



COMMISSION MEMORANDUM

TO: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Commission

FROM: Eric Carpenter, City Manager

DATE: February 26, 2025 9:30 a.m. First Reading Public Hearing

TITLE: HOTEL USE APPROVAL CLARIFICATION – LDR TEXT AMENDMENT
AN ORDINANCE OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA, AMENDING THE MIAMI BEACH RESILIENCY CODE, BY AMENDING CHAPTER 7, ENTITLED “ZONING DISTRICTS AND REGULATIONS,” ARTICLE II, ENTITLED “DISTRICT REGULATIONS,” BY AMENDING SECTION 7.2.4, ENTITLED “RM-1 RESIDENTIAL MULTIFAMILY LOW INTENSITY,” AT SUBSECTION 7.2.4.2, ENTITLED “USES (RM-1),” AND BY AMENDING SECTION 7.2.5, ENTITLED “RM-2 RESIDENTIAL MULTIFAMILY, MEDIUM INTENSITY,” AT SUBSECTION 7.2.5.2, ENTITLED “USES (RM-2),” AND BY AMENDING SECTION 7.2.6, ENTITLED “RM-3 RESIDENTIAL MULTIFAMILY, HIGH INTENSITY,” AT SUBSECTION 7.2.6.2, ENTITLED “USES (RM-3),” AND BY AMENDING SECTION 7.2.10, ENTITLED “CD-1 COMMERCIAL, LOW INTENSITY DISTRICT,” AT SUBSECTION 7.2.10.2, ENTITLED “USES (CD-1),” AND BY AMENDING SECTION 7.2.11, ENTITLED “CD-2 COMMERCIAL, MEDIUM INTENSITY DISTRICT,” AT SUBSECTION 7.2.11.2, ENTITLED “USES (CD-2),” AND BY AMENDING SECTION 7.2.12, ENTITLED “CD-3 COMMERCIAL, HIGH INTENSITY DISTRICT,” AT SUBSECTION 7.2.12.2, ENTITLED “USES (CD-3),” AND BY AMENDING SECTION 7.2.13, ENTITLED “MIXED USE ENTERTAINMENT DISTRICT,” AT SUBSECTION 7.2.13.2, ENTITLED “USES (MXE),” AND BY AMENDING SECTION 7.2.14, ENTITLED “NORTH BEACH TOWN CENTER-CORE DISTRICT (TC),” AT SUBSECTION 7.2.14.2, ENTITLED “USES (TC-1, TC-2),” AND BY AMENDING SUBSECTION 7.2.14.3, ENTITLED “USES (TC-3),” AND BY AMENDING SUBSECTION 7.2.14.6, ENTITLED “TOWN CENTER-CENTRAL CORE (TC-C) DISTRICT,” AND BY AMENDING SECTION 7.2.15, ENTITLED “PERFORMANCE STANDARD DISTRICT (PS),” AT SUBSECTION 7.2.15.2, ENTITLED “RESIDENTIAL PERFORMANCE STANDARDS DISTRICTS (R-PS),” AND BY AMENDING SUBSECTION 7.2.15.3, ENTITLED “COMMERCIAL PERFORMANCE STANDARDS DISTRICTS (C-PS),” BY REFERENCING THE HOTEL APPROVAL PROCESS ESTABLISHED UNDER SECTION 2.7.2, AND CONFORMING THE REGULATIONS FOR EACH RESPECTIVE ZONING DISTRICT TO REFLECT THAT THE APPROVAL OF A WARRANT BY THE CITY COMMISSION SHALL BE REQUIRED PRIOR TO THE REVIEW OF A LAND USE BOARD APPLICATION OR BUILDING PERMIT FOR A HOTEL, SUITE HOTEL, APARTMENT HOTEL, OR HOSTEL, SUBJECT TO EXCEPTIONS, AND SUBJECT TO THE PROCEDURAL REQUIREMENTS AND REVIEW CRITERIA IN SECTION 2.7.2; AND PROVIDING FOR CODIFICATION, REPEALER, SEVERABILITY, APPLICABILITY; AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

RECOMMENDATION

The Administration recommends that the Mayor and City Commission (City Commission) approve the subject ordinance at First Reading and schedule a Second Reading public hearing for April 23, 2025.

BACKGROUND/HISTORY

On December 11, 2024, the City Commission approved an ordinance at First Reading establishing a commission approval process for future hotel uses. As part of this approval at First Reading, the City Commission also referred a separate ordinance to the Planning Board, to clarify the zoning districts for which the hotel approval process will apply. The hotel approval process ordinance was adopted by the City Commission at Second Reading on February 3, 2025.

ANALYSIS

The subject ordinance is a companion amendment to the hotel approval process ordinance adopted by the City Commission and amends each zoning district where apartment hotels, hotels, suite hotels, and hostels may be permitted, by referencing the warrant process established under section 2.7.2 of the Land Development Regulations of the City Code (LDRs). The approval of a warrant by the City Commission is now required prior to the review of a land use board application or building permit for a hotel, suite hotel, apartment hotel, or hostel, subject to exceptions, and subject to the procedural requirements and review criteria in section 2.7.2.

In addition to clarifying the zoning districts where hotel approval is required under the warrant process, the Administration also recommends that a fee schedule be established for future commission warrant applications. While such fee schedule is ministerial, it does require a text amendment to the LDRs. As part of the approval of the proposed ordinance at First Reading, the Administration recommends that a separate ordinance be referred to the Planning Board to establish a corresponding fee schedule.

PLANNING BOARD REVIEW

On February 4, 2025, the Planning Board held a public hearing and transmitted the proposed ordinance to the City Commission with a favorable recommendation (6-0).

APPLICATION FEE WAIVER

The subject amendment is proposed on a comprehensive, citywide basis, and not on behalf of a private applicant or third party. Pursuant to section 2.4.1.c of the Land Development Regulations of the City Code, amendments to the City Code require the payment of the applicable fees in section 2.2.3.5, 2.2.3.6, and appendix A to the City Code. These fees may be waived by a five-sevenths (5/7ths) vote of the City Commission, based upon one or more of the following circumstances:

1. The City Commission determines that the proposed amendment is necessary due to a change in federal or state law, or to implement best practices in urban planning, or based on circumstances unique to the proposed amendment.
2. Upon the written recommendation of the City Manager acknowledging a documented financial hardship of a property owner(s) or developer(s).
3. If requested, in writing, by a non-profit organization, neighborhood association, or homeowner's association for property owned by any such organization or association, so long as the request demonstrates that a public purpose is achieved by enacting the applicable amendment.

The Administration recommends that the City Commission waive the applicable fees based on circumstances unique to the proposed amendment.

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

No Fiscal Impact Expected

Does this Ordinance require a Business Impact Estimate? Yes
(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

Not Applicable

CONCLUSION

The Administration recommends the following:

1. The City Commission approve the subject ordinance at First Reading and schedule a Second Reading public hearing for April 23, 2025.
2. In accordance with section 2.4.1.c.1 of the Land Development Regulations of the City Code, the City Commission waive the applicable fees based on circumstances unique to the proposed amendment.
3. The City Commission refer a separate ordinance to the Planning Board to establish a corresponding fee schedule for future hotel warrant applications.

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

Planning

Sponsor(s)

Commissioner Joseph Magazine

Co-sponsor(s)

Condensed Title

Previous Action (For City Clerk Use Only)