

From: Philip Levine for Mayor <[REDACTED]>

To: jeevacation@gmail.com

Subject: The Truth About the Sunset Harbour Parking Garage

Date: Mon, 07 Oct 2013 21:10:37 +0000

 Levine For Mayor

Dear Friends and Neighbors,

Recently, my main opponent's shadowy negative attack group sent out direct mail spreading blatantly false lies about the Sunset Harbour project and my involvement in the deal - a project he voted to fund in 2010. His attacks are of no surprise. His empty promises have forced him to attack me rather than campaign on his own accomplishments.

The truth about the Sunset Harbour project is this: After the City's failed attempt to combine a parking lot with a plan to build a Home Depot in the Sunset Harbour area, the City approached my partner and me to add parking in the Sunset Harbour area. Per the City's request, my business partner and I simply sold the air rights above our private land to the City to build a public parking garage.

Contrary to Gongora's false claims, I did not pocket \$8,000,000 from the deal. Rather those funds were used to acquire additional land (the former Tremont Towing lot) to use for the new multistory parking garage. The money the City used for the purchase of the air rights and for the construction of the parking garage came from the Parking Fee Fund, which was created by the City specifically to increase public parking capacity, as well as from a parking bond issue the City has adopted for numerous Miami Beach parking projects.

There are a number of public benefits to the Sunset Harbour project: A severely underserved neighborhood with insufficient parking was enhanced. The new retail development increases the City's tax base and provides the local neighborhood-serving business establishments with a reasonable parking option. The project also created more recreational space in Flamingo Park. The City was able to reclaim nearly an acre of park land by relocating the maintenance department from Flamingo Park to the new Sunset Harbour parking garage.

With your continued help and support, together we will realize victory and new leadership!

Thank you,

Philip





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Philip Levine for Mayor | [REDACTED] | 960 Alton Road
Miami Beach, FL 33139



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Philip Levine for Mayor | 960 Alton Road | Miami Beach | FL | 33139