

RESOLUTION NO. 2024 - _____

A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA, DIRECTING THE ADMINISTRATION TO IDENTIFY POSSIBLE GRANT OPPORTUNITIES THROUGH THE FLORIDA INLAND NAVIGATION DISTRICT (FIND) TO FUND SPECIFIC CITY PROJECTS, INCLUDING CLEAN-UP EFFORTS AND ENFORCEMENT AT MONUMENT ISLAND, COMPLETION OF BAYWALK SEGMENTS, COMPLETION OF THE 5TH STREET PEDESTRIAN BRIDGE, ACQUISITION OF MARINE PATROL VESSELS AND EQUIPMENT, SHORELINE STABILIZATION, CONSTRUCTION OF DOCKS AND UPLAND FACILITIES FOR A WATER TAXI SERVICE AND REPAIR AND CONSTRUCTION OF PUBLIC SEAWALLS.

WHEREAS, the City of Miami Beach is dedicated to preserving its unique coastal environment, improving public infrastructure, and enhancing the quality of life for residents and visitors alike; and

WHEREAS, the Florida Inland Navigation District (FIND) is a public agency responsible for funding projects that protect and improve the navigable waterways of Florida's Intracoastal Waterway and its tributaries, including waterways and projects that promote the environment, recreational opportunities, and public safety; and

WHEREAS, the City of Miami Beach seeks to identify and access potential FIND grant opportunities to fund key initiatives that align with FIND's mission; and

WHEREAS, the City of Miami Beach is currently focused on several important projects that benefit the environment, public safety, and transportation infrastructure, which could qualify for funding through FIND grants; and

WHEREAS, these priority projects include:

1. **Clean-Up Efforts and Enforcement at Monument Island:** Monument Island, located in Biscayne Bay, is a popular recreational destination that has faced ongoing challenges related to waste accumulation and the need for enhanced enforcement to ensure its preservation. Pursuant to Resolution No, 2023-32570, a copy of which is attached as Exhibit A, the Mayor and City Commission accepted the recommendation of the Public Safety and Neighborhood Quality of Life Committee to prioritize funding for a Monument Island Restoration Project, which would include the installation of a riprap revetment and related signage, and other project scope required to obtain federal, state and county approval for the creation of a motorized vessel exclusion zone. Identifying funding to supplement the City's budget for the design, permitting and execution of the Monument Island Restoration Project, as well as for clean-up initiatives and enforcement, would improve the environmental quality of the island and protect its natural resources for future generations.
2. **Completion of the Baywalk Segments:** The Baywalk is a vital public waterfront pathway that provides pedestrian access along the Miami Beach shoreline on the west side of the island. However, there are three sections of the Baywalk still pending completion behind the South Bay Club, Bay Garden Manor, and Bayview Terrace. The current budget for these three unfinished sections is \$5,000,000 (G.O. Bond funding). However, due to updated cost estimates from the design consultant, the Administration believes that the total project cost could exceed \$17 million and potentially reach as high as \$25 million, depending on the final design and property agreements. Identifying additional funding for the design and construction phases through FIND will help ensure the completion of this critical infrastructure project.

3. **Completion of the 5th Street Pedestrian Bridge:** The 5th Street Pedestrian Bridge is essential for connecting the Baywalk south of 5th Street with the Baywalk north of 5th Street and thereby allowing for safe and efficient pedestrian access. Securing funding for the completion of this bridge will enhance mobility and safety for Miami Beach residents and visitors who wish to enjoy the Baywalk.
4. **Acquisition of Vessels, Engines, and Equipment for Marine Patrol:** The Marine Patrol plays a vital role in maintaining public safety on Miami Beach's waterways, enforcing laws, and responding to emergencies. Funding through FIND would enable the acquisition of additional vessels, engines, and other necessary equipment to enhance the efficiency and safety of the Marine Patrol unit.
5. **Shoreline Stabilization:** The City of Miami Beach is committed to addressing the ongoing challenge of shoreline erosion and protecting its coastal environment. Shoreline stabilization projects throughout the City, including the installation of protective barriers, vegetation, and other structural measures, will help mitigate the effects of rising sea levels and protect Miami Beach's waterfront.
6. **Construction of Docks and Upland Facilities for a Water Taxi Service:** Establishing a water taxi service would provide a sustainable and efficient transportation option for residents and tourists, easing congestion and reducing traffic on the roads. Construction of docks and upland facilities to support such a service will require substantial investment in infrastructure, and funding from FIND will be critical in bringing this concept to fruition.
7. **Repair and Construction of Public Seawalls.** Repairing and constructing public seawalls in the City of Miami Beach is crucial for protecting the city's infrastructure, properties, and natural resources from the increasing risks of coastal erosion and rising sea levels. Well-maintained seawalls act as a barrier against storm surges, flooding, and tidal encroachment, ensuring the safety of residents, preserving the shoreline, and enhancing the long-term resilience of the city's waterfront areas.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT DULY RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA, that the Mayor and City Commission hereby direct the Administration to identify possible grant opportunities through the Florida Inland Navigation District (FIND) to fund specific City projects, including clean-up efforts and enforcement at Monument Island, completion of Baywalk segments, completion of the 5th Street pedestrian bridge, acquisition of Marine Patrol vessels and equipment, shoreline stabilization, construction of docks and upland facilities for a water taxi service, and the repair and construction of public seawalls.

PASSED and ADOPTED this ____ day of _____, 2024.

ATTEST:

Steven Meiner, Mayor

Rafael E. Granado, City Clerk

(sponsored by Commissioner Laura Dominguez)

APPROVED AS TO
FORM & LANGUAGE
& FOR EXECUTION



City Attorney

12/31/2024
Date

EXHIBIT "A"

RESOLUTION NO. 2023-32570

A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA, ACCEPTING THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE PUBLIC SAFETY AND NEIGHBORHOOD QUALITY OF LIFE COMMITTEE, AND PRIORITIZING FUNDING FOR A MONUMENT ISLAND RESTORATION PROJECT (THE "PROJECT") AS PART OF THE FY 2024 CAPITAL BUDGET, WHICH PROJECT WOULD INCLUDE DESIGN AND INSTALLATION OF A RIPRAP REVETMENT AND RELATED SIGNAGE AND OTHER PROJECT SCOPE REQUIRED TO OBTAIN FEDERAL, STATE AND COUNTY APPROVAL FOR CREATION OF A MOTORIZED VESSEL EXCLUSION ZONE SURROUNDING MONUMENT ISLAND, TO EXCLUSIVELY ALLOW FOR PASSIVE USES WITHIN THE NON-MOTORIZED VESSEL AND SWIM ONLY AREA; FURTHER, DIRECTING THE CITY ADMINISTRATION TO COMMENCE THE COMPLEX REGULATORY APPROVAL PROCESS NECESSARY FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF THE MOTORIZED VESSEL EXCLUSION ZONE AS EXPEDITIOUSLY AS POSSIBLE.

WHEREAS, on April 17, 2013, the Mayor and City Commission approved Resolution No. 2013-28183 accepting a donation from The Prentice Foundation, in the amount of \$25,000, to be used for the restoration and conservancy of Monument Island and the Flagler Memorial; and

WHEREAS, on November 1, 2021, the Sustainability Committee motion was transmitted by Letter to Commission recommending that the \$25,000 allocated for the enhancement and conservation of Flagler Monument Island be allocated to projects that will stop motorized vessels from beaching on the island while enhancing the island's ecological features; and

WHEREAS, on February 28, 2023, the Public Safety and Neighborhood Quality of Life Committee unanimously agreed to move the project forward for prioritization in the FY 2024 capital budget process; and

WHEREAS, the cost of implementing all of the recommendations will exceed the \$25,000 donation and additional funding will be required, wherein such funds will be utilized for, among other project-related expenditures, the development of a project scope to include navigating the complex regulatory process of obtaining the necessary County, State and Federal regulatory approvals.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT DULY RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA, that the Mayor and City Commission hereby accept the recommendation of the Public Safety and Neighborhood Quality of Life Committee, and prioritize funding for a Monument Island Restoration Project (the "Project") as part of the FY 2024 Capital Budget, which Project would include design and installation of a riprap revetment and related signage and other project scope

required to obtain Federal, State and County approval for creation of a motorized vessel exclusion zone surrounding Monument Island, to exclusively allow for passive uses within the non-motorized vessel and swim only area; further, directing the City Administration to commence the complex regulatory approval process necessary for establishment of the motorized vessel exclusion zone as expeditiously as possible.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 28 day of April, 2023.



Dan Gelber, Mayor

ATTEST:



MAY 02 2023

Rafael E. Granado, City Clerk

(Sponsored by Commissioner Steven Meiner and co-sponsored by Commissioner Laura Dominguez)



APPROVED AS TO
FORM & LANGUAGE
& FOR EXECUTION



City Attorney

4/21/23

Date

MAF

MIAMI BEACH

COMMISSION MEMORANDUM

TO: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Commission
FROM: Alina T. Hudak, City Manager
DATE: April 28, 2023

SUBJECT: A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA, ACCEPTING THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE PUBLIC SAFETY AND NEIGHBORHOOD QUALITY OF LIFE COMMITTEE, AND PRIORITIZING FUNDING FOR A MONUMENT ISLAND RESTORATION PROJECT (THE "PROJECT") AS PART OF THE FY 2024 CAPITAL BUDGET, WHICH PROJECT WOULD INCLUDE DESIGN AND INSTALLATION OF A RIPRAP REVETMENT AND RELATED SIGNAGE AND OTHER PROJECT SCOPE REQUIRED TO OBTAIN FEDERAL, STATE AND COUNTY APPROVAL FOR CREATION OF A MOTORIZED VESSEL EXCLUSION ZONE SURROUNDING MONUMENT ISLAND, TO EXCLUSIVELY ALLOW FOR PASSIVE USES WITHIN THE NON-MOTORIZED VESSEL AND SWIM ONLY AREA; FURTHER, DIRECTING THE CITY ADMINISTRATION TO COMMENCE THE COMPLEX REGULATORY APPROVAL PROCESS NECESSARY FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF THE MOTORIZED VESSEL EXCLUSION ZONE AS EXPEDITIOUSLY AS POSSIBLE.

RECOMMENDATION

The Administration recommends adopting the resolution.

BACKGROUND/HISTORY

On April 17, 2013, the Mayor and City Commission approved Resolution No. 2013-28183, accepting a donation from The Prentice Foundation in the amount of \$25,000. As outlined in the Resolution, the funds were intended for the restoration and conservancy of Monument Island and the Flagler Memorial. However, the funding was not utilized.

On December 8, 2021, at the request of Commissioner Samuelian, the Mayor and City Commission approved a referral (C4 Z) to the Land Use and Sustainability Committee (LUSC) to discuss the use of the funds. At the March 4, 2022 LUSC meeting, the Administration presented the options providing the Sustainability Committee's recommendation as previously transmitted via LTC#474-2021. Subsequently on April 6, 2022, the Mayor and City Commission discussed options for Monument Island and referred (C4 C) the item to the Finance and Economic Resiliency Committee.

On November 16, 2022, Commissioner Meiner referred a discussion of the Marine and Waterfront Protection Authority Board's recommendation that the City establish a non-motorized Boat Zone in the waters immediately surrounding Monument Island to the Public Safety and Neighborhood and Quality of Life Committee (PSNQLC). On February 28, 2023, a PSNQLC motion was passed in support of a FY 2024 capital project for a rip-rap revetment, a non-motorized and swim only zone and restore the ecological function of Monument Island to create a passive use of the island.

ANALYSIS

The Administration has developed a conceptual scope for an estimated \$910,000 FY 2024 Capital Budget request to include design, permitting, and construction of ecological restoration, riprap revetment, and non-motorized vessel/vessel exclusion zone markers surrounding Monument Island. This passive use of Monument Island would encourage public access but in a way that would reduce the trash and litter left by some boaters. In addition, preventing boats from beaching on the island would help support the protection of remaining seagrasses and encourage recruitment of new seagrasses, essential for the ecosystem function of the Biscayne Bay Aquatic Preserve.

SUPPORTING SURVEY DATA

According to the 2022 Resident Survey, the cleanliness of canals/waterways is recommended as a High Priority for improvement, ranking as #2 in the Importance-Satisfaction Ratings of Major Categories of City Services.

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

n/a

CONCLUSION

The Administration acknowledges the recommendation of the Public Safety and Neighborhood Quality of Life Committee motion to prioritize this proposed FY 2024 capital project for a riprap revetment, a non-motorized and swim-only zone to create a passive use of Monument Island and restore the ecological function. This, along with other Commission and Administration enhancement priorities will be reviewed and decided through the FY 23-24 Budget process.

Applicable Area

Citywide

Is this a "Residents Right to Know" item, pursuant to City Code Section 2-14?

Yes

Does this item utilize G.O. Bond Funds?

No

Strategic Connection

Environment & Infrastructure - Work regionally and nationally to protect Biscayne Bay water quality and to maintain a healthy dune and beach system.

Legislative Tracking

Environment and Sustainability

Sponsor

Commissioner Meiner and Commissioner Dominguez

ATTACHMENTS:

Description

- Referral Memo
- Resolution

MIAMI BEACH

COMMISSION MEMORANDUM

TO: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Commission
 FROM: Commissioner Steven Meiner
 DATE: November 16, 2022

SUBJECT: REFERRAL TO THE PUBLIC SAFETY AND NEIGHBORHOOD QUALITY OF LIFE COMMITTEE TO CONSIDER THE MARINE AND WATERFRONT PROTECTION AUTHORITY BOARD'S RECOMMENDATION THAT THE CITY ESTABLISH A NON-MOTORIZED BOAT ZONE IN THE WATERS IMMEDIATELY SURROUNDING MONUMENT ISLAND.

ANALYSIS

Please place on the November 16, 2022 agenda a referral to the Public Safety and Neighborhood Quality of Life Committee to discuss the potential establishment of a "Non-Motorized Boating Zone" in the area surrounding Monument Island, as recommended by the Marine and Waterfront Protection Authority last year.

In 2019, the City obtained State approval to establish a no wake/slow speed zone in the area surrounding Monument Island. However, the area continues to serve as a destination for boaters, illegal party boats, and jet skiers.

There are 2 pending referrals to the Committee relating to Monument Island that will be heard in the near future, including a proposal to close Monument Island to the public altogether. It is my intent for this proposal to be considered along with the other Monument Island proposals, as I believe the Committee would benefit from a discussion of all of the potential alternatives to improve the situation in and around Monument Island.

As part of this referral, I would ask that the Administration and City Attorney's Office be prepared to address the regulatory and legal issues associated with creation of a "Non-Motorized Vessel Zone."

SUPPORTING SURVEY DATA

N/A

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

N/A

Is this a "Residents Right to Know" item, pursuant to City Code Section 2-14?

Yes

Does this item utilize G.O. Bond Funds?

No

Legislative Tracking

Commissioner Steven Meiner