

MIAMI BEACH

COMMITTEE MEMORANDUM

TO: Public Safety and Neighborhood Quality of Life Committee Members

FROM: Eric Carpenter, City Manager

DATE: September 18, 2024

TITLE: DISCUSS A RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE ADMINISTRATION TO DEVELOP A PLAN TO STRATEGICALLY IMPLEMENT ENHANCED PUBLIC SAFETY MEASURES PERIODICALLY THROUGHOUT THE YEAR AND TO PRESENT THE PLAN FOR DISCUSSION AT THE PUBLIC SAFETY AND NEIGHBORHOOD QUALITY OF LIFE COMMITTEE MEETING ON SEPTEMBER 18, 2024.

RECOMMENDATION

The Administration acknowledges that the City of Miami Beach is a world renown destination that hosts hundreds of events on an annual basis and recommends that the Police Department continue its current plans and policies regarding intelligence gathering and implementation of special event plans depending upon the anticipated size and impact of each event throughout the year. These plans are crafted to meet national accreditation standards, follow industry best practices and are compliant with the FEMA National Incident Management System.

BACKGROUND/HISTORY

At the June 26, 2024 City Commission meeting, at the request of Commissioner Alex Fernandez, the Mayor and City Commission approved a referral (C7 BJ) to the Public Safety and Neighborhood Quality of Life Committee ("PSNQLC") directing the Administration to develop a plan to strategically implement enhanced public safety measures periodically throughout the year and to present the plan for discussion at the Public Safety and Neighborhood Quality of Life Committee meeting on September 18, 2024.

ANALYSIS

The Miami Beach Police Department (MBPD) has been a nationally accredited law enforcement agency under the standards set by the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA) since 2000. These standards mandate the development of policies and plans to effectively manage situations that threaten public safety or involve major events requiring substantial police resources.

For incidents or events that necessitate the deployment of numerous officers or multiple disciplines within the Homeland Security Enterprise — or across various agencies — a coordinated and effective response is essential. This response must align with police policies, industry best practices, and the guidelines outlined by FEMA's National Incident Management System (NIMS) and the Incident Command System (ICS). As a result, an event-specific Action Plan is crafted for each major event or incident.

These core principles guide the MBPD's planning process, allowing the Department to create tailored action plans based on the unique public safety needs of each event. The plans are designed to be flexible, enabling the Incident/Unified Command to adjust their scope in real-time to meet the evolving needs of the situation.

For larger and more complex events such as Spring Break and Memorial Day Weekend, the planning process extends over several months and commences shortly after the conclusion of the prior year's event after action process. This process incorporates insights from after-action reports and takes into account the City's activation plans as well as those of event promoters.

During the development of an incident or event action plan, several factors are considered:

- Type of event
- Presence of well-known artists or performers
- Anticipated crowd size
- Number of concurrent promoted events within our jurisdiction
- Duration of the event (hours, days, weeks)
- Hotel occupancy and home-sharing data in the city and surrounding areas
- Lessons learned from similar events held locally or elsewhere
- Experiences of other agencies hosting similar events
- Historical acts of violence or perceived lawlessness at previous events
- Anticipated impact on traffic conditions, including:
 - The need for a modified traffic plan
 - Potential need for restricted access to certain areas for residents only
- Manager's declaration of a High-Impact Period and activation of High-Impact Measures
- Anticipated need for mutual aid assistance from neighboring municipal, county, state, or federal partners.
- Pre-event and real-time intelligence information and social media.

The MBPD develops plans based on specific criteria related to public safety needs. The action plan development is firmly grounded upon industry best practices, CALEA standards, and the NIMS/ICS framework and are crafted to protect life, maintain order and the quality of life of our residents and visitors alike.

It is important to note that the MBPD employs many of the same measures utilized during special events during regular operations. For example, the Department uses fixed License Plate Readers (LPRs) strategically placed throughout the city. These LPRs operate 24/7, alerting when a wanted vehicle or subject enters the jurisdiction. This program has proven highly successful, providing actionable intelligence that has led to the arrest of multiple dangerous felons. Additionally, the MBPD conducts several DUI checkpoints each year, utilizing mobile LPRs in conjunction with these operations.

Current departmental policies and plans are established to allow for the utilization of enhanced public safety measures when reasonably necessary and in response to or anticipation of an incident or event. These measures are enacted when the Administration is anticipating or encountering an event or incident which would require said enhanced public safety measures to maintain order and deliver professional public safety services to this community. The specific measures enacted are directly influenced by the incident objectives and conditions encountered in real-time or based on circumstances encountered during previous iterations of the same or similar events.

The MBPD has a day-to-day operational plan that is scalable to implement enhanced public safety measures throughout the year to address high-impact periods and the specific measures necessary during that period as determined by the facts and circumstances being encountered or anticipated leading up to the event. The MBPD's current plans and policies are structured in a manner which allows for the organization to quickly implement enhanced public safety measures by enhancing staffing and redeploying resources based upon the situation being encountered.

The MBPD is committed to transparent collaboration with all stakeholders to ensure a clear understanding of the planning process and plan development to address the behaviors encountered during high-impact periods. This collaboration includes numerous community

meetings, private meetings with the ACLU, presentations to the Miami-Dade County Community Relations Board and numerous local HOAs and business groups.

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

No financial impact has been identified.

CONCLUSION

The Administration recommends that the Department continue its current plans and policies regarding intelligence gathering and implementation of special event plans depending upon the anticipated size and impact of each event throughout the year.

The Miami Beach Police Department is committed to continuing transparent collaboration with all stakeholders ensuring an understanding of processes and plan development that addresses behaviors encountered during high-impact periods and large-scale events.

Applicable Area

Citywide

Is this a “Residents Right to Know” item, pursuant to City Code Section 2-17?

No

Is this item related to a G.O. Bond Project?

No

Was this Agenda Item initially requested by a lobbyist which, as defined in Code Sec. 2-481, includes a principal engaged in lobbying? No

If so, specify the name of lobbyist(s) and principal(s):

Department

Police/Code

Sponsor(s)

Commissioner Alex Fernandez

Co-sponsor(s)

Condensed Title

Discuss Year-Round Enhanced Public Safety Measures