

MIAMI BEACH

COMMISSION MEMORANDUM

TO: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Commission
FROM: Commissioner Tanya K. Bhatt
DATE: February 3, 2025
TITLE: REFERRAL TO THE LAND USE AND SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE - DISCUSS STATUS OF THE OCEAN DRIVE CORRIDOR IMPROVEMENT AND LUMMUS PARK ENHANCEMENT PROJECT.

RECOMMENDATION

BACKGROUND/HISTORY

ANALYSIS

Please place on the February 3, 2025 agenda a referral to the Land Use and Sustainability Committee to discuss the status of the Ocean Drive Corridor Improvement and Lummus Park Enhancement Project.

On November 6, 2018, Miami Beach voters approved the \$439 million G.O. Bond Program (the "Program") in a City-wide voter referendum to fund critical infrastructure improvements, including projects focused on enhancing public spaces. On May 10, 2019, the City issued Request for Qualifications No. 2019-234-ND for a land use, mobility, and economic development study of the City's Mixed-Use Entertainment ("MXE") district, also known as the Art Deco Cultural District ("ADCD"). Per Resolution No. 2019-30914, on July 31, 2019, the City Commission authorized negotiations with Zyscovich, Inc., d/b/a Zyscovich Architects ("Zyscovich"), the top-ranked bidder, and on October 11, 2020, the City entered into a professional services agreement with Zyscovich to develop the ADCD Vision Plan.

The Mayor's Art Deco Cultural District Panel (the "Panel") was created on December 7, 2020, by Mayor Dan Gelber pursuant to Section 2-27(b)(2) of the City Code to provide recommendations regarding the ADCD and advise Zyscovich. The Panel reviewed the ADCD Vision Plan and, after offering feedback on design and implementation, Zyscovich updated the plan to include public art, pedestrian-friendly designs, and landscape modifications. The Panel submitted a final report of its activities and recommendations to the Mayor and City Commission via Letter to Commission No. 069-2022, and the ADCD Vision Plan was formally presented to the City Commission with Resolution No. 2022-32056.

The ADCD Vision Plan emphasizes creating pedestrian-focused public spaces, slowing vehicular traffic, and ensuring well-designed streetscapes to enhance the experience for residents and visitors alike. The Plan includes recommended action items, categorized as near term, medium term, and long term, which the City Commission may implement in phases. In furtherance of the objectives set forth in the Plan, on June 22, 2022, the City Commission approved the issuance of Request for Qualifications (RFQ) No. 2022-436-ND for Architectural Design Services for the Ocean Drive Corridor Improvement and Lummus Park Enhancement Project ("Ocean Drive

Project Services"). The RFQ resulted in the award of a contract to Calvin, Giordano & Associates, Inc. ("CGA"), the top-ranked proposer, for Ocean Drive Project Services and on June 6, 2023, the City entered into a Professional Services Agreement with CGA (the "CGA Agreement").

The Ocean Drive Corridor and Lummus Park Enhancement Project (the "Project") is a complex, multi-year endeavor that involves comprehensive design, permitting, and construction. On October 30, 2024, the City Commission adopted Resolution No. 2024-33337, sponsored by my colleague, Commissioner Kristen Rosen Gonzalez, directing the administration to take the next steps to implement the lighting and sidewalk improvements as part of the Project. This is a step in the right direction, but I would like for the LUSC to discuss the current status and timeline for the remainder of the Project. This is all the more pressing in light of the recent rulings by Judge Beatriz Butchko Sanchez in the case of *Clevelander Ocean LP et al. v. City of Miami Beach et. al.*, Cash No. 2023-11642-CA-01 concerning the current configuration of Ocean Drive.

The Administration should be prepared to provide a comprehensive update on the Project.

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

n/a

Does this Ordinance require a Business Impact Estimate?

(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-notices/>

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

CONCLUSION

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?

Yes

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

Office of Commissioner Tanya K. Bhatt

Sponsor(s)

Commissioner Tanya K. Bhatt

Co-sponsor(s)

Condensed Title

Ref: LUSC - Status of Ocean Drive Corridor Improvement/Lummus Park Enhancement Project.
(Bhatt)

Previous Action (For City Clerk Use Only)