# Memorandum MIAMI-DADE



Date:	October 5, 2021	
То:	Honorable Chairman Jose 'Pepe' Diaz and Members, Board of County Commissioners	Agenda Item No. 5(V)
From:	Lourdes M. Gomez, Director Department of Regulatory and Economic Resources	
Subject:	Class I Permit Application by Miami-Dade County, Recreation, and Open Spaces	through its Department of Parks,

## Recommendation

I have reviewed the attached application for a Class I permit by Miami-Dade County, through its Department of Parks, Recreation, and Open Spaces (PROS) and based upon the applicable evaluation factors set forth in Section 24-48.3 of the Code of Miami-Dade County (Code), I recommend that the Board of County Commissioners (Board) approve the issuance of a Class I permit for the reasons set forth below.

Pursuant to Ordinance No. 16-73, this quasi-judicial matter may be submitted directly for placement on the Board's meeting agenda by the Director of the Department of Regulatory and Economic Resources.

## Scope

The project site is located within Matheson Hammock Park at 9610 Old Cutler Road, Coral Gables, Florida, in Commission District 7, which is represented by Commissioner Raquel A. Regalado.

# **Delegation of Authority**

This item has no delegation of authority. Upon approval of this item, Section 24-48.2(C)(2) of the Code authorizes the Department to issue the permit, provided that other Code requirements are satisfied, such as submittal of final plans and bonds, and to require additional conditions, limitations, and restrictions if consistent with this Board's approval.

# **Fiscal Impact/Funding Source**

This resolution is a regulatory approval and does not have a fiscal impact.

# **Track Record/Monitor**

The Coastal Resources Section Manager, McKee Gray, in the Department of Regulatory and Economic Resources, Division of Environmental Resources Management (DERM), will be responsible for monitoring the proposed permit.

# Background

The subject Class I permit application requests authorization for the filling of 4,525 square feet of wetlands that support halophytic (salt tolerant) vegetation including mangrove trees, the removal of 500 square feet of mangrove canopy, and 2,608.95 square feet of temporary impacts to the halophytic wetlands along a buffer area adjacent to the proposed roadway improvements within Matheson Hammock Park located at 9610 Old Cutler Road in the City of Coral Gables, Miami-Dade County, Florida. To be approved, this application must be reviewed and decided by the Board at a public hearing because the filling of wetlands and the trimming of mangroves within a Coastal Band Community are specifically referenced in Section 24-48.2 of the Code as work that shall be processed Honorable Chairman Jose 'Pepe' Diaz and Members, Board of County Commissioners Page 2

with a standard form application, including a public hearing.

The subject project area is an existing asphalt road located within Matheson Hammock Park to the south of the boat ramp parking lots that provides the only means of accessing the Matheson Hammock Park wading beach. Currently, the subject road is closed and in a state of disrepair following impacts from Hurricane Irma and, due to the road's low elevation, frequently floods during extreme tidal events resulting in erosion of sediments into the adjacent mangrove wetlands. The applicant is proposing to replace the damaged road with a new road at a higher elevation in the same general footprint of the existing road. In order to stabilize fill material needed for elevating the roadbed, and to prevent continued erosion of fill into adjacent wetlands, the new road will contain side slopes that extend slightly beyond the footprint of the existing in the above referenced filling of halophytic wetlands and trimming of mangroves. Additionally, due to the proximity of the proposed direct impacts of the filling work, there would be temporary impacts to halophytic wetlands and mangroves associated with construction activities.

Filling work proposed in a Class I application shall comply with at least one of the criteria listed in Section 24-48.3(2) of the Code. The proposed work will result in the minimal amount of filling of halophytic wetlands necessary to improve the road, to reduce flooding of the roadway during rain and tidal events, and to provide access to the wading beach for park patrons and County personnel. As the work is a physical modification necessary to protect public or private property, the proposed project complies with the requirements in Section 24-48.3(2)(f) of the Code, which applies to dredging and filling work proposed in a Class I permit application. In addition, the runoff and erosional issues associated with the existing road will be eliminated through the installation of the appropriate Code required side slopes that will be compacted clean fill to provide protection for the road while also reducing erosion into the adjacent County-owned wetlands. Improving and elevating the existing road is the minimum improvement required to address the erosion and accessibility issues that currently exist.

Matheson Hammock Park is designated by the Miami-Dade County Comprehensive Development Master Plan (CDMP) as a Mangrove Protection Area. Trimming of mangroves within a Mangrove Protection Area must be consistent with the criteria outlined in the Coastal Management Element of the CDMP. The existing road is closed and has degraded to the point where sections are missing. The road is no longer usable and must be replaced to provide access to the wading beach area. This road runs through mangrove wetlands and is the only access to the wading beach area, so the wading beach area is currently inaccessible to park patrons. This wading beach area was historically open to the public since approximately 1940, and was historically used by the public for a variety of park activities such as birding, kayaking, picnicking, and swimming. Matheson Hammock Park, including the wading beach area, is designated as a Heritage Park in Miami-Dade County and as a Historic Site listed in the Coral Gables Register of Historical Places, and reopening the wading beach area of Matheson Hammock Park is clearly in the public interest. The majority of the new road will be located within the footprint of the existing road with only a small expansion of the footprint to accommodate stabilization slopes. For all of the reasons stated herein, the proposed work is consistent with the CDMP as the work is clearly in the public interest and is in a location where no reasonable upland alternative exists. Furthermore, the proposed mangrove trimming and alteration has been minimized and would be done in a manner that preserves the function of the mangrove system and does not adversely affect habitat. In addition, the proposed project involves the repair and/or Honorable Chairman Jose 'Pepe' Diaz and Members, Board of County Commissioners Page 3

replacement of the existing culvert to ensure adequate tidal flushing is maintained. The Class I permit would include authorization for future maintenance trimming and alteration of mangroves along the road to maintain clearance, should mangroves grow into this area.

In addition, the project is consistent with the criteria outlined in the Conservation, Aquifer Recharge, and Drainage Element of the CDMP. For the reasons stated above, the project is clearly in the public interest and no other reasonable alternative exists. It is not anticipated that the project will adversely impact habitat that is critical to endangered and threatened species that may utilize mangrove wetlands.

Pursuant to Section 24-48.4 of the Code, potential adverse environmental impacts and cumulative adverse environmental impacts for a proposed project must be avoided and minimized and mitigation is required for permittable projects that otherwise result in adverse environmental impacts. The project would result in the filling of 4,525 square feet of halophytic wetlands supporting halophytic vegetation, the removal of 500 square feet of mangrove canopy, and 2,608.95 square feet of temporary impacts to adjacent halophytic wetlands. In certain locations where it was determined to be feasible, the footprint of the proposed road was shifted landward of the existing footprint to be located on existing uplands in the center area of the loop at the end of the wading beach road, further reducing the wetland impact. The applicant has proposed to satisfy the impacts associated with the filling of 4,525 square feet of halophytic wetlands and the trimming of 500 square feet of mangrove canopy through a contribution to the Biscayne Bay Environmental Enhancement Trust Fund. No mitigation is proposed for the temporary impacts, as this area would not be cleared or filled. The project area would be maintained free of exotic pest plants and nuisance species in accordance with the Class I permit conditions. Any temporary water quality impacts would be minimized through the implementation of proper turbidity controls, including silt fencing, throughout construction operations to ensure that State and County water quality standards are met. In addition, the side slopes at the edge of the improved road would be compacted to further eliminate erosion and turbidity into the future.

Please note that there are no riparian owners within 300 feet of the proposed project. Therefore, no courtesy notices were sent out for this application.

The project has been designed in accordance with all relevant Miami-Dade County coastal construction criteria and is consistent with all other Miami-Dade County coastal protection provisions. Please find attached a DERM Project Report which also sets forth the reasons the proposed project is recommended for approval by DERM pursuant to the applicable evaluation factors and criteria as set forth in Section 24-48.3 of the Code. The conditions, limitations, and restrictions set forth in the Project Report attached hereto are incorporated herein by references hereto.

#### Attachments

Attachment A:	Class I Permit Application
Attachment B:	Owner/Agent Letter, Engineer Letter and Project Sketches
Attachment C:	Zoning Memorandum

Attachment D: DERM Project Report

Attachment A

**Class I Permit Application** 



# **Class I Permit Application**

FOR DEPART	MENTAL USE ONLY
Date Received:	Application Number: Application Fee:
Application must be filled out in its entirety. Please indicate	N/A for non-applicable fields.
I. Applicant Information:         Name:       Miami-Dade County Parks, Recreation and Open Spaces         Address:       275 NW 2nd Street, 4th Floor, Miami, FL         Image:       2ip Code:         33128       F         Phone       ¥: 305-755-7805         Fax#;       F         Email:       Adria.Gonzalez-Leiva2@miamidade.gov         * This stortd by the applicant's information for content purgese-	West Palm Beach, FL     Zip Cede:     33411       Phome #:     561-687-2220     Fax #: N/A       Email:     Greg.Griffith@wginc.com
Folio #(s): _03-5105-000-0010         Street Address: _9610 Old Cutter Road         In City or Town: Coral Gables         Name of waterway at location of the activity: N/A         4. Describe the proposed activity (check all that apply):         Seawall       Dock(s)         New/Replacement Seawall       Dire(s)         Seawall Cop       Viewing Platform	Latitude:       N/A       Longitude:       N/A         Section:       8       Township:       55 S       Range:       41 E         Near City or Town:       N/A         Boatlifi       Dredging       Mangrove Trianming         Mooring Piles       Maintenance       Mangrove Removal         Fender Piles       New         Davits       Filling
Ripsap     Other: Restoration of existing roadway. Grading of picr     Other: Restoration of existing roadway. Grading of picr     Estimated project cost = \$_648,675.00     Are you seeking an aller-the-fact approval (ATF)?	No If "Yes", describe the ATF work: N/A
Single Family       (please also indicate         Multi-Family       Proposed Vessel Typ         Private       Vessel Make/Model         Commercial       Draft (s)(range in inc         Industrial       Total Number of Slip         Vessel also indicate       Slip	ches.): <u>N/A</u> Length (s)(range in feet.): <u>N/A</u> ps: <u>N/A</u>

ACC NO

8. Contractor Information (If known):					
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Phone #: Fax #:	E-meil:	and an analysis for a first of the state of the			
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B. IF APPLICANT IS OTHER THAN A (Examples: Corporation, Partnership, T	N INDIVIDUAL OF		<u>son</u>		
Miami-Dade County Parks, Recreation and Oper		County		FL	
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C. <u>IF APPLICANT IS A JOINT VENTI</u>	ARE Each party must	sign below(1f more	than two men	nbers, list on uttached page)	
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Print Name of Applicant (Enter the complete name as Registration/locorporation	registered)	Type (Corp, LLC, LL	P, esc.)	State of	
Under the penalty of perjury, I certify that I in Applicant, and if so required to authorize the authority to the Department). <u>***Please Not</u> operating agreements, or other applicable agreements	ssuance of a bond on be e: If additional signatu	half of the Applican res are required, put	it. (If usked, yo rsuant to your	n must provide proof of such	
Signature of Authorized Representative	Print Authorized Repres	entative's Name	Title	Date	
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10. WRITTEN CONSENT OF TI	IE PROPERTY OWNER OF THE	AREA OF THE PI	ROPOSED WOE	<u>IK</u>
I/We are the fee simple owner(s) of th	ie real property located at 9610 Old	Cutler Road, Co	oral Gables,	Miami-Dade
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#### Please Review Above

Appropriate signature(s) must be included in:

Box 9: either A, B or C

<u>AND</u>

Box 10: either A or B

Signature: Adria Gonzalez-Leiva

Email: adria.gonzalez-leiva2@miamidade.gov

Signature:



Email: joe.cornely@miamidade.gov

Signature: Am

Email: humberto.cabanas@miamidade.gov

Signature: David Livingstone

Email: david.livingstone@miamidade.gov

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Attachment B

**Owner/Agent Letter, Engineer Letter and Project Sketches** 

MIAMI-DADE COUNTY provides equal access and equal opportunity in employment and services and does not discriminate on the basis of disability. PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACES Maria I. Nardi, Director	Harvey Ruvin Clerk of Courts Pedro J. Gacia Property Appraiser Abigail Price-Williams County Attorney	Ustrict 2     District 3       Honorable Senator Javier D. Souto 3       District 4     Honorable Senator Javier D. Souto 3       Honorable Elleen Higgins     Honorable Joe A. Martine 2       District 5     District 10       Honorable Xavier L. Suarez     District 12       District 7     Honorable Leen L. Boyo Jr.       District 13     District 13	Honorable Audry M. Edmonson, Chairwoman District 3 Honorable Rebeca Sosa, Vice-Chairwoman District 6 Honorable Daniella Lev le Barbara J. Jordan Honorable Dennis Lean Monestime	Honorable Carlos A. Gimenez Mayor BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS		PROS PR		CONST	WADING BEACH	MATHESO
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EXISTING CONDITIONS KEY SHEET GENERAL NOTES COVER SHEET

DETAILS

CROSS SECTION (12' WIDE LOOP ROAD) CULVERT CROSS SECTION

CROSS SECTION (20' WIDE MAIN ROAD)

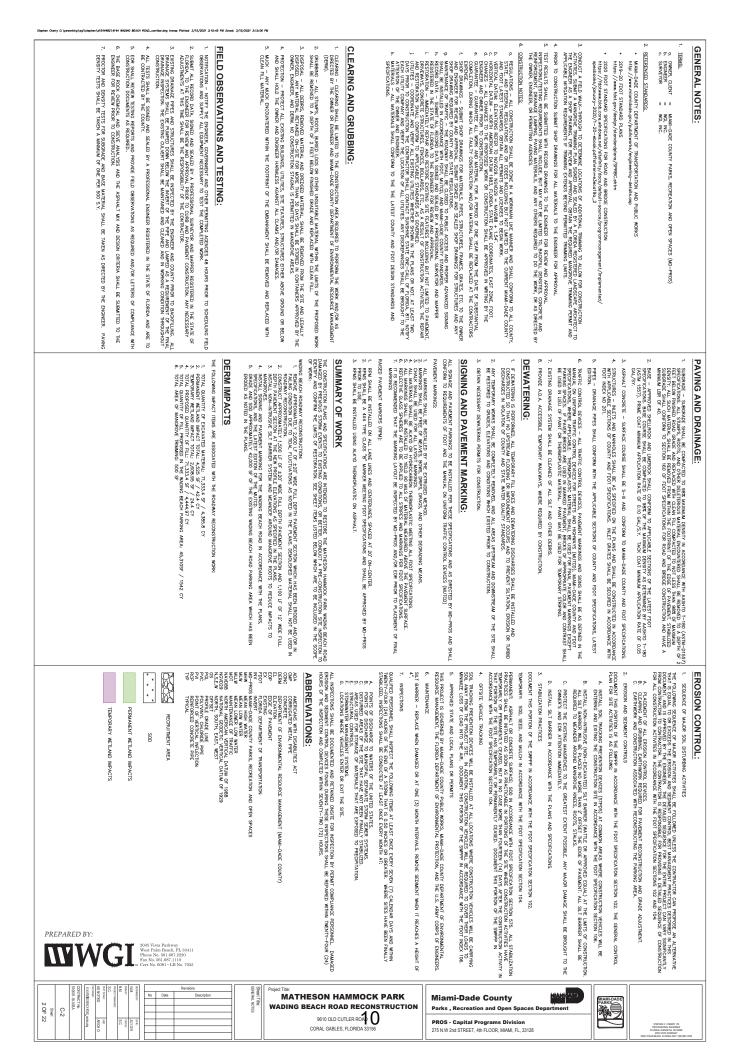
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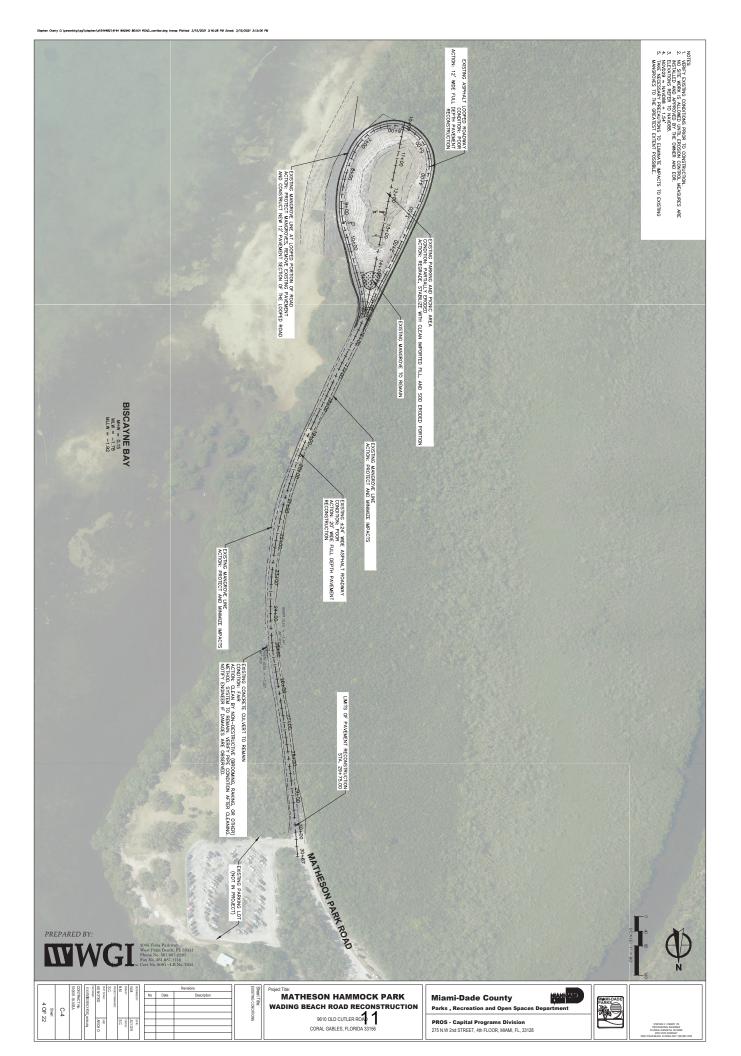
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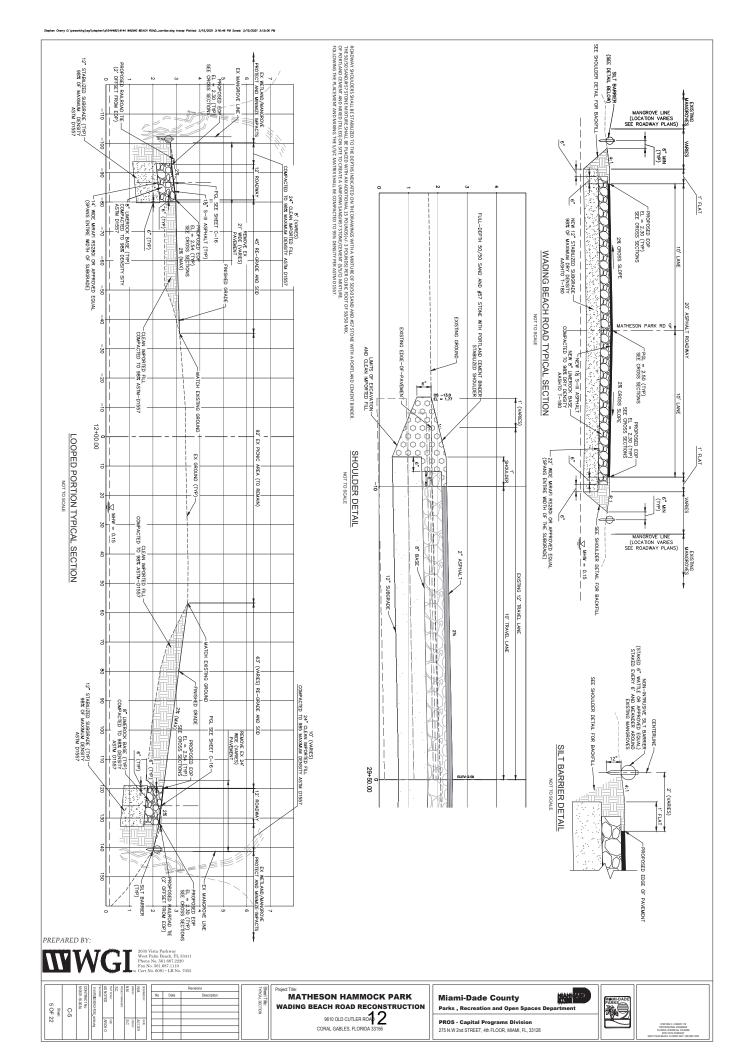
- PROJECT LOCATION

INDEX OF DRAWINGS

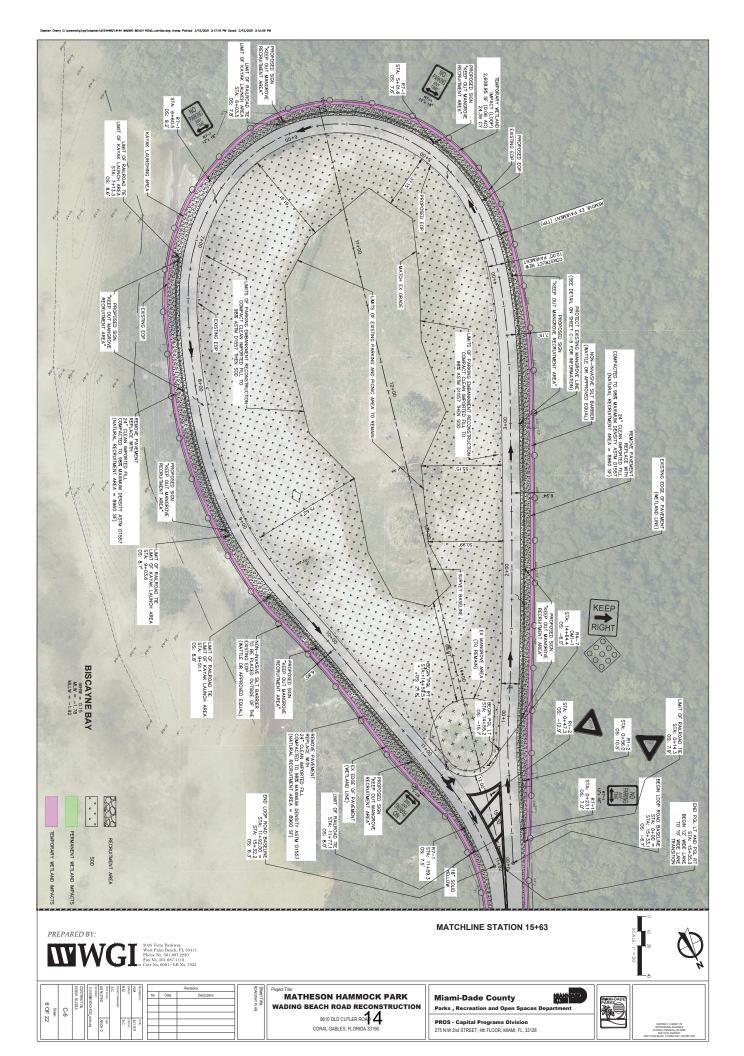
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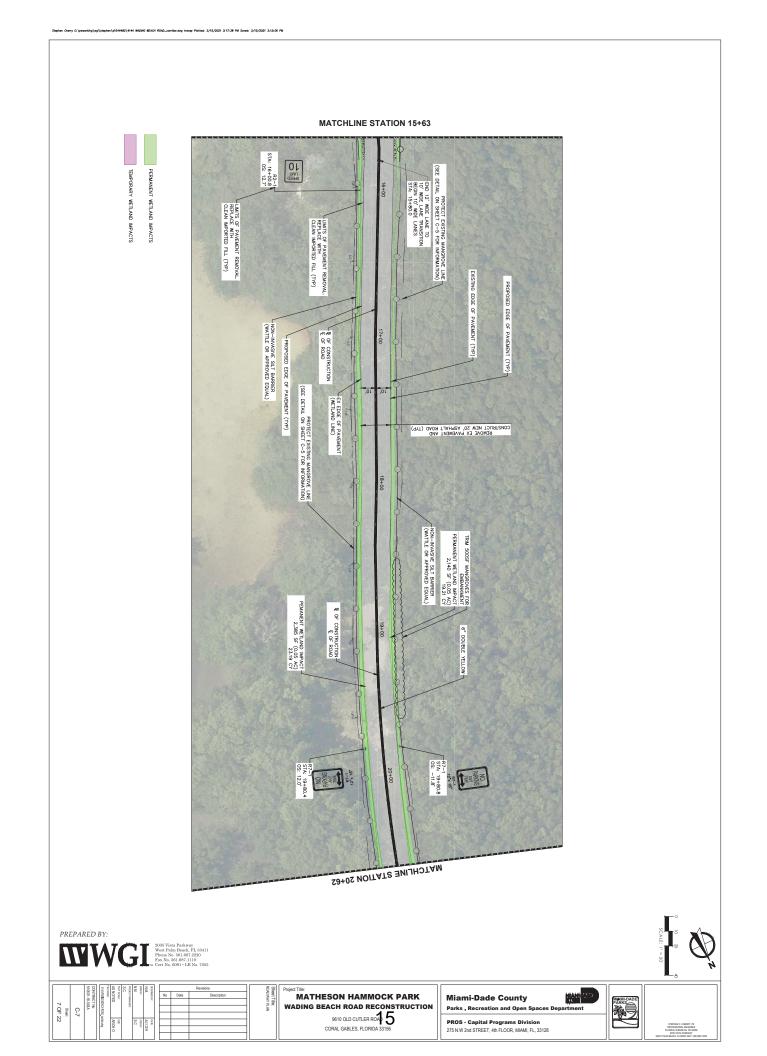


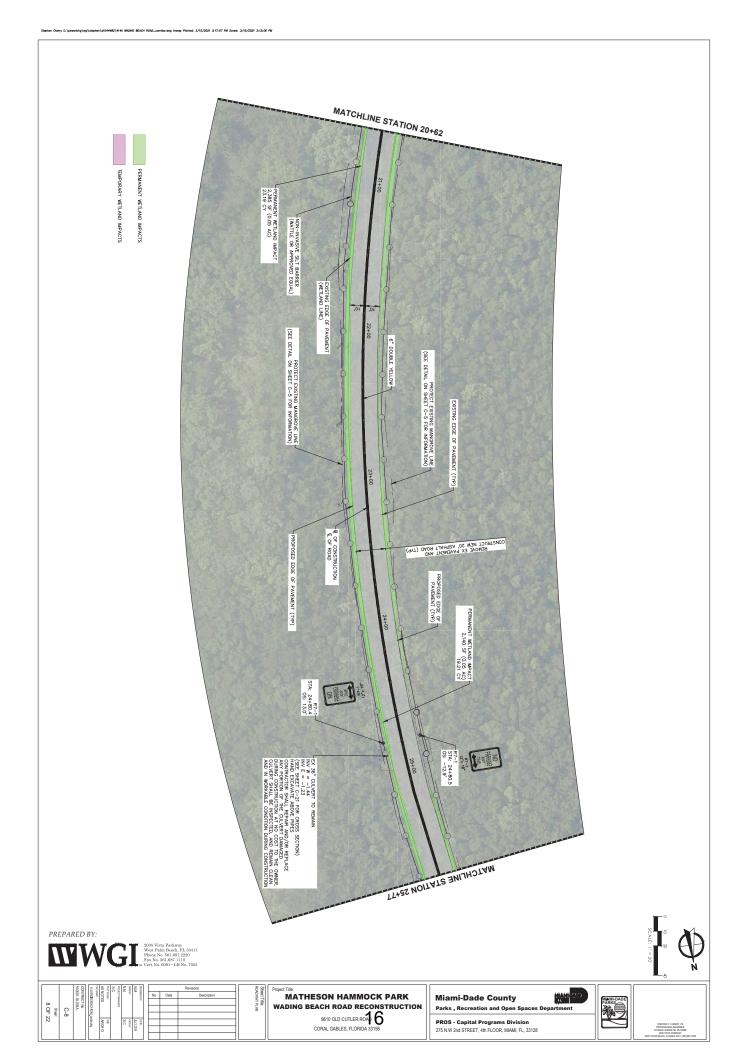


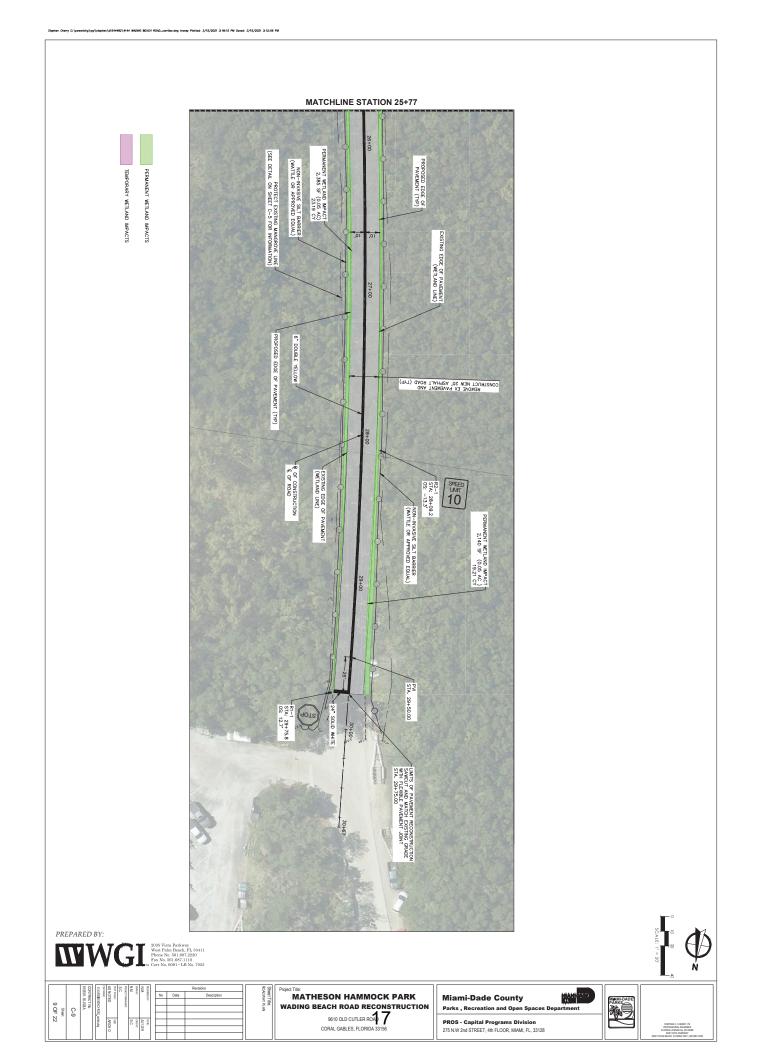


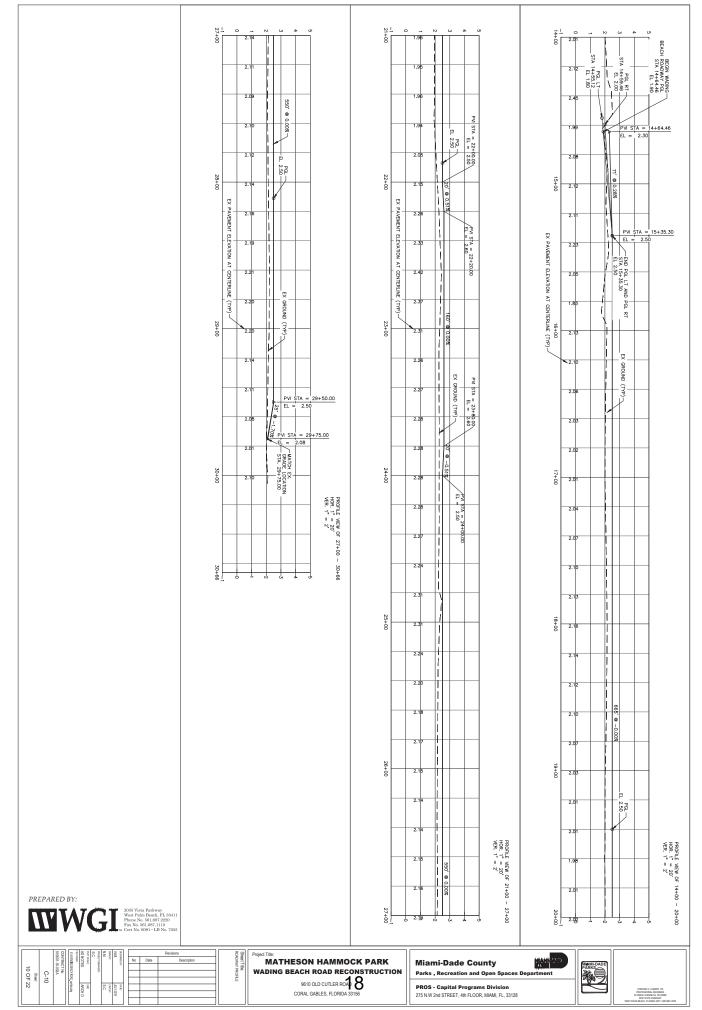


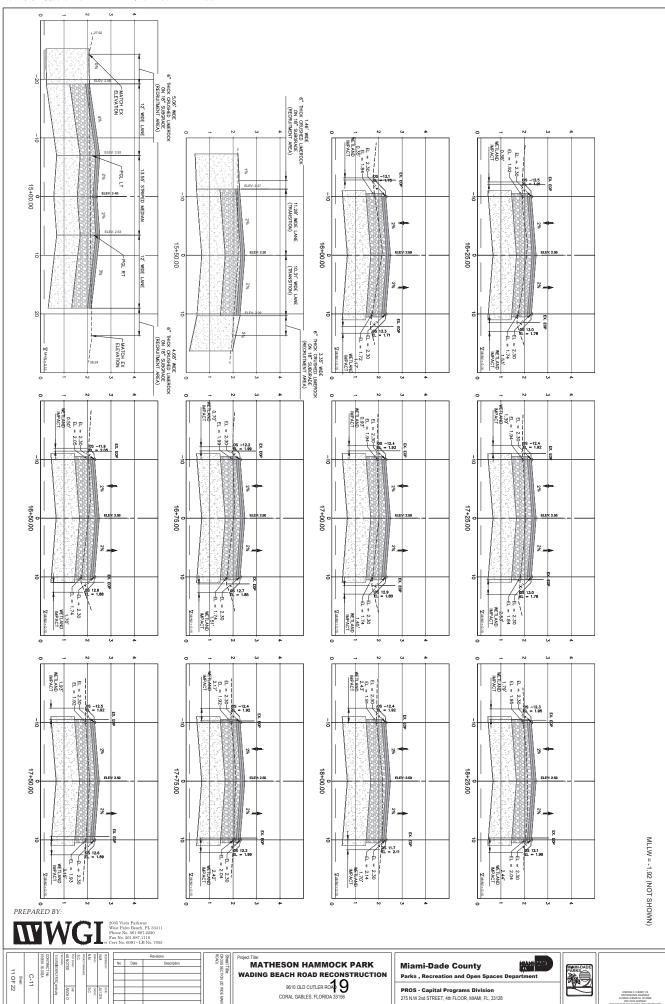


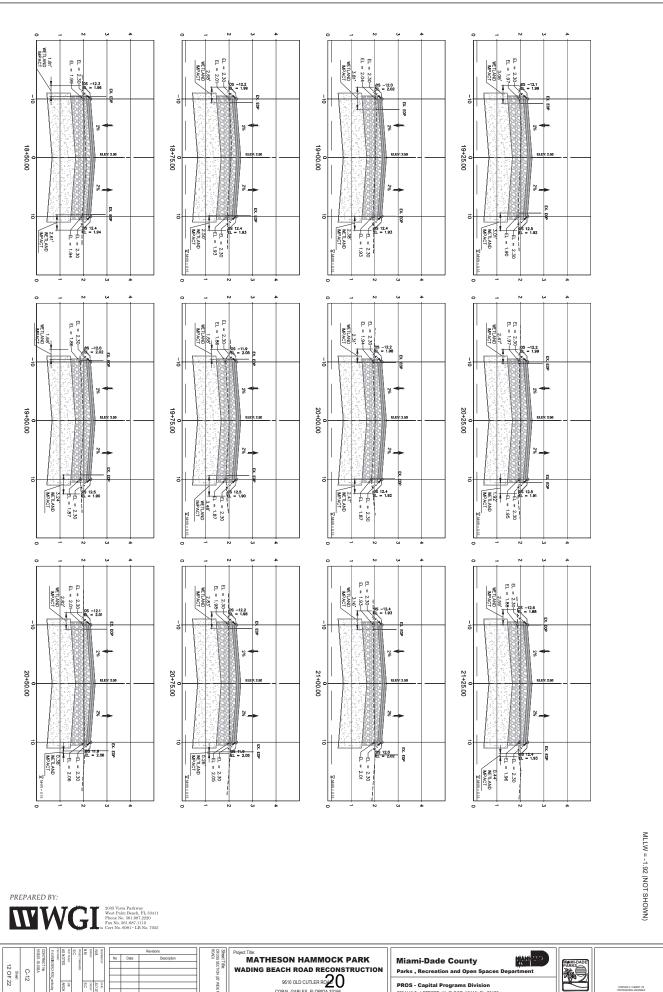












PROS - Capital Programs Division 275 N.W 2nd STREET, 4th FLOOR, MIAMI, FL, 33128

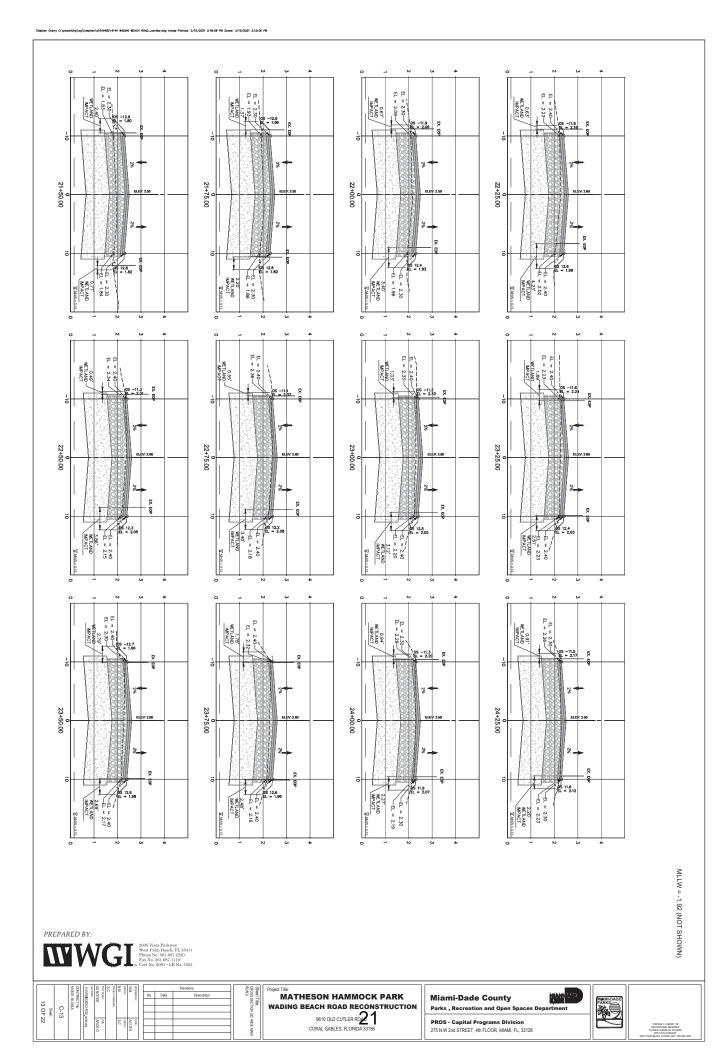
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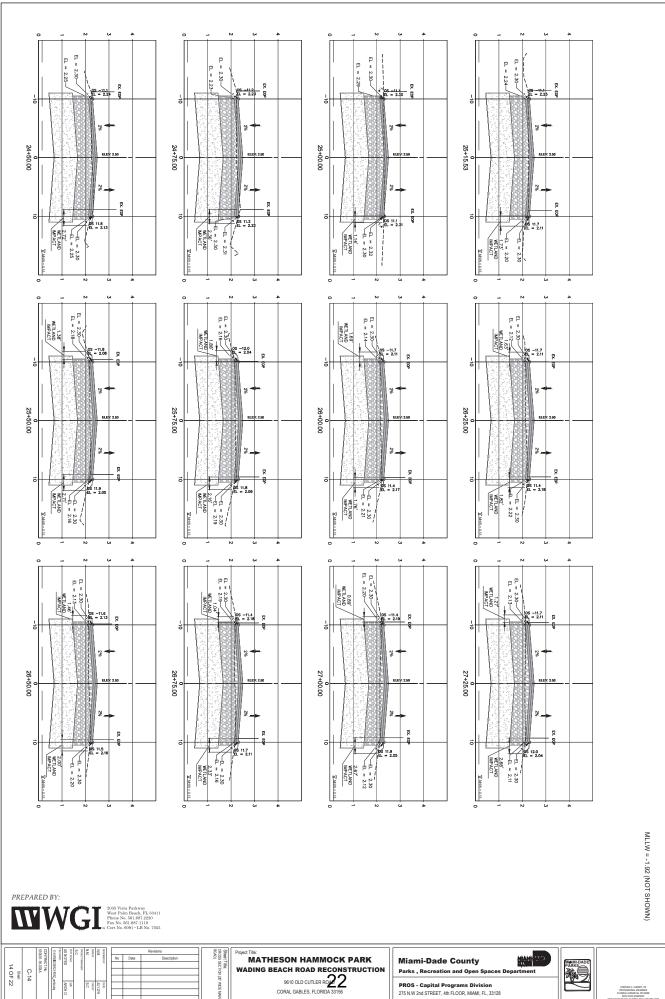
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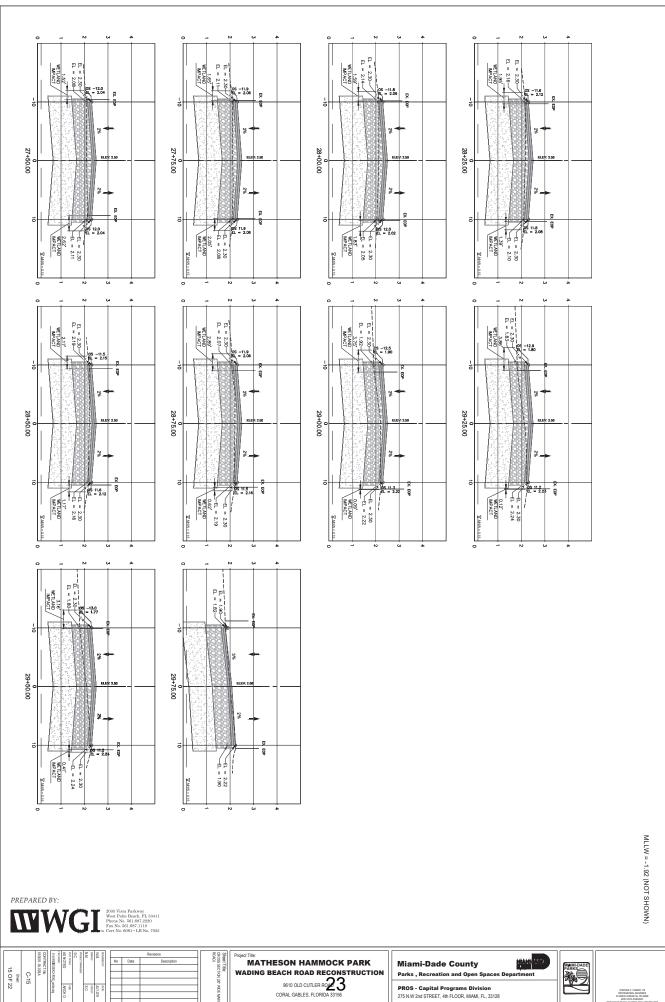


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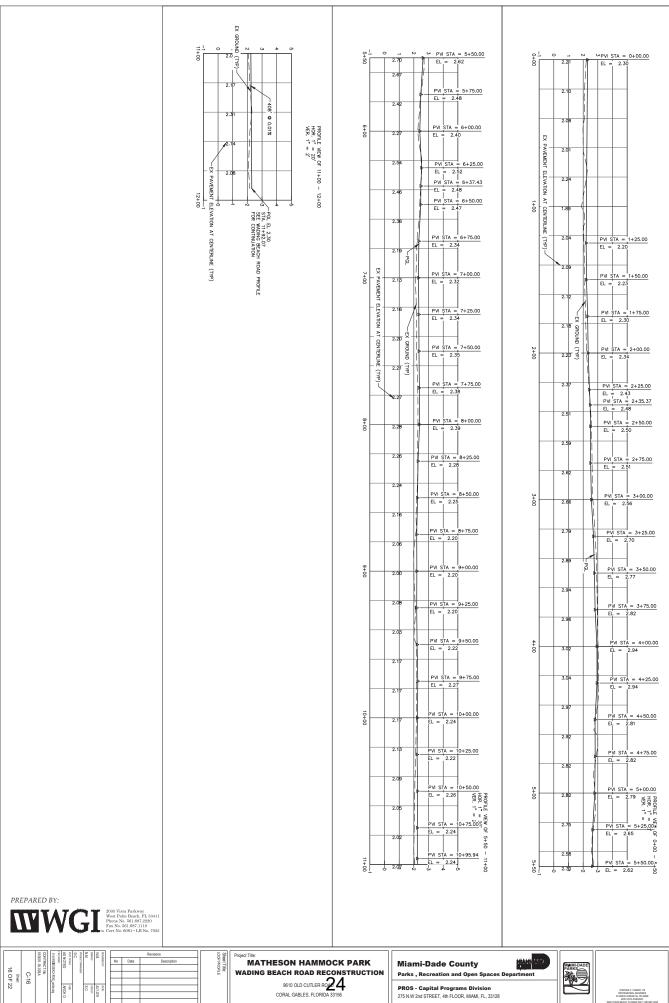
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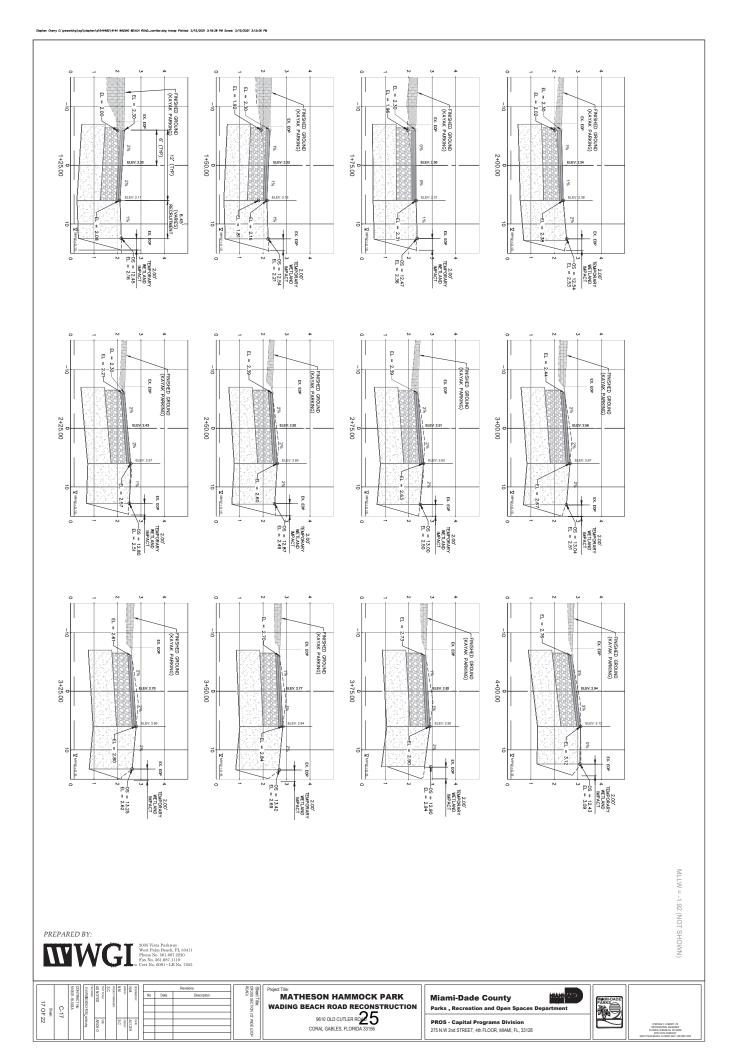
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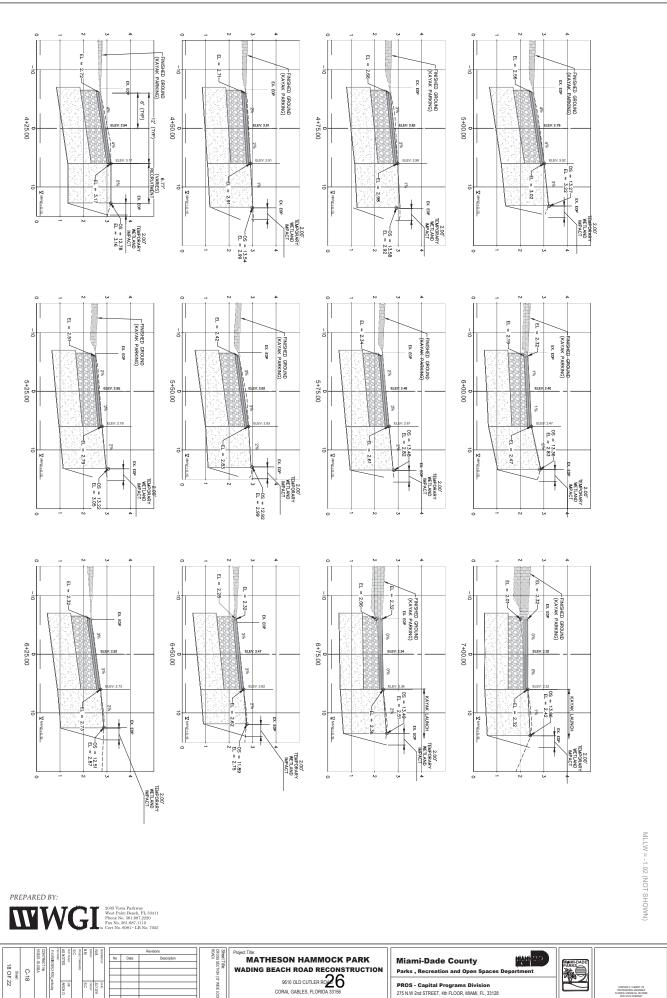
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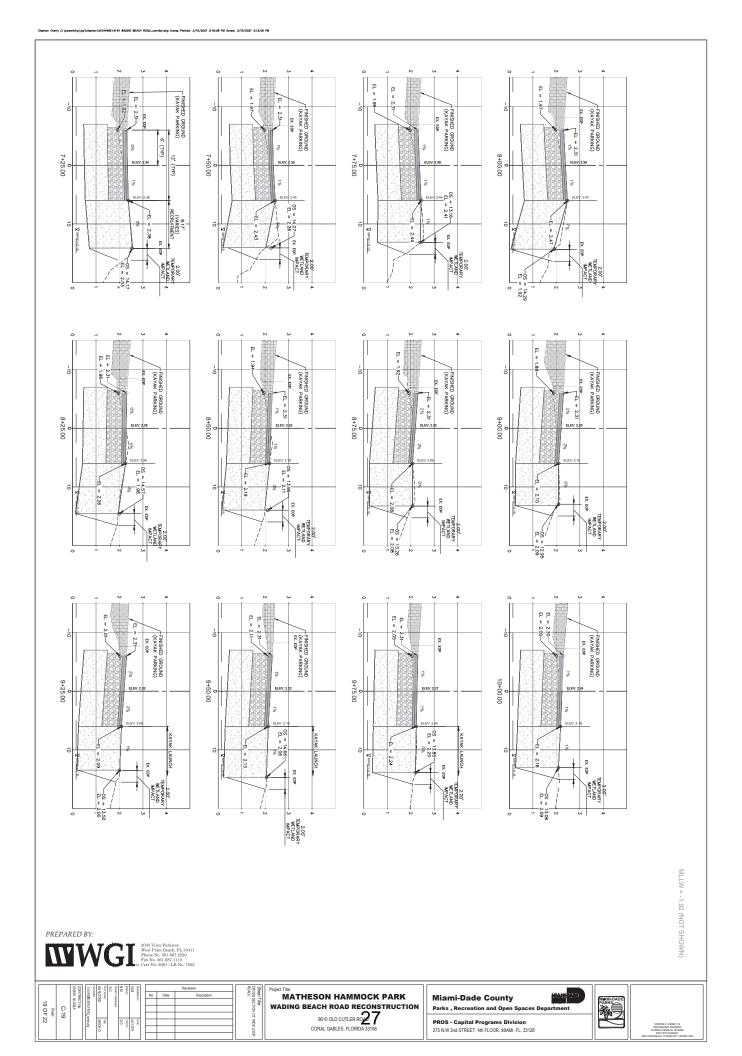


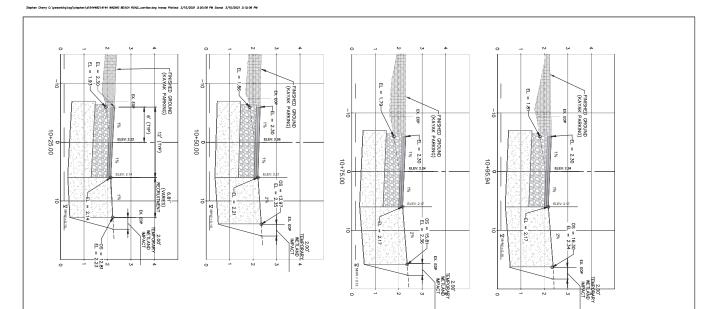
















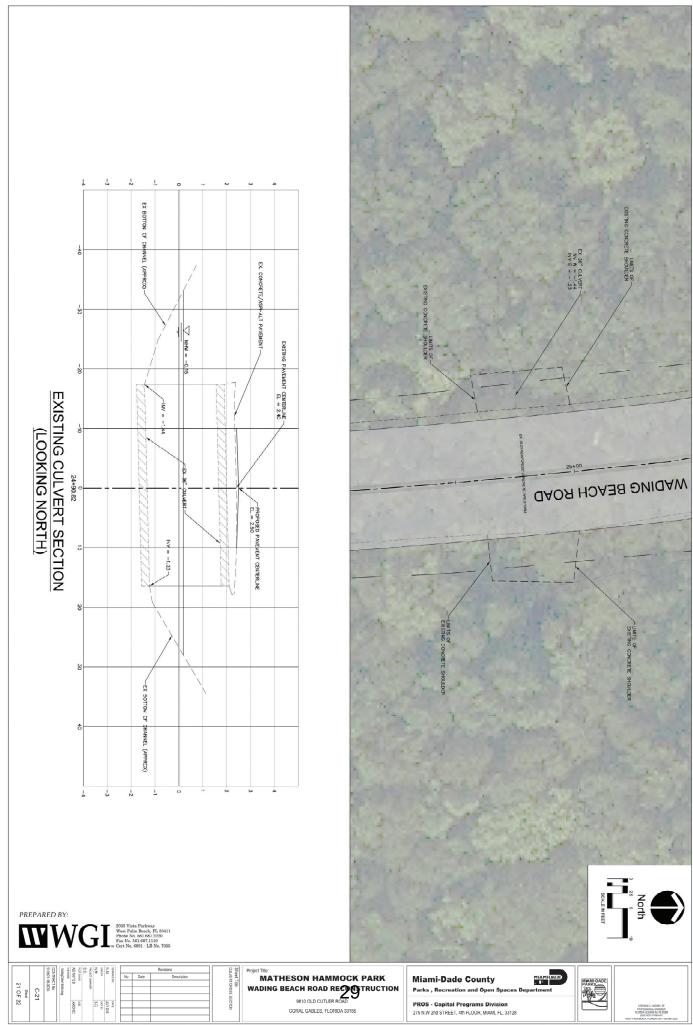
Project Title: MATHESON HAMMOCK PARK wading beach road reconstruction CORAL GABLES, FLORIDA 33

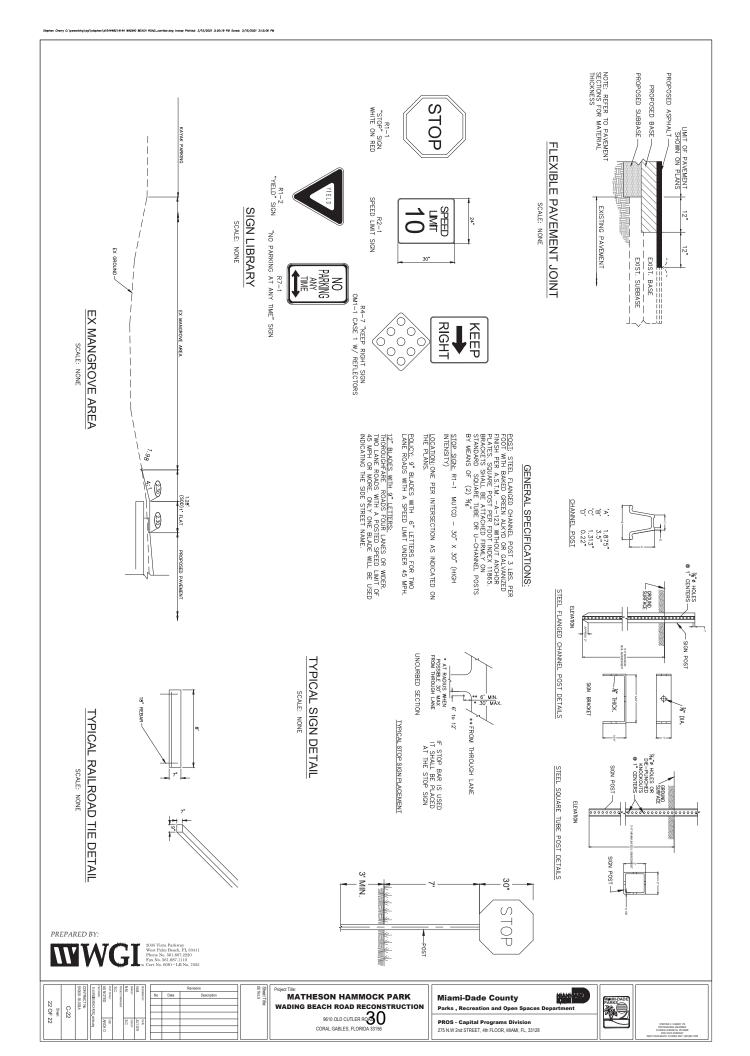
Miami-Dade County Parks , Recreation and Open Spaces Department

PROS - Capital Programs Division 275 N.W 2nd STREET, 4th FLOOR, MIAMI, FL, 33128

MARKS PARKS STEPHEN C. CHERRY, PE PROFESSIONAL ENGINEER FLOREDALICENSE No. PE EDIN

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#### PERMIT APPLICANT / AUTHORIZED AGENT STATEMENT

Date: 9/10/20

Miami Dade County Department of Regulatory and Economic Resources Class I Permitting Program 701 NW 1<sup>st</sup> Court Miami, FL 33136

Re: Class I Standard Form Permit Application Number CLI-2019-0365

By the attached Class I Standard Form permit application with supporting documents, I, <u>Greg Griffith (WGI)</u>, am the <u>permit applicant/applicant's</u> authorized agenD(circle one)\_and hereby request permission to perform the work associated with Class I Permit Application CLI-2019-0365. I understand that a Miami-Dade County Class I Standard Form Permit is required to perform this work.

If approval is granted for the proposed work by the Board of County Commissioners, complete and detailed plans and calculations of the proposed work shall be prepared by an engineer licensed in the State of Florida in accordance with the minimum requirements of Chapter 24 of the Code of Miami-Dade County, Florida. Said plans and calculations shall be subject to the review and approval of the Department. The permit applicant will secure the services of an engineer licensed in the State of Florida to conduct inspections throughout the construction period, and said engineer shall prepare all required drawings of record. In the event that the proposed work which is the subject of this Class I Permit application involves the cutting or trimming of a mangrove tree(s), a detailed plan of the proposed cutting or trimming shall be prepared by a licensed landscape architect and submitted to the Department for review and approval, and the permit applicant will secure the services of a licensed landscape architect to supervise the trimming or cutting.

Respectfully submitted,

(Permit Applicants Name), Permit Applicant

(Authorized Agent's Name), Authorized Agent

#### ENGINEER LETTER OF CERTIFICATION

Date: 9 21 2020

Miami-Dade County Department of Regulatory and Economic Resources Class I Permitting Program 701 NW 1<sup>st</sup> Court Miami, Florida 33136

RE: Class I Permit Application Number CLI-2019-0365

Ladies and Gentlemen:

This letter will certify that I am an engineer licensed in the State of Florida, qualified by education and experience in the area of engineering design and inspection, and that to the best of my knowledge and belief, the proposed work does not violate any laws, rules, or regulations of the State of Florida or any provisions of the Code of Miami-Dade County which may be applicable; that diligence and recognized standard practices of the engineering profession have been exercised in the engineer's design of the proposed work; and in my opinion based upon my knowledge and belief, the following will not occur:

- a. Harmful obstruction or undesirable alteration of the natural flow of the water within the area of the proposed work.
- b. Harmful or increased erosion, shoaling of channels or stagnant areas of water. (Not applicable to class IV permits)
- c. Material injury to adjacent property.
- d. Adverse environmental impacts from changes in water quality or quantity. (Applicable to class IV permits only)

Further, I have been retained by the applicant to provide inspections throughout the construction period and to prepare a set of reproducible record prints of drawings showing changes made during the construction process based upon the marked-up prints, certified surveys, drawings, and other data furnished by the contractor to me.

Sincerely

Attachment C

Zoning Memorandum

# Memorandum COUNTY

Date:	August 27, 2021
То:	McKee Gray, Manager Coastal Resources Section Department of Regulatory and Economic Resources
From:	Tammy Burton, Biologist II Coastal Resources Section Buter Department of Regulatory and Economic Resources
Subject:	Class I Permit Application by Miami-Dade County, through its Parks, Recreation, and Open Spaces Department, for the Filling of 4,525 Square Feet of Wetlands Supporting Halophytic Vegetation, the Removal of 500 Square Feet of Mangrove Canopy, and Temporary Impacts to 2,608.95 Square Feet of Wetlands in Association with the Reconstruction of an Existing Road in Matheson Hammock Park, located at 9610 Old

Cutler Road, Coral Gables, Miami-Dade County, Florida

Pursuant to Section 24-48.2(II)(B)(7), of the Code of Miami-Dade County, Florida, a substantiating letter or plan approval shall be submitted by the applicant stating that the proposed project does not violate any zoning laws. Said letter or plan approval will be submitted after approval by the Miami-Dade County Board of County Commissioners and prior to issuance of the Class I permit.

Attachment D

**DERM Project Report** 

#### **CLASS I PERMIT APPLICATION NO. CLI-2019-0365**

Class I Permit Application by Miami-Dade County, through its Parks, Recreation, and Open Spaces Department, for the Filling of 4,525 Square Feet of Wetlands Supporting Halophytic Vegetation, the Removal of 500 Square Feet of Mangrove Canopy, and Temporary Impacts to 2,608.95 Square Feet of Wetlands in Association with the Reconstruction of an Existing Road in Matheson Hammock Park, located at 9610 Old Cutler Road, Coral Gables, Miami-Dade County, Florida

**DATE: August 27, 2021** 

Staff's recommendation of approval for the above-referenced permit application is based on the applicable evaluation factors under Section 24-48.3 of the Code of Miami-Dade County, Florida (Code). The following is a summary of the proposed project and staff's opinion to its conformance with respect to each applicable evaluation factor:

- 1. <u>Potential Adverse Environmental Impact</u> Pursuant to Section 24-48.4 of the Code, potential adverse environmental impacts and cumulative adverse environmental impacts for a proposed project must be avoided and minimized and mitigation is required for permittable projects that otherwise result in adverse environmental impacts. The project would result in the filling of 4,525 square feet of halophytic wetlands supporting halophytic vegetation, the removal of 500 square feet of mangrove canopy, and 2,608.95 square feet of temporary impacts to adjacent halophytic wetlands. In certain locations where it was determined to be feasible, the footprint of the proposed road was shifted landward of the existing footprint to be located on existing uplands in the center area of the loop at the end of the wading beach road, further reducing the wetland impact. The applicant has proposed to satisfy the impacts associated with the filling of 4,525 square feet of halophytic wetlands and the trimming of 500 square feet of mangrove canopy through a contribution to the Biscayne Bay Environmental Enhancement Trust Fund. No mitigation is proposed for the temporary impacts, as this area would not be cleared or filled. The project area would be maintained free of exotic pest plants and nuisance species in accordance with the Class I permit conditions. Any temporary water quality impacts would be minimized through the implementation of proper turbidity controls, including silt fencing, throughout construction operations to ensure that State and County water quality standards are met. In addition, the side slopes at the edge of the improved road would be compacted to further eliminate erosion and turbidity into the future.
- 2. <u>Potential Cumulative Adverse Environmental Impact</u> The proposed project is not reasonably expected to result in cumulative adverse environmental impacts as set forth in Number 1 above.
- **3.** <u>**Hydrology**</u> The proposed project is not reasonably expected to adversely affect surface water drainage or retention of stormwater.
- 4. <u>Water Quality</u> The proposed project may affect surface water quality on a temporary basis during construction operations. Any temporary water quality impacts would be minimized through the implementation of proper turbidity controls, including silt fencing, throughout construction operations to ensure that State and County water quality standards are met. In addition, the side slopes at the edge of the improved road would further eliminate erosion and turbidity.
- 5. <u>Wellfields</u> The proposed project is not reasonably expected to adversely affect wellfields.
- 6. <u>Water Supply</u> The proposed project is not reasonably expected to adversely affect water supply.
- 7. <u>Aquifer Recharge</u> The proposed project is not reasonably expected to adversely affect aquifer recharge.
- 8. <u>Aesthetics</u> The proposed project is not reasonably expected to adversely affect aesthetics.

- 9. <u>Navigation</u> The proposed project is not reasonably expected to adversely affect navigation.
- 10. <u>Public Health</u> The proposed project is not reasonably expected to adversely affect public health.
- 11. <u>Historic Values</u> The proposed project is not reasonably expected to adversely affect historic values.
- 12. <u>Archaeological Values</u> The proposed project is not reasonably expected to adversely affect archaeological values.
- 13. <u>Air Quality</u> The proposed project is not reasonably expected to adversely affect air quality.
- 14. <u>Marine and Wildlife Habitats</u> The proposed project is not reasonably expected to adversely affect marine and wildlife habitats as set forth in Number 1 above.
- **15.** <u>Wetland Soils Suitable for Habitat</u> The proposed project involves the filling of wetlands which would be mitigated as set forth in Number 1 above.
- **16.** <u>Floral Values</u> The proposed project involves the filling of wetlands which would be mitigated as set forth in Number 1 above.
- 17. <u>Fauna Values</u> The proposed project involves the filling of wetlands which would be mitigated as set forth in Number 1 above.
- **18.** <u>**Rare, Threatened and Endangered Species**</u> The proposed project is not reasonably expected to adversely affect rare, threatened and endangered species.
- **19.** <u>Natural Flood Damage Protection</u> The proposed project is not reasonably expected to adversely affect surface water drainage or retention of stormwater.
- **20.** <u>Wetland Values</u> The project involves the filling of wetland habitat which would be mitigated as set forth in Number 1 above.
- **21.** <u>Land Use Classification</u> Pursuant to Section 24-48.2(II)(B)(7) of the Code of Miami-Dade County, Florida, applications by Miami-Dade County within its own jurisdiction shall not be required to submit a substantiating letter or plan approval from the local zoning authority.
- 22. <u>Recreation</u> The proposed project does not conflict with the recreation element of the Miami-Dade County Comprehensive Development Master Plan.
- **23.** <u>Other Environmental Values Affecting the Public Interest</u> The proposed project is not reasonably expected to adversely affect other environmental values affecting the public interest. The proposed project would be located on lands owned by Miami-Dade County.

- 24. <u>Conformance with Standard Construction Procedures and Practices and Design and</u> <u>Performance Standards</u> – The proposed project complies with the standard construction procedures and practices and design and performance standards of the applicable portions of the Code of Miami-Dade County and the Miami-Dade County Public Works Manual.
- **25.** <u>Comprehensive Environmental Impact Statement (CEIS)</u> In the opinion of the Director, the proposed project is not reasonably expected to result in significant adverse environmental impacts or cumulative adverse environmental impacts. Therefore, a CEIS was not required by DERM to evaluate the project.
- 26. <u>Conformance with All Applicable Federal, State and Local Laws and Regulations</u> The proposed project is in conformance with applicable State, Federal and local laws and regulations:
  - a) Chapter 24 of the Code of Miami-Dade County
  - b) United States Clean Water Act (US Army Corps of Engineers permit is required and must be obtained prior to performing work)
  - c) Florida Department of Environmental Protection (regulatory permit is required and must be obtained prior to performing work)
- 27. <u>Conformance with the Miami-Dade County Comprehensive Development Master Plan (CDMP)</u> In the opinion of the Director, the proposed project is consistent as required by CDMP policy LU-3A, with the goals, objectives and policies contained in the Conservation, Aquifer Recharge and Drainage and Coastal Management Elements of this Plan, and with all applicable environmental regulations, as well as other elements of the CDMP. The following is a summary of the proposed project as it relates to the CDMP:

# LAND USE ELEMENT I:

<u>Objective 3/Policies 3A, 3B, 3C</u> - Protection of natural resources and systems. – The proposed project is consistent with all applicable environmental regulations, is compatible with surrounding land uses in Biscayne Bay and does not involve development in the Big Cypress area of Critical State Concern or the East Everglades.

# **TRANSPORTATION ELEMENT II**

- <u>Aviation Subelement/Objective AV-5A</u> Aviation System Expansion There is no aviation element to the proposed project.
- <u>Port of Miami River Subelement/Objective 3</u> Minimization of impacts to estuarine water quality and marine resources. The project is not located within the Miami River.

# **CONSERVATION, AQUIFER RECHARGES AND DRAINAGE ELEMENT IV:**

- <u>**Objective 3/Policies 3A, 3B, 3D</u></u> Wellfield protection area protection. The proposed project is not located within a wellfield protection area.</u>**
- **Objective 3/Policy 3E** Limestone mining within the area bounded by the Florida Turnpike, the Miami-Dade/ Broward Levee, N.W. 12 Street and Okeechobee Road. - The proposed project is not located within this area.

- <u>**Objective 4/Policies 4A, 4B, 4C</u>** Water storage, aquifer recharge potential and maintenance of natural surface water drainage. The proposed project is not reasonably expected to adversely affect water storage, aquifer recharge potential or natural surface water drainage.</u>
- <u>**Objective 5/Policies 5A, 5B, 5F</u>** Flood protection and cut and fill criteria The proposed project would not compromise flood protection.</u>
- <u>**Objective 6/Policy 6A</u>** Areas of highest suitability for mineral extraction. The proposed project is not located in an area proposed or suitable for mineral extraction.</u>
- <u>Objective 6/Policy 6B</u> Guidelines for rock quarries for the re-establishment of native flora and fauna. – The proposed project is not located in a rock quarry.
- **Objective 7/Policy 7A** Wetland protection and restoration. The project is clearly in the public interest as the existing road is no longer useable and must be replaced to provide access to the historic wading beach area. Furthermore, no other reasonable alternative exists. To mitigate for otherwise permittable impacts, the applicant has proposed to mitigate for the impacts to wetlands and mangroves through a contribution to the Biscayne Bay Environmental Enhancement Trust Fund (BBEETF) to be used for the creation, restoration, or enhancement of coastal wetlands adjacent to Biscayne Bay or its tidal tributaries. It is not anticipated that the project would adversely impact critical habitat that is critical to endangered and threatened species that may utilize mangrove wetlands.

**Objective 7/Policy 7C, 7D, 7J** - Wetland protection and restoration. – Not applicable to this project.

<u>**Objective 9/Policies 9A, 9B, 9C</u>** - Protection of habitat critical to Federal or State-designated threatened or endangered species. – The proposed project is not reasonably expected to adversely affect habitat critical to Federal or State-designated threatened or endangered species, and the impacts have been minimized and would be mitigated as set forth in Number 1 above.</u>

# **COASTAL MANAGEMENT ELEMENT VII:**

Objective 1/Policy 1A – Mangrove wetlands within Mangrove Protected Areas – Matheson Hammock Park is designated by the Miami-Dade County Comprehensive Development Master Plan (CDMP) as a Mangrove Protection Area. Trimming of mangroves within a Mangrove Protection Area must be consistent with the criteria outlined in the Coastal Management Element of the CDMP. The existing road has degraded to the point where sections are missing and must be replaced to provide access to the wading beach area. This road runs through mangrove wetlands and is the only access to the wading beach area, so the wading beach area is currently inaccessible to park patrons. This wading beach area was historically open to the public since approximately 1940, and was historically used by the public for a variety of park activities such as birding, kayaking, picnicking, and swimming. Matheson Hammock Park, including the wading beach area, is designated as a Heritage Park in Miami-Dade County and as a Historic Site listed in the Coral Gables Register of Historical Places, and reopening the wading beach area of Matheson Hammock Park is clearly in the public interest. The majority of the new road will be located within the footprint of the existing road with only a small expansion of the footprint to accommodate stabilization slopes. For all of the reasons stated herein, the proposed work is consistent with the CDMP as the work is clearly in the public interest and is in a location where no reasonable upland alternative exists. Furthermore, the proposed mangrove trimming and alteration has been minimized and would be done in a manner that preserves the function of the

mangrove system and does not adversely affect habitat. In addition, the proposed project involves the repair and/or replacement of the existing culvert to ensure adequate tidal flushing is maintained. The Class I permit would include authorization for future maintenance trimming and alteration of mangroves along the road to maintain clearance, should mangroves grow into this area.

- <u>**Objective 1**/ Policy 1B</u> Natural surface flow into and through coastal wetlands. The proposed project would not affect natural surface flow into and through coastal wetlands.
- <u>**Objective 1**/ Policy 1C</u> Elevated boardwalk access through mangroves. The proposed project does not involve the construction of an elevated walkway through mangroves.
- <u>Objective 1/Policy 1D</u> Protection and maintenance of mangrove forests and related natural vegetational communities. The project involves the filling of wetlands which would be mitigated as set forth in Number 1 above.
- <u>**Objective 1/Policy 1E</u>** Mitigation for the degradation and destruction of coastal wetlands. Monitoring and maintenance of mitigation areas. The project involves the filling of wetlands which would be mitigated as set forth in Number 1 above.</u>
- <u>Objective 1/Policy 1G</u> Prohibition on dredging or filling of grass/algal flats, hard bottom or other viable benthic communities, except as provided for in Chapter 24 of the Code of Miami-Dade County, Florida. The proposed project does not involve the dredging or filling of grass/algal flats, hard bottom, or other viable benthic communities.
- <u>Objective 2/Policies 2A, 2B</u> Beach restoration and renourishment objectives. The proposed project does not involve beach restoration or renourishment.
- **Objective 3/Policies 3E, 3F** Location of new cut and spoil areas for proper stabilization and minimization of damages. The proposed project does not involve the development or identification of new cut or spoil areas.
- **Objective 4/Policy 4A, 4C, 4E, 4F** Protection of endangered or threatened animal species. The proposed project is not reasonably expected to result in impacts to endangered or threatened species.
- <u>**Objective 5**/Policy 5B</u> Existing and new areas for water-dependent uses. The proposed project does not involve a water-dependent use.
- <u>Objective 5/Policy 5D</u> Consistency with Chapter 33D, Miami-Dade County Code. (shoreline access, environmental compatibility of shoreline development) The thresholds for review under the Shoreline Ordinance do not apply and the proposed project is not subject to shoreline development review.
- <u>**Objective 5**/Policy 5F</u> The siting of water dependent facilities. The proposed project does not involve the creation of new water dependent facilities.
- 28. <u>Conformance with Chapter 33B, Code of Miami-Dade County</u> (East Everglades Zoning Overlay Ordinance) The proposed project is not located within the East Everglades Area.
- 29. <u>Conformance with Miami-Dade County Ordinance 81-19</u> (Biscayne Bay Management Plan Sections 33D-1 through 33D-4 of the Code of Miami-Dade County) The proposed project is in

conformance with the Biscayne Bay Management Plan.

- 30. <u>Conformance with the Miami-Dade County Manatee Protection Plan (MPP)</u> The MPP is not applicable to the proposed project.
- 31. <u>Consistency with Miami-Dade County Criteria for Lake Excavation</u> The proposed project does not involve lake excavation.
- 32. <u>Zoning Recommendation</u> Pursuant to Section 24-48.2(II)(B)(7) of the Code of Miami-Dade County, Florida, a substantiating letter stating that the proposed project does not violate any zoning laws, or a plan approval, will be submitted prior to permit issuance. Said letter or plan approval will be submitted after the approval by the Board of County Commissioners and prior to the issuance of a Class I permit.
- 33. <u>Coastal Resources Management Line</u> A coastal resources management line was not required for the proposed project, pursuant to Section 24-48.2(II)(B)(10)(b) of the Code of Miami-Dade County.
- 34. <u>Maximum Protection of a Wetland's Hydrological and Biological Functions</u> The project involves the filling of wetlands which would be mitigated as set forth in Number 1 above.
- 35. <u>Class I Permit Applications Proposing to Exceed the Boundaries Described in Section D-5.03(2)(a) of the Miami-Dade County Public Works Manual</u> Not applicable.

The proposed project was also evaluated for compliance with the standards contained in Sections 2448.3(2), (3), and (4) of the Code of Miami-Dade County, Florida. The following is a summary of how the standards relate to the proposed project:

**<u>24-48.3 (2)</u>** Dredging and Filling for Class I Permit – The proposed project complies with the following criteria:

(f) A physical modification necessary to protect public or private property.

24-48.3 (3) Minimum Water Depth Required for Boat Slips Created by the Construction or Placement of Fixed or Floating Docks and Piers, Piles and Other Structures Requiring a Permit Under Article IV, Division 1 of Chapter 24 of the Code of Miami-Dade County – The Coderequired water depth criteria is not applicable to the proposed project.

<u>24-48.3 (4) Clean Fill in Wetlands</u> — The project involves the filling of wetlands; all fill would meet the definition of clean fill as defined in Section 24-5 of the Code of Miami-Dade County.

BASED ON THE FOREGOING, IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT A CLASS I PERMIT BE APPROVED.

Miller Anary McKee Gray, Manager

McKee Gray, Manager Coastal Resources Section

Tanny Buter

Tammy Burton, Biologist II Coastal Resources Section



MEMORANDUM (Revised)

TO: Honorable Chairman Jose "Pepe" Diaz and Members, Board of County Commissioners DATE: October 5, 2021

Bonzon-Keenan

FROM: County Attorney

SUBJECT: Agenda Item No. 5(V)

Please note any items checked.

 "3-Day Rule" for committees applicable if raised
 6 weeks required between first reading and public hearing
 4 weeks notification to municipal officials required prior to public hearing
 Decreases revenues or increases expenditures without balancing budget
 Budget required
 Statement of fiscal impact required
 Statement of social equity required
 Ordinance creating a new board requires detailed County Mayor's report for public hearing
No committee review
 Applicable legislation requires more than a majority vote (i.e., 2/3's present, 2/3 membership, 3/5's, unanimous, CDMP 7 vote requirement per 2-116.1(3)(h) or (4)(c), CDMP 2/3 vote requirement per 2-116.1(3)(h) or (4)(c), or CDMP 9 vote requirement per 2-116.1(4)(c)(2)) to approve
 Current information regarding funding source, index code and available balance, and available capacity (if debt is contemplated) required

Approved	Mayor	Agenda Item No. 5(V)
Veto		10-5-21
Override		

#### <u>RESOLUTION NO</u>.

RESOLUTION TAKING ACTION ON A CLASS I PERMIT APPLICATION BY MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, THROUGH ITS PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACES DEPARTMENT, FOR THE FILLING OF 4,525 SQUARE FEET OF WETLANDS SUPPORTING HALOPHYTIC VEGETATION, THE REMOVAL OF 500 SQUARE FEET OF MANGROVE CANOPY, AND TEMPORARY IMPACTS TO 2,608.95 SQUARE FEET OF WETLANDS IN ASSOCIATION WITH THE RECONSTRUCTION OF AN EXISTING ROAD IN MATHESON HAMMOCK PARK, LOCATED AT 9610 OLD CUTLER ROAD, CORAL GABLES, MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA

WHEREAS, this Board desires to accomplish the purposes outlined in the accompanying memorandum, a copy of which is incorporated herein by reference,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, that this Board having considered all the applicable factors contained within section 24-48.3 of the Code of Miami-Dade County, hereby approves the application by Miami-Dade County, through its Parks, Recreation and Open Spaces Department, for the filling of 4,525 square feet of wetlands supporting halophytic vegetation, the removal of 500 square feet of mangrove canopy, and temporary impacts to 2,608.95 square feet of wetlands in association with the reconstruction of an existing road in Matheson Hammock Park, located at 9610 Old Cutler Road, Coral Gables, Miami-Dade County, Florida, subject to the conditions set forth in the memorandum from the Miami-Dade County Department of Regulatory and Economic Resources, a copy of which is attached hereto and made a part hereof. The issuance of this approval does not relieve the applicant from obtaining all applicable Federal, State, and local permits. The foregoing resolution was offered by Commissioner

, who

moved its adoption. The motion was seconded by Commissioner

and upon being put to a vote, the vote was as follows:

Jose "Pepe" Diaz, Chairman Oliver G. Gilbert, III, Vice-Chairman Sen. René García Keon Hardemon Sally A. Heyman Danielle Cohen Higgins Eileen Higgins Joe A. Martinez Kionne L. McGhee Jean Monestime Raquel A. Regalado Rebeca Sosa Sen. Javier D. Souto

The Chairperson thereupon declared the resolution duly passed and adopted this 5<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2021. This resolution shall become effective upon the earlier of (1) 10 days after the date of its adoption unless vetoed by the County Mayor, and if vetoed, shall become effective only upon an override by this Board, or (2) approval by the County Mayor of this resolution and the filing of this approval with the Clerk of the Board.

## MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA BY ITS BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

HARVEY RUVIN, CLERK

By: \_

Deputy Clerk

Approved by County Attorney as to form and legal sufficiency.

Christopher J. Wahl Abbie Schwaderer-Raurell