

RESOLUTION NO. 2025 - _____

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 JUNE 4, 2025 MEETING, AND DIRECTING THE ADMINISTRATION TO CONSIDER, AS PART OF THE FISCAL YEAR 2026 BUDGET PROCESS, EXPANDING THE MARINE PATROL UNIT TO DETECT AND DETER CRIME AND QUALITY OF LIFE OFFENSES IN BISCAYNE BAY, WITH A BUDGET ENHANCEMENT IN THE APPROXIMATE AMOUNT OF \$1,290,000 FOR YEAR ONE.

WHEREAS, at the October 30, 2024, City Commission Meeting, the Mayor and City Commission approved a referral to the Finance and Economic Resiliency Committee ("FERC") to discuss the potential funding for FY 2026 to expand the Marine Patrol Unit to detect and deter crime and quality of life offenses in Biscayne Bay; and

WHEREAS, the item was subsequently heard at the June 4, 2025, FERC meeting and the Committee unanimously agreed to move the item to the full City Commission with a favorable recommendation to be considered as part of the FY 2026 budget process; and

WHEREAS, the Miami Beach Police Department's ("MBPD") Marine Patrol Unit consists of one (1) sergeant and five (5) police officers responsible for patrolling the City of Miami Beach's jurisdictional waterways, covering nearly 2,000 waterfront properties and approximately 12 square miles of ocean; and

WHEREAS, expanding the Marine Patrol Unit to incorporate a second squad composed of six (6) members would enhance the MBPD's coverage area and improve enforcement of livery violations, derelict vessels, loud music and uniform boating citations and allow for a more efficient response to water emergencies; and

WHEREAS, enlarging the unit would allow for multiple areas to include Star Island, Biscayne Bay, Palm and Hibiscus Islands, Belle Isle, and Venetian Islands to be covered simultaneously and additional resources would help address commission priorities including derelict vessel monitoring, jet ski thefts, and residential burglaries, among others; and

WHEREAS, the Marine Patrol Unit budget enhancement request of \$1,290,000 for Year One, not including applicable pension costs that would be incurred commencing in Year Two, accounts for approximate salaries and equipment for one (1) Sergeant and five (5) Officers; and

WHEREAS, once officer recruitment has leveled and Indian Creek, ATV squad, bike patrol and high visibility directives have been filled, the MBPD readily welcomes exploring the expansion of the Marine Patrol Unit; and

WHEREAS, due to the current Marine Patrol configuration resulting in high enforcement numbers, even with a renewed commission focus on water-related incidents, the Administration considers that mandated, higher priority needs as outlined should be given precedence; and

WHEREAS, if funds are still available after the necessary initiatives are filled, the Administration welcomes exploring the expansion of the Marine Patrol Unit, potentially expanding to a second squad at a later time.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT DULY RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA, that the Mayor and City Commission hereby accept the recommendation of the Finance and Economic Resiliency Committee, at its June 4, 2025 meeting, and direct the Administration to consider, as part of the Fiscal Year 2026 budget process, expanding the Marine Patrol Unit to detect and deter crime and quality of life offenses in Biscayne Bay, with a budget enhancement in the approximate amount of \$1,290,000 for Year One.

PASSED and ADOPTED this ____ day of _____, 2025.


ATTEST:

Steven Meiner, Mayor


Rafael E. Granado, City Clerk

(sponsored by Commissioner Alex J. Fernandez
co-sponsored by Joseph Magazine)

APPROVED AS TO
FORM & LANGUAGE
& FOR EXECUTION



City Attorney



Date