

Miami Beach Police Department Enhanced Public Safety Measures Plan



The Miami Beach Police Department (MBPD) consistently deploys enhanced staffing models of operation to address various city events and critical incidents and ensure the safety and security of both residents and visitors. In light of increased scrutiny over events and activities where enhanced safety measures are deemed necessary, this document aims to both provide the legal and operational basis on which mutual aid assistance from outside agencies is requested, countering the rhetoric and perception of implementing measures based on specific populations, and secondly to enumerate the events for which outside agency support will be request.

This strategic implementation plan first defines public safety measures, then explores the events and thresholds currently requiring enhanced measures. Lastly, it proposes options for future enhanced public safety deployments with considerations to resource allocation and decision-making.

Enhanced Public Safety Measures

With regards to the Miami Beach Police Department, *public safety measures* refer to any action or activity taken to ensure the well-being and protection of the general public. *Measures* include any policies, practices and technologies that aim to protect the public and their property. *Enhancement* of these measures, therefore, refers to any increase in quantity, interval or intensity to the normal operational plan of any given activity, incident or event.

When discussing *high-impact events*, or periods of time that have the potential to cause significant amount of disruption (damage or traffic related) to day-to-day activities of residents and the city at large as declared by the City Manager, *enhanced public safety measures* refer to the increase in equipment, hours, staffing and legal strategies above and beyond the standard event action plan.

High-Impact Events Currently Requiring Enhanced Public Safety Measures

While MBPD initiates enhanced staffing for numerous events annually, only two — Spring Break and Memorial Day Weekend (MDW) — require the activation of 13-hour overlapping Alpha/Bravo shifts for all MBPD personnel. These two high-impact periods see unprecedented crowd sizes and traffic volumes that necessitate a more comprehensive public safety response. Additionally, both Spring Break and MDW have historically seen unprecedented instances of acts of violence including shootings and homicides on multiple occasions.

During both events, the influx of visitors and traffic both within and entering Miami Beach reaches levels that demand the implementation of enhanced public safety measures. These measures include, but are not limited to:

- **Mobile License Plate Reader (LPR) Details:** To enhance situational awareness and track potential criminal activity.
- **DUI Checkpoints:** To ensure public safety by reducing impaired driving, the MBPD partners with local, county, and state partners to conduct DUI saturation details and checkpoints throughout the calendar year. In 2024, four such details were conducted and MBPD intends to continue with this practice in 2025.
- **Traffic Mitigation Plans:** Designed to manage and reduce inbound and internal traffic congestion, ensuring the continued delivery of emergency services.

Given the dense crowds and heavy traffic conditions, traditional vehicle response times can be compromised. Therefore, bike patrol units are deployed to ensure swift emergency response in congested areas, mitigating traffic delays.

Historically, during these periods, MBPD has leveraged mutual aid assistance from local, county, state, and federal law enforcement partners, to enhance its base operations and ensure the safety and security of all attendees. This mutual aid assistance has been needed due largely to all MBPD resources being deployed in support of the event action plan, necessitating the mutual aid request for additional resources to provide traffic mitigation assistance or specialized resources like bike patrol officers.

Other factors that have influenced police operations in previous events are the presence of specific emergency within the high impact declarations by the City Manager and any requirements to enforce a curfew or mandatory closure of package stores and/or nightclub establishments. While high impact periods and subsequent measures are triggered by a declaration from the City Manager, there are other events and incidents throughout the year where police proactively implement enhanced measures and outside agency assistance at the discretion of the Chief of Police after a thorough assessment and intelligence review of all available information related to the event or incident.

Current Enhanced Staffing Practices

In addition to planned high impact events, MBPD has exercised using support from outside agencies to enhance public safety. The following chart highlights events where outside agency resources were utilized in Fiscal Year 2024.

FISCAL YEAR 2024 ENHANCED STAFFING EVENTS

	Event
1	<i>Stand With Israel Rally</i>
2	Pro-Israel Demonstration
3	<i>March on Miami Parade</i>
4	Pro-Palestine Demonstration
5	<i>Art Basel</i>
6	<i>Life Time Miami Marathon & Half</i>
7	<i>Mourn With Us</i> Demonstration
8	Emergency Rafah Protest
9	<i>Life Time 305 Marathon and 5K</i>
10	Aspen Climate Conference Pro-Palestine Demonstration
11	Spring Break
12	<i>Fund Care Not Killing</i> Demonstration
13	Memorial Day Weekend

Historically, outside agencies have provided public safety measures at other impactful periods to include the summer following the COVID epidemic to enhance public safety as well as during large scale protests. Other events have not necessitated the use of outside police resources based upon law enforcement intelligence. The Miami Beach Police Department will create a strategic and operational plan for any new special event requiring enhanced police resources.

Future Considerations for Enhanced Public Safety Measures

While the large part of 2024 events have action plans in place, upcoming events that will benefit from enhanced public safety services and their requests are as follow:

- ❖ **Halloween:** This holiday historically attracts high volumes of trick-or-treaters and costume enthusiasts to Lincoln Road and to the Lakeview neighborhood. Because the Department focuses its efforts around these high-traffic pedestrian areas, MBPD will request outside resources to enhance police visibility at other strategic locations throughout the city.

Enhanced public safety measures will include:

- Request for a total of ten specialized police personnel from the Miami Dade Police Department to assume posts for high visibility along Ocean Drive, the Venetian Causeway, Normandy Isle, and 71st Street with a budgetary impact of approximately \$5,000.00.

- ❖ **Operation Grinch:** Each year, the Miami Beach Police Department begins a proactive operation plan to target thievery in and around shopping and garage locations to detect and apprehend criminals targeting holiday shoppers. An enhanced staffing plan provides deterrence, visibility and reassurance for shoppers during the period from Thanksgiving through Christmas. The Department can benefit from an increased police presence with the support of outside police agencies.

Enhanced public safety measures will include:

- Request for specialized police personnel from the Miami Dade Police Department for enhanced visibility in the Entertainment District. Two (2) bicycle patrols for three days with a budgetary impact of approximately \$15,000.00.
- ❖ **Art Basel:** MBPD event coordinators will assess the need for enhanced measures based on expected traffic and crowd levels. Currently, this event has an off-duty operational plan that includes staffing for traffic mitigation around the Miami Beach Convention Center area and roadways leading to and away from the venue. The off-duty component is for the interior of the MBCC and traffic mitigation for police visibility, prevention of block-the-box (BTB), and to move traffic along in a safe and efficient manner.

Enhanced public safety measures will include:

- Request for specialized police personnel from the Miami Dade Police Department for enhanced visibility in the Entertainment District and around the Miami Beach Convention Center footprint. Two (2) bicycle patrol squads and undercover Miami Dade Police Homeland Security personnel will have a budgetary impact of approximately \$15,000.00 for two days.
- ❖ **Rolling Loud Miami:** This event may require additional safety services from outside agencies based on its high attendance and impact on City resources. It should be noted that although the actual event takes place at Hard Rock Stadium in Miami Gardens, this event has historically brought high hotel occupancy rates, increased traffic and numerous celebrity appearances at City of Miami Beach nightlife venues and private residences. The Miami Beach Police Department has an annual operational plan which includes enhanced police staffing on overtime.

Enhanced public safety measures will include:

- Request for police personnel from the Miami Dade Police Department for two (2) bicycle patrol squads in the Entertainment District for increased visibility and potential crowd management with a budgetary impact of approximately \$10,000.00 over two days.

- ❖ **New Year's Eve:** This celebration on Miami Beach is an annual family-centered event which attracts thousands of people to the Entertainment District to view the large fireworks display put on by the City. The event has an operation plan in place that includes overtime police staffing to enhance police visibility. Enhanced public safety measures will include:

- Request for Florida Highway Patrol support for DUI checkpoint on 5th Street and an LPR detail on 41st street with a budgetary impact of approximately \$15,000.00.
- Request for specialized police personnel from the Miami Dade Police Department for enhanced visibility in the Entertainment District. Two (2) bicycle patrol squads will have a budgetary impact of approximately \$5,000.00.

- ❖ **Life Time Miami Marathon & Half and Life Time 305 Marathon and 5K:** These iconic races bring thousands of runners from around the globe to Miami and Miami Beach in celebration of athletics and endurance. Routes from one city to the other require road closures and traffic details to protect both drivers and the safety and well-being of the runners in their race against the clock and each other.

Enhanced public safety measures will include:

- Request for 25 police personnel from outside agencies to include the Miami Schools Police Department for traffic posts to protect the athletes, with a budgetary impact of approximately \$7,500.00.

- ❖ **Miami International Boat Show:** Currently, this event has an annual off-duty operational plan that includes staffing for traffic mitigation around the Miami Beach Convention Center area and roadways leading to and away from the venue. The off-duty component is for the interior of the Miami Beach Convention Center and traffic mitigation for increased police presence, prevention of block-the-box (BTB), and to move traffic along in a safe and efficient manner. Due to the size of this event, use of outside agencies will enhance public safety.

Enhanced public safety measures will include:

- Request for police personnel from the Miami Dade Police Department for 2 squads of Bicycle patrols in and around the Miami Beach Convention Center for increased visibility and potential crowd management. The budgetary impact will be approximately \$10,000.00 for two days.

- ❖ **South Beach Food & Wine Festival:** Currently, this event has an off-duty annual operational plan that includes police staffing for venues along the beach. The Miami Beach Police Department will create a traffic mitigation plan focused on increased police presence, prevention of block-the-box (BTB) and moving traffic along in a safe and efficient manner. Due to the size of this event, use of outside agencies will improve public safety concerns.

Enhanced public safety measures will include:

- Request for specialized police personnel from the Miami Dade Police Department for enhanced visibility in the Entertainment District for two (2) bicycle patrols with a budgetary impact of approximately \$10,000.00 for two days.

- ❖ **FIFA Club World Cup 2025:** The Miami Beach Police Department has begun operational meetings for this event with FIFA executives. It is anticipated that this event will span 30-days and require an off-duty and overtime operational plan. The off-duty ops plan will provide police staffing for the venue along the beach and Lummus Park while the overtime operational plan will include on-duty resources and personal on overtime to provide enhanced staffing for public safety and traffic mitigation efforts. The scope and impact of the event is not yet fully known.

Enhanced public safety measures will include:

- Request for Florida Highway Patrol support for LPR details on 5th and 41st Streets pending further evaluation of impact.
- Miami Beach Police Rapid Intervention Detail for crowd control; and
- Additional Miami Beach Police in the Entertainment District with a budgetary impact of approximately \$100,000.00
- Request for specialized police personnel from the Miami Dade Police Department for enhanced visibility in the Entertainment District and North Beach through two (2) bicycle patrols and a Rapid Intervention detail with a budgetary impact of approximately \$50,000.00.

- ❖ **4th of July and Fire on the Fourth:** The holiday in Miami Beach is celebrated in both the Entertainment District with a large fireworks and drones display and through the day-long Fire on the Fourth Festival held in North Beach and put on by the City. Both sites present family-friendly activations that attract thousands of visitors to the beach and trigger the need for an enhancement to public safety.

Enhanced public safety measures will include:

- Request for specialized police personnel from the Miami Dade Police Department for enhanced visibility in the Entertainment District and North Beach through two (2) bicycle patrols with a budgetary impact of approximately \$5,000.00.
- ❖ **2026 FIFA World Cup:** As the event is scheduled to take place during the Fiscal Year 2026, the nature duration and scope of this event is not yet known, however, there is an expectation that outside resources may be necessary, mirroring the plan and requests for the *FIFA Club World Cup 2025*.

In addition to requesting outside agency support for the scheduled events and events and demonstrations that may arise, DUI checkpoints and LPR details will also be implemented once per quarter in multiple locations throughout the City of Miami Beach. DUI Checkpoints and LPR details carried out through multiagency cooperation and the assistance of the Florida Highway Patrol and Miami Dade Police Department will be deployed randomly at approved locations citywide. The details will be rolled out via the creation of an approved Maintenance of Traffic (MOT) plan.

The following chart highlights events where outside agency resources will be requested in Fiscal Year 2025.

FISCAL YEAR 2025 ENHANCED STAFFING EVENTS

	Event	Justification
1	Halloween	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased risk of safety • Expected crowd size • Traffic impact • Number of concurrent events
2	<i>Operation Grinch</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased risk of safety • Historical pattern of criminal activity • Expected crowd size • Intelligence/social media monitoring
3	<i>Art Basel</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased risk of safety • Expected crowd size • Number of concurrent events • Hotel occupancy rates • Traffic impact
4	<i>Rolling Loud Miami</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased risk of safety • Expected crowd size • Number of concurrent events • Hotel occupancy rates • Traffic impact • Historical pattern of criminal activity • Intelligence/social media monitoring
5	New Year's Eve	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased risk of safety • Expected crowd size • Number of concurrent events • Hotel occupancy rates • Traffic impact
6	<i>Life Time Miami Marathon & Half</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased risk of safety • Expected crowd size • Hotel occupancy rates • Traffic impact
7	<i>Miami International Boat Show</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased risk of safety • Expected crowd size • Number of concurrent events • Hotel occupancy rates • Traffic impact
8	<i>South Beach Wine & Food Festival</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased risk of safety • Expected crowd size • Number of concurrent events • Hotel occupancy rates • Traffic impact
9	<i>Life Time 305 Marathon and 5K</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased risk of safety • Expected crowd size • Hotel occupancy rates • Traffic impact
10	Spring Break	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased risk of safety • Expected crowd size • Number of concurrent events • Hotel occupancy rates • Traffic impact • Historical pattern of criminal activity • Intelligence/social media monitoring

	Event	Justification
11	Memorial Day Weekend	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased risk of safety • Expected crowd size • Number of concurrent events • Hotel occupancy rates • Traffic impact • Historical pattern of criminal activity • Intelligence/social media monitoring
12	<i>FIFA Club World 2025</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased risk of safety • Expected crowd size • Number of concurrent events • Hotel occupancy rates • Traffic impact • Historical pattern of criminal activity
13	4 th of July / <i>Fire on the Fourth Festival</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased risk of safety • Expected crowd size • Number of concurrent events • Hotel occupancy rates • Traffic impact
14	<i>FIFA World Cup 26*</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased risk of safety • Expected crowd size • Number of concurrent events • Hotel occupancy rates • Traffic impact • Historical pattern of criminal activity
	DUI Checkpoints (quarterly)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased risk of safety • Traffic impact
	Demonstrations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased risk of safety • Expected crowd size • Number of concurrent events • Traffic impact • Historical pattern of criminal activity • Intelligence/social media monitoring

**held in Fiscal Year 2026*

Resource Allocation and Decision-Making

In all instances, the designated event/incident commanders will assess the unique needs of their assigned event and submit requests through the chain of command for the necessary public safety measures and resources. Should mutual aid be required, the request will be made by the Chief of Police or designee. This request will be based on the availability of budgetary funds for these resources, whether through overtime or off-duty services.

Following this structured approach, MBPD maximizes public safety while maintaining fiscal responsibility and operational efficiency during any events or incidents warranting the use of enhanced public safety measures.