

MIAMI BEACH

COMMISSION MEMORANDUM

TO: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Commission

FROM: Eric Carpenter, City Manager

DATE: October 30, 2024

TITLE: A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA, ACCEPTING THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE FINANCE AND ECONOMIC RESILIENCY COMMITTEE AT ITS SEPTEMBER 20, 2024 MEETING, TO PROCEED WITH THE INSTALLATION OF WRAP LIGHTS ON MEDIAN TREES, AT A PORTION OF WASHINGTON AVENUE, FROM 5TH STREET TO 17TH STREET, IN THE ESTIMATED AMOUNT OF \$273,000.00.

RECOMMENDATION

The Administration recommends accepting the recommendation of the Finance and Economic Resiliency Committee (FERC) at its September 20, 2024 meeting, to proceed with the installation of wrap lights along the portion of Washington Avenue, from 5th Street to 17th Street.

BACKGROUND/HISTORY

On June 26, 2024, at the request of Commissioner Kristen Rosen Gonzalez, co-sponsored by Commissioners Joseph Magazine and David Suarez, the Mayor and City Commission (City Commission) approved a referral, item C4C to the FERC meeting, to discuss beautifying Washington Avenue by enhancing lighting and streetscaping.

There had been similar requests brought up for discussion by Commission members at the Public Safety and Quality of Life Committee (PSNQL) and FERC, to enhance lighting on South Beach, however, neither requests turned into favorable recommendations to the City Commission for approval due to costs for installation and maintenance exceeding \$1 Million.

On September 20, 2024, FERC members were provided a sidewalk and lighting update along Washington Avenue. Public Works presented two proposals for wrap lights on median trees, or similar lights for the east and west sidewalks, including maintenance costs for a period of one year after installation. The breakdown for these costs were:

- Washington Avenue from 5th Street to 17th Street (median trees): \$272,532.00
- Washington Avenue from 5th Street to 17th Street, (east and west sidewalks). \$1,195,950.00

Public Works reiterated at Committee that funding for the proposed wrap lights (temporary lights) had yet to be identified. There was a combined discussion about the \$10 Million G.O. Bond fund as part of the Washington Avenue Corridor Project, led by the Tourism and Culture and Economic Development Departments. Said funding, once allocated, would be used to invest in capital improvements, permanent lighting and landscaping along Washington Avenue as a way to increase vibrancy and business retention through the construction of pedestrian and streetscape enhancements, community programming, and marketing. Wrap lights, however, since considered temporary fixtures, would not be eligible for G.O. Bond funding.

Discussions at Committee continued, focusing on how to upgrade Washington Avenue short and long term, using G.O. Bond funds. There were discussions regarding the need to have the

Washington Avenue BID be involved in these efforts along with the City. FERC members approved a motion to proceed with the installation of wrap lights on median trees on Washington Avenue, from 5th Street to 17th Street, in the approximate amount of \$273,000.00 (Attachment A).

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

\$273,000.00. Should the FERC recommendation be accepted by the City Commission, the Administration will proceed with a budget amendment at the November City Commission meeting.

CONCLUSION

The Administration recommends accepting the recommendation of the Finance and Economic Resiliency Committee at its September 20, 2024 meeting to proceed with the installation of wrap lights along the portion of Washington Avenue, from 5th Street to 17th Street.

Applicable Area

South Beach

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

Department

Public Works

Sponsor(s)

Commissioner Rosen Gonzalez

Co-sponsor(s)

Commissioner Joseph Magazine

Condensed Title

Accept Rec/Proceed w/ Wrap Lights at Portion of Washington Ave. (Rosen Gonzalez/Magazine)
PW