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## Indians, Horses & the Mouse

South Florida's commercial construction industry could sure use the help of the proposed Destination Resorts bills facing our Florida lawmakers. Anything that would bring new construction projects to the region at the level of the three proposed gaming resorts would be enough to prime the economic pump down here. The resorts will provide JOBS, not only to construction trades, but to hospitality, retail, transportation and clerical as well, and would be welcomed with open arms.

Let's face it, if Disney was bringing in a \$2-billion resort to the region we would be jumping up and down and clammering for their business...but they're not and the chances of that ever happening are minimal at best. Forget about the gaming aspect for a moment and ask yourself "Who else is willing to spend \$6-billion in private funds over the next five years?" and "What other attraction will bring thousands of international tourists to South Florida that it doesn't already have?"

The sad state of affairs is that Indians, Horses and the Mouse stand in the way of Destination Resorts ever becoming a reality for Broward and Miami-Dade counties.

**Indians...**approximately \$250 million tax revenue comes from the Seminoles, under a five-year agreement signed with the state that gives them exclusive rights to blackjack and other table games at five of their seven casinos. The state stands to lose \$125 million because payments from the Seminoles' three Broward casinos are voided if the tribe gets casino competition here.

**Horses...**another \$125 million comes from the five pari-mutuel facilities that operate slot-machine racinos in Miami-Dade and Broward counties. But the pari-mutuels – whose slot machines are taxed at 35 percent – say they'd be driven out of business by the new casinos.

Their proposed solution – a 10-percent tax rate that matches the casinos – would see their current \$125 million payments drop to \$35.7 million a year.

And finally the **Mouse...**Disney is the largest member of the Florida Chamber of Commerce, Florida Restaurant and Hospitality Assn. and the Florida Retail Federation, all opposed to Destination Resorts.

Disney also generates nearly \$600 million a year in tax revenue for the State.

## Member News

Marshall McDonald, son of long-time CASF member Bob McDonald, **Gulfstream Roofing**, was recently tapped into Florida Blue Key, Florida's most prestigious leadership honorary since 1923. He recently served as the President of the Associated General Contractors of America, University of Florida's Student Chapter and this level of involvement made him a perfect fit for Florida Blue Key.



Marshall McDonald

**Quality Built, LLC**, a leading provider of third-party construction quality assurance and inspection management services, announces the acquisition of substantially all of the assets of West Coast Property Consultants, Inc. (WCPC) based in San Diego, California. Chairman of Quality Built, Gary H. Elzweig, P.E., said, "This acquisition is an opportunity to strengthen our core services, expand our client base and increase our geographic footprint."

**Walters + Zackaria Architects** announced that **Kaufman Lynn Construction** has been awarded the \$6.9 million contract for the new Coconut Creek Public Works Building.



Coconut Creek Public Works



INSIDE:

# Hockey Sports Social Pictures

# Going Above and Beyond Expectations

Each month Construction FOCUS features a CASF member company, selected by drawing a business card from among those attending the monthly networking breakfast. The next breakfast, sponsored by James A. Cummings, Inc., will be held on Thursday, February 16, 7:30 a.m. at the Embassy Suites - Boca Raton off Yamato Road.

**HJ** Foundation Company was founded in 1988 by Ed Hickey and Bob Johnson. Since the beginning, the company maintains the position as market leader in augered piling through constant innovations in equipment and process technology. Given that all of their equipment is built and serviced in their own state-of-the-art manufacturing, maintenance and assembly facility, they are able to provide the highest quality service while going above and beyond expectations. In 2007, HJFC was bought by Keller, one of the world's largest and leading foundation specialty contractors in the world, with operations in over 30 countries all around the globe. The main philosophy of the company is to be the most honest, reliable, on time, and accurate deep

foundation contractor in the world.

HJDC offers a wide range of services which include augered, displacement, and sheet piling, as well as shoring, earth retention and underwater construction. With augered piling, they can install piles as large as 42 inches in diameter and as deep as 155 feet with load capacities as large as 1,800 tons per pile. With the necessary equipment, engineering, and construction expertise, conquering deep foundations for the most challenging projects while still maintaining outstanding customer service come naturally to HJFC. While currently employing about 120 people, HJFC is always looking for motivated and talented workers to join their team. "The best thing about working here is the company culture promoted by our

great, intelligent, innovative, energetic, self-motivated, team spirited, and goal oriented people," states, Andres Baquerizo, VP.

Some of HJFC's recently finished projects include the Hard Rock Hotel parking garage's in both Hollywood and Tampa, the Seminole Casino Parking garage in Coconut Creek, the Performing Arts Center in Orlando, Marlins Stadium in Miami, Martin County's Solar Power Plant in Indiantown, the Ritz Carlton in Sarasota, the Majestic Star in Pittsburgh, and the Elmhurst in Chicago to name a few. They are currently working on several projects in South, Central and North Florida, as well as the Southeast and Northeast part of the United States. As General Manager Jay Fraser of Turner Construction notes "Projects successfully performed by HJ for Turner Construction include the following: 1060 Brickell Condominium, South Miami Hospital, Metropolis Phase 4, Gainesville Griffin Stadium, Park Place at Brickell, MIC GMP4, Carillon Phase 1, Duval County Courthouse."

HJ Foundation has been a member of CASF for 22 years and continues to support the Annual Charity Golf Tournament each year. "CASF is a great organization, has great members and quality events. It has allowed our company to create and maintain valuable relationships," expresses Baquerizo. HJ Foundation Company is located at 8275 NW 80th street, Miami, FL 33166. For more information, call 305-592-8181 or visit [www.hjfoundation.com](http://www.hjfoundation.com).

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*Construction Focus is the official publication of the Construction Association of South Florida. Article suggestions and submissions for publication consideration should be forwarded to the Executive Vice President.*

# Keys to a Good Traffic Management Plan

Work zone traffic control is an important function necessary in providing a safe environment in those areas where workers and transportation modes may compete for common or adjacent space. Every reasonable effort should be made to reduce the risk of injury to both the worker and the transportation system user in these areas of potential conflicting interests. In order to achieve this goal, proper training of all personnel involved in the planning, design, supervising, implementations and maintenance of work zone traffic control is necessary.

The contractor should provide for the safe and efficient movement of people, goods, and services around the Project while minimizing negative impacts to residents, commuters, schools, and businesses.

The Contractor shall develop, implement, and maintain a Traffic Management Plan that includes but not limited to the following items:

- ◆ Descriptions of the duties of the Traffic Engineer, Traffic Control Supervisor, Public Information Coordinator and other personnel with MOT responsibilities.
- ◆ Descriptions of the design methods to be used for temporary roadways.
- ◆ Procedures to identify and incorporate the needs of schools, libraries, parks, transit operators, Utility owners, and business owners in the Project corridor, including business and institution access signing.
- ◆ Procedures for obtaining Approval and implementation of road and lane closures.
- ◆ Process for developing

and obtaining acceptance by stakeholders of switching procedures.

- ◆ Process for signing and pavement marking transitions during construction from one stage to the next and from interim to permanent signing and permanent pavement marking.

- ◆ Procedures to identify and incorporate the needs of emergency service providers, law enforcement entities, and other related corridor users. Also include procedures to ensure all information needed by these agencies to protect the public is available.

- ◆ Methods and frequency of inspection and maintenance of all traffic control throughout the Project's limits.

- ◆ Descriptions of contact methods, personnel available, and response times to address any conditions needing attention during off-hours.

- ◆ Identification of measurable limits for repair and replacement of traffic control devices, including pavement markings.

- ◆ Process to identify, produce, and receive Approval for designs of any necessary temporary traffic signals.

- ◆ Process to determine the need for revised traffic signal timings, and if revisions are required, detail the procedures for the development, Acceptance, implementation, testing, and maintenance of all affected signals.

- ◆ An Incident Management Plan (IMP), including the process to receive acceptance of stakeholders of the IMP.

- ◆ Process to determine if a courtesy patrol or other measure is needed to aid traffic control in the corridor.

- ◆ Provisions to maintain existing access to all properties within the Project limits for the

duration of the Project, except as provided elsewhere in the Contract Documents.

Appropriate information about access modifications shall be made available to the appropriate parties.

- ◆ Provisions to provide continuous access to established truck routes and hazardous material (HazMat) routes.

- ◆ Procedures to modify the plans as needed to adapt to current Project circumstances.

- ◆ Procedures to determine detour routes and for obtaining acceptance from all stakeholders for all proposed detour routes and obtaining permits and agreements for the detour routes.

Training is required and the Florida DOT Management of Traffic course will teach participants the required knowledge to create safe work zones on public roads and highways. The course is required by Florida Law for all persons with duties that include any of the following activities:

- ◆ Direct responsibility for placement of work zone traffic control devices
- ◆ Direct responsibility for field maintenance of work zone traffic control devices
- ◆ Inspection of the placement or operational function of work zone control devices
- ◆ Drafting or electronic generation of work zone traffic control plans

Training is required for anyone who works on or near roadways including but not limited to paving companies, excavation companies, landscapers, utility companies, and roadway repair companies.

For more information, visit the FDOT website at <http://www.dot.state.fl.us/rddesign/MOT/MOT.shtm>

CONSTRUCTION  
FOCUS

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ROUTE TO:

Construction Night at the Panthers Game  
*Tuesday, January 24, 2012*

