

NB 17. DISCUSS INSTALLATION OF WRAP-AROUND PALM TREE LIGHTING IN THE SOUTH OF FIFTH NEIGHBORHOOD ON MERIDIAN AVENUE BETWEEN 5TH STREET AND 2ND STREET.

Applicable Area:

MIAMI BEACH

COMMITTEE MEMORANDUM

TO: Finance and Economic Resiliency Committee Members

FROM: Eric Carpenter, City Manager

DATE: May 7, 2025

TITLE: DISCUSS INSTALLATION OF WRAP-AROUND PALM TREE LIGHTING IN THE SOUTH OF FIFTH NEIGHBORHOOD ON MERIDIAN AVENUE BETWEEN 5TH STREET AND 2ND STREET.

RECOMMENDATION

The Administration recommends moving the item to the City Commission with a favorable recommendation to: (1) approve the installation of wrap-around palm tree lights on Meridian Avenue, between 5th Street and 2nd Street, (2) recommend that the City Commission consider including \$170,000.00 in the FY 2026 budget cycle to cover the costs, and (3) approve a bid waiver to engage R&D Electric, Inc. to perform the work.

The Administration recommends that while FERC members evaluate adding a funding request in the FY 2026 budget cycle to cover the costs of the installation of wrap-around palm tree lights on Meridian Avenue between 5th Street and 2nd Street in the amount of \$170,000, 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 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 the funding for wrap-around tree lights align with the City's broader long-term financial stability and strategic priorities. If FERC recommends funding the wrap-around tree lights, the Administration recommends it be considered as part of the FY 2026 budget process.

BACKGROUND/HISTORY

On February 3, 2025, at the request of Commissioner David Suarez, the Mayor and City Commission (City Commission) approved item C4 AM (Attachment A), a referral to the Finance and Economic Resiliency Committee (FERC) to discuss the installation of wrap-around palm tree lights in the South of Fifth Neighborhood on Meridian Avenue, between 5th Street and 2nd Street.

Sponsoring Commissioner Suarez, would like for Committee members to consider installing decorative, energy-efficient wrap-around lights as a way to enhance the aesthetics of the area, create a welcoming atmosphere, and contribute to the overall safety of the neighborhood by increasing visibility.

ANALYSIS

Public Works staff has reached out to R&D Electric, Inc, a City authorized vendor who has been awarded a number of contracts with the City, and provided services on multiple occasions, to obtain a cost proposal (Attachment B). The estimated cost for wrap lights on palm trees on Meridian Avenue, between 5th Street and 2nd Street is \$145,297.98 (fees include labor, material, power outlets and transformers), and \$23,280.00 (maintenance fee for the first year), for a total estimated cost of \$168,577.98, currently unfunded.

The bid waiver request would be to select this specific vendor, and approval of these services exceeding \$100,000 (above the City Manager threshold approval) without a competitive procurement process, allowing for the completion of the wrap light installation in an expedited manner. Otherwise, a regular competitive procurement process could take an estimated 4-5 months to complete.

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

\$170,000.00 currently unfunded.

CONCLUSION

The Administration recommends moving the item to the City Commission with a favorable recommendation to: (1) approve the installation of wrap-around palm tree lights on Meridian Avenue, between 5th Street and 2nd Street, (2) recommend that the City Commission consider including \$170,000.00 in the FY 2026 budget cycle to cover the costs, and (3) approve a bid waiver to engage R&D Electric, Inc. to perform the work.

Applicable Area

South Beach

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

Department

Public Works

Sponsor(s)

Commissioner David Suarez

Condensed Title

DISCUSS INSTALLATION OF WRAP-AROUND PALM TREE LIGHTING IN THE SOUTH OF FIFTH NEIGHBORHOOD ON MERIDIAN AVENUE BETWEEN 5TH STREET AND 2ND STREET.

MIAMI BEACH

COMMISSION MEMORANDUM

TO: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Commission
FROM: Commissioner David Suarez
DATE: February 3, 2025
TITLE: REFERRAL TO THE FINANCE AND ECONOMIC RESILIENCY COMMITTEE -
DISCUSS INSTALLATION OF WRAP-AROUND PALM TREE LIGHTING IN THE
SOUTH OF FIFTH NEIGHBORHOOD ON MERIDIAN AVENUE BETWEEN 5TH
STREET AND 2ND STREET.

RECOMMENDATION

N/A

BACKGROUND/HISTORY

N/A

ANALYSIS

Please place on the February 3, 2025 agenda a referral to the Finance and Economic Resiliency Committee (the "Committee") to discuss the installation of wrap-around palm tree lighting in the South of Fifth Neighborhood on Meridian Avenue between 5th Street and 2nd Street.

As part of our ongoing efforts to enhance the beauty, vibrancy, and safety of the South of Fifth neighborhood, I would request that the Committee discuss the installation of wrap-around palm tree lighting along Meridian Avenue, between 5th Street and 2nd Street. This area is a significant location within the neighborhood, frequented by both residents and visitors. The goal is to install decorative, energy-efficient wrap-around lights on the palm trees lining Meridian Avenue. These lights would enhance the aesthetics of the area, create a welcoming atmosphere, and contribute to the overall safety of the neighborhood by increasing visibility. I would like for the Committee to

The Administration should obtain a proposal from the City's authorized vendor, R&D Electric, Inc., setting forth the cost of this lighting installation for consideration and discussion.

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

Pending proposal from city lighting vendor

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

N/A

CONCLUSION

N/A

Applicable Area

South 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): N/A

Department

Office of Commissioner David Suarez

Sponsor(s)

Commissioner David Suarez

Co-sponsor(s)

Condensed Title

Ref: FERC - Installation of Palm Tree Lighting in South of Fifth Neighborhood. (Suarez)

Previous Action (For City Clerk Use Only)



**ELECTRICAL ENGINEERS
ELECTRICAL CONTRACTORS**

7447 NW 48 Street
Miami, Florida 331
Phone: (305) 403-7
Fax: (305) 403-7
www.RDElectricIn

EC13001534
2/24/2025

PROJECT: Meridian Ave Beautification Project
SOUTH OF 5TH.
MERIDIAN AVE FROM 5TH TO 2ND

item	Description	Unit	Qty	Unit Price	Total	
1	MERIDIAN from 2nd to 3rd - - TREE WRAP - - 14 Tree Lighting	LABOR (HR)	224	\$ 45.00	\$ 10,080.00	
		MATL (LS)	14	\$ 1,627.00	\$ 22,778.00	
		TAX on material only (7%)				\$ 1,594.46
		MARKUP on material only (10%)				\$ 2,277.80
2	MERIDIAN from 3rd to 4th - - TREE WRAP - - 18 Tree Lighting	LABOR (HR)	288	\$ 45.00	\$ 12,960.00	
		MATL (LS)	18	\$ 1,627.00	\$ 29,286.00	
		TAX on material only (7%)				\$ 2,050.02
		MARKUP on material only (10%)				\$ 2,928.60
3	MERIDIAN from 4th to 5th - - TREE WRAP - - 10 Tree Lighting	LABOR (HR)	160	\$ 45.00	\$ 7,200.00	
		MATL (LS)	10	\$ 1,627.00	\$ 16,270.00	
		TAX on material only (7%)				\$ 1,138.90
		MARKUP on material only (10%)				\$ 1,627.00
4	MERIDIAN FROM 5TH TO 2ND - - POWER - - 16 120V outltes. Provide 480V to 120V transformers from street light poles.	LABOR (HR)	256	\$ 45.00	\$ 11,520.00	
		MATL (LS)	16	\$ 1,260.00	\$ 20,160.00	
		TAX on material only (7%)				\$ 1,411.20
		MARKUP on material only (10%)				\$ 2,016.00
				TOTAL	\$ 145,297.98	

Monthly Maintenance Cost	Labor & Materials	1	\$ 1,940.00	\$ 1,940.00
this is for budget purposes only				