

MIAMI BEACH

COMMITTEE MEMORANDUM

TO: Public Safety and Neighborhood Quality of Life Committee Members

FROM: Eric Carpenter, City Manager

DATE: April 9, 2025

TITLE: DISCUSS IMPROVEMENTS INCLUDING CLEANLINESS AND ABANDONED CONDITIONS OF EVERGLADES COURT IN NORTH BEACH.

RECOMMENDATION

As a short-term solution, the Administration recommends that Public Works continues its efforts to maintain a clean alleyway and make necessary improvements to the current conditions including sodding, management of overgrown vegetation, and consistent pickup of abandoned bulk trash items.

BACKGROUND/HISTORY

On February 3, 2025, at the request of Commissioner Alex Fernandez, co-sponsored by Commissioner Tanya Bhatt, the Mayor and City Commission (City Commission) approved item C4H (Attachment A), a referral to the Public Safety and Neighborhood Quality of Life Committee (PSNQLC) to discuss improvements, including cleanliness and abandoned conditions of Everglades Court in North Beach.

Commissioner Fernandez and Commissioner Bhatt have drawn attention to Everglades Court as a public space that has fallen into disrepair, currently abandoned and surrounded with trash and overgrown grass. It is believed the area is in need of maintenance and revitalization. Sponsoring Commissioners would like to discuss potential solutions for restoring and maintaining Everglades Court.

ANALYSIS

City staff conducted an initial assessment of the Everglades Court alleyway in North Beach. There is currently a 20-foot alleyway according to Plat Book 25-60 of the Miami-Dade County Property Appraiser. The alleyway considered City property.

The record search also showed that in 2015, Public Works was approved a funding request in the amount of \$300,000, to be utilized towards the paving of the existing alleyway, with an expected completion timeframe of 2015-2018 (Project 28050, Everglades Court Alleyway Paving). In 2021, the project was closed out and the funding transferred to the 59th Street Bioswale project.

The Administration conducted an evaluation of the Everglades Court to determine what if any improvements were needed. City staff reported the following findings at the March 12, 2025, PSNQLC:

- Need to resod existing damaged or unhealthy lawn
- Manage potential code issues with overgrown vegetation coming from the back side of the properties to aesthetically improve the conditions of the alley
- Keep the alley within the waste hauler's attention and have them include abandoned bulk trash items within their daily pickup, and possibly placing signs

The Everglades Court discussion concluded with a motion to come back the following month with an update.

CURRENT STATUS:

On March 14, 2025, the Administration conducted a walk through of Everglades Court alleyway. The plan of action will be as follows:

- Pricing will be sought for putting in an irrigation system and for sodding the entire alley, as well as potentially adding park type lighting and playground equipment. Some of these items will be funded by Public Works and some by the Parks & Recreation Department (Parks). Parks will evaluate the alley for the feasibility of implementing a linear park and if so, conducting public outreach to obtain the publics' opinion for a linear park and/or closing off both ends of the alley.

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

To be determined.

CONCLUSION

As a short-term solution, the Administration recommends that Public Works continues its efforts to maintain a clean alleyway and make necessary improvements to the current conditions including sodding, management of overgrown vegetation, and consistent pickup of abandoned bulk trash items.

Applicable Area

North Beach

<u>Is this a "Residents Right to Know" item, pursuant to City Code Section 2-17?</u>	<u>Is this item related to a G.O. Bond Project?</u>
Yes	No

Department

Public Works

Sponsor(s)

Commissioner Alex Fernandez

Co-sponsor(s)

Commissioner Tanya K. Bhatt

Condensed Title

DISCUSS IMPROVEMENTS INCLUDING CLEANLINESS AND ABANDONED CONDITIONS OF EVERGLADES COURT IN NORTH BEACH.