

MIAMI BEACH

COMMISSION MEMORANDUM

TO:	Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Commission
FROM:	Commissioner Tanya K. Bhatt
DATE:	June 26, 2024
TITLE:	REFERRAL TO THE LAND USE AND SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE FOR THE ADMINISTRATION TO EXPLORE AND PROVIDE OPTIONS FOR ESTABLISHING NEW RESILIENCY BEST-PRACTICE PARAMETERS TO ENSURE THAT POROUS CONCRETE/PAVERS AND BIOSWALES ARE USED IN NEW DEVELOPMENT TO HELP MITIGATE "NEW NORMAL" FLOODING EVENTS.

RECOMMENDATION

BACKGROUND/HISTORY

During the week of June 10, 2024 we received 22.5 inches of rainfall over a three-day period, an event that flooded major areas of our city. In November and April of 2023, there were similar rain events. While billed as anomalies, they seem to be increasingly part of our new normal, therefore there is no better time than now to evaluate how to make our built environment more resilient.

There are two ways to do that without significantly altering building code:

1. Requiring new pavement/concrete/flat surfaces to be permeable utilizing new technology like porous pavers, etc.
2. Introducing more bioswales into private projects

Even as individual neighbors redo driveways there seems to be an increase in "modern aesthetically pleasing" all-concrete driveways with no bioswales or porous pavement/pavers in use, decreasing the area available for rainwater to drain. As the number of properties get redeveloped, we need to ensure that flavor of the day aesthetics don't undermine the resiliency needs of the entire community.

Please refer to LUSC for the July meeting a review of current and proposed best practice requirements to significantly enhance the requirements for projects including but not limited to new driveways, sidewalks, pool decks, patios, front of property landscaping, etc.

ANALYSIS

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

CONCLUSION

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

Office of Commissioner Tanya K. Bhatt

Sponsor(s)

Commissioner Tanya K. Bhatt

Co-sponsor(s)