



January 31, 2019

Mayor Raul Valdes-Fauli and  
Members of the City Commission  
Coral Gables City Hall, 405 Biltmore Way  
Coral Gables, FL 33134

Dear Mayor Valdes-Fauli and City of Coral Gables Commissioners,

The Coral Gable Garden Club was thrilled that the Commission, on Oct. 9, 2018, named the triangle piece of land in front of Venetian Pool and bordered by De Soto Boulevard, Almeria Avenue and Toledo Street, the Lamar Louise Curry Park. The naming was the agreed first step in creating a park in Miss Curry's name with the \$200,000 she bequeathed to the Coral Gables Garden Club, with the directive that this money be used to beautify a part of Coral Gables that would be highly visible and appreciated by many. We think this parcel of land will beautifully accomplish Miss Curry's wishes and we look forward to this partnership between the City and the Coral Gables Garden Club as we work together to create another useful place of beauty in our City.

The Parks and Recreation Department has requested our commitment in writing that all of the \$200,000 be allocated to the creation of the Lamar Louise Curry Park and usable by the City in the park's creation. This letter represents that commitment. It also serves as the vehicle by which we ask the City to commit to using the preponderance of the monies in the actual hardscaping and landscaping of the proposed park. It is our hope that any engineering fees or utility work, especially as it relates to the Venetian Pool infrastructure (some of which appears to be on this piece of land) or any major electric/plumbing changes be completed by the City. We understand that updated architectural drawings are part of our expenses. We would be remiss in the placement of Miss Curry's bequest, if most of her gift did not go towards her desire of City beautification.

We look forward to working with Parks and Recreation Director Fred Couceyro, his assistant Mitch Zuriarrian and your ace landscape team of Deena Bell- Llewellyn and Brook Dannemiller. We are confident that we can agree on a park plan which fulfills everyone's vision, goal and financial means. And we look forward to working with the appropriate department for an agreed upon timeline of transfer of funds.

With great anticipation,

Betsy Tilghman, Coral Gables Garden Club President, 2017-2019