

# MIAMI BEACH

## COMMISSION MEMORANDUM

TO: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Commission  
FROM: Commissioner Tanya K. Bhatt  
DATE: March 19, 2025  
TITLE: REFERRAL TO THE SISTER CITIES COMMITTEE – SUPPORT AND SOLIDARITY FOR OUR SISTER CITY OF ODESSA, UKRAINE.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

#### **BACKGROUND/HISTORY**

Please place the above item on the February 26, 2024 City Commission meeting agenda as a referral to the Sister Cities Committee.

On April 6, 2022, the Mayor and City Commission adopted Resolution No. 2022-32114, approving and endorsing a Sister City affiliation with the City of Odessa, Ukraine. Known for its beautiful beaches, Odessa is a major seaport and transit hub located on the northwestern shore of the Black Sea. Odessa is also a multicultural enclave with a rich history of literature and culture.

On or about February 24, 2022, the Russian Federation (“Russia”) launched an unprovoked full-scale military invasion into the country of Ukraine (“Ukraine”) which has become one of the deadliest and most destructive conflicts in the 21st century. Russia continues to attack Odessa, including strikes by Russian drones on Odessa’s port infrastructure as recently as last week.

In light of the Russian attack on Ukraine, the people of Ukraine – including the residents in our Sister City of Odessa – are in dire need of humanitarian aid to assist in their safety and well-being, as they face enormous welfare, economic and social challenges.

I would like the Sister Cities Committee to discuss how the City of Miami Beach can show its continued support and solidarity for our Sister City of Odessa, Ukraine. I ask that the Sister Cities Committee consider this matter promptly, and transmit its recommendations to the City Commission.

### **ANALYSIS**

#### **FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT**

n/a

**Does this Ordinance require a Business Impact Estimate?**  
(FOR ORDINANCES ONLY)

**If applicable, the Business Impact Estimate (BIE) was published on:**

See BIE at: <https://www.miamibeachfl.gov/city-hall/city-clerk/meeting-notice/>

**FINANCIAL INFORMATION**

**CONCLUSION**

**Applicable Area**

Citywide

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

Yes

**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**

Office of Commissioner Tanya K. Bhatt

**Sponsor(s)**

**Co-sponsor(s)**

**Condensed Title**

Ref: Sister Cities – Support for Odessa, Ukraine. (Bhatt)

**Previous Action (For City Clerk Use Only)**

Not reached on 2/26/2025 – C4 AO