



Juan Carlos Bermudez

July 28th, 2020

Mayor  
City of Doral

Miami Dade County  
Mr. Carlos Gimenez  
Mayor

**SENT VIA EMAIL**

Re: Opposition regarding the New Detention Facility at 6950 N.W. 41 Street

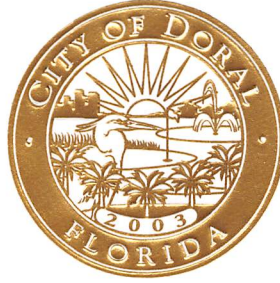
Dear Mayor Gimenez,

On February 13<sup>th</sup>, 2020, your office of Miami-Dade County (the "County") transmitted to the Board of County Commissioners a report that provided a "Review of Miami -Dade County's Need for a New Detention Facility at 6950 NW 41<sup>st</sup> Street."

Curiously, the report was not shared with the cities, such as Doral that would be impacted by the County's decision. Nor does the report consider the compatibility of a new detention center with surrounding areas, which include single family residential to the east, industrial areas that are trending towards commercial around the site, and the growth of residential communities over the past 30 years to the west, all of which are incompatible with a new detention facility likely resulting in the depression of property values and a reduction in the quality of life of the surrounding areas.

Many of NW Miami-Dade County's roads, such as NW 36th Street, and its intersections, such as NW 36th Street and 72nd Avenue, have seen immense increases in traffic resulting in further deficiencies in levels of service to the point of failure and impassible traffic at peak morning and afternoon times and the proposed detention facility will dramatically exacerbate those traffic conditions.

The selection of a site for a new detention facility or the expansion of an existing facility cannot simply consider what is in the best financial and operational interests of the County or special interests but must balance the impact such a facility will have on the surrounding communities.



For these reasons, I oppose Miami-Dade County's building of a new detention facility at 6950 NW 41<sup>st</sup> street next to the City of Doral. Building another detention complex alongside the Turner Guilford Knight correctional facility is untenable. This plan to construct a new detention facility at 6950 NW 41<sup>st</sup> street will be met with substantial community opposition.

There exists a variety of locations in the County, including, but not limited to, the Metro West Detention Center, that are better suited for the construction of a new detention facility. I also urge you to exercise bold leadership in stopping any plans to detention facilities next to residential communities and select a more viable location that would have a limited impact on its neighbors.

As Mayor, you and the Miami-Dade County Commissioners should unanimously support the principle of no prison construction near residential neighborhoods. I look forward to your response and welcome the opportunity to meet with you in person to discuss these issues further as soon as possible.

Sincerely,

Juan Carlos Bermudez  
City of Doral

Cc: Miami- Dade County, Commissioner Jose "Pepe" Diaz