

# MIAMI BEACH

## COMMISSION MEMORANDUM

TO:	Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Commission
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FROM: Rickelle Williams, Interim City Manager

DATE: June 26, 2024

TITLE: A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA, ACCEPTING THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE FINANCE AND ECONOMIC RESILIENCE COMMITTEE, MADE AT ITS MAY 24, 2024 MEETING, TO INCREASE FUNDING FOR WATERWAY CLEAN-UP AND MAINTENANCE TO A TOTAL AMOUNT OF \$520,000 IN THE FY 2025 BUDGET; AND FURTHER, DIRECTING THE ADMINISTRATION TO REVIEW A POTENTIAL INCREASE IN THE ENVIRONMENTAL & SUSTAINABILITY FRANCHISE FEE RATE FOR THE FUTURE WASTE HAULER AGREEMENT TO HELP COVER THE ADDITIONAL COST.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

The Administration recommends the Mayor and City Commission adopt the resolution.

### **BACKGROUND/HISTORY**

At the February 21, 2024 City Commission meeting, item R2 A to issue Request for Proposals (RFP) 2024-060-DF for Waterway Cleanup and Debris Removal was approved; however, during the discussion a request for an enhancement of the budget to increase the level of service for waterway cleanup and maintenance was referred by the Mayor and City Commission to be heard at the Finance and Economic Resilience Committee.

At the May 24, 2024 the Finance and Economic Resilience Committee, item eleven (11) was discussed and the Committee unanimously moved the item to be heard by City Commission with a favorable recommendation of increasing funding for waterway clean-up to \$520,000 as well as for staff to review a potential increase in the Environmental & Sustainability franchise fee rate for the future Waste Hauler agreement to help cover the additional cost.

### **ANALYSIS**

Currently, the City retains the services of a waterway cleaning contractor, Adventure Environmental, Inc. (AEI) with the contract to expire in July 2024. On May 15, 2024, pursuant to Request for Proposals (RFP) 2024-060-DF, the Mayor and City Commission approved a resolution authorizing the Administration to enter into negotiations with AEI, as the top-ranked proposer.

There are approximately 60 miles of waterways in and around the City which is equal to about 3,000 acres of canals, basins, and waterways. The City's waterways are defined as the waters within 1,000 feet from the shoreline incorporated by the City and includes, but is not limited to Tatum Waterway, Normandy Waterway, Biscayne Point, Biscayne Waterway, Surprise Lake, Surprise Waterway, Flamingo Waterway, Sunset Lake, Sunset Islands Canals, Indian Creek Waterway, Lake Pancoast, and the Collins Canal.

Maintaining clean waterways has always been a priority for the City of Miami Beach. Biscayne Bay and its associated waterways provide habitat for a variety of marine life and litter in the waterways harms that wildlife, creates unpleasant conditions for recreation, and is an aesthetic concern for residents and visitors. AEI works three (3) days per week removing litter from the waterways, including major hotspots for trash/litter accumulation. The litter is removed by hand by a barge operator so as to not entrap or harm living organisms.

Keeping our waterways free from debris also aids in lowering the amount of nutrients like nitrogen and phosphorus entering the waterways and Biscayne Bay. This is important because increased nutrients are one of the main pollutants that are degrading the water quality and health of Biscayne Bay.

The current contract with AEI includes the removal of inorganic materials such as shopping carts and chairs as well as larger organic materials like branches, trees, and palm fronds, especially when hazards to navigation. However, the contract does not include the removal of organic material such as coconuts, floating seaweed, and grass clippings. The elevated level of service would include the addition of the removal of organic materials to the contract and increase visits from three (3) days per week to five (5) days per week.

The City's Environment & Sustainability Department reached out to AEI to receive cost estimates about an elevated level of service for the removal of said organic material during a previous evaluation of waterway cleanliness in the vicinity of Lake Pancoast for discussion during the November 30, 2022 Public Safety and Neighborhood Quality of Life Committee. If the contract were to be implemented Citywide to include the removal of vegetative debris such as coconuts, floating seaweed and grass clippings, the estimated rate could be \$2,000 per day and require a five (5) day per week contract.

Based on this cost estimate, the advanced level of service may increase the cost from approximately \$160,000 to \$520,000 annually. This includes the consideration for additional vegetation (not included in the current contract and budget) and associated disposal fees for the increased mass. The amount currently allocated in the Public Works Sanitation Division budget for FY 2024 is \$231,000 for the waterway cleanup and maintenance.

Support for this enhancement request is based on direction from the City Commission, some resident complaints regarding vegetation and lawn clippings, and the 2024 Community Satisfaction Survey.

### **FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT**

The funding currently allocated in the Public Works Sanitation Division budget for FY 2024 is \$231,000 for the waterway cleanup and maintenance. If the level of service and funding is enhanced, the amount of increase is estimated to be \$289,000 for a total of \$520,000. The increase has no current funding source.

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

The Business Impact Estimate (BIE) was published on . See BIE at:  
<https://www.miamibeachfl.gov/city-hall/city-clerk/meeting-notices/>

### **FINANCIAL INFORMATION**

Public Works Sanitation 435-0430-000312-29-413-511-00-00-00 has \$231,000.00 in existing funding

## **CONCLUSION**

The Finance and Economic Resilience Committee unanimously recommended funding an annual amount of \$520,000 for waterway clean-up and maintenance. The Committee moved the item to be heard at the City Commission with a favorable recommendation to prioritize during the FY 2025 budget process.

## **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**

Environment and Sustainability

## **Sponsor(s)**

Commissioner David Suarez

## **Co-sponsor(s)**