jr., County Attorney
Office of the Mayor Senior Staff
Department Directors

Ysela Llort

Experience

Assistant County Manager, Miami-Dade County, Florida (March 2007 to Present)

Oversee all transportation activities within Miami-Dade County including the Miami-Dade Aviation Department, Seaport Department, Public Works Department, Miami-Dade Transit, Metropolitan Planning Organization, Office of the Citizens' Independent Transportation Trust, Office of Capital Improvements and the Consumer Services Department. Analyze legislative and administrative concerns regarding these departments; advise the Mayor and County Manager of potential challenges as well as evaluate options and implement solutions. Inform elected officials, stakeholders and the general public of relevant matters. Represent Mayor and County Manager at internal and external transportation forums including Board of County Commission meetings and meetings with other public and private agencies.

Specific programs of interest in transportation portfolio include:

- Execution of the Aviation Department's multi-billion dollar Capital Improvement Program (CIP), including activities associated with the expansion of the airport terminal as well as, the design-build-operate-maintain project that will connect the Miami Intermodal Center (MIC) to Miami International Airport,
- Implementation of the People's Transportation Plan (PTP) which includes:
  - planning and construction of the Airport Link transit expansion as well as procurement of rolling stock and other transit capital assets;
  - the implementation of major highway and road improvements;
  - upgrades to the County's traffic signalization system
- Planning and delivery of Seaport capital projects including the Port of Miami Tunnel and the Deep Dredge.

Interim Director of Miami-Dade Transit, Miami-Dade County, Florida (April 2011 to Present) (Note: Duties performed simultaneously with those of Assistant County Manager)

Responsibility over all aspects of planning, construction and operations of Miami-Dade Transit, the 14th largest transit system in the United States and largest in Florida .

Assistant Secretary for Intermodal Systems Development, Florida Department of Transportation (October 2003 to March 2007)

Key position at the highest executive level with the Florida Department of Transportation. Responsible for the delivery of a $9 billion annual transportation program. Responsible for the executive management and generation of the Intermodal Systems Development Program which includes the following offices: Office of Policy Planning, Systems Planning Office, Transportation Statistics Office, Aviation Office, Rail Office, Seaports Office, Transit Office and Environmental Management Office. Formulates transportation policies and priorities to produce the Department's Annual Capital Improvement Plan. Facilitates the development of consensus among private stakeholders relative to transportation priorities and funding of same. Lead advisor to the Secretary of Transportation on multimodal transportation policy. Responsible for the development of long range and strategic planning and performance monitoring for the agency. Responsible for the Strategic Intermodal System plan and program. Represents the department with the Governor, Legislature, the Florida Transportation Commission, state and federal agencies, Metropolitan Planning Organization, local government, and special interest groups.

Deputy Assistant Secretary, State Transportation Planner, Florida Department of Transportation (August 1994 to October 2003)

Responsible for the executive management and operation of the Department's planning and environmental programs including oversight of the Office of Policy Planning, Systems Planning Office, Environmental Management Office, and the Transportation Statistics Office as well as coordination of district planning and environmental programs. Formulates transportation policies and priorities to guide the agency's multi-billion annual capital improvement plan. Facilitates development of consensus among public and private transportation stakeholders relative to transportation priorities. Recommends multimodal transportation policy to the Secretary of Transportation. Responsible for the development of long range and strategic planning and performance monitoring for the agency. Serves as the lead policy advisor on federal legislative matters. Serves as a member of the Executive Committee, which is the Department's policy making body. Represents the Department as liaison with the Governor, the Legislature, the Florida Transportation Commission, state and federal agencies, Metropolitan Planning Organizations, local governments, and special interest groups.

Assistant District Engineer for Planning and Operations, Virginia Department of Transportation, Northern Virginia District (May 1987 to August 1994)

Responsible for directing all planning and operation programs and activities including Traffic Engineering, Traffic Management Systems (ITS), a Land Development Review, Access Management Permitting, and Transportation Planning, Responsible for all construction and maintenance activities related to operations. Approved budgets and manpower needs assessments; evaluated program effectiveness as well as managed subordinate department heads. Coordinated for the district all activities relative to the Metropolitan Planning Organization as well as numerous regional transportation organizations including transit operators. Represented the Department on boards, before elected officials, federal, state, and local governments, professional organizations, and special interest groups.

Acting Resident Engineer, Virginia Department of Transportation, Fairfax Residency, Interim Assignment (March 1992 – August 1992)

(Note: duties performed simultaneously with Assistant District Engineer position described above). Responsible for the management of all aspects of the most urban residency in the Virginia Department of Transportation system: oversaw transportation construction program, maintenance of transportation facilities, permit operations for both roadways access and commercial motor vehicles, and administration of budgets and personnel. Responsible for staff in excess of 500 employees as well as extensive consultant forces. Developed the six—year capital improvement plan and annual budget in partnership with the local government. Developed a consolidated Interstate maintenance plan for the jurisdiction. Instituted contracting procedures and implemented improvement plans. Conducted public meeting with citizens, business leaders, and elected officials to address transportation concerns,

District Transportation Planning Engineer, Virginia Department of Transportation, Northern Virginia District (January 1986 – May 1987)

Managed the Transportation Planning Department responsible for the review of land development proposals. Supervised group of professional engineers and planners who conducted the review of the transportation impacts of comprehensive plans and amendments, rezoning and site plans for a four county district. Coordinated work with local governments, regional planning and transportation organizations, and Department transportation construction program. Took the lead in resolving the problems arising from conflicting transportation and land use policies on the part of the counties, the

Department, citizens, and developers. Established techniques and procedures for data collection and analysis; maintained liaison with transit, rail, air, and port companies to assist in the development of projects. Reviewed construction plans of Department projects for compatibility with private sector projects. Represented the agency in front of various governmental, civic, and business groups.

Highway Engineer, Virginia Department of Transportation, Northern Virginia District (July 1985 – January 1986)

Reviewed site plans for Fairfax, Prince William, and Loudoun Counties to ensure compliance with Virginia Department of Transportation design standards and transportation goals. Reviewed transportation aspects of rezoning, Comprehensive Plan Amendments, and area studies. Analyzed traffic impacts of proposed land development, evaluated trip generation, highway capacity, access management, relationship to other existing land use to planned development and to planned transportation facilities. Provided liaison between Department and local governments. Advised local government staffs on the immediate and long term transportation impacts of proposed development. Participated in the resolution of problems arising from conflicting transportation and land use policies and plans.

Graduate Assistant, Department of Civil Engineering, Clemson University (August 1981 – August 1984)

Teaching assistant in surveying, transportation planning, and statics courses. Research assistant in various departmental projects including airport planning and design, as well as pedestrian safety.

Planner III, HUD Fellow, Greenville County Planning Commission, Greenville South Carolina (May 1979 to May 1981)

Evaluated land development trends; developed population forecasting methodology for small urban areas; determined traffic impacts of proposed land development. Responsibilities for general development planning for the City of Simpsonville, Presented findings to elected officials, developers and citizen groups.

Chief of Short-Term Credit Operations, Banco de Credito Rural Centro Sur S.A., Puebla, Mexico (May 1976 to December 1978)

Supervised short-term credit funds management for five state regional development bank. Reformed financial project evaluation process. Developed and implemented the bank's first computerized credit information system. Supervised a professional staff of economists, planners, accountants, as well as support personnel. Personally reported on the status of short-term credit operations to the Bank's General Director.

Transportation Committees and Boards

- Board Member, Center for Urban Transportation Research, University of South Florida
- Associate Member, National Academy of Science and Engineering
- Member, Research and Technology Coordinating Committee (B0024, Transportation Research Board (TRB)
- Member, Committee On Performance Measures To Improve Transportation Systems: Second National Conference (ABC99A), TRB
- Chair: Development of an update to the 1977 American Association of State Highways and Transportation Officials' (AASHTO) publication, "Manual on User Benefit Analysis of highway and Bus-Transit Improvements" (Redbook), National Cooperative Highway Research Program (NCHRP) (DO223)

- AASHTO representative to World Road Association (PIARC) Committee C-10 Urban Areas – Sub-Group leader. C2.2, Interurban Roads and Integrated Interurban Transport
- Member of the Synthesis of Information Related to Highway Problems Advisory Committee, National Cooperative Highway Research Program
- Member, Travel Model Improvement Program Review Panel, U.S. Department of Transportation
- Member, Committee on Statewide and Multimodal Planning, Transportation Research Board
- Member, Committee on Intermodal Freight Transportation, Transportation Research Board
- Member, Transportation Research Board Committee on Performance Measures, Transportation Research Board
- Board Member, National Center for Transit Research, Center for Urban Transportation (CUTR), University of South Florida
- Member, University of Florida Planning Department Advisory Committee
- Member, AASHTO Standing Committee on Planning
- Member, FHWA Linking Planning and Operations Working Group
- Chair, 2025 Florida Transportation Plan Steering Committee
- Chair, NCHRP Project Panel on Research for AASHTO Standing Committee on Planning: Support for Improved Transportation Planning and Project Development (D0836)
- Past Co-Chair of National Transportation Research Conferences on Transportation Planning for the 21st Century
- Past Co-Chair of Transportation and Land Use Study Committee, Florida
- Past Member, Transportation Issues in Major U.S. Cities (A8E30), TRB
- Past Member, Surface Transportation Environmental Cooperative Research Program Advisory Board
- Past Member, AASHTO Reauthorization Task Force
- Past Member, National transit Institute, Multimodal Transportation Advisory Committee
- Past Member, NCHRP Project Panel on How State DOTs and other Transportation Agencies Need to Respond to Changing Customer Needs (D2053)
- Past Member, NCHRP Project Panel on Detailed Planning for Research on Providing Highway Capacity in Support of the Nation's Economic, Environmental, and Social Goals (D205804)
- Past Member, NCHRP Project Panel on Methods for Determining Transportation and Economic Consequences of Terrorist Attacks (D205909)
- Past Co-Chair of Transportation Committee, Governors' Gulf Coast Accord Working Group
- Past Co-Chair, I-95 Corridor Coalition Executive Board Committee

Education

Masters of Science in Civil Engineering Program – completed all course work for degree, Clemson University, South Carolina

Masters of City and Regional Planning, May 1981, Clemson University, Clemson, South Carolina

Bachelor of Arts in Economic and Anthropology (double major), December 1975, Duke University, Durham, North Carolina

Personal

Married with two children, Bilingual (English and Spanish)

References

Available Upon Request