Memorandum

Date: November 22, 2024

To: Honorable Chairman Anthony Rodriguez
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

Agenda Item No. 2(B)(3)
January 22, 2025

From: Daniella Levine Cava
Mayor

Subject: Status Report on Miami-Dade County Women's Hall of Fame – Directive No. 230739

This status report is in response to Resolution No. R-376-23 (Resolution), sponsored by Chairman Oliver G. Gilbert, III, and adopted by the Board of County Commissioners (Board) on April 18, 2023. The Resolution directed Miami-Dade County Mayor or County Mayor's designee to identify available physical spaces on County-owned property, as an alternative to The Women's Park, where the Miami-Dade County (County) Women's Hall of Fame (WHOF) could be located.

Executive Summary

The Internal Services Department (ISD) worked with multiple County departments, the Office of Community Advocacy (OoCA), and the Commission for Women (CW) to conduct a feasibility study and locate a suitable physical location for the placement of the WHOF. The County considered several locations, including the County's Main Library and the Stephen P. Clark Center (SPCC), however, these locations faced challenges such as limited public access and the need for significant modifications. Following the analysis, the Women's Park was deemed the most suitable option due to its historical significance as one of the first parks dedicated to women, its mission to recognize women's contributions in the County, and its accessibility to the public. The Parks, Recreation and Open Spaces Department (PROS) determined that the WHOF can be placed in an area located within the Women's Park as exterior area pavers instead of a wall design concept for approximately $143,000. PROS will be the lead County department and will work with the CW to ensure project completion.

Recommendations

The Women's Park, specifically an exterior area, is recommended as the most suitable location for the WHOF. There are logistical challenges including the need to design, create and install pavers as well as the need to install lighting features. Despite these challenges, The Women's Park already stands in recognition of the diverse contributions women made to improve the quality of life in the County and therefore is the most fitting location for the WHOF. The location also offers high visibility and accessibility to the public, unlike other County facilities previously reviewed.

Background

ISD collaborated with PROS, the Library Department, Department of Transportation and Public Works (DTPW), and OoCA to identify a suitable venue for the WHOF. The original site-plan specifications incorporated the State of Florida Women's Hall of Fame as a model. The potential locations for the WHOF previously considered included the following:

- The Main Library (101 West Flagler Street):
    - An evaluation was conducted to ascertain the feasibility for the long-term wall mounting of the WHOF at the Main Library. While the Main Library offers public areas, the suitability of these spaces for permanent displays faced limitations. Notably, the Arva Parks McCabe Auditorium, a potential site within the Main Library, is restricted to reserved events, limiting regular public access. Further

investigation into other areas within the Main Library revealed that currently available sites are undergoing renovations. These renovations are aimed at creating dedicated spaces for social workers and establishing a permanent CareerSource center. Consequently, these ongoing developments rendered the Main Library an unsuitable option for housing the WHOF.

- The Stephen P. Clark Center (111 NW 1st Street):
    - ISD worked with DTPW to determine the viability of situating the WHOF in front of the Golden Passport Office at the SPCC. This assessment revealed that this location requires certain modifications, notably the retrofitting of the wall to cover existing windows with drywall, and an additional Federal Transit Authority approval.

Based on the above an alternate exterior design concept was proposed:

- Women's Park (10251 W Flagler Street):
    - The Women's Park stands in recognition of the diverse contributions women made to improve the quality of life in the County and is therefore the most fitting location for the WHOF. Despite the logistical challenges and the need for infrastructure alterations, the advantages of this location make the Women's Park, one of the first parks in the nation dedicated to women, an optimal choice for the WHOF ensuring it is prominently displayed and easily accessible to both residents and visitors. Although it was previously deemed unaccommodating for a wall mounting, the exterior area pavers concept is considered the most viable option.

This report will be placed on the next available Board Agenda without committee review pursuant to rule 5.06(j) of the Board's Rules of Procedure. Should you require any further information please contact Raymond Hall, Director, ISD, at (305)-375-1113.

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