

MIAMI BEACH

COMMISSION MEMORANDUM

TO: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Commission

FROM: Commissioner Laura Dominguez

DATE: November 20, 2024

TITLE: REFERRAL TO THE PUBLIC SAFETY AND NEIGHBORHOOD QUALITY OF LIFE COMMITTEE TO DISCUSS THE POSSIBILITY OF UTILIZING PROJECT GREEN LIGHT TO MITIGATE TRAFFIC AND AIR POLLUTION.

RECOMMENDATION

BACKGROUND/HISTORY

Please place a referral to the Public Safety and Neighborhood Quality of Life Committee on the November 20, 2024 agenda to discuss whether any potential option(s) exist to utilize Project Green Light to mitigate traffic and air pollution in the City.

In 2020, after over a decade of Google Maps compiling driving trends from across the globe, a Google Research Team embarked on Project Green Light. Project Green Light is an initiative that uses Artificial Intelligence (“AI”) to make recommendations for city engineers to optimize existing traffic lights for traffic mitigation and to reduce vehicular emissions produced by stop-and-go traffic.

Since their partnership began in February 2024, traffic engineers in Boston, Massachusetts have used Project Green Light’s recommendations to optimize signal timing and reduce unnecessary stops. Specifically, at two intersections in Boston (Huntington Avenue & Opera Place and at Amory Street & Green Street), stop-and-go traffic has been reduced by over 50%. Moreover, cities around the world that use Project Green Light have experienced a 10% average reduction in vehicular emissions (air pollution). As of now, Project Green Light is live in fourteen (14) cities on four (4) continents, with Boston and Seattle being the only U.S. cities included in the program thus far.

Traffic is undoubtedly one of residents’ top complaints, and climate mitigation is also of critical importance. While it is my understanding that the City is currently in the construction phase of implementing cameras, sensors, and signage as part of an Intelligent Transportation Systems (“ITS”) initiative, I would request that the City Administration be prepared to address whether Project Green Light may also be utilized or add value to the City’s traffic and climate mitigation plans. I would further request that the City Administration be prepared to address the extent to which traffic signalization, on State, County and City roads, is regulated by Miami-Dade County, the State, and/or the City.

ANALYSIS

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-notice/>

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

CONCLUSION

Applicable Area

Citywide

Is this a "Residents Right to Know" item, pursuant to City Code Section 2-17?

Is this item related to a G.O. Bond Project?

Yes

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): N/A

Department

Office of Commissioner Laura Dominguez

Sponsor(s)

Commissioner Laura Dominguez

Co-sponsor(s)

Condensed Title

Ref: PSNQLC - Utilizing Project Green Light to Mitigate Traffic and Air Pollution. (Dominguez)