

RESOLUTION NO. _____

A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA, RECOGNIZING AND COMMENDING ALL CITY STAFF AND PERSONNEL, IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE INVALUABLE CONTRIBUTIONS OF THE CITY'S OUTSIDE AGENCY PARTNERS, FOR THE SIGNIFICANT IMPROVEMENTS OBSERVED DURING SPRING BREAK 2024 AND SPRING BREAK 2025, PARTICULARLY IN CONTRAST TO SPRING BREAK PERIODS IN PRIOR YEARS, MOST NOTABLY SPRING BREAK 2021, 2022 AND 2023, WHICH WERE MARKED BY PUBLIC SAFETY INCIDENTS INCLUDING MASS OVERCROWDING, PUBLIC MAYHEM, AND INSTANCES OF GUN VIOLENCE; AND ACKNOWLEDGING THE CORRESPONDING IMPROVEMENTS IN HOTEL OCCUPANCY, ROOM RATES, REVENUE PER AVAILABLE ROOM ("REVPAR"), AND THE OVERALL RESIDENT AND VISITOR EXPERIENCE; AND FURTHER, APPROVING AND DIRECTING THE CITY ADMINISTRATION TO IMPLEMENT A COMPREHENSIVE STRATEGY, SIMILAR TO SPRING BREAK 2024 AND SPRING BREAK 2025, FOR SPRING BREAK 2026, AS DIRECTED AND SET FORTH HEREIN, IN ORDER TO PROACTIVELY STEM THREATS AND CONTINUE PRIORITIZING PUBLIC SAFETY TO SECURE A POSITIVE AND WELCOMING ENVIRONMENT FOR ALL; AND FINALLY, DIRECTING THE CITY ADMINISTRATION TO PROVIDE THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION WITH, AT A MINIMUM, QUARTERLY LETTERS TO COMMISSION ("LTCs"), AS WELL AS QUARTERLY UPDATES ON CITY COMMISSION AGENDAS, REGARDING ITS PLANNING AND IMPLEMENTATION PROGRESS, BEGINNING IN SEPTEMBER 2025.

WHEREAS, the City of Miami Beach ("City") has long been a premier destination for visitors throughout the year, including the Spring Break season, hosting tourists from across the nation and around the world; and

WHEREAS, in recent years, the City had seen an increasingly large number of visitors during the Spring Break period, which has posed significant challenges including, but not limited to, extreme traffic and congestion, and severe impacts to the City's Police, Fire, Sanitation, and Code Compliance services; and

WHEREAS, in sharp contrast, Spring Break 2024 and Spring Break 2025 were marked by a substantial reduction in public safety incidents and a vastly improved atmosphere for both residents and visitors; and

WHEREAS, this improvement in safety and order coincided with increased hotel occupancy and higher average daily room rates, suggesting a positive shift toward higher-quality tourism and a more sustainable visitor economy; and

WHEREAS, during the first four (4) months of 2025 (January – April), Miami Beach led all cities in the United States in hotel room rate, occupancy, and revenue per available room ("RevPAR"); and

WHEREAS, additionally, in the month of April from Spring Break 2024 vs. Spring Break 2025, the City saw a 3.6% increase in hotel occupancy, a 7.3% increase in hotel room rate, and an astounding 11.1% increase in RevPAR; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and City Commission commend the outstanding efforts of the City Administration, the Police Department and all other City departments, including the invaluable contributions of all our supporting personnel and partners whose coordinated and proactive measures significantly contributed to the successful outcomes during Spring Break 2024 and Spring Break 2025; and

WHEREAS, in prior years—including Spring Break 2021, 2022, and 2023, the City experienced excessively large and unruly crowds that led to serious public safety challenges, including stampedes, the presence and use of firearms, and tragic fatalities from gun violence; and

WHEREAS, in 2021, unruly crowd control issues during Spring Break resulted in the imposition of emergency measures, including an 8:00 p.m. curfew in the area between 5th Street and 16th Street, from Pennsylvania Avenue to Ocean Drive; and

WHEREAS, in March 2022, the City also experienced massive crowds and several shootings in a concentrated tourist area over a period of a few days, resulting in the declaration of a state of emergency and imposition of a weekend midnight curfew for the last weekend of March 2022 based upon the excessively large crowds and violence occurring on the second and third weekend of March 2022; and

WHEREAS, such 2022 incidents included the shooting of 5 different innocent pedestrians and created stampedes and mayhem in the public streets and rights-of-way; and

WHEREAS, also in 2022, the Police Department and its law enforcement partners impounded one-hundred (100) firearms from February 18, 2022 – March 21, 2022, with approximately thirty-seven (37) of such firearms having been impounded during the third weekend in March spanning March 18 – 20; and

WHEREAS, in March 2023, the City experienced multiple fights, shootings, and various other incidents and police calls for service—for example, for the period between February 27, 2023 and March 18, 2023, there were four (4) aggravated assault arrests, three (3) aggravated battery arrests, seven (7) robbery arrests, twenty (20) arrests for carrying a concealed firearm, thirty-seven (37) felony drug arrests, twelve (12) arrests for battery on a law enforcement officer, and eighty-two (82) arrests for other felonies; and

WHEREAS, in addition, the Police Department and its law enforcement partners impounded over seventy (70) firearms from February 27, 2023 – March 19, 2023; and

WHEREAS, such March 2023 incidents included two (2) shootings that occurred the weekend of March 17th, which resulted in two (2) fatalities and injuries to others, and which also created stampedes that caused injuries to several people, including two (2) volunteer goodwill ambassadors, and all of which posed a danger to public safety and order in the public streets and rights-of-way; and

WHEREAS, in response to each of the two (2) deadly shootings, officers were able to arrive on the scene within a matter of seconds, but nevertheless were unable to prevent the shootings (and were, themselves, endangered by their close proximity to the shootings); and

WHEREAS, these conditions placed significant strain on law enforcement and emergency services, dramatically disrupted residents' quality of life, and damaged the City's image as a safe and enjoyable travel destination; and

WHEREAS, for Spring Break 2024 and Spring Break 2025, the Mayor and City Commission adopted Resolution No. 2024-32905 and Resolution No. 2025-33263, respectively, which authorized and directed the City Administration to enact the proactive measures set forth in this Resolution, leading to the City's most successful Spring Break response; and

WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of our residents and the public interest to continue to build upon this progress by ensuring that future Spring Break seasons continue to prioritize safety, order, and a welcoming environment that enhances the City's reputation and supports its residents and businesses; and

WHEREAS, based on the foregoing, the Mayor and City Commission desire to approve and direct the City Administration to implement the measures specified in this Resolution, as part of the Mayor and City Commission's comprehensive strategy to protect the health, safety and welfare of all residents and visitors in the City of Miami Beach; and

WHEREAS, in order to ensure continued accountability, transparency, and sustained progress toward a successful and well-managed Spring Break 2026, the City Commission desires quarterly updates, commencing in September 2025, from the City Administration via Letters to Commission ("LTCs") and quarterly update items to be placed on the City Commission's meeting agendas detailing the Administration's planning efforts and implementation progress.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT DULY RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA, that the Mayor and City Commission hereby recognize and commend all City staff and personnel, in conjunction with the invaluable contributions of the City's outside agency partners, for the significant improvements observed during Spring Break 2024 and Spring Break 2025, particularly in contrast to Spring Break periods in prior years, most notably Spring Break 2021, 2022 and 2023, which were marked by public safety incidents including mass overcrowding, public mayhem, and instances of gun violence; and acknowledge the corresponding improvements in hotel occupancy, room rates, revenue per available room ("RevPAR"), and the overall resident and visitor experience; and further, approve and direct the City Administration to implement a comprehensive strategy, as directed and set forth below, for Spring Break 2026 in order to proactively stem threats and continue prioritizing public safety and securing a positive and welcoming environment for all; and finally, directing the City Administration to provide the Mayor and City Commission with, at a minimum, quarterly Letters to Commission ("LTCs"), as well as quarterly updates on City Commission agendas, regarding its planning and implementation progress, beginning in September 2025.

(1) Adopt and execute a heightened law enforcement staffing plan, including "Alpha Bravo" staffing from Thursday through Sunday on the second and third weekends in March, in partnership with law enforcement agencies providing additional resources to the Miami Beach Police Department, including the Florida Highway Patrol, Miami-Dade County Police Department, City of Miami Police Department, and Coral Gables Police Department, among other jurisdictions;

(2) vigorously enforce the "Open Container" law, prohibiting consumption of alcoholic beverages in public areas and rights-of-way;

(3) close public beaches, from 5th Street to 15th Street, or portions thereof, at 6:00 p.m., from Thursday, March 5, 2026 until Sunday, March 8, 2026; from Thursday, March 12, 2026 until Sunday, March 15, 2026; and Thursday, March 19, 2026 until Sunday, March 22, 2026, as necessary, and as authorized by Section 82-443 of the City Code;

(4) support, if necessary, the suspension of sidewalk café operations on Ocean Drive, from 5th Street to 15th Street, at 7:00 p.m., for similar weekends as the beach closures, as authorized by the City's outdoor dining concession agreements;

(5) enforce the City's Noise Ordinance to the fullest extent permitted by law, with a focus on preventing the spillover of loud music from establishments that contribute to the party atmosphere on public rights-of-way;

(6) increase Code enforcement, Parking enforcement and Fire Code staffing and inspections of business establishments to ensure compliance with all laws;

(7) continue to explore the implementation of a secured perimeter on Ocean Drive or portions thereof;

(8) continue to explore the implementation of midnight curfews and other emergency measures in accordance with all laws, as deemed necessary by the City Manager based on on-the-ground observations of conditions during and leading up to Spring Break as well as historical data and trends;

(9) implement a robust marketing and communications campaign to apprise the public and area businesses to anticipate possible curfews and to be aware of the significant additional restrictions during Spring Break;

(10) work closely with Uber, Lyft, and other rideshare apps to communicate restrictions to the public via their platforms;

(11) close all City-owned or City-operated parking lots and garages in the Art Deco Cultural District, including along Washington Avenue and Collins Avenue, between 5th Street and 15th Street, starting each Thursday at 6:00 p.m. and reopening at 6 a.m. each Monday morning of the second and third weekends of March (and reserving the ability to close any City-owned garages and parking lots, if necessary, any of the five weekends of March 2026);

(12) implement the high impact parking rate in City-owned or City-operated parking lots and garages, with a daily rate of up to \$100, with the exception of residents, employees working in the City, and access card holders;

(13) restrict on-street parking on Ocean Drive, Collins Avenue, and Washington Avenue, from 5th Street to 16th Street;

(14) work with Miami-Dade County to explore the closure of the Venetian Causeway and/or restrict the Venetian Causeway for resident use only;

(15) create a special event zone or zones, if legally justified, pursuant to Fla. Stat. 316.1891, post all legally required signage, and enforce penalties, such as double fines and vehicle impoundment for noncriminal traffic infractions within the designated special event zone(s); and

(16) explore all alternative modes of transportation to reduce traffic congestion during high impact periods.

PASSED and **ADOPTED** this _____ day of _____, 2025.

ATTEST:

Steven Meiner, Mayor

Rafael E. Granado, City Clerk

(Sponsored by Mayor Steven Meiner and Commissioner Alex J. Fernandez)

APPROVED AS TO
FORM & LANGUAGE
& FOR EXECUTION

Nicktaalego
for City Attorney MAF

6/24/25
Date