



**SHARON R. BOCK**  
Clerk & Comptroller  
Palm Beach County

July 31, 2009

The Honorable Shelley Vana, Audit Committee Chair  
Palm Beach County Board of County Commissioners  
301 North Olive Avenue, 12<sup>th</sup> Floor  
West Palm Beach, FL 33401

Dear Commissioner Vana:

The Clerk's office recently received a request from a Palm Beach County citizen and taxpayer, Mr. Andy Schaller (see enclosure), for the Clerk's office to initiate a review. I bring this matter to your attention in your role as the Chairman of the County's Audit Committee. Mr. Schaller stated that mistakes made in handling road paving projects within the County's Municipal Service Taxing Unit (MSTU) program adversely impacted property owners in his development. Mr. Schaller has requested the Clerk's office to review the events that have transpired over the last 16 months and evaluate the County's handling of these issues. We have been asked to examine the spending of funds and the internal administration of this project within County Engineering and supporting departments. Prior to receiving this letter, Mr. Schaller informed us that he reported some of these issues on the Clerk & Comptroller Ethics Hotline, an anonymous web/telephone reporting system.

Mr. Schaller stated he has been diligently communicating with several of the Board of County Commissioners and County staff to resolve the issues over the past 16 months without resolution. Your office staff contacted the Clerk's office to inquire if a citizen could request an audit from my office. Your office identified Mr. Schaller as the citizen in question and provided contact information to enable him to make this request. We understand, from your staff, that you first contacted the County's Internal Auditor, Joe Bergeron, before referring Mr. Schaller to our office.

An independent review of these issues and underlying practices is required to ensure the public's confidence in the results and therefore by reference, County government. As the Inspector General & Audit Director for the Clerk & Comptroller's office, we are able to provide an impartial and unbiased review for you, as well as the taxpayers of Palm Beach County. For that reason and because of your action as Chair of the Audit Committee, we will immediately initiate a review of the issues raised by Mr. Schaller.

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I will begin by contacting County employees to make the necessary arrangements. The full cooperation of County staff is an essential ingredient to having a timely and complete report. A timely and full report will be issued at the conclusion of our review.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,



Roger Trca, CIA  
Inspector General & Audit Director  
Clerk & Comptroller's Office, Palm Beach County

cc: Sharon R. Bock, Clerk & Comptroller  
Board of County Commissioners  
Audit Committee Members  
Robert Weisman, County Administrator  
Denise Nieman, County Attorney  
Joe Bergeron, County Internal Auditor