

BANKING/ FINANCE

White House Targets Foreign Aid Cash With Caps Limiting Spending

by Nick Wadhams

The White House is stepping up its efforts to block the State Department from distributing several billion dollars in foreign aid by the end of the fiscal year, imposing daily limits on spending until it can ask Congress to cancel the funds later this month, said three people familiar with the matter.

After freezing about \$4 billion in spending starting Aug. 3, the administration has now lifted the pause but ordered that spending be limited to what translates as about 2% of unobligated funds per day, according to the people, who asked not to be identified discussing private deliberations.

The administration, in a drive spearheaded by Acting Chief of Staff Mick Mulvaney and his successor at the Office of Management and Budget, Russell Vought, is also leaning toward asking Congress to cancel the unspent money, a process known as rescission, as early as Aug. 20, they said.

The move to cap spending is the latest development in a multi-year battle by President Donald Trump's White House to cut foreign assistance funding even over the objections of Secretary of State Michael Pompeo, one of Trump's most loyal cabinet members. The president's proposed budgets for the last two years sought to cut funding by about 30%, only to have Congress reject the request.

"Mulvaney has had a bee in his bonnet going back to his days in the House of Representatives about State and USAID and has been trying again and again and again to cut one of the most minuscule parts of the budget that has high impact and broad bipartisan support," said Liz Schroyer, chief executive of the U.S. Global Leadership Coalition in Washington. "He's tried it multiple times and Congress just keeps stopping him. They're really angry."

NATIONAL SECURITY GOALS

A bipartisan group of lawmakers and Pompeo, along with officials at the U.S. Agency for International Development, had protested strongly after the Office of Management and Budget imposed the freeze on Aug. 3, arguing that it hurt U.S. national security goals and contradicted the will of Congress. The money must be spent by the Sept. 30 end of the fiscal year or be returned.

Congressional leaders were particularly incensed because the effort came just days after Congress passed a two-year debt ceiling extension and budget bill that allowed for a \$1.3 trillion spending cap.

"Slashing crucial diplomacy and development programming would be detrimental to our national security while also undermining Congress's intended use for these funds," said a letter last week from senior congressional leaders, including Idaho Republican Jim Risch and New Jersey Democrat Robert Menendez, the chairman and ranking member, respectively, of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

PEACEKEEPING OPERATIONS

Pompeo successfully fended off a similar bid last year to limit foreign aid spending but so far has been unable to



DIEGO M. RADZINSKI

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prevent the White House from targeting the money this year. The funds would go to United Nations peacekeeping operations, narcotics control and development assistance, among other things.

The latest tussle began when OMB ordered the State Department and USAID to halt spending on remaining foreign-aid funding set aside for the 2018 and 2019 fiscal years to review why the money hadn't been spent yet and what it was intended for.

Such money is often spent at the last minute, in part because months are required simply to move funding through the system after it's obligated and then delivered to the accounts of the agencies responsible for distributing it.

Administration officials, however, have argued that the spending reflects everything that's wrong with America's foreign aid strategy, such as giving money to governments that are hostile to the U.S. or coming up with programs of limited utility just to spend money that's been appropriated.

SPENDING FREEZE

Critics of the administration approach argue that the spending cap of 2% per day essentially freezes the funding because aid money is generally distributed in much larger chunks.

An administration official, who asked not to be identified discussing the matter, said the administration had requested a temporary pause and the funds were now available. The official declined to discuss the 2% daily limit.

While Congressional leaders oppose the White House effort and the potential rescission, Congress is on recess until early September so it's not clear lawmakers can organize a response before the end of the fiscal year on Sept. 30.

Public affairs officials at the State Department and USAID didn't immediately respond to requests for comment on Monday. A Senate aide, who asked not to be identified discussing the matter, said it appears the administration is still planning to try to circumvent lawmakers.

Nick Wadhams reports for Bloomberg News.



CITY OF DORAL NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

All residents, property owners and other interested parties are hereby notified of a **Council Zoning Hearing** on **Wednesday, August 28, 2019, beginning at 6:00 PM**, to consider the following final plat application. This meeting will be held at the **City of Doral, Government Center, Council Chambers** located at **8401 NW 53rd Terrace, Doral, Florida, 33166**. The proposed final plat application applies to the property shown on the map below.

The City of Doral proposes to adopt the following Resolution:

RESOLUTION No. 19-

A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF DORAL, FLORIDA, APPROVING THE FINAL PLAT FOR BAPTIST HEALTH EMERGENCY CENTER DORAL, A ±2.61 ACRE PROPERTY GENERALLY LOCATED ON THE SOUTH SIDE OF NW 58 STREET EAST OF NW 97 AVENUE, DORAL, FLORIDA; PROVIDING FOR RECORDATION; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE

HEARING NO.: 19-08-DOR-11

APPLICANT: Baptist Health South Florida, Inc.

PROJECT NAME: Baptist Health Emergency Center Doral

LOCATION: The subject property is generally located on NW 58th street and east of 97th avenue.

SIZE OF PROPERTY: ±2.61 acres

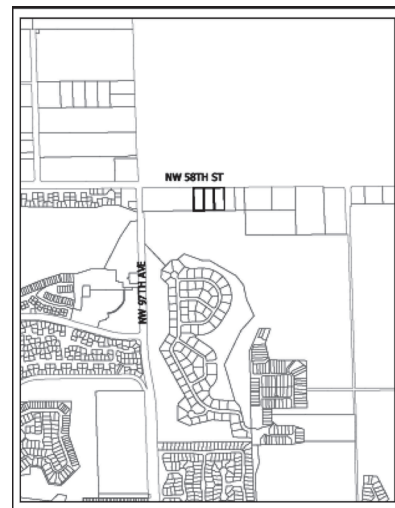
Folio No.: 35-3021-001-0312, 35-3021-001-0314 and 35-3021-001-0315

PRESENT ZONING: Corridor Commercial District (CC)

REQUEST: Baptist Health South Florida, Inc., is requesting approval of a final plat for Baptist Health Emergency Center Doral.

LEGAL DESCRIPTION: The East 264.39 feet of the West 396.64 feet of the East one-half (E-1/2) of Tract 32, Section 21, Township 53 South, Range 40 East, of FLORIDA FRUIT LANDS COMPANY SUBDIVISION NO. 1, according to the Plat thereof, as recorded in Plat Book 2, Page 17, of the Public Records of Miami-Dade County, Florida; LESS AND EXCEPT the North 45 feet for road right-of-way. TOGETHER WITH: The West 132.25 feet of the East one-half (E-1/2) of Tract 32, Section 21, Township 53 South, Range 40 East, of FLORIDA FRUIT LANDS COMPANY SUBDIVISION NO. 1, according to the Plat thereof, as recorded in Plat Book 2, Page 17, of the Public Records of Miami-Dade County, Florida; LESS AND EXCEPT the North 40 feet for road right-of-way. All of said lands situate, lying and being in Miami-Dade County, Florida.

Location Map



Information relating to the subject application is on file and may be examined in the City of Doral, Planning and Zoning Department located at **8401 NW 53rd Terrace, Doral, FL 33166**. All persons are invited to appear at this meeting or be represented by an agent, or to express their views in writing addressed to the City Clerk, **8401 NW 53rd Terrace, Doral, FL 33166**. Maps and other data pertaining to these applications are available for public inspection during normal business hours in City Hall. Any persons wishing to speak at a public hearing should register with the City Clerk prior to that item being heard. Inquiries regarding the item may be directed to the Planning and Zoning Department at 305-59-DORAL.

Pursuant to Section 286.0105, Florida Statutes if a person decides to appeal any decisions made by the City Council with respect to any matter considered at such meeting or hearing, they will need a record of the proceedings and, for such purpose, may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based. This notice does not constitute consent by the City for introduction or admission of otherwise inadmissible or irrelevant evidence, nor does it authorize challenges or appeals not otherwise allowed by law. In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, all persons who are disabled and who need special accommodations to participate in this meeting because of that disability should contact the Planning and Zoning Department at 305-59-DORAL no later than three (3) business days prior to the proceeding.

NOTE: If you are not able to communicate, or are not comfortable expressing yourself, in the English language, it is your responsibility to bring with you an English-speaking interpreter when conducting business at the City of Doral during the zoning application process up to, and including, appearance at a hearing. This person may be a friend, relative or someone else. A minor cannot serve as a valid interpreter. The City of Doral DOES NOT provide translation services during the zoning application process or during any quasi-judicial proceeding.

NOTA: Si usted no está en capacidad de comunicarse, o no se siente cómodo al expresarse en inglés, es de su responsabilidad traer un intérprete del idioma inglés cuando trate asuntos públicos o de negocios con la Ciudad de Doral durante el proceso de solicitudes de zonificación, incluyendo su comparecencia a una audiencia. Esta persona puede ser un amigo, familiar o alguien que le haga la traducción durante su comparecencia a la audiencia. Un menor de edad no puede ser intérprete. La Ciudad de Doral NO suministra servicio de traducción durante ningún procedimiento o durante el proceso de solicitudes de zonificación.

Connie Diaz, MMC
City Clerk
City of Doral