



COMMISSION MEMORANDUM

TO: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Commission
FROM: Commissioner Laura Dominguez
DATE: March 19, 2025
TITLE: DISCUSS/TAKE ACTION: INCREASING FERRY SERVICE DURING ART WEEK AND OTHER HIGH-IMPACT EVENTS IN 2025 AND BEYOND.

RECOMMENDATION

BACKGROUND/HISTORY

As Miami Beach continues to grow as a global cultural destination, major events like Art Week attract thousands of visitors each year, placing significant pressure on the city's infrastructure, particularly in high-density neighborhoods and areas with limited access, such as the Venetian Islands. The influx of visitors, combined with the challenges of traffic congestion, limited parking, and increased demand for public transportation, creates an urgent need for alternative modes of transit to ensure the efficient movement of both residents and visitors.

ANALYSIS

One promising solution is to increase ferry service during major events, providing an environmentally friendly, efficient, and attractive transportation option. The temporary waterborne transit system used during Art Week has proven effective in alleviating traffic congestion, and expanding ferry service during such events would enhance mobility, improve visitor experience, and reduce the strain on the city's streets.

I would like to engage in a discussion with my colleagues to explore the potential for expanding ferry service during Art Week 2025 and beyond, addressing the challenges posed by traffic congestion and limited parking during high-impact events. By increasing ferry service, Miami Beach can improve mobility, support local businesses, reduce environmental impact, and enhance the overall experience for both residents and visitors.

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?

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

City Attorney

Sponsor(s)

Commissioner Laura Dominguez

Co-sponsor(s)

Condensed Title

Increase Ferry Service During Art Week and High Impact Events. (Dominguez)