

From: [Diaz-Greco, Gilma M. \(COE\)](#)
To: [Sanchez, Rodzandra \(COE\)](#)
Subject: Julie Whiteside ISD Procurement Management Re: OCA - Project No. E17-TPO-02 - Long Range Transportation Plan (Voting Conflict, Appearance Issues)) INQ 17-281
Date: Wednesday, December 13, 2017 9:36:35 AM
Attachments: [Project No. E17-TPO-02- Long RangeTransportation Plan 12-04-17.pdf](#)

INQ 17-281 Whiteside

From: Centorino, Joseph (COE)
Sent: Tuesday, December 12, 2017 5:02 PM
To: Whiteside, Julie (ISD) <Julie.Whiteside@miamidade.gov>
Cc: Martinez, Angie (OCA) <Angie.Martinez@miamidade.gov>; Davis, Thomas (OCA) <Thomas.Davis@miamidade.gov>; Edwards, Phillip G. (OCA) <Phillip.Edwards@miamidade.gov>; Johnson, Jannesha (OCA) <Jannesha.Johnson@miamidade.gov>; Palmer, Donna S. (OCA) <Donna.Palmer@miamidade.gov>; Uppal, Namita (ISD) <Namita.Uppal@miamidade.gov>; Turay, Radia (COE) <Radia.Turay@miamidade.gov>; Perez, Martha D. (COE) <Martha.Perez2@miamidade.gov>; Diaz-Greco, Gilma M. (COE) <Gilma.Diaz-Greco@miamidade.gov>; Sanchez, Gerald (CAO) <Gerald.Sanchez@miamidade.gov>; Kirtley, Eddie (CAO) <Eddie.Kirtley@miamidade.gov>; Cartaya, Nilia M. (DTPW) <Nilia.Cartaya@miamidade.gov>
Subject: INQ 17-281 Julie Whiteside ISD Procurement Management Re: OCA - Project No. E17-TPO-02 - Long Range Transportation Plan (Voting Conflict, Appearance Issues))

Ms. Whiteside:

This is in response to the memo Thomas B. Davis of the Office of Commission Auditor regarding the background check on the selection committee members for Project No. E17-TPO-02, 2045 Long Range Transportation Plan, Miami-Dade Transportation Planning Organization. In that memo Mr. Davis referenced the connection of one of the selection committee members, Ms. Nilia Cartaya, who informed that she had previously worked for The Corradino Group, a listed vendor on the project, between 2004 and 2006. I followed up with Ms. Cartaya and discussed her involvement on the committee in light of this information.

It is clear that Ms. Cartaya does not have any legally recognized voting conflict of interest under Section 2-11.1(v) of the County Ethics Code that would prevent her from serving on this committee based upon her previous employment by Corradino Group. She does not have any present relationship with any vendor or affected party, nor is she in any way directly affected personally by the decision-making process for this project.

However, Ms. Cartaya has indicated to me that she has a concern that, although she would endeavor to be fair to all applicants if she were to serve on the committee, she is uncertain as to whether her prior connection with Corradino Group would not affect her objectivity and ability to judge all applicants fairly. The procurement process in the County, as you are well aware, strives to follow procedures that not only abide by the ethics code, but also serve to promote the highest values of integrity, transparency and fairness. This agency, pursuant to Resolution No. R-449-14, as well as Commission on Ethics Rule of Procedure 2.1(b), has provided input concerning appearance

issues when they may raise a question regarding the objectivity of a selection committee member. Based upon my conversation with Ms. Cartaya, it is my recommendation that she not be required to serve on this particular committee due to her previous employment with Corradino Group. This recommendation should not in any way be interpreted to suggest that Ms. Cartaya, whose honesty and candor in this matter are appreciated, would not be a suitable or appropriate person to serve on a different selection committee for a project that did not involve Corradino Group as a listed vendor.

Sincerely,

Joe Centorino

Joseph M. Centorino

Executive Director and General Counsel
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From: Martinez, Angie (OCA)
Sent: Monday, December 04, 2017 1:18 PM
To: Whiteside, Julie (ISD) <Julie.Whiteside@miamidade.gov>
Cc: Davis, Thomas (OCA) <Thomas.Davis@miamidade.gov>; Edwards, Phillip G. (OCA) <Phillip.Edwards@miamidade.gov>; Johnson, Jannesha (OCA) <Jannesha.Johnson@miamidade.gov>; Palmer, Donna S. (OCA) <Donna.Palmer@miamidade.gov>; Uppal, Namita (ISD) <Namita.Uppal@miamidade.gov>; Centorino, Joseph (COE) <Joseph.Centorino@miamidade.gov>
Subject: OCA - Project No. E17-TPO-02 - Long Range Transportation Plan

This email is being sent to you on behalf of Mr. Thomas B. Davis, Esq., Director of Policy and Legislation Division.

Angie Martinez, Executive Secretary
Office of the Commission Auditor

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**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OFFICE OF THE COMMISSION AUDITOR**

M E M O R A N D U M

TO: Julie Whiteside,
ISD Procurement Management

FROM: Thomas B. Davis, Esq., Director
Policy & Legislation Division

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Thomas B. Davis", is written over the printed name in the "FROM" field.

DATE: December 4, 2017

SUBJECT: Appointment of Selection Committee for Miami-Dade Transportation Planning Organization Request Advertise for 2045 Long Range Transportation Plan – Project No. E17-TPO-02

On May 6, 2014, the Board of County Commissioners adopted Resolution No. R-449-14, directing the Office of the Commission Auditor (OCA) to conduct background checks on members serving on evaluation/selection committees.

The results of the background checks will be submitted to the Internal Services Department or other County department(s) overseeing and administering the competitive procurement process and to the Commission on Ethics, if applicable.

The voting members of the Selection Committee are Carlos Roa, TPO; David Henderson, TPO; Curlene Thomas, FDOT; Frank Guyamier, DTPW; Jeannine Gaslonde, TPO; Dickson Ezeala, RER and Nilia Cartaya, DTPW. The non-voting chairperson is Julie Whiteside, ISD.

Pursuant to the Resolution, the OCA completed the required background research noting no adverse findings for the Selection Committee members. *However, Nilia Cartaya resume states that she previously worked for The Corradino Group (2004-2006). The Corradino Group is listed as a vendor for this project.*

c: Namita Uppal, Chief Procurement Officer, ISD Procurement Management Services Division
Joseph Centorino, Executive Director, Commission on Ethics & Public Trust