



COMMITTEE MEMORANDUM

TO: Land Use and Sustainability Committee Members

FROM: Eric Carpenter, City Manager

DATE: February 20, 2025

TITLE: DISCUSS AND CONSIDER RECOMMENDATIONS RELATING TO THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH SIDEWALK MATERIAL/COLOR POLICY

RECOMMENDATION

The Administration recommends the use of "Miami Beach Red" only in historic districts, major corridors and entertainment district areas, and continue with the gray color concrete as neighborhood projects are implemented. In addition, continue to delegate to the Public Works Director the authority to determine if replacement of gray sidewalks with the "Miami Beach red" color standard is otherwise appropriate.

BACKGROUND/HISTORY

On November 20, 2025, at the request of Commissioner Alex Fernandez, the Mayor and City Commission (City Commission) approved item C4T (Attachment A), a referral to the Land Use and Sustainability Committee (LUSC) to discuss and consider recommendations for the installation of "Miami Beach Red" sidewalks and the broader use of sidewalk materials in the city.

Commissioner Fernandez is requesting that Resolution 2019-30800 (Attachment B), accepting the recommendation of the City Commission Goals Conference at its January 29, 2019 meeting, approving the replacement of gray concrete sidewalks throughout the City with the "Miami Beach red" color standard (unless otherwise specified by any applicable City Land Use Board), to be completed gradually over time, be revisited. Commissioner Fernandez would like for the LUSC to assess on whether the current approach remains the most effective and sustainable option for Miami Beach. This authority is currently delegated to the Public Works Director.

ANALYSIS

Many sidewalks in the City of Miami Beach incorporate a "Miami Beach red" color standard (a distinctive reddish/ pink color), while others incorporate a natural gray concrete color.

Over time, these sidewalks have raised various maintenance issues, however, as the red oxide is partially or totally worn off from foot traffic and weather, exposing the sidewalks to patches of more gray concrete adjacent to highly concentrated patches of red oxide powder, resulting in aesthetically unattractive irregularities.

City staff has been diligent in correcting and managing the patchwork and maintenance issues by thoroughly integrating the red pigment into the concrete mix for the full depth of the sidewalks in all new construction projects, utilizing a controlled color mixing formula to the cement batching plants. Notwithstanding the City's color integrity efforts, sidewalk color can still vary significantly from concrete batch mix to batch mix, when new sidewalks are poured by utility companies while conducting ongoing repairs and upgrades to their systems. Additionally, frequent pressure washing removes the top layer of the color cement exposing the aggregate which cannot be colored.

For the reasons stated above, the Administration recommends continuing the use of gray color concrete progressively over time as neighborhood projects are implemented and the use of “Miami Beach Red” only in historic districts, major corridors and entertainment district areas.

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

To be determined.

CONCLUSION

The Administration recommends the use of “Miami Beach Red” only in historic districts, major corridors and entertainment district areas, and continue with the gray color concrete as neighborhood projects are implemented. In addition, continue to delegate to the Public Works Director the authority to determine if replacement of gray sidewalks with the “Miami Beach red” color standard is otherwise appropriate.

Applicable Area

Citywide

<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

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

Public Works

Sponsor(s)

Commissioner Alex Fernandez

Condensed Title

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