

C7 W A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA, IMPOSING A MORATORIUM ON WATER, SEWER AND STORMWATER RATE INCREASES UNTIL SUCH TIME AS THE ADMINISTRATION HAS DEVELOPED AN ASSISTANCE PROGRAM FOR FIXED-INCOME AND LOW-INCOME INDIVIDUALS, SUCH MORATORIUM TO BE LIFTED UPON APPROVAL OF THE PROGRAM BY THE CITY COMMISSION; AND FURTHER, DIRECTING THE ADMINISTRATION TO PRESENT DETAILED PROGRAM OPTIONS TO THE FINANCE AND ECONOMIC RESILIENCY COMMITTEE FOR DISCUSSION.

Applicable Area:

MIAMI BEACH

COMMISSION MEMORANDUM

TO: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Commission

FROM: City Attorney Ricardo J. Dopico

DATE: March 19, 2025

TITLE: A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA, IMPOSING A MORATORIUM ON WATER, SEWER AND STORMWATER RATE INCREASES UNTIL SUCH TIME AS THE ADMINISTRATION HAS DEVELOPED AN ASSISTANCE PROGRAM FOR FIXED-INCOME AND LOW-INCOME INDIVIDUALS, SUCH MORATORIUM TO BE LIFTED UPON APPROVAL OF THE PROGRAM BY THE CITY COMMISSION; AND FURTHER, DIRECTING THE ADMINISTRATION TO PRESENT DETAILED PROGRAM OPTIONS TO THE FINANCE AND ECONOMIC RESILIENCY COMMITTEE FOR DISCUSSION.

RECOMMENDATION

BACKGROUND/HISTORY

ANALYSIS

The attached Resolution was prepared at the request of the sponsor, Commissioner Alex Fernandez.

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

The sponsor of this item requests that the Administration be prepared to address the fiscal impact of this proposed measure, if any, at the City Commission meeting.

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)

Commissioner Alex Fernandez
Commissioner Laura Dominguez
Commissioner Kristen Rosen Gonzalez
Mayor Steven Meiner

Co-sponsor(s)

Condensed Title

Impose Moratorium on Water, Sewer, and Stormwater Rate Increases. (AF/LD/KRG/SM) CA

Previous Action (For City Clerk Use Only)

RESOLUTION NO. _____

A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA, IMPOSING A MORATORIUM ON WATER, SEWER AND STORMWATER RATE INCREASES UNTIL SUCH TIME AS THE ADMINISTRATION HAS DEVELOPED AN ASSISTANCE PROGRAM FOR FIXED-INCOME AND LOW-INCOME INDIVIDUALS, SUCH MORATORIUM TO BE LIFTED UPON APPROVAL OF THE PROGRAM BY THE CITY COMMISSION; AND FURTHER, DIRECTING THE ADMINISTRATION TO PRESENT DETAILED PROGRAM OPTIONS TO THE FINANCE AND ECONOMIC RESILIENCY COMMITTEE FOR DISCUSSION.

WHEREAS, the City of Miami Beach is committed to ensuring the financial stability and wellbeing of all its residents, including those with limited financial resources; and

WHEREAS, it is the City's responsibility to ensure equitable access to essential services, including water and sewer services, which are vital for health and quality of life; and

WHEREAS, fixed-income and low-income individuals may face significant financial burdens from increasing water and sewer rates, which could disproportionately affect their ability to maintain affordable living conditions; and

WHEREAS, the City Commission recognizes the importance of addressing the potential financial hardship caused by rate increases and is committed to exploring alternatives that could provide relief to its most vulnerable residents; and

WHEREAS, the City of Miami Beach Administration has been tasked with developing an assistance program for low-income and fixed-income individuals to help mitigate the impacts of water and sewer rate increases, while maintaining the financial sustainability of the City's utilities; and

WHEREAS, the Finance and Economic Resiliency Committee is an appropriate venue to review and discuss potential options for such assistance programs.

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 impose a moratorium on water, sewer and stormwater rate increases until such time as the Administration has developed an assistance program for fixed-income and low-income individuals, such moratorium to be lifted upon approval of the program by the City Commission; and further, direct the Administration to present detailed program options to the Finance and Economic Resiliency Committee for discussion.

PASSED and ADOPTED THIS ____ day of _____ 2025.

ATTEST:

Steven Meiner, Mayor

Rafael E. Granado, City Clerk

(Sponsored by Commissioner Alex J. Fernandez,
Commissioner Laura Dominguez, and
Commissioner Kristen Rosen Gonzalez)

APPROVED AS TO
FORM & LANGUAGE
& FOR EXECUTION



City Attorney

3/13/2025

Date