

R9 T DISCUSS/TAKE ACTION – UPDATE FROM THE CITY ADMINISTRATION ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RESOLUTIONS PREVIOUSLY ADOPTED BY THE CITY COMMISSION CONCERNING INCREASED POLICE VISIBILITY.

Applicable Area:



COMMISSION MEMORANDUM

TO: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Commission
FROM: Mayor Steven Meiner
DATE: February 26, 2025
TITLE: DISCUSS/TAKE ACTION – UPDATE FROM THE CITY ADMINISTRATION ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RESOLUTIONS PREVIOUSLY ADOPTED BY THE CITY COMMISSION CONCERNING INCREASED POLICE VISIBILITY.

RECOMMENDATION

BACKGROUND/HISTORY

The presence of police officers outside of their vehicles is crucial for creating a safer and more connected community. To that end, I, along with my co-sponsor Commissioner Joseph Magazine, sponsored Resolution No. 2024-32996, which directed the Police Department to increase police visibility in the City and was unanimously adopted by the City Commission at its April 3, 2024 meeting. Then, on July 24, 2024, I sponsored Resolution No. 2024-33212, which directed the City Administration to increase police visibility by ensuring that police officers stand outside of their vehicles and further directed the City Administration to take any necessary steps to ensure the effective implementation of Resolution No. 2024-32996.

Accordingly, I would request that the Administration be prepared to present the City Commission with a detailed update on the implementation of Resolution No. 2024-32996 and Resolution No. 2024-33212, including any policies, practices, procedures, directives, or other measures established in order to effectively implement these Resolutions. Additionally, I would like to discuss the implementation of these Resolutions with my colleagues so that we may take any further actions necessary to ensure that the will of the City Commission, as expressed in Resolution No. 2024-32996 and Resolution No. 2024-33212, is fulfilled.

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?

No

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 Mayor Steven Meiner

Sponsor(s)

Mayor Steven Meiner

Co-sponsor(s)

Condensed Title

Discuss/Action, Implementation of Previously Adopted Police Visibility Resolutions. (Meiner)

A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA, DIRECTING THE POLICE DEPARTMENT TO DEVELOP AND IMPLEMENT A COMPREHENSIVE STRATEGIC PLAN, SETTING FORTH SPECIFIC GOALS AND OBJECTIVES, TO INCREASE POLICE OFFICER VISIBILITY IN MIAMI BEACH NEIGHBORHOODS THROUGH THE UTILIZATION OF COMMUNITY POLICING EFFORTS THAT PRIORITIZE FOOT PATROLS, BICYCLE PATROLS AND OTHER FORMS OF HIGHLY VISIBLE POLICE PRESENCE, TO INCLUDE A COMPONENT ENSURING OPTIMAL POLICE COVERAGE THROUGHOUT THE CITY DURING THE OVERNIGHT HOURS WITH AN EMPHASIS ON THOSE AREAS HAVING A HIGHER CRIME RATE AND RECENT INCIDENTS; AND, ADDITIONALLY, THE PLAN SHOULD ESTABLISH A MECHANISM TO MONITOR AND EVALUATE THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE INCREASED POLICE VISIBILITY PLAN THROUGH IDENTIFIABLE METRICS AND DATA INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, CRIME RATES, COMMUNITY SATISFACTION, AND OFFICER ACTIVITY IN VARIOUS NEIGHBORHOODS WITHIN THE CITY WITH SUCH FINDINGS TO BE REPORTED TO THE CITY COMMISSION ON A QUARTERLY BASIS; AND FURTHER, DIRECTING THE POLICE DEPARTMENT TO ALLOCATE SUFFICIENT RESOURCES, INCLUDING ADEQUATE PERSONNEL AND FUNDING, ALONG WITH ANY KNOWLEDGE, EQUIPMENT, TRAINING OR OTHER TOOLS NECESSARY FOR POLICE OFFICERS TO SUCCESSFULLY SUPPORT THE SUSTAINED IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PLAN.

WHEREAS, the City only has approximately 80,000 residents and fifteen (15) square miles of land within its territorial jurisdiction; and

WHEREAS, in recent years, the City had seen a tremendous number of visitors during the Spring Break / March high impact period, which included uncontrollable and unruly crowds, general mayhem, and incidents of violence (including deadly violence) that posed significant challenges for the City's Police, Fire, Sanitation, and Code Compliance services; and

WHEREAS, after "breaking up with Spring Break," the City had a highly successful Spring Break period this year, including a dramatic reduction in crime and illegal behavior during Spring Break 2024; and

WHEREAS, the efforts of all City staff contributed to the City's huge success during Spring Break this year but, in particular, the tireless dedication of the City's police officers (while working alpha/bravo shifts), along with their collaboration with outside agencies, was a key factor in the City's progress this year; and

WHEREAS, the City's police officers obviously cannot continue working an alpha/bravo basis, but the continuation of proactive policing strategies is essential in maintaining public safety and strengthening police-community relations beyond the Spring Break period; and

WHEREAS, the presence of police officers outside of their vehicles, actively patrolling neighborhoods, and engaging with residents and visitors has proven to be, without a doubt, an effective deterrent for criminal activities and has contributed to fostering safer communities; and

WHEREAS, when police officers continuously work within the same area while "out and about," a stronger bond, and ultimately a partnership, is created with the residents and persons living and working in that area; and

WHEREAS, assigning police officers to walk or bike through neighborhoods allows officers to interact with residents and visitors on a personal level and also provides greater visibility (especially in areas where vehicles may not be practical); and

WHEREAS, police officers should be encouraged to spend dedicated time each shift outside of their assigned police vehicle, and actively patrolling neighborhoods, addressing community concerns, and interacting with residents, business owners, and visitors; and

WHEREAS, residents and business owners should be encouraged to proactively collaborate with the police officers assigned to their neighborhood in a collaborative effort to enhance public safety; and


WHEREAS, interacting with residents in the neighborhood can provide police officers with more accurate information concerning illegal activity occurring in their neighborhood; and

WHEREAS, community policing efforts also allow police officers to gain a better understanding of the needs of residents and their expectations of the Police Department.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT DULY RESOLVED THAT THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA, hereby direct the Police Department to develop and implement a comprehensive strategic plan, setting forth specific goals and objectives, to increase police officer visibility in Miami Beach neighborhoods through the utilization of community policing efforts that prioritize foot patrols, bicycle patrols and other forms of highly visible police presence, to include a component ensuring optimal police coverage throughout the City during the overnight hours with an emphasis on those areas having a higher crime rate and recent incidents; and, additionally, the plan should establish a mechanism to monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of the increased police visibility plan through identifiable metrics and data including, but not limited to, crime rates, community satisfaction, and officer activity in various neighborhoods within the City with such findings to be reported to the City Commission on a quarterly basis; and further, directing the Police Department to allocate sufficient resources, including adequate personnel and funding, along with any knowledge, equipment, training or other tools necessary for police officers to successfully support the sustained implementation of the plan.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 3 day of April, 2024.

ATTEST:


Steven Meiner, Mayor

APR 08 2024

Rafael E. Granado, City Clerk

(Sponsored by Mayor Steven Meiner)

Co-Sponsored by Commissioner Joseph Magazine



**APPROVED AS TO
FORM & LANGUAGE
& FOR EXECUTION**


City Attorney

3-29-24
Date

MIAMI BEACH

COMMISSION MEMORANDUM

TO: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Commission
 FROM: Rafael A. Paz, City Attorney
 DATE: April 3, 2024

SUBJECT: A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA, DIRECTING THE POLICE DEPARTMENT TO DEVELOP AND IMPLEMENT A COMPREHENSIVE STRATEGIC PLAN, SETTING FORTH SPECIFIC GOALS AND OBJECTIVES, TO INCREASE POLICE OFFICER VISIBILITY IN MIAMI BEACH NEIGHBORHOODS THROUGH THE UTILIZATION OF COMMUNITY POLICING EFFORTS THAT PRIORITIZE FOOT PATROLS, BICYCLE PATROLS AND OTHER FORMS OF HIGHLY VISIBLE POLICE PRESENCE, TO INCLUDE A COMPONENT ENSURING OPTIMAL POLICE COVERAGE THROUGHOUT THE CITY DURING THE OVERNIGHT HOURS WITH AN EMPHASIS ON THOSE AREAS HAVING A HIGHER CRIME RATE AND RECENT INCIDENTS; AND, ADDITIONALLY, THE PLAN SHOULD ESTABLISH A MECHANISM TO MONITOR AND EVALUATE THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE INCREASED POLICE VISIBILITY PLAN THROUGH IDENTIFIABLE METRICS AND DATA INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, CRIME RATES, COMMUNITY SATISFACTION, AND OFFICER ACTIVITY IN VARIOUS NEIGHBORHOODS WITHIN THE CITY WITH SUCH FINDINGS TO BE REPORTED TO THE CITY COMMISSION ON A QUARTERLY BASIS; AND FURTHER, DIRECTING THE POLICE DEPARTMENT TO ALLOCATE SUFFICIENT RESOURCES, INCLUDING ADEQUATE PERSONNEL AND FUNDING, ALONG WITH ANY KNOWLEDGE, EQUIPMENT, TRAINING OR OTHER TOOLS NECESSARY FOR POLICE OFFICERS TO SUCCESSFULLY SUPPORT THE SUSTAINED IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PLAN.

BACKGROUND/HISTORY

Was 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 name of lobbyist(s) and principal(s): N/A

ANALYSIS

The proposed Resolution was prepared at the request of the sponsor, Mayor Steven Meiner.

SUPPORTING SURVEY DATA

N/A

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Administration is requested to be prepared to address the fiscal impact of this proposed measure, if any, at the April 3, 2024 City Commission meeting.

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

No

Does this item utilize G.O. Bond Funds?

No

Legislative Tracking

Office of the City Attorney

Sponsor

Mayor Steven Meiner

ATTACHMENTS:

Description

1 Resolution

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-33212

A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA, DIRECTING THE ADMINISTRATION TO INCREASE POLICE VISIBILITY BY ENSURING THAT POLICE OFFICERS STAND OUTSIDE OF THEIR VEHICLES; AND FURTHER, DIRECTING THE ADMINISTRATION TO TAKE THE NECESSARY STEPS TO ENSURE THE EFFECTIVE IMPLEMENTATION OF RESOLUTION NO. 2024-32996.

WHEREAS, Miami Beach is a premier place to live and a top tourist destination, and should always be treated as such with enhanced police visibility; and

WHEREAS, maintaining a strong police presence, including having police officers outside of their vehicles, can deter crime, provide immediate assistance when needed, and enhance the overall experience for residents and tourists; and

WHEREAS, the City of Miami Beach is committed to ensuring the safety and well-being of its residents and visitors through proactive and high visibility policing methods; and

WHEREAS, by having officers stand outside their vehicles, we can foster a sense of security and trust among residents and visitors alike; and

WHEREAS, Resolution No. 2024-32996, which was sponsored by Mayor Steven Meiner and passed unanimously by the Commission on April 3, 2024, directed the Administration to develop and implement a plan to increase police officer visibility; and

WHEREAS, effective implementation of this resolution is crucial for creating a safer and more connected community, and warrants diligent attention and commitment from the Police Department, as well as all involved stakeholders; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and City Commission desire to direct the Administration to prioritize and implement measures to ensure more police visibility by having officers stand outside their vehicles while their patrol car is stationary; and

WHEREAS, officers should be encouraged to stand outside their vehicles to be visibly seen for a minimum of 3 hours per shift, including during night-time shifts; and

WHEREAS, the City Manager should take the necessary steps to ensure the effective implementation of Resolution No. 2024-32996, which aims to increase police officer visibility; and

WHEREAS, the Administration should implement a recognition program for officers who consistently excel in visibility and community engagement; and

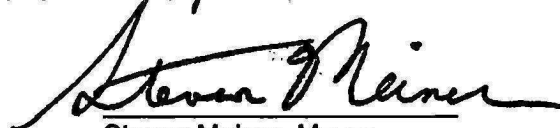
WHEREAS, increased foot, bicycle and golf cart patrols are needed throughout the City, including hotspots such as the Beachwalk; and

WHEREAS, officers should be encouraged to engage positively with residents and tourists, providing assistance and information as needed; and

WHEREAS, these efforts will serve to effectively enhance public safety, strengthen the relationship between Miami Beach Police Department (MBPD) officers and City residents, and foster a sense of security and trust among residents and visitors alike.

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 increase police visibility by ensuring that police officers stand outside of their vehicles; and further, direct the administration to take the necessary steps to ensure the effective implementation of Resolution No. 2024-32996.

PASSED and ADOPTED this 24 day of July, 2024.


Steven Weiner, Mayor

ATTEST:




Rafael E. Granado, City Clerk

JUL 30 2024

(Sponsored by Mayor Steven Weiner)



APPROVED AS TO
FORM & LANGUAGE
& FOR EXECUTION



City Attorney

7/16/2024

Date

MIAMI BEACH

COMMISSION MEMORANDUM

TO:	Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Commission
FROM:	Mayor Steven Meiner
DATE:	July 24, 2024
TITLE:	A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA, DIRECTING THE ADMINISTRATION TO INCREASE POLICE VISIBILITY BY ENSURING THAT POLICE OFFICERS STAND OUTSIDE OF THEIR VEHICLES; AND FURTHER, DIRECTING THE ADMINISTRATION TO TAKE THE NECESSARY STEPS TO ENSURE THE EFFECTIVE IMPLEMENTATION OF RESOLUTION NO. 2024-32996.

RECOMMENDATION

BACKGROUND/HISTORY

ANALYSIS

Miami Beach is a premier place to live and a top tourist destination, and should always be treated as such with enhanced police visibility. Maintaining a strong police presence, including having police officers outside of their vehicles, can deter crime, provide immediate assistance when needed, and enhance the overall experience for residents and tourists.

The City of Miami Beach is committed to ensuring the safety and well-being of its residents and visitors through proactive and high visibility policing methods. By having officers stand outside their vehicles, we can foster a sense of security and trust among residents and visitors alike.

Resolution No. 2024-32996, which was sponsored by me and passed unanimously by the Commission on April 3, 2024, directed the Administration to develop and implement a plan to increase police officer visibility. Effective implementation of this resolution is crucial for creating a safer and more connected community, and warrants diligent attention and commitment from the Police Department, as well as all involved stakeholders.

The proposed Resolution directs the Administration to prioritize and implement measures to ensure more police visibility by having officers stand outside their vehicles while their patrol car is stationary. Specifically, officers should be encouraged to stand outside their vehicles to be visibly seen for a minimum of 3 hours per shift, including during night-time shifts. Further, the City Manager should take the necessary steps to ensure the effective implementation of Resolution No. 2024-32996, which aims to increase police officer visibility. To help promote this initiative, the Administration should implement a recognition program for officers who consistently excel in visibility and community engagement.

In addition to greater visibility, increased foot, bicycle, and golf cart patrols are needed throughout the City, including hotspots such as the Beachwalk.

Finally, officers should be encouraged to engage positively with residents and tourists, providing assistance and information as needed.

The above efforts will serve to effectively enhance public safety, strengthen the relationship between Miami Beach Police Department (MBPD) officers and City residents, and foster a sense of security and trust among residents and visitors alike.

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

The sponsor of this item requests that the Administration be prepared to address the fiscal impact of this proposed measure.

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-notices/>

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

CONCLUSION

Applicable Area

Citywide

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

No

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

City Attorney

Sponsor(s)

Mayor Steven Meiner

Co-sponsor(s)

Condensed Title

Direct Adm. to Increase Police Visibility. (Meiner) CA