

NB 6. DISCUSSION REGARDING EXPANDING KIDS' PARKS AND RECREATION  
OFFERINGS TO INCLUDE SUNDAY CLASSES.

Applicable Area:

# MIAMI BEACH

## COMMITTEE MEMORANDUM

TO: Finance and Economic Resiliency Committee Members

FROM: Eric Carpenter, City Manager

DATE: May 7, 2025

TITLE: DISCUSSION REGARDING EXPANDING KIDS' PARKS AND RECREATION OFFERINGS TO INCLUDE SUNDAY CLASSES.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

The Administration recommends that while the Finance and Economic Resiliency Committee evaluates expanding kids' Parks and Recreation offerings to include Sunday classes, it also carefully considers several critical factors that will significantly impact the General Fund budget, beginning in FY 2026:

- 1.The City's increasing unfunded capital improvement program
- 2.Long-term General Fund financial projections indicating a potential shortfall in upcoming fiscal years
- 3.The recent notification of a \$5-6 million annual budget impact on the General Fund due to the new 2% collection fee imposed by the Miami-Dade Tax Collector
- 4.The passage of Amendment 5 in November 2024, which increases the homestead exemption and further constrains the growth of taxable property values

These considerations are essential to ensure that decisions regarding reopening the Scott Rakow Youth Center on Saturdays and the North Shore Park Youth Center on Sundays align with the City's broader long-term financial stability and strategic priorities. If the Committee recommends funding expanding kids' Parks and Recreation offerings to include Sunday classes for \$84,000, the Administration recommends it be considered part of the FY 2026 budget process.

### **BACKGROUND/HISTORY**

During the February 3, 2025, City Commission meeting, at the request of Vice-Mayor Tanya K. Bhatt, the Mayor and City Commission referred a discussion item to the Finance and Economic Resiliency Committee ("FERC"), a discussion regarding expanding kids' Parks and Recreation offerings to include Sunday classes. (Exhibit A)

### **ANALYSIS**

The Parks and Recreation Department offers various weekend programs and events for all age groups. As shown in Exhibit B, numerous programs and facilities are available, which are heavily utilized by the community. Some of these offerings include a swim team, dance lessons, open play chess, an adult art club, floral workshops, ice skating lessons, gymnastics programs, youth soccer and baseball, beach volleyball, and multiple swim lesson classes. Additionally, the Parks and Recreation Department provides free community weekend access for Miami Beach residents at both the Scott Rakow Youth Center on Sundays, and the North Shore Park Youth Center on Saturdays, where visitors can enjoy the fitness center, game rooms, bowling alley, and gymnasium.

As part of the budget process during the COVID pandemic, the Department closed the Scott

Rakow Youth Center on Saturdays and the North Shore Park Youth Center on Sundays as a cost-saving measure. The recommendation for closure was also based on the very limited usage of the facilities by the public at the time.

Beginning in the summer of 2025, the Department proposes to reopen the Scott Rakow Youth Center on Saturdays and the North Shore Park Youth Center on Sundays as a pilot to gain interest. This can be achieved through the addition of four (4) Part-time Recreation Leader I positions. The Department will evaluate community use throughout the summer to determine whether remaining open year-round at each of these facilities on the identified weekend days is warranted based on attendance numbers.

### **FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT**

If the Committee accepts the Administration's recommendation to reopen the Scott Rakow Youth Center on Saturdays and the North Shore Park Youth Center on Sundays as a pilot to gain interest, a budget amendment would be necessary to add four (4) Part-time Recreation Leader I positions at a total budgetary impact of \$84,000.

### **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-notice/>

### **FINANCIAL INFORMATION**

N/A

### **CONCLUSION**

The Parks and Recreation Department proposes to reopen the Scott Rakow Youth Center on Saturdays and the North Shore Park Youth Center on Sundays as a pilot to gain interest, if desired by the Committee.

### **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**

Parks and Recreation

**Sponsor(s)**

Commissioner Tanya K. Bhatt

**Co-sponsor(s)**

**Condensed Title**

Expanding Kids' Parks and Recreation Offerings to include Sunday Classes (Bhatt)

C4 AX REFERRAL TO THE FINANCE AND ECONOMIC RESILIENCY COMMITTEE -  
DISCUSSION REGARDING EXPANDING KIDS' PARKS AND RECREATION  
OFFERINGS TO INCLUDE SUNDAY CLASSES.

Applicable Area:



**COMMISSION MEMORANDUM**

TO: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Commission  
FROM: Commissioner Tanya K. Bhatt  
DATE: February 3, 2025  
TITLE: REFERRAL TO THE FINANCE AND ECONOMIC RESILIENCY COMMITTEE -  
DISCUSSION REGARDING EXPANDING KIDS' PARKS AND RECREATION  
OFFERINGS TO INCLUDE SUNDAY CLASSES.

**RECOMMENDATION**

**BACKGROUND/HISTORY**

Please place on the February 3, 2025 agenda a referral to the Finance and Economic Resiliency Committee ("FERC") to discuss allocate funding for expanding the current Parks and Recreation offerings to include Sunday classes for children for specific activities, including ice skating, soccer, swimming, and basketball.

Currently, the Parks and Recreation Department offers various classes and activities for children, predominantly scheduled on Saturdays. Providing Sunday classes would provide equitable access to recreational opportunities for families unable to participate on Saturdays due to work, religious observances, or other commitments.

**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-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)**

**Condensed Title**

Ref: LUSC - Expand Parks & Recreation Officers to Include Sunday Classes. (Bhatt)

**Previous Action (For City Clerk Use Only)**

**PARKS AND RECREATION**  
**WEEKEND PROGRAM OFFERINGS**

**SATURDAYS**

**Scott Rakow Youth Center**

- Ice Rink
  - Freestyle Skate
    - 9:15 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
  - Rentals Available
    - 12:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.
    - 5:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.
  - Public Sessions
    - 3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.
- Pool
  - Swim Team
    - 7:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.
  -

**North Shore Park Youth Center**

- Fitness Center
  - 7:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
- Dance Room
  - Epic Dance Program 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
- Arts & Crafts
  - Adult Art Club 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
  - Floral Workshop 1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. (Once a month)
- Playtime Room or Skybox
  - Open Play Chess 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
- Auditorium
  - Jiu-jitsu 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
- Social Club (Location dependent on activity)
  - 1:00 p.m.- 3:00 p.m. (Varies due to Field Trips)
- Gymnasium
  - Open Gym Basketball 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
  - Open Gym Volleyball 2:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

**SUNDAYS**



### **Scott Rakow Youth Center**

- Gymnasium
  - Open Basketball 9:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.
  - Open Pickleball 2:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.
- Bowling
  - Open Play 9:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
  - Rentals Available 1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.
- Gameroom
  - Open Play 9:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
- Fitness Center
  - 9:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
- Gymnastics Programming
  - 9:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
- Open Chess Play
  - 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
- Ice Rink
  - Stick & Puck
    - 8:45 a.m. – 9:45 a.m.
  - Freestyle Skate
    - 10:00 a.m. – 12:35 p.m.
  - Rentals Available
    - 12pm – 3 pm
  - Public Sessions
    - 3 pm – 5 pm
  - Stick & Puck
    - 5:30 pm – 6:30 pm
  - Adaptive Ice
    - 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. every 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of each month

### **BOTH SATURDAY AND SUNDAY**

- Soccer Programs
  - Saturday and Sunday
    - Round Star Soccer (Soccer Skills and Fundamentals for Toddlers – 8years of age) 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. at Polo Park, Fisher Park, and Flamingo Park
- Basketball Programs
  - Saturday and Sunday
    - No offerings at this time
- Other Sport Programs

- Danny Berry Youth Baseball programs
  - Saturdays and Sundays All Day (North Shore Park/Polo Park)
- Adult Baseball programs
  - Sundays 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. (Flamingo Park)
- Youth and Adult Beach Volleyball
  - Saturdays and Sundays All Day (Lummus Park 6-9th Streets)
- Adult Volleyball Beach
  - Saturdays and Sundays 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. (Lummus Park 12th Street)
- Swimming Programs (Year-round)
  - Scott Rakow Youth Center Pool
    - Learn To Swim Programs (Beginning Summer 2025)
- Swimming Programs (Non-Summer Months | October- May)
  - Flamingo Park Pool / Normandy Isle Park Pool
    - Lap swim 6:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.
    - Open swim 10:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.
    - Kiddie Pool 9:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.
    - Pool Party rentals 1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.
  - Scott Rakow Youth Center Pool
    - Lap Swim 6:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
    - Learn to Swim programs starting in Summer 2025
- Swimming Programs (Summer Months |June-September)
  - Flamingo Park Pool / Normandy Isle Park Pool
    - Lap swim 6:00 a.m. - 8:30 a.m. and 12:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.
    - Open swim 12:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.
    - Kiddie Pool 12:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.
    - Pool Party rentals 1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.
    - Swimming lessons 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
      - Parent & Toddler 9:00 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.
      - Preschool aquatics 9:00 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.
      - Level 1 9:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.
      - Level 2 9:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.
      - Level 1 10:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.
      - Level 2 10:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.
      - Level 3/ Level 4 10:00 a.m. - 10:45 a.m.
      - Teen & Adult 10:45 a.m. - 11:15 a.m.
  - Scott Rakow Youth Center Pool
    - Lap Swim 6:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.