

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 ADDITIONAL POLICE DEPARTMENT BUDGETARY ITEMS
RECOMMENDED BY THE POLICE/CITIZENS RELATIONS COMMITTEE.

RECOMMENDATION

The Administration recommends considering the delineated budgetary items as highlighted by the Police/Citizens Relations Committee at the May 2025 Budget Retreat as part of the Fiscal Year 2026 budget process.

BACKGROUND/HISTORY

At the September 11, 2024 City Commission Meeting, at the request of Commissioner Laura Dominguez, the Mayor and City Commission approved a referral (C4 C) to the Public Safety and Neighborhood Quality of Life Committee (PSNQLC) to discuss additional Police Department budgetary items recommended by the Police/Citizens Relations Committee (PCRC) via LTC 379-2024.

ANALYSIS

The City of Miami Beach's Police/Citizens Relations Committee's (PCRC) was established with the mission to recommend and endorse programs and projects that will enhance the well-being of the residents and visitors of the City and to provide advice to the City Commission pertaining to community/police relations. To this end, the Committee created a Budget Advisory Subcommittee through which to understand the Police Department's budgetary requests and advocate for the tools necessary to keep residents and visitors safe.

The PCRC understands that over the 2024 fiscal year, the City Commission legislatively requested many priorities of the Miami Beach Police Department (MBPD); however, the Committee and Subcommittee raised concerns that many of the budget enhancements formally requested by the Department through which to accomplish the City Commission's priorities were not formally funded. Cognizant of budgetary limitations, the Committee examined those priorities of highest value and recommended the review of four allocations, one of which was related to police peer support and internally funded by the Department. Three additional increases in personnel allocations to DUI traffic enhancement and to the ATV Beachwalk and Marine Patrol Squads are delineated in LTC 379-2024.

The Administration acknowledges the importance of the stated staffing components in carrying out the City Commission's most important priorities. However, due to the completion of the Fiscal Year 2025 budgetary process coupled with the timing of the current police officer recruitment campaign to staff open positions, the Administration recognizes the current limitations by the Police Department to staffing the new positions required for DUI traffic enhancement, the ATV Beachwalk Squad and the Marine Patrol unit in Fiscal Year 2025. The Administration, therefore, deems it appropriate to revisit the funding request with any necessary additions for the Fiscal Year 2026 budget.

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

The financial impact will be reevaluated as part of the upcoming budgetary process.

CONCLUSION

The Administration acknowledges the importance of properly staffing the Miami Beach Police Department to accomplish the goals set forth by the City Commission. Nonetheless, due to staffing processes and the timing of the upcoming budgetary process, the review of personnel funding would be best suited for discussion at the Fiscal Year 2026 budgetary retreat.

Applicable Area

Citywide

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

No

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

Police

Sponsor(s)

Commissioner Laura Dominguez

Co-sponsor(s)

Condensed Title

Additional Police Department Budgetary Items.