

MIAMI BEACH

COMMITTEE MEMORANDUM

TO: Public Safety and Neighborhood Quality of Life Committee Members

FROM: Eric Carpenter, City Manager

DATE: December 2, 2024

TITLE: DISCUSS ENSURING PUBLIC PARKS, GOLF COURSES AND OTHER FACILITIES ARE AVAILABLE TO THE PUBLIC IN SOME CAPACITY AT ALL TIMES.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff to engage in a key discussion with the Public Safety and Neighborhood Quality of Life Committee regarding the availability of public parks, golf courses and other facilities in some capacity at all times.

BACKGROUND/HISTORY

During the October 30, 2024 Commission meeting, at the request of Commissioner Alex Fernandez, the Mayor and City Commission referred a discussion to the Public Safety and Neighborhood Quality of Life Committee ("PSNQLC"), to discuss ensuring public parks, golf courses and other facilities are available to the public in some capacity at all times.

ANALYSIS

The Parks and Recreation Department (the "Department") offers a variety of public spaces for general use, programming, and rentals. These spaces include courts, sports fields, classrooms, indoor gyms, pavilions, golf course driving ranges, and more. The availability of these spaces depends on several factors, including programs, construction, maintenance, and weather conditions. Additionally, high-demand spaces for popular programs, such as after-school and summer camps, as well as sports leagues, may be limited throughout the year having little to no access for the public. Another example of limited access to public spaces occurs during golf tournaments, when participants are provided with baskets of golf balls to warm up before the event. This can result in the driving range becoming fully occupied for a short period of time prior to the tournament's start.

The Department manages 2 golf courses and 44 parks which includes sports fields, 2 tennis centers, 3 pools, 9 bark parks, and more. Hours of operations vary for each ranging from sunrise to sunset, with other facilities having specified hours of operation. The Department continually explores opportunities for creating new public spaces and regularly evaluates existing ones to ensure they are being used efficiently.

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

N/A

Does this Ordinance require a Business Impact Estimate?
(FOR ORDINANCES ONLY)

The Business Impact Estimate (BIE) was published on .

See BIE at: <https://www.miamibeachfl.gov/city-hall/city-clerk/meeting-notices/>

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

N/A

CONCLUSION

N/A

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

Parks and Recreation

Sponsor(s)

Commissioner Alex Fernandez

Co-sponsor(s)

Condensed Title

Ensure Access to Public Parks, Golf Courses and Other Facilities (Fernandez)