



Town of Miami Lakes Memorandum

To: Honorable Mayor and Councilmembers
From: Edward Pidermann, Town Manager
Subject: Civic Innovation Challenge
Date: August 18, 2020

This is an oral report on the Civic Innovation Challenge collaboration between the Town of Miami Lakes and the University of Florida.

The Town has identified an opportunity to collaborate with the University of Florida to submit a proposal to the National Science Foundation (NSF) Civic Innovation Challenge for the *Smart Multimodal Mobility Options for the Town of Miami Lakes Pilot Project* to fund the research and potential implementation of Smart Kiosks to connect people to housing, jobs, and activity centers in Miami Lakes.

The Town of Miami Lakes Smart Technology Implementation Plan was adopted by the Town Council on October 8, 2019. The Plan incorporated a survey of the Town's existing infrastructure and a technology review of street technologies that support autonomous transportation, traffic control and management, adaptive signalization, the collection of traveler data, pedestrian and bicycle safety improvements, smart parking, and energy efficient transportation technologies. A recommendation of the Plan is the implementation of Smart Kiosks.

Smart Kiosks provide interactive wayfinding capabilities which can be customized based on the Town's characteristics and needs. Smart Kiosks provide news and alerts; interactive maps; real-time weather conditions; information on transportation and mobility options; Freebee ride requests; Uber or Lyft ridesharing requests; Wi-Fi hotspots; and information sharing of Town events, amenities, dining options, shopping, retail, housing, and hotel accommodations.

About the Civic Innovation Challenge:

- The Civic Innovation Challenge (CIVIC) is a research and action competition in the Smart and Connected Communities domain designed to build a more cohesive research-to-innovation pipeline and foster a collaborative spirit.
- CIVIC aims to accelerate the impact of research, and deepen cooperation and information sharing across sectors and regions.
- CIVIC flips the community-university dynamic, asking communities to identify civic priorities ripe for innovation and then to partner with researchers to address those priorities.
- CIVIC focuses on research that is ready for piloting in and with communities on a short timescale, where real-world impact can be evaluated within 12 months.
- CIVIC requires the inclusion of civic partners in the core project team, to emphasize civic engagement.
- CIVIC organizes and fosters “communities of practice” around high-need problem areas that allow for meaningful knowledge sharing and cross-site collaboration during both pre-development and piloting.
- CIVIC is divided into two stages:
 - First Stage: Consist of a Planning Grant for up to \$50,000 and up to four months of collaborative research and planning. Important to note that only awardees of Stage 1 will be eligible to submit proposals for Stage 2.
 - Second Stage: Consist of an Implementation Grant for up to \$1,000,000 and up to 12 months to execute and evaluate the research-centered pilot project.

The proposal submission for Stage 1 by the University of Florida in collaboration with the Town is centered on *Track A: Communities and Mobility: Offering Better Mobility Options to Solve the Spatial Mismatch Between Housing Affordability and Jobs*.

The overall vision of the proposed research-centered pilot project is to provide the residents and visitors of Miami Lakes with enhanced multi-modal travel options, using a combination of micro-transit and micro-mobility modes (e.g., bikes and e-scooters) which may be accessed via strategically located Smart Kiosks. The proposed Smart Multimodal Mobility Options for the Town of Miami Lakes Pilot Project will assist the Town to research, evaluate and potentially implement Smart Kiosks townwide, thereby increasing the use of technology to create a smarter, safer, and more efficient Miami Lakes for people of all ages and abilities.