

City of Miami

WALDEMAR E. LEE
Director



CESAR H. ODIO
City Manager

December 22, 1994

Mr. David Webb
City of Huntington Beach
Public Works Department
Huntington Beach, CA 92648

RE: Saffron Railings

Dear Dave:

This letter is to confirm our telephone discussion regarding the City of Miami's experience with the use of Saffron Railings. About five (5) years ago, we installed over 2300 l.f. of Saffron Safety Railing at the City's largest marina, Dinner Key Marina. To date, we have had very good experience with this railing for strength, durability, and appearance.

In the past, the City installed painted galvanized steel pipe railings which deteriorated within 5 to 8 years. Usually repairs and repainting did not hold up very well. When we renovated Dinner Key Marina, the consultants recommended stainless steel or anodized aluminum pipe railings. The costs of these materials was substantially higher than galvanized steel pipe. In searching for alternatives, we found the Saffron Railing which was a unique product at a competitive cost where the horizontal and vertical members are a composite of galvanized steel pipe on the interior with a white lithium PVC pipe and fittings on the outside.

We were concerned about the strength and durability of the lithium PVC pipe but after checking out some existing local installations and a prototype sample, we decided to use this railing system.

We have been satisfied with the performance of the Saffron Railing. About two year ago, during Hurricane Andrew, the entire railing was under salt water and only the sections hit by large boats and debris were damaged. When the damaged sections were replaced, we found little or no deterioration.

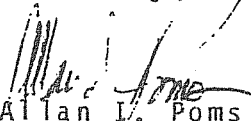
Mr. David Webb
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After the existing piping was cleaned, the appearance we nearly the same as the new sections. We have had people tying boats to the posts and others climbing on the horizontals and so far the railings are holding up well. We have also used this railing system on several other projects including City parks and lift stations with good results. We feel it is very important to follow the manufacturers recommendations for installation particularly the sealing of the PVC components.

We have been more than satisfied with the strength and durability as well as the appearance of the Saftron Railing for our public facilities.

Sincerely,


Allan I. Poms, AIA
Chief Architect

AIP/tmk

cc: Raul De La Torre, Marinas Manager
Enrique Nunez, Landscape Architect
Robert Weiss, Saftron Railing Corp.