

C4 S REFERRAL TO THE PUBLIC SAFETY AND NEIGHBORHOOD QUALITY OF LIFE COMMITTEE TO DISCUSS RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE AD HOC NIGHTLIFE TASK FORCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE AT ITS APRIL 10, 2025 MEETING.

Applicable Area:

MIAMI BEACH

COMMISSION MEMORANDUM

TO: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Commission
FROM: Commissioner Laura Dominguez
DATE: May 21, 2025
TITLE: REFERRAL TO THE PUBLIC SAFETY AND NEIGHBORHOOD QUALITY OF LIFE COMMITTEE TO DISCUSS RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE AD HOC NIGHTLIFE TASK FORCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE AT ITS APRIL 10, 2025 MEETING.

RECOMMENDATION

BACKGROUND/HISTORY

ANALYSIS

Please place on the May 21, 2025 agenda a referral to the Public Safety and Neighborhood Quality of Life Committee to discuss recommendations from the Ad Hoc Nightlife Task Force Advisory Committee (the "Committee") at its April 10, 2025 meeting regarding Spring Break policies, nightlife regulation modernization, public safety, and marketing strategies, as communicated via LTC No. 175-2025.

Specifically, I would like for my colleagues to consider the following four (4) motions that were adopted unanimously:

1. Spring Break Policies and Permitting

To review and clarify existing Spring Break regulations—particularly those governing entertainment, crowd queuing, and inconsistent enforcement of business operation rules.

2. Entertainment Regulations and Collateral Issues

To review of current ordinances affecting nightlife establishments to ensure they reflect the modern-day reality of operations across various formats, including restaurants, lounges, and clubs. Specific concerns include:

- Operational and cost challenges associated with sidewalk cafés
- The 40% food sales requirement for late-night venues
- The 2 AM alcohol service ban, associated fees, and penalties

3. Policing and Public Safety

To arrange a meeting with the Chief of Police and the Committee to address concerns regarding police response times, visibility, staffing levels, and the impact of homelessness in nightlife areas. The goal is to promote a well-lit, welcoming environment that fosters a sense of safety for residents, tourists, and visitors.

4. Communications and Marketing

To develop a positive marketing campaign to promote the broader appeal of Miami Beach—

including its nightlife amenities—in contrast to prior negative Spring Break messaging. The aim is to attract events and activations that reflect the city's diverse, high-quality experiences.

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 Commissioner Laura Dominguez

Sponsor(s)

Commissioner Laura Dominguez

Co-sponsor(s)

Condensed Title

Ref: PSNQLC - Ad Hoc Nightlife Task Force Advisory Committee Recommendations. (LD)

Previous Action (For City Clerk Use Only)

MIAMI BEACH

OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK
NO. LTC # 175-2025

LETTER TO COMMISSION

TO: Honorable Mayor Steven Meiner and Members of the City Commission
FROM: Rafael E. Granado, City Clerk 
DATE: April 23, 2025
SUBJECT: Ad Hoc Nightlife Taskforce Advisory Committee - April 10, 2025 Motions

This Letter to the Commission (LTC) provides an update on motions passed at the April 10, 2025 meeting of the Ad Hoc Nightlife Taskforce Advisory Committee. (Committee).

Members Present:

- Steve Polisar, Chair
- Edison Farrow
- Joel Stedman
- Lea Stevenson
- David Wallack

Motion 1: Spring Break Regulations Policies and Permitting

The Committee recommends that the Mayor and Commissioners review and clarify the Spring Break rules, specifically as they relate to entertainment, queuing, and inconsistent business operations regulations. The Committee would like to collaborate with the Administration to improve the Miami Beach nightlife industry viability and reassess Spring Break restrictions.

Motion made by: David Wallack
Seconded by: Steve Polisar
Vote: Passed unanimously (5 – 0)

Motion 2: Entertainment and Collateral Issues

The Committee recommends that the Mayor and Commissioners review ordinances regulating the nightlife industry to ensure the laws reflect the modern day operation of the nightlife industry and the diverse options of entertainment, including, but not limited to restaurants, lounges, clubs, etc. Specifically, the growing costs and logistical challenges of operating sidewalk cafes, the 40% food sale requirement for late-night entertainment, and the 2 AM alcohol bans, fees, and penalties.

Motion made by: Joel Stedman
Seconded by: Steve Polisar
Vote: Passed unanimously (5 – 0)

Motion 3: Policing and Security

The Committee recommends a meeting with the Chief of Police to discuss response times, perception, visibility, staffing, homelessness, etc. The key is to provide well-lit areas and visible crowds that are inviting and make residents, tourists and visitors feel safe.

Motion made by: Edison Farrow
Seconded by: Joel Stedman
Vote: Passed unanimously (5 – 0)

Motion 4: Communications/Marketing

The Committee recommends that the Administration create a positive Miami Beach marketing campaign to combat the negative Spring Break campaign and attract events and activations that reflect the many great experiences Miami Beach has to offer including nightlife amenities.

Motion made by: Edison Farrow
Seconded by: David Wallack
Vote: Passed unanimously (5 – 0)

Any questions about the foregoing may be directed to Committee Co-Liaisons: Scott Flanagan, Police Department Captain, scottflanagan@miamibeachfl.gov; Heather Shaw, Economic Development Interim Director, heathershaw@miamibeachfl.gov, and Hernan Cardeno, Code Compliance Department Director, hernancardeno@miamibeachfl.gov.

HC/SF/HS