

MIAMI BEACH

COMMITTEE MEMORANDUM

TO: Finance and Economic Resiliency Committee Members

FROM: Eric Carpenter, City Manager

DATE: November 8, 2024

TITLE: A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA, DIRECTING THE CITY ADMINISTRATION TO PREPARE A PLAN AND A COST ESTIMATE FOR TRAPPING, AND SPAYING OR NEUTERING ALL COMMUNITY CATS WITHIN MIAMI BEACH OVER A PERIOD OF SIX MONTHS, WITH THE PLAN TO BE PRESENTED TO THE FINANCE AND ECONOMIC RESILIENCY COMMITTEE ("FERC") AT ITS JULY 26, 2024 MEETING.

BACKGROUND/HISTORY

On May 15, 2024, at the request of Commissioner David Suarez, the Mayor and City Commission (City Commission) approved Resolution No. 2024-33041 (Attachment A), directing the Administration to prepare a plan and a cost estimate for trapping, spaying/neutering, and releasing (TNVR) of all community cats within Miami Beach within an efficient and expedited timeline, and such plan to be presented at the July 26, 2024 Finance and Economic Resiliency Committee (FERC) meeting.

On July 26, 2024, Public Works presented FERC members, an update of the proposed cat program, with a recommendation to hire a 6-person team (2 persons in North, Mid and South Beach) to work 40 hours a week, for a one-month period, responsible for counting the feral cat population in the City. The estimated cost to hire a 6-person team is \$21,000, which is within the \$30,000 budget amount approved at the July 12, 2024 FERC - Budget Workshop. FERC members agreed as proposed by City staff, making a favorable recommendation to move the item to the September City Commission meeting for approval and for staff to come back at a future FERC meeting for an update.

On September 11, 2024, the City Commission approved, via Resolution No. 2024-33239 (Attachment B), the recommendation of the FERC at its July 26, 2024 meeting, to hire a 6-person team responsible for counting the feral cat population in the City.

On September 20, 2024, the City's Cat Program Coordinator completed the selection of the 6-person team of cat specialists. Funding became available on October 1, 2024, allowing for City staff to proceed with preparing Individual Contract Agreements (ICA) and hiring the team. The process is being finalized and the counting of feral cat population is estimated to begin in November.

The item was included on the October 18, 2024, FERC meeting agenda as item OB 3, but was not reached.

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

No fiscal impact. The estimated cost to hire a 6-person team is \$21,000, which will come from the \$30,000 line item in the FY 25 expense budget.

CONCLUSION

City staff has completed the selection of the 6-person team of cat specialists and anticipates the counting of the feral cat population to begin in November.

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?

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

Public Works

Sponsor(s)

Commissioner David Suarez

Condensed Title

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