

# MIAMI BEACH

## COMMISSION MEMORANDUM

TO: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Commission

FROM: Eric Carpenter, City Manager

DATE: March 19, 2025

TITLE: A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA, APPROVING THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE PUBLIC SAFETY NEIGHBORHOOD AND QUALITY OF LIFE COMMITTEE AT ITS FEBRUARY 12, 2025 MEETING, TO CREATE A SIX (6) MONTH PILOT PROGRAM REQUIRING LARGE SCALE SPECIAL EVENTS IN PUBLIC PROPERTY WITH OVER 5,000 ATTENDEES TO PROVIDE FREE ACCESSIBLE BICYCLE AND MICROMOBILITY STORAGE FOR ATTENDEES AND WAIVING THE SQUARE FOOTAGE FEES FOR THE STORAGE AREA AS AN INCENTIVE.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

The Administration recommends accepting the recommendation of the Public Safety Neighborhood and Quality of Life Committee at its February 12, 2025 meeting, to create a six (6) month pilot program from June 1, 2025 through December 31, 2025, requiring large scale special events on public property with over 5,000 attendees to provide accessible bicycle and micromobility storage for attendees and waiving the square footage fees for the storage area as an incentive.

### **BACKGROUND/HISTORY**

At the December 11, 2024, City Commission meeting, the Mayor and Commission approved a referral by Commissioner Alex Fernandez to the Public Safety and Neighborhood Quality of Life Committee to discuss adding the requirement for secure and accessible bicycle and micromobility storage to the special event review process.

The referral memo notes the importance of encouraging alternative, sustainable modes of transportation such as bicycles and micromobility to reduce congestion and environmental impacts. To make these options viable and attractive for event attendees, the referral recommended a discussion regarding requiring secure and accessible storage.

### **ANALYSIS**

The City of Miami Beach (City) hosts a wide variety of special events that enrich the community for both visitors and residents. To mitigate the ever-increasing demands made upon City resources and infrastructure, applicants are required to present proposed special event activities to potentially impacted neighborhood associations and appropriate City Departments to ensure that these events are compatible with surrounding neighborhoods. This process assists in evaluating and assessing the City's resources, both in terms of personnel and use of public property and rights-of-way to adequately protect the public health, safety, and welfare of the community.

Special events in the City of Miami Beach are also subject to review and recommendation by the

corresponding neighborhood or business association(s) and/ or as part of a monthly Special Events Community Review meeting.

The City continues to ensure the Special Event Guidelines reflect new regulations or requirements stemming from legislative action. At the May 15, 2024, City Commission meeting, the Transportation and Mobility Department presented an update regarding the development of strategies to address traffic congestion within the City, which include more rigorous special event permit reviews.

As the impact of large-scale special events on traffic and congestion grows in our City, current requirements in the Special Event Guidelines may be revised to include new and/or more robust mitigation strategies. As one element of a new comprehensive strategy, a re-examination of the current Special Event Guidelines was to be performed by the Transportation and Mobility Department to determine the appropriate level of traffic analysis, Maintenance of Traffic (MOT) plan and mitigation, based on the scope and scale of the special event, to mitigate the impact of congestion caused by special events throughout the City. For purposes of re-examining the Special Event Guidelines, special events can be categorized as follows: Category 1 (less than 10,000 attendees); Category 2 (between 10,000 and 50,000 attendees); and Category 3 (over 50,000 attendees).

In addition, the City has engaged Marlin Engineering, Inc. ("Consultant"), one of the City's prequalified rotational transportation consultants, to conduct a comprehensive traffic study focused on managing traffic congestion during major special events at the Miami Beach Convention Center. The main objective of the traffic study is to deliver a multi-modal special event traffic operations plan.

The methodology for this comprehensive traffic study includes traffic data collection along the major adjacent corridors, field visits during special events, parking garage information, and transit ridership data, as well as committed developments in the area and the City's planned transportation improvements. Traffic modeling will also be conducted to assess future roadway capacity including mitigation of event traffic impacts to ensure adequate Levels of Service (LOS) during major events such as Art Basel Miami Beach and the Miami International Boat Show.

The traffic study will provide a set of recommendations that will include multimodal considerations that will improve and reduce the traffic operation during special events while improving mobility, accessibility, and safety for all road users. The recommendations would be incorporated as part of the Special Event Guidelines once a final report is received.

### **Micromobility**

Micromobility refers to a range of small, lightweight vehicles that can navigate highly populated urban areas. Devices could include bicycles, velomobiles, e-bikes, electric scooters, electric skateboards, shared bicycle fleets, electric pedal assisted bicycles, mobility scooters and wheelchairs.

To assist in the determination of impact to special event producers by adding a new requirement for bicycle and micromobility storage, staff presented the proposal to the City of Miami Beach Production Industry Council (PIC) at its January 30, 2025, meeting. The PIC includes film and event producers familiar with Miami Beach regulations and special event requirements. Below are points shared by the members:

- An example was provided for an event that included storage for attendees riding bicycles.
  - The approximate cost between \$2,000-\$3,000 was incurred by the event producer to provide an area for an estimated 100 bicycle parking spaces for attendees.

- Any requirement should take into consideration the size of the event and number of attendees, to ensure that an appropriate number of storage spaces are required per event.
- Event producers would have to include additional space within their footprint for this inclusion of storage space, and this would incur additional square footage fees.
- The event producers would have to consider the financial impact to their liability and insurance costs associated with the event. In general, events do not include valet services because of liability concerns.
- PIC members had suggestions on a possible pilot program which included consideration for different types and sizes of events, with a possible incentive from the City.

At the February 12, 2025, Public Safety Neighborhood and Quality of Life Committee (PSNQLC) meeting, the Committee discussed the requirement for secure and accessible bicycle and micromobility storage for the special event review process. Staff presented the recommendations from the PIC and suggested that requirement considerations include events with attendees over 5,000 and should also vary between public and private property events. In addition, Staff recommended that this be a six (6) month pilot program from June 1, 2025, through December 31, 2025. The Committee moved the item to the full commission by acclimation with a favorable recommendation. Additionally, the Committee recommended considering language to ensure valet services are free or reduced for residents.

### **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**

The Administration recommends accepting the recommendation of the Public Safety Neighborhood and Quality of Life Committee at its February 12, 2025 meeting to create a six (6) month pilot program from June, 2025 through December 31, 2025, requiring large scale special events on public property with over 5,000 attendees to provide accessible bicycle and micromobility storage for free for attendees and waiving the square footage fees for the storage area as an incentive.

### **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?**

If so, specify the name of lobbyist(s) and principal(s):

**Department**

Tourism and Culture

**Sponsor(s)**

Commissioner Alex Fernandez

**Co-sponsor(s)**

Commissioner Tanya K. Bhatt  
Commissioner Laura Dominguez

**Condensed Title**

Accept Rec/Create Pilot Program, Secure Bicycle/Micromobility Storage at Large Scale Special Events. (AF/TB/LD) TC

**Previous Action (For City Clerk Use Only)**