



COMMISSION MEMORANDUM

TO: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Commission

FROM: Interim City Manager Rickelle Williams

DATE: June 26, 2024

TITLE: DISCUSS ASPHALT ART PROJECT ON 200 - 300 BLOCKS OF LINCOLN ROAD.

RECOMMENDATION

The Administration recommends that the Mayor and City Commission discuss the item and provide direction to proceed with exploring the feasibility of an asphalt art project at the 200-300 Blocks of Lincoln Road. Funding for a proposed asphalt art project in the estimated amount of \$260,000, plus materials, has not been identified, budgeted or allocated. It is recommended that should the City Commission approve, that funding be prioritized through the Fiscal Year 2025 budget development process.

BACKGROUND/HISTORY

On May 17, 2023, at the request of Commissioner Alex Fernandez, a referral (Item C4 I) was made to the Public Safety and Neighborhood Quality of Life Committee (PSNQLC) for an update on the asphalt art project on Ocean Drive or any other appropriate location.

On July 12, 2023, at the PSNQLC meeting, staff discussed Ocean Drive asphalt art. At the time, the permit application for the temporary Ocean Drive Promenade was under review by the Miami-Dade County Department of Transportation and Public Works. As such, it was not a viable location for an asphalt art activation.

Alternatively, the Committee discussed that additional locations could be considered, including an area within the Collins Park neighborhood. The Office of Capital Improvement Projects (CIP) shared that the City was in the design phase for the Liberty Avenue Improvements Project (Liberty Avenue north of 23rd Street). The project includes widening sidewalks, landscape improvements, drainage, lighting, and new asphalt paving. As discussed, the project would also raise the intersection of Liberty Avenue and 23rd Street as a traffic calming measure.

Street Plans, the consulting firm on the "Slow Streets" program in Flamingo Park, was also present at the meeting to provide expert advice on the scope of work for a proposed temporary asphalt art project. Street Plans shared their extensive experience with the Miami-Dade County Department of Transportation and Public Works and recommended initiating the permitting process with the County.

The PSNQLC recommended the initiation of the permitting process for a temporary asphalt art project with the County and also recommended the inclusion of the 200 and 300 blocks of Lincoln Road to discuss with the County as an alternative should the Liberty Avenue location be deemed not feasible. The item was to return to PSNQLC for an update.

Following July 12, 2023, PSNQLC meeting, staff met with Street Plans to discuss the next steps of the permitting process. They provided a scope of services (Exhibit A), including designing conceptual site plans and working with City and County staff to identify permitting pathways and

an implementation process.

On March 20, 2024, at the PSNQLC meeting, staff presented an update on the status of the alternative locations and potential locations as discussed with Street Plans. The update included the information below:

A. Collins Park/Liberty Avenue:

The Office of Capital Improvement Projects (CIP) currently has two (2) active projects in the neighborhood:

1. Liberty Avenue Improvements Project (Liberty Avenue north of 23rd Street) currently in the design phase. The project includes widening sidewalks, landscape improvements, drainage, lighting, and new asphalt paving. The project will also raise the intersection of Liberty Avenue and 23rd Street as a traffic calming measure. The Administration anticipates construction activities to commence in the Fall of 2024, with a construction duration of approximately six (6) months; and

2) 23rd Street Improvements Project currently in the procurement phase for the selection of a contractor. The project includes construction of buffered two-way bike lanes, reduced travel lane widths, parking modifications, a new traffic signal at Park Avenue and 23rd Street, pedestrian signals, a raised intersection at 22nd Street and Park Avenue as a traffic calming measure and new asphalt pavement. The start of construction is anticipated for Fall 2024 and estimated completion in Fall 2025.

Neither of these two (2) active projects provide a viable location as these projects have advanced substantially and would not allow for inclusion of asphalt art at this time.

B. 200 to 300 Block of Lincoln Road:

To activate this area with asphalt art, the City is required to submit a permit application to Miami-Dade County. With permit approval, the City would enter into an interlocal agreement with Miami-Dade County that would allow the City to install and maintain the improvements. This process is anticipated to take approximately six (6) months and Public Works would facilitate the permitting process for activations within the right-of-way.

Given current discussions about potential future improvements, additional exploration is needed to determine project feasibility at this location.

Potential Location Criteria

Street Plans provided high-level criteria for potential asphalt art locations as listed below:

Locations where permanent curb extensions may be appropriate are great candidates for asphalt art.

Locations where we can use the art to improve the geometry of an intersection or street for pedestrians without requiring a traffic study at the County level.

Road closures or 'pedestrianization' of existing streets should only be considered if a traffic study has already been done and approved by Miami-Dade County.

Other curbside locations without on-street parking/loading or where on-street parking relocation have already been discussed/vetted.

Locations where a capital improvement project is planned for construction six (6) months to one (1) year after the asphalt art project has been installed. Asphalt art can/should be seen as a temporary way of testing potential infrastructure changes before those changes are made.

Street Plans recommends researching viable locations to present to the Miami-Dade County Department of Transportation and Public Works for a temporary asphalt art project permit. Providing several potential locations would streamline the permitting process and increase the likelihood of the County's approval. Street Plans recommended researching viable locations to present to the Miami-Dade County Department of Transportation and Public Works for a temporary asphalt art project permit.

ANALYSIS

On March 20, 2024, at the PSNQLC meeting, staff presented an update on the status of the alternative locations and potential locations as discussed with Street Plans. The PSNQLC recommended that the Administration proceed with engaging Street Plans to apply for an asphalt art permit from the Miami-Dade County Department of Transportation and Public Works for a temporary asphalt art project on the 200-300 blocks of Lincoln Road as an initiative to revitalize the east end of Lincoln Road.

Street Plans Proposal (see attached)

The work would involve four (4) core tasks by which Street Plans would oversee the Asphalt Art project as detailed below:

- Project Management: Monthly reporting and internal meetings
- Project Design: public workshop presentation, project development
- Project Permitting: project design, striping plans, procurement of materials
- Project Implementation: asphalt art development, public workshop, implementation plans

Proposed Project Cost:

The total estimated project fee will depend on the final materials selected. The detailed fees below reflect labor and materials budgets:

Asphalt Art Estimated Project Budget		
Category	Amount	Notes
Project Management and Design	\$ 25,000	
Project Permitting	\$ 75,000	
Project Implementation	\$ 50,000	
Project Budget Sub-total	\$ 150,000	
Materials Budget	\$ 100,000	Includes paint, planters, delineators, etc.
Project Expense	\$ 10,000	Include costs incurred by Street Plans related to the project
Total Estimated Project Budget	\$ 260,000	

Proposed Asphalt Art Development:

Street Plans will work with the city to develop an art development and selection process either in-house or working with outside artists. If working with outside artists, Street Plans will translate initial concept sketches into designs that are implementable. Street Plans recommends developing 2-3 designs during this task.

Anticipated Timeline

As part of their deliverables, Street Plans will pursue an accelerated permitting process with the Miami-Dade County Department of Transportation and Public Works, similar to the path used to implement the Flamingo Park Slow Streets Project. Based on previous asphalt art projects in other municipalities overseen by Street Plans, the anticipated project timeline is approximately ten (10) to twelve (12) months.

Proposed Asphalt Art Maintenance

Asphalt art projects are temporary in nature, and therefore, the artwork's life can be expected to last from three (3) to twelve (12) months. The artwork's condition may degrade faster than the actual material, depending on the surface, and based on exposure to excessive vehicle or machinery traffic, physical wear and tear, severe weather, and vandalism will severely limit the life expectancy. At the six (6) or twelve (12) month mark, the existing design can be repainted or a new design applied.

The Tourism and Culture and Transportation and Mobility departments will continue working collaboratively with Street Plans through the application process.

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

The fiscal impact of this project is \$260,000, including materials. It is recommended funding be prioritized through the Fiscal Year 2025 budget process.

CONCLUSION

The Administration recommends that the Mayor and City Commission discuss the item and provide direction to proceed with exploring the feasibility of an asphalt art project at the 200-300 Blocks of Lincoln Road. Funding for a proposed asphalt art project in the estimated amount of \$260,000, including materials, has not been identified, budgeted or allocated. It is recommended that should the City Commission approve, that funding be prioritized through the Fiscal Year 2025 budget development process.

Applicable Area

South Beach

Is this a "Residents Right to Know" item, pursuant to City Code Section 2-17?

Yes

Is this item related to a G.O. Bond Project?

No

Was this Agenda Item initially requested by a lobbyist which, as defined in Code Sec. 2-481, includes a principal engaged in lobbying? No

If so, specify the name of lobbyist(s) and principal(s):

Department

Tourism and Culture

Sponsor(s)

Commissioner Alex Fernandez

Co-sponsor(s)