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Memorandum

To: Office of Intergovernmental Affairs
Chairman and Members of the Board of County Commissioners
Commission Auditor

From: Tom Quinn, Managing Partner

RE: Miami-Dade County August 2024 Monthly Report for Governmental Representation
and Consulting Services as per Contract EVN0000597-C

This memo provides an overview of the activities of Miami-Dade County's federal team consisting of LSN Partners and consultants from Ballard Partners, Continental Strategies, and Emprise Consulting.

Each month, this report will be updated with the team's activities and provided to Miami-Dade County.

June 2024 Activity

1. General Government Updates:

- **Actions Taken:** LSN Partners and our federal team in DC maintains regular contact with Alina Gonzales to ensure that we are on top of federal issues of importance to the County as they arise. Throughout August, we have kept the County up to date on congressional and Executive Branch activities related to County operations.
- **Outcomes:** Congress has been in recess since late July and the Executive Branch has slowed its activities for the month of August. Congress returns next week and we anticipate activities related to appropriations to pick up before adjourning for the month of October.

2. FY2024 Federal Appropriations Tracking:

- **Actions Taken:** There was no appropriations action during the month of August but the federal team has had several discussions with committee staff on status and general support for the County programs included in the House spending bills.
- **Outcomes:** We will continue to track the County's Community Project Funding initiatives when congress returns next week.

3. Northeast Corridor Advocacy:

- **Actions Taken:** The LSN Team has remained in contact with the County and Brightline about this project. We hope to have appropriations new in the coming months.
- **Next Steps:** Final decisions on FY2025 funding could be made by the end of this year or early next year.

4. NEPA:

- **Actions Taken:** Continental Strategy facilitated a meeting between Mayor Diaz Padron and Congressman Gimenez to discuss NEPA reform. The FAA announced last week that it is distributing \$291 million from the Inflation Reduction Act to promote aviation's goal of achieving net-zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2050, in line with President Biden's Investing in America Agenda. Known as the Fueling Aviation's Sustainable Transition (FAST) grants, this funding is divided into two main areas: \$244.5 million will support 22 projects focused on sustainable aviation fuel (SAF) production, transportation, blending, and storage, aiming to enhance SAF accessibility and supply chains. Additionally, \$46.5 million will fund 14 projects that develop or apply low-emission aviation technologies to improve fuel efficiency and reduce emissions. The grants are available to fuel producers, logistics companies, aircraft and engine manufacturers, state and local governments, airport authorities, and universities, with projects set to take place across 23 states, advancing both environmental sustainability and economic growth in the aviation sector. This could be useful for further investments for both MIA and the universities, we will continue to looking into this.

5. Other Updates:

Update on FAA grants
Bicameral Appropriations updates (House & Senate)
DNC schedule for Dem County elected officials
SAF grant airport awards
HHS updates on Medicare drug pricing policy.

LSN Partners Federal Team is committed to ensuring that Miami-Dade County's interests are effectively represented at the federal level. This month's efforts reflect our dedication to fostering strong relationships and strategic advocacy for the County's benefit.