



Board of County Commissioners

JUAN CARLOS BERMUDEZ

COMMISSIONER

DISTRICT 12

March 23, 2023

Honorable Christi Fraga
Mayor, City of Doral
8401 Northwest 53rd Terrace
Doral, FL 33166

Dear Honorable Mayor Fraga:

Thank you for your letter dated March 8, 2023, requesting funding from Miami-Dade County for the redevelopment of Doral Central Park as well as a release of deed restrictions encumbering said Park. As stated in your letter, funding was indeed committed to the City of Sweetwater and to the Village of Virginia Gardens by my predecessor at the County Commission. Regrettably and to my great consternation, the funding sources that were available to District 12 for these purposes have been depleted. However, it is my intention to work closely with County Administration during the next budget year to seek funds for worthwhile projects in my District.

Regarding the City's request to eliminate the deed restrictions encumbering the Park, while I understand the City's position, these restrictions were a core condition of the conveyance, and conditions to which the City agreed. Please refer to Section 3.a of the executed Interlocal Agreement which states: "The Parks shall be used in perpetuity as public parks and all improvements shall be open to all Miami-Dade County residents" and in Section 3.b of the Interlocal that "The CITY shall not discriminate against unincorporated residents in program registration, pricing or other policies as they relate to the use of the Parks." County lawyers have affirmed that these restrictions remain in place and that I, as an individual Commissioner, cannot modify these conditions without consensus of the Board of County Commissioners. Additionally, these conditions were placed on all other newly incorporated cities. Thus, the City of Doral is being treated consistently with other similarly situated municipalities.

Moreover, I believe that City residents and non-residents should be treated equally when it comes to park access, particularly as Doral Central Park was developed on County land conveyed for this purpose. This is a conviction I held when I was Mayor of the City of Doral when we negotiated the Interlocal Agreement between the City and the County. Now that I am a County Commissioner, I must adhere to this principle, as I currently represent residents of both municipalities and unincorporated Miami-Dade County and must do so in an equitable manner.

Please know that I appreciate your correspondence and look forward to continuing to make a difference in the City of Doral and throughout County Commission District 12.

Respectfully,



The Honorable Juan Carlos Bermudez

Miami-Dade County Commissioner

c: Honorable Daniella Levine Cava, Miami-Dade County Mayor