

MIAMI BEACH

COMMITTEE MEMORANDUM

TO: Public Safety and Neighborhood Quality of Life Committee Members
FROM: Eric Carpenter, City Manager
DATE: November 6, 2024
TITLE: DISCUSS A PROPOSAL FOR ENHANCING SOUTH BEACH VOLLEYBALL COURTS WITH SMART LIGHTING.

RECOMMENDATION

Administration does not recommend utilizing the Toro Group's proposal for lighting the South Beach volleyball courts with smart lighting.

BACKGROUND/HISTORY

During the September 11, 2024 Commission meeting, Commissioner Kristen Rosen Gonzalez and Commissioner Joseph Magazine referred a discussion on a proposal for enhancing South Beach volleyball courts with smart lighting to the Public Safety and Neighborhood Quality of Life Committee.

ANALYSIS

Staff has reviewed the Toro Blanco Group's proposal and has concluded that the lighting described is not sports lighting, but east/west facing walkway lighting that includes 5G transmitters. If the volleyball courts were to be lit, it is important that sports specific lighting be installed as walkway lighting doesn't provide the proper illumination. The Parks and Recreation Department has consulted with the Environment and Sustainability Department for environmental review, and this type of lighting with a telecommunication antenna should be further analyzed by those that specialize in the field.

Lighting in this area is required to be sea turtle friendly during Sea Turtle Nesting Season (April 1 – Oct 31) per the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) and City's Sea Turtle Nesting Ordinance. Last year, and this year to-date, nearly half of the sea turtle nests on Miami Beach have become disoriented away from the ocean due to artificial lighting (45%). To minimize disorientations, lights are required to be low, long and shielded. Low refers to: Fixtures must be mounted as low as possible and still be appropriate for the needed purpose. The bulb must produce the lowest wattage/lumens necessary for the needed purpose. Long refers to: lamp/bulb must produce only long wavelength light (560 nm or greater, which is amber, orange, or red). Shield refers to: fixture must be completely downward-directed and be able to shield the bulb, lamp, or glowing lens from the beach.

From a Parks and Recreation standpoint and user play-ability, lighting volleyball courts would be a great addition to the courts at Lummus Park; however, due to the environmental reason cited above, it doesn't seem possible. If it were possible, the Department would recommend sports specific lighting like those placed at other courts and fields.

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

N/A

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

CONCLUSION

Applicable Area

South Beach

**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

Parks and Recreation

Sponsor(s)

Commissioner Kristen Rosen Gonzalez

Co-sponsor(s)

Commissioner Joseph Magazine

Condensed Title

Proposal for South Beach Volleyball Court with Smart Lighting (Rosen Gonzalez / Magazine)