

C4 P REFERRAL TO THE PUBLIC SAFETY AND NEIGHBORHOOD QUALITY OF LIFE
COMMITTEE TO DISCUSS POTENTIALLY UPDATING THE WATER QUALITY
STANDARD FOR PARK VIEW CANAL.

Applicable Area:



COMMISSION MEMORANDUM

TO: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Commission

FROM: Commissioner Laura Dominguez

DATE: March 19, 2025

TITLE: REFERRAL TO THE PUBLIC SAFETY AND NEIGHBORHOOD QUALITY OF LIFE COMMITTEE TO DISCUSS POTENTIALLY UPDATING THE WATER QUALITY STANDARD FOR PARK VIEW CANAL.

RECOMMENDATION

BACKGROUND/HISTORY

ANALYSIS

Please place on the March 19, 2025 agenda a referral to the Public Safety and Neighborhood Quality of Life Committee to discuss potentially updating the water quality standard for Park View Canal.

Park View Canal has been subject to ongoing water quality monitoring to assess the presence of pollutants, including the level of Enterococci bacteria, which is an indicator of potential fecal contamination and a measure of water safety for recreational activities. The University of Miami, through its North Beach Water Quality and Park View Canal Phase II Report dated February 24, 2025 (the "Report"), has identified an Enterococci threshold of less than 371 MPN (Most Probable Number) per 100 mL as a recommended water quality standard for kayaking in calm waters with no capsizing, in alignment with U.S. Environmental Protection Agency ("EPA") guidelines.

Adopting the EPA kayaking guideline could help the community enjoy the kayak launch while the City continues to strive for its goal to implement improvements such as stormwater outfall water quality improvements to help reach 70 MPN for beach bathing. Moreover, establishing an acceptable water quality threshold for Enterococci in Park View Canal may aid in guiding future mitigation efforts, policy considerations, and environmental initiatives aimed at improving and maintaining water quality in the City's waterways.

Accordingly, I would request that the City Administration be prepared at Committee to discuss the feasibility, benefits, and regulatory implications of potentially implementing an updated acceptable water level standard for Park View Canal, when tested for enterococci, of less than 371 MPN per 100 mL, which is consistent with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency ("EPA") standard for kayaking in calm waters with no capsizing, as proposed and set forth in the North Beach Water Quality and Park View Canal University of Miami Phase II Report dated February 24, 2025.

I would further request that the Administration be prepared to discuss the possible development of parameters and protocols to advise the public of water quality results, such as the utilizing weekly Surfrider Bluewater Task Force data, since the City does not have a frequent routine water quality sampling program.

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-notices/>

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

CONCLUSION

Applicable Area

North Beach

**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 Commissioner Laura Dominguez

Sponsor(s)

Commissioner Laura Dominguez

Co-sponsor(s)

Condensed Title

Ref: PSNQLC - Updating the Water Quality Standard for Park View Canal. (Dominguez)

Previous Action (For City Clerk Use Only)

