

Frigo, Victoria (COE)

From: Frigo, Victoria (COE)
Sent: Tuesday, August 27, 2013 11:43 AM
To: Peraza, Alex (CUA)
Cc: Zabowski, M. Elizabeth (ISD); Williams, E. Bann (ISD); Denis, Marie (CUA); Centorino, Joseph (COE); Diaz-Greco, Gilma M. (COE)
Subject: Organizational Conflicts (INQ 13-212)
Attachments: Organizational Conflicts.pdf

Mr. Peraza,

You asked if the firm chosen to complete a feasibility study to expand the HistoryMiami property will be excluded from bidding on future work for the development of this property.

As we discussed on the phone today, this question does not fall within the jurisdiction of the County Ethics Commission. I recommended that you contact the County Attorney for advice about including appropriate language in the solicitation documents that will put bidders on notice of any limitations, or lack of limitations, related to bidding on projects subsequent to the feasibility study.

Attached is a recent memo describing the circumstances under which the County Ethics Commission will issue binding ethics opinions regarding conflicts of interest in connection with local government contracts.

If you have additional questions, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

VICTORIA FRIGO, SENIOR STAFF ATTORNEY

Direct Phone: 305 350-0601
Main Number: 305 579-2594
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19 West Flagler St., Suite 820
Miami, FL 33130

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From: Peraza, Alex (CUA)
Sent: Friday, August 23, 2013 4:56 PM
To: Frigo, Victoria (COE)
Cc: Zabowski, M. Elizabeth (ISD); Williams, E. Bann (ISD); Denis, Marie (CUA)
Subject: formal request for a written opinion from the Ethics Commission

Good day,

Through the Equitable Distribution Program (EDP) managed by the Internal Services Department (ISD), the Department of Cultural Affairs (CUA) is seeking the services of an Architectural firm to prepare a feasibility study for a capital project that Miami-Dade County will manage to expand HistoryMiami. The project spans the buildings currently occupied by HistoryMiami and the Miami Art Museum and the adjoining plaza, and may consist of one or all of the following: remodeling,

renovation, addition and expansion at the Miami-Dade County Cultural Center located at 101 West Flagler Street Miami, FL 33130. The deliverables for the scope of work shall include three conceptual plans with sufficient details and renderings to articulate each scheme and its corresponding cost estimate. This phase of work will be a feasibility study document that HistoryMiami and the County can use to develop the Work at a later date. **(See attachment 1 for detail)**

In the best interest of all parties, it is important to provide the three firms vying for this work, a definitive answer as to whether or not their initial work on this feasibility study will exclude them from further consideration in a future solicitation for A/E services for the development of this project. Prior to asking the three firms any further questions in order to choose a finalist and enter into a contract, please accept this email as a formal request for a written opinion from the Ethics Commission. Your assistance in rendering an opinion on this issue is greatly appreciated. Please contact me if you need further clarification regarding the project scope. Thank you in advance for your prompt response.

Alex Peraza

Construction Projects Manager

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www.miamidadearts.org

www.miamidade.gov

For the FACTS about the County budget and services go to

http://www.miamidade.gov/infocenter/facts_figures.asp

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