

MIAMI BEACH

COMMITTEE MEMORANDUM

TO: Finance and Economic Resiliency Committee Members

FROM: Eric Carpenter, City Manager

DATE: November 8, 2024

TITLE: DISCUSS FUNDING NEEDS FOR: 1) BICYCLE LANE IMPROVEMENTS AND SAFETY ENHANCEMENTS IDENTIFIED IN THE BICYCLE-PEDESTRIAN MASTER PLAN (BPMP) PROJECTS IMPLEMENTATION MATRIX; 2) RESTRIPING AND/OR REPAINTING GREEN BICYCLE LANES CITYWIDE; 3) DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENTS ALONG THE BEACHWALK TO ADDRESS PONDING; 4) POTENTIAL WIDENING OF THE BEACHWALK AT CRITICAL CHOKEPOINTS; AND 5) PURCHASING SOLAR-POWERED ELECTRONIC SPEED FEEDBACK DEVICES AND DATA COLLECTION SENSORS.

RECOMMENDATION

The City Administration (“Administration”) recommends the Finance and Economic Resiliency Committee (“FERC” or “Committee”) discuss this item and provide a recommendation.

BACKGROUND/HISTORY

At the September 11, 2024 City Commission meeting, the Mayor and City Commission (“City Commission”) referred agenda Item (C4 J), sponsored by Commissioner Tanya K. Bhatt and co-sponsored by Commissioner Laura Dominguez, to the FERC to discuss funding needs for: 1) bicycle lane improvements and safety enhancements identified in the Bicycle-Pedestrian Master Plan (“BPMP”) Projects Implementation Matrix; 2) restriping and/or repainting green bicycle lanes citywide; 3) drainage improvements along the Beachwalk to address ponding; 4) potential widening of the Beachwalk at critical chokepoints; and 5) purchasing solar-powered electronic speed feedback devices and data collection sensors.

Under the leadership of Commissioner Tanya K. Bhatt, the multi-departmental micromobility safety working group (“Working Group”), comprised of representatives from various City departments, the Mayor’s Office, and a City of Miami Beach (“City”) resident, has engaged in discussions to explore innovative ways to improve the safety of all users on the Beachwalk and other shared-use paths and bicycle lanes throughout the City. The goal of the Working Group is to assist in developing a comprehensive and unified work plan with recommendations, including potential new legislation, for short-term and long-term improvements, cost estimates, and timelines for implementation.

At the December 13, 2023 City Commission meeting, the City Commission referred an agenda Item (C4 I), sponsored by Commissioner Tanya K. Bhatt and co-sponsored by Commissioner Laura Dominguez, to the Public Safety and Neighborhood Quality of Life Committee (“PSNQLC”) to discuss regulations pertaining to electric vehicles and devices, along with the City’s enforcement efforts and any additional regulations that may be necessary to aid in ensuring the safe operation of electric vehicles and devices for all.

At the July 10, 2024 PSNQLC meeting, the PSNQLC discussed the item (Attachment A) following a presentation from the Administration (Attachment B). During the discussion, the PSNQLC

recommended that the Administration move forward with safety striping and the proposed regulatory signage on the Beachwalk and Lincoln Road, as recommended by the Working Group. In addition, during public comment, a resident spoke in support of extending the safety striping and signage through the Cutwalk and Baywalk to 5 Street. The Administration responded that, provided the current budget allocation is sufficient, the safety improvements would be extended to the Cutwalk and Baywalk.

Furthermore, the PSNQLC recommended to refer this item to the FERC to discuss funding needs for: 1) bicycle lane improvements and safety enhancements identified in the Bicycle-Pedestrian Master Plan (BPMP) Projects Implementation Matrix; 2) restriping and/or repainting green bicycle lanes citywide; 3) drainage improvements along the Beachwalk to address ponding; 4) potential widening of the Beachwalk at critical chokepoints; and 5) purchasing solar-powered electronic speed feedback devices and data collection sensors.

ANALYSIS

Proposed Bicycle Lane Improvements and Safety Enhancements

The Transportation and Mobility Department conducted an evaluation of projects recommended in the adopted 2016 BPMP to identify current project status (i.e. completed, in-progress, funded/not started, not feasible, part of future neighborhood improvement/infrastructure project, and unfunded). Attachment C includes a BPMP Project Implementation Matrix. Pursuant to the Working Group's recommendation, Transportation and Mobility Department staff identified various pending BPMP projects which could potentially be undertaken in a relatively short timeframe and at a low cost. Following is a list of five (5) "low hanging" BPMP projects for consideration:

1. BPMP Category 1 - Project No. 30: Bicycle Lane on 5 Street between Collins Avenue and Atlantic Way
2. BPMP Category 3 - Project No. 6: Greenway on Michigan Avenue between 2 Street to 11 Street
3. BPMP Category 3 - Project No.15: Greenway on Prairie Avenue between 44 Street to 47 Street
4. BPMP Category 3 - Project No. 21: Greenway on 69 Street between Indian Creek Drive to Atlantic Way
5. BPMP Category 3 - Project No. 25: Greenway on Royal Palm Avenue between 26 Street and 41 Street

Transportation and Mobility Department staff is in the process of developing cost estimates for the design and construction of the above projects for consideration by the FERC during an upcoming meeting.

Restriping and/or Repainting Existing Green Bicycle Lanes

The Transportation and Mobility Department recently conducted an assessment of the current condition of all existing bike lanes (i.e. pavement markings and green paint) throughout the City. Attachment D includes a draft report with multiple locations which require restriping and/or repainting as a result of peeling, fading, and poor restoration following underground utility work. Based on unit prices from one of the City's rotational contractors, the estimated cost for restriping and/or repainting approximately 46,496 square feet of green bicycle lanes is approximately \$375,000. Funding for these improvements has not been identified, budgeted, or appropriated. Should the FERC recommend, and the City Commission approve, moving forward with these improvements, the Administration will prioritize the project, subject to appropriation through a Fiscal Year 2024/25 ("FY 2025") budget amendment.

Drainage Improvements along the Beachwalk to Address Ponding and Widening of the Beachwalk at Critical Chokepoints

On October 16, 2024, Commissioner Tanya K. Bhatt and various members of the Working Group participated in a ride-through to identify locations along the Beachwalk where ponding occurs during rain events and/or locations where sight visibility is limited. The Administration is in the process of developing a draft report based on the findings and observations during the ride-through for further discussion with the Working Group and subsequent consideration by the FERC at a future meeting. It is worth noting that the Administration is currently exploring the feasibility of implementing an alternative path for pedestrians parallel to the Beachwalk but located east of the dunes. If approved by the appropriate State regulatory agencies, the alternative path would relieve some of the pressure from the Beachwalk.

Solar-Powered Electronic Speed Feedback Devices and Data Collection Sensors

During the FY 2025 budget process, the City Commission approved the Administration's recommended budget enhancement in the amount of \$175,00 as part of the Transportation and Mobility Department's FY 2025 operating budget, for the purchase and installation of six (6) solar-powered electronic speed feedback signs and six (6) data collection sensors throughout the Beachwalk. The Transportation and Mobility Department staff is commencing the process of procuring these devices for installation in 2025.

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

The estimated cost for restriping and/or repainting approximately 46,496 square feet of green bicycle lanes is approximately \$375,000. Funding for these improvements has not been identified, budgeted, or appropriated. Cost estimates for the design and construction of the identified BPMP "quick win" projects and Beachwalk drainage improvements will be developed and shared with FERC for discussion during an upcoming meeting.

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-notice/>

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

TBD

CONCLUSION

The Administration is supportive of identifying and implementing strategies to increase safety of all users on the Beachwalk and other shared-use paths and bicycle lanes throughout the City.

Further discussions by the Working Group are necessary to continue to refine and finalize a comprehensive and unified work plan that addresses ponding, sight visibility, and critical choke points along the Beachwalk. The Administration will proceed to formulate such work plan for Beachwalk safety improvements for further discussion and recommendation by the FERC and City Commission.

Applicable Area

Citywide

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

Is this item related to a G.O. Bond Project?

No

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): N/A

Department

Transportation and Mobility

Sponsor(s)

Commissioner Tanya K. Bhatt

Co-sponsor(s)

Commissioner Laura Dominguez

Condensed Title

DISCUSS FUNDING NEEDS FOR: 1) BICYCLE LANE IMPROVEMENTS AND SAFETY ENHANCEMENTS IDENTIFIED IN THE BICYCLE-PEDESTRIAN MASTER PLAN (BPMP) PROJECTS IMPLEMENTATION MATRIX; 2) RESTRIPING AND/OR REPAINTING GREEN BICYCLE LANES CITYWIDE; 3) DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENTS ALONG THE BEACHWALK TO ADDRESS PONDING; 4) POTENTIAL WIDENING OF THE BEACHWALK AT CRITICAL CHOKEPOINTS; AND 5) PURCHASING SOLAR-POWERED ELECTRONIC SPEED FEEDBACK DEVICES AND DATA COLLECTION SENSORS.