



## CITY OF MIRAMAR

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### Mayor

Wayne M. Messam

### Vice Mayor

Winston F. Barnes

### City Commission

Maxwell B. Chambers

Yvette Colbourne

Darline B. Riggs

### City Manager

Kathleen Woods-Richardson

**"We're at the  
Center of Everything"**

**CITY MANAGER**  
c/o City of Miramar  
2300 Civic Center Place  
Miramar, Florida 33025

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October 19, 2017

The Honorable Barbara Sharief, Mayor  
Broward County Board of County Commissioners  
115 South Andrews Avenue – Rm. 437C  
Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33301-1872

Re: Miramar Regional Park

Dear Mayor Sharief:

As you will recall, some months ago I wrote to you on behalf of the City of Miramar with regard to an exciting and major project to take place at Miramar Regional Park (the "Park"). The project involves the American Tennis Association ("ATA"), which is the oldest African-American Sports Organization in the United States. The ATA recently celebrated its 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, and as a part of the celebration, the ATA announced that its national headquarters will move to Miramar.

As I noted in my previous letter, names such as Arthur Ashe, Althea Gibson, Leslie Allen, and many nationally known African-American tennis champions have been actively involved with the ATA over the years. The ATA's fund-raising arm, the American Tennis & Education Foundation ("ATEF"), and the City are currently completing a comprehensive agreement and ground lease for the new facility.

The comprehensive agreement will provide for a tennis facility, which will be available for public use when tournaments are not occurring, as well as a program to teach young people to play high quality tennis. The proposal will include development of a tennis center with at least 17 planned competition courts, establishment of the Black Tennis Hall of Fame and museum, offices for use by the ATA, ATEF, and the Hall of Fame, and may include construction of a hotel. The hotel will provide support for the tennis center for visiting tournament participants and members of the public in town to attend tournaments or visit the Black Tennis Hall of Fame.

When the Park was conveyed to the City by Broward County in 2002, the deed included the following reservation by the County:

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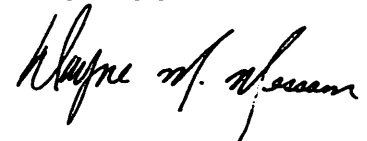
If the City of Miramar shall fail to use and maintain the property for public park purposes and ancillary/incidental uses, thereto including, but not limited to, concession stand(s), restroom(s), parking area(s), park office, park maintenance area, and similar, park support infrastructure, plus placement of one communication tower, then the entire land shall revert to Broward County, its successors and assigns.

In our discussions with the County Attorney's Office, the County Attorney has indicated that the museum, ATA/ATEF offices, and hotel would be inconsistent with the deed restrictions recited above. Because the City of Miramar values its relationship with the Board of County Commissioners, the City would not want to take any action inconsistent with previous understandings with Broward County.

Consequently, Miramar is requesting the County's assistance to waive the deed restriction for the ATA/ATEF project. We are also requesting that the County Attorney's Office work jointly with our City Attorney to prepare a document in form to be approved by the Board of County Commissioners, and recorded in the Public Records of Broward County, consenting to the use of the Park for the above described ATA/ATEF project.

If you would like to discuss this project further, the importance of this project to the City of Miramar and Broward County, or desire additional information, please feel free to contact me.

Very truly yours,



Wayne M. Messam  
Mayor

WMM/PRG/ns

pc: Members of the Board of County Commissioners  
Members of the Miramar City Commission  
Bertha Henry, Broward County Administrator  
Andrew J. Meyers, County Attorney  
Franklyn Scott, President, American Tennis & Education Foundation  
Albert A. Tucker, Vice President, Greater Fort Lauderdale Convention & Visitors Bureau  
Bureau Barron Channer, BACH Real Estate  
Stacy Ritter, President/CEO, Greater Fort Lauderdale Convention & Visitors Bureau  
Kathleen Woods-Richard, City Manager  
Jamie Cole, City Attorney  
Alan Cohen, Asst. County Administrator  
Annika Ashton, Asst. County Attorney  
Natasha Hampton, Asst. City Manager  
Hector Vazquez, Strategic Development Officer, City of Miramar  
Alison Smith, City Attorney  
Paul Gougelman, City Attorney

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## **Broward County Commissioners:**

**The Honorable Michael Udine  
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**The Honorable Mark D. Bogen  
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**The Honorable Beam Furr  
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**The Honorable Steven A. Geller  
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**The Honorable Barbara Sharief  
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**The Honorable Tim Ryan  
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**The Honorable Dale V.C. Holness  
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**Bertha Henry, Broward County Administrator  
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American Tennis & Education Foundation  
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Hollywood, FL 33020

Stacy Ritter, President/CEO  
Greater Ft. Lauderdale Convention & Visitor Bureau  
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