

C7 E A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA, ACCEPTING THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE FINANCE AND ECONOMIC RESILIENCY COMMITTEE, AT ITS JUNE 11, 2025 MEETING, TO CONSIDER AS PART OF THE FISCAL YEAR 2026 BUDGET PROCESS A BUDGET ENHANCEMENT OF APPROXIMATELY \$100,000 FOR ADDITIONAL SCHOLARSHIPS AND A MODIFICATION TO THE EARLY CHILD CARE PREKINDERGARTEN PROGRAM FOR MIAMI BEACH RESIDENTS COMMENCING IN SCHOOL YEAR 2026-2027 BY: (I) ALLOCATING THE SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS, IN THE AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$440,000.00 TO SERVE UP TO 220 ELIGIBLE FOUR YEAR OLD MIAMI BEACH CHILDREN ENROLLING IN PREKINDERGARTEN 4 CLASSES WITH A SCHOLARSHIP AMOUNT OF UP TO \$2,000; (II) REALLOCATING THE REMAINING PROGRAM FUNDS, IN THE AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$220,000.00 TO SERVE UP TO 220 ELIGIBLE THREE-YEAR-OLD MIAMI BEACH RESIDENT CHILDREN WITH A SCHOLARSHIP AMOUNT OF UP TO \$1,000; AND FURTHER, AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER OR HIS/HER DESIGNEE TO EXECUTE ANY REQUIRED AGREEMENTS OR DOCUMENTS TO IMPLEMENT THE PROGRAM.

Applicable Area:



COMMISSION MEMORANDUM

TO: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Commission

FROM: Eric Carpenter, City Manager

DATE: June 25, 2025

TITLE: A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA, ACCEPTING THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE FINANCE AND ECONOMIC RESILIENCY COMMITTEE, AT ITS JUNE 11, 2025 MEETING, TO CONSIDER AS PART OF THE FISCAL YEAR 2026 BUDGET PROCESS A BUDGET ENHANCEMENT OF APPROXIMATELY \$100,000 FOR ADDITIONAL SCHOLARSHIPS AND A MODIFICATION TO THE EARLY CHILD CARE PREKINDERGARTEN PROGRAM FOR MIAMI BEACH RESIDENTS COMMENCING IN SCHOOL YEAR 2026-2027 BY: (I) ALLOCATING THE SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS, IN THE AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$440,000.00 TO SERVE UP TO 220 ELIGIBLE FOUR YEAR OLD MIAMI BEACH CHILDREN ENROLLING IN PREKINDERGARTEN 4 CLASSES WITH A SCHOLARSHIP AMOUNT OF UP TO \$2,000; (II) REALLOCATING THE REMAINING PROGRAM FUNDS, IN THE AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$220,000.00 TO SERVE UP TO 220 ELIGIBLE THREE-YEAR-OLD MIAMI BEACH RESIDENT CHILDREN WITH A SCHOLARSHIP AMOUNT OF UP TO \$1,000; AND FURTHER, AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER OR HIS/HER DESIGNEE TO EXECUTE ANY REQUIRED AGREEMENTS OR DOCUMENTS TO IMPLEMENT THE PROGRAM.

RECOMMENDATION

The City Administration ("Administration") supports accepting the recommendation of the Finance and Economic Resiliency Committee (FERC) to consider the expansion of the early childcare prekindergarten program during the Fiscal Year (FY) 2026 budget process.

The Administration recommends that while the Commission evaluates the expansion of the early childcare prekindergarten program, 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 an expansion of the early childcare prekindergarten program align with the City's broader long-term financial stability and strategic priorities. If the Commission recommends funding an expansion of the early childcare prekindergarten program the Administration recommends it be considered as part of the FY 2026 budget process but suggests that additional consideration be given to items that are core functions. The City Administration ("Administration") supports accepting the recommendation of the Finance and Economic Resiliency Committee (FERC) to consider the expansion of the early childcare prekindergarten program during the Fiscal Year (FY) 2026 budget process.

Though noting that if the budget enhancement is not included in the FY 2026 budget, the program would not be modified. It is important to note that staff has determined that additional staff would be needed to implement the expanded program which will be reflected in the budget enhancement considered.

BACKGROUND/HISTORY

At the January 15, 2020 City Commission meeting, a referral was made to the Finance and Economic Resiliency Committee ("FERC") to discuss the funding of an Early Childcare Pilot Program. FERC recommended to fund an Early Childcare Pilot Program for implementation in the 2021-2022 school year, with funding in the amount of \$250,000 to be appropriated.

The details of FERC's recommendation for the Early Childcare Pilot Program were outlined as follows:

1. Eligibility requirements for all Miami Beach child applicants and Miami Beach partner childcare providers:
 - a. Child must be 4 years old on or before September 1 of the enrollment school year to be eligible.
 - b. Child's parent/legal guardian must be a resident of the City of Miami Beach upon submission of application and throughout the year of Program participation 2021-2022.
2. Eligibility requirements for all partner childcare providers: Early childcare center must meet Florida Statutes applicable sections to be eligible to offer prekindergarten as a public-school provider, nonpublic school provider or faith-based provider.
3. Be licensed as a childcare facility under s.402.305, F.S., family day care home under s.402.313, F.S., or large family childcare facility under s.402.313, F.S.; or Be licensed exempt under s.402.3025(2), F.S. (nonpublic schools) or s.402.316, F.S. (for faith- based providers).
4. The requested funding for the prekindergarten stipend, in the amount of \$250,000, was contemplated to be distributed as follows: \$250,000 would be available to eligible applicants and equally apportioned among eligible children in an amount not to exceed \$2,700 per child, for maximum hourly rate of \$6.00 per hour, up to 2.5 hours for 180 days.

The Mayor and City Commission adopted Resolution No. 2020- 31375, authorizing a Prekindergarten Pilot Program for the 2021-22 school year. At the March 17, 2021, City Commission meeting, a referral was made to FERC to discuss the extension of the funding for the Early Childcare Prekindergarten Pilot Program to the 2022- 23 school year.

The City Commission passed and adopted Resolution No. 2021-31935 and 2021-31712 authorizing the City Manager to extend the Early Childcare Prekindergarten Program for Miami Beach residents, in an amount not to exceed \$ 250,000 for the 2022-2023 school year.

Resolution No. 2021-31962 increased funding for the program, in an amount not to exceed \$475,000, annually, with \$3,000 per child commencing as of the 2023-2024 school year. The increase resulted in the number of Pre-K Scholarships from 158 to 177 for school year 2024- 2025 which was increased to 192 to accommodate those on the wait list.

ANALYSIS

Resolution No 2025-33480 approved and increased the number of available Prekindergarten Scholarships from 192 to 225 for future school years, effective for school year 2026, representing an additional increase to the budget in the amount of \$99,000 to meet the demonstrated demand

and need from the City's residents (Attachment A) The current service level (CSL) budget for the Early Childcare Prekindergarten Scholarship Program is \$576,000.

At the June 11, 2025, FERC meeting, a motion was made to return to Commission with a favorable recommendation to modify the Pre-K Scholarship Program to \$2,000 per four-year child for up to 220 scholarships, and to include three-year-old children at an amount of up to \$1,000 per child for up to 220 scholarships, and with an approximate \$100,000 budget enhancement to be considered as part of the FY 2026 budget process. It was noted that a child would be eligible for a three-year-old and four-year-old scholarship.

If the Commission funds the program expansion with additional funding as part of the FY 2026 budget process, the following details the modification to the Early Childcare Prekindergarten Scholarship Program for Miami Beach residents commencing in School Year 2026-27 to (i) allocate scholarship funds in an amount not to exceed \$440,000 to serve up to 220 eligible four-year-old Miami Beach children enrolling in prekindergarten 4 classes with a scholarship amount of up to \$2,000 each; and (ii) to allocate an amount not to exceed \$220,000 to serve up to 220 eligible three-year-old Miami Beach Resident children with a scholarship amount of up to \$1,000 each. For a new total Early Childcare Prekindergarten Scholarship Program budget of \$660,000, an increase of \$84,000 over the current program budget. It was determined that the program would only require an additional \$84,000 of funding but additional staffing would be needed to implement the greatly expanded program. If the budget enhancement is not included in the FY 2026 budget, the program would not be modified.

The details of FERC's recommendation for the modified and expanded Prekindergarten 4 Scholarship Program and three (3) year old scholarship program are outlined as follows:

1. Eligibility requirements for all Miami Beach child applicants and Miami Beach partner childcare providers:

a. Child must be 4 years old on or before September 1 of enrollment school year to enroll in the City's Prekindergarten 4 Scholarship Program.

b. Child must be three years old on or before September 1 of enrollment school year to enroll in the City's 3-year-old Scholarship Program.

c. Child's parent/legal guardian must be a resident of the City of Miami Beach upon submission of application and throughout the year of Program participation.

d. Child may receive a scholarship once for the three-year-old scholarship program of up to \$1,000 and once for the prekindergarten 4 scholarship program of up to \$2,000.

2. Eligibility requirements for all partner childcare providers: Early childcare center must meet Florida Statutes applicable sections to be eligible to offer prekindergarten as a public-school provider, nonpublic school provider or faith-based provider.

a. Be licensed as a childcare facility under s.402.305, F.S., family day care home under s.402.313, F.S., or large family childcare facility under s.402.313, F.S.; or

b. Be licensed exempt under s.402.3025(2), F.S. (nonpublic schools) or s.402.316, F.S. (for faith-based providers), and

c. Hold a Gold Seal Quality Care designation under s.402.281, F.S.;

d. Each agency must apply for Gold Seal with Department of Children and Families or be accredited by an accrediting association that is a member of:

i. National Council for Private School Accreditation

ii. The Florida Association of Academic Nonpublic Schools; and

3. The requested funding for the Prekindergarten 4 Scholarship, in the amount of \$440,000, was contemplated to be distributed as follows: \$440,000 would be available to eligible applicants and equally appropriated to eligible children in an amount not to exceed \$2,000 per child, for maximum hourly rate of \$4.44 per hour, up to 2.5 hours for 180 days; and

4. The requested funding for the 3-year-old Scholarship in the amount of \$220,000 was contemplated to be distributed as follows: \$220,000 would be available to eligible applicants and equally apportioned among eligible children in an amount not to exceed \$1,000 per child, for maximum hourly rate of \$2.22 per hour, up to 2.5 hours for 180 days; and

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

FY 2026 \$84,000 for scholarships and \$38,000 for additional PT staff.

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

The City Administration ("Administration") supports accepting the recommendation of the Finance and Economic Resiliency Committee (FERC) to consider the expansion of the early childcare prekindergarten program during the Fiscal Year (FY) 2026 budget process.

This resolution would accept the favorable recommendation of the Finance and Economic Resiliency Committee, at its June 11, 2025 meeting, to consider as part of the Fiscal Year 2026 budget process a budget enhancement of approximately \$100,000 for additional scholarships and a modification to the early childcare prekindergarten program for Miami Beach residents commencing in school year 2026-2027 by: (i) allocating the scholarship funds, in the amount not to exceed \$440,000.00 to serve up to 220 eligible four year old Miami Beach children enrolling in prekindergarten 4 classes with a scholarship amount of up to \$2,000; (ii) reallocating the remaining program funds, in the amount not to exceed \$220,000.00 to serve up to 220 eligible three-year-old Miami Beach resident children with a scholarship amount of up to \$1,000.

Though noting that if the budget enhancement is not included in the FY 2026 budget, the program would not be modified. It is important to note that staff has determined that additional staff would be needed to implement the expanded program which will be reflected in the budget enhancement considered.

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

Education and Performance Initiatives

Sponsor(s)

Commissioner Laura Dominguez

Co-sponsor(s)

Commissioner Alex Fernandez
Commissioner Joseph Magazine

Condensed Title

Accept Rec/Modify Early Child Care Prekindergarten Program for MB Residents. (LD/AF/JM)
EPI

Previous Action (For City Clerk Use Only)

RESOLUTION NO. 20 2 5 - 3 3 4 8 0

A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA, AUTHORIZING THE ALLOCATION OF AN ADDITIONAL \$81,000 TO THE CITY'S PREKINDERGARTEN SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM (THE "PROGRAM") FOR 2025-26 SCHOOL YEAR IN FISCAL YEAR 2025 TO ALLOW EACH OF THE 27 WAITLISTED FAMILIES RECEIVE UP TO \$3,000 IN SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS; FURTHER, DIRECTING THE ADMINISTRATION TO INCREASE THE NUMBER OF AVAILABLE PREKINDERGARTEN SCHOLARSHIPS IN THE PROGRAM FROM 192 TO 225 FOR FUTURE SCHOOL YEARS, EFFECTIVE IN FISCAL YEAR 2026, REPRESENTING AN ADDITIONAL INCREASE IN THE BUDGET IN THE AMOUNT OF \$99,000 TO MEET THE DEMONSTRATED DEMAND AND INTEREST FROM THE CITY'S RESIDENTS, WITH THE TOTAL FUNDING IN FY 2026 AND FUTURE YEARS BEING \$675,000 TO PROVIDE 225 SCHOLARSHIPS OF UP TO \$3,000 EACH; AND FURTHER, WAIVE, BY 5/7TH VOTE, THE REQUIREMENT IN SECTION 2-14(D)(1)A OF THE CITY CODE TO REFER ANY AGENDA ITEMS IN EXCESS OF \$75,000 TO THE FINANCE AND ECONOMIC RESILIENCY COMMITTEE.

WHEREAS, the City of Miami Beach is committed to supporting educational opportunities for all its residents; and

WHEREAS, the City's Prekindergarten Scholarship Program expands hourly access to high-quality PreK providers for 192 families in the City with a scholarship of up to \$3,000 per family; and

WHEREAS, a computerized lottery was held on December 6, 2024 to place all resident applicants in a numerical order for scholarship receipt, with 220 Miami Beach residents assigned lottery numbers for the 2025-26 PreK Scholarship, of which 192 will receive up to \$3,000; and

WHEREAS, out of 192 families who won the lottery, one winning family declined its participation, and one applicant family from the 28 waitlisted families was accepted into the Program, with 27 applicants remaining on the waitlist; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and City Commission wish to increase the available budget in the amount of \$81,000 for Fiscal Year 2025 to allow the 27 waitlisted families to receive up to \$3,000 in scholarship funds for the School Year 2025-26; and

WHEREAS, furthermore, going forward, the Mayor and City Commission wish to increase the number of available Prekindergarten Scholarships from 192 to 225 for future school years, effective in Fiscal Year 2026, representing an additional increase un the budget in the amount of \$99,000 to meet the demonstrated demand and need

from the City's residents, with the total funding in Fiscal Year 2026 and future years of the Program being \$675,000 to provide 225 Scholarships of up to \$3,000 each; and

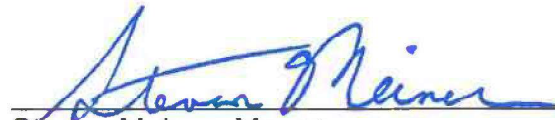
WHEREAS, the Mayor and City Commission further wish to waive, by 5/7th vote, the requirement in Section 2-14(d)(1)a of the City Code to refer any agenda items in excess of \$75,000 to the Finance and Economic Resiliency Committee.

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 authorize the allocation of an additional \$81,000 to the City's Prekindergarten Scholarship Program (the "Program") for 2025-26 School Year in Fiscal Year 2025 to allow each of the 27 waitlisted families receive up to \$3,000 in scholarship funds; further, direct the Administration to increase the number of available Prekindergarten Scholarships in the Program from 192 to 225 for future school years, effective in Fiscal Year 2026, representing an additional increase in the budget in the amount of \$99,000 to meet the demonstrated demand and interest from the City's residents, with the total funding in FY 2026 and future years being \$675,000 to provide 225 Scholarships of up to \$3,000 each ;and further, waive, by 5/7th vote, the requirement in section 2-14(d)(1)a of the City Code to refer any agenda items in excess of \$75,000 to the Finance And Economic Resiliency Committee.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 3 day of February, 2025.



ATTEST:


MAR 13 2025
Rafael Granado, City Clerk


Steven Meiner, Mayor

(Sponsored by: Mayor Steven Meiner and
Commissioner David Suarez
Co-Sponsored by: Commissioner Laura Dominguez
Kristen Rosen Gonzalez)

APPROVED AS TO
FORM & LANGUAGE
& FOR EXECUTION


City Attorney 

3/13/2025
Date

MIAMI BEACH

COMMISSION MEMORANDUM

TO: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Commission

FROM: City Attorney Ricardo J. Dopico

DATE: February 3, 2025

TITLE: A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA, AUTHORIZING THE ALLOCATION OF AN ADDITIONAL \$81,000 TO THE CITY'S PREKINDERGARTEN SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM (THE "PROGRAM") FOR 2025-26 SCHOOL YEAR IN FISCAL YEAR 2025 TO ALLOW EACH OF THE 27 WAITLISTED FAMILIES RECEIVE UP TO \$3,000 IN SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS; FURTHER, DIRECTING THE ADMINISTRATION TO INCREASE THE NUMBER OF AVAILABLE PREKINDERGARTEN SCHOLARSHIPS IN THE PROGRAM FROM 192 TO 225 FOR FUTURE SCHOOL YEARS, EFFECTIVE IN FISCAL YEAR 2026, REPRESENTING AN ADDITIONAL INCREASE IN THE BUDGET IN THE AMOUNT OF \$99,000 TO MEET THE DEMONSTRATED DEMAND AND INTEREST FROM THE CITY'S RESIDENTS, WITH THE TOTAL FUNDING IN FY 2026 AND FUTURE YEARS BEING \$675,000 TO PROVIDE 225 SCHOLARSHIPS OF UP TO \$3,000 EACH; AND FURTHER, WAIVE, BY 5/7TH VOTE, THE REQUIREMENT IN SECTION 2-14(D)(1)A OF THE CITY CODE TO REFER ANY AGENDA ITEMS IN EXCESS OF \$75,000 TO THE FINANCE AND ECONOMIC RESILIENCY COMMITTEE.

RECOMMENDATION

BACKGROUND/HISTORY

ANALYSIS

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

The fiscal impact of this item is set forth in the Resolution.

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)

Mayor Steven Meiner
Commissioner David Suarez

Co-sponsor(s)

Condensed Title

Authorize Add'l \$81K to City's Pre-K Scholarship Program and Increase Number of
Scholarships. (Meiner/Suarez) 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, ACCEPTING THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE FINANCE AND ECONOMIC RESILIENCY COMMITTEE, AT ITS JUNE 11, 2025 MEETING, TO CONSIDER AS PART OF THE FISCAL YEAR 2026 BUDGET PROCESS, A BUDGET ENHANCEMENT OF APPROXIMATELY \$100,000 FOR ADDITIONAL SCHOLARSHIPS AND A MODIFICATION TO THE EARLY CHILD CARE PREKINDERGARTEN PROGRAM FOR MIAMI BEACH RESIDENTS COMMENCING IN SCHOOL YEAR 2026-2027 BY: (i) ALLOCATING THE SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS, IN THE AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$440,000.00 TO SERVE UP TO 220 ELIGIBLE FOUR-YEAR-OLD MIAMI BEACH CHILDREN ENROLLING IN PREKINDERGARTEN 4 CLASSES WITH A SCHOLARSHIP AMOUNT OF UP TO \$2,000; (ii) REALLOCATING THE REMAINING PROGRAM FUNDS, IN THE AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$220,000.00 TO SERVE UP TO 220 ELIGIBLE THREE-YEAR-OLD MIAMI BEACH RESIDENT CHILDREN WITH A SCHOLARSHIP AMOUNT OF UP TO \$1,000; AND FURTHER, AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER OR HIS/HER DESIGNEE TO EXECUTE ANY REQUIRED AGREEMENTS OR DOCUMENTS TO IMPLEMENT THE PROGRAM.

WHEREAS, at the January 15, 2020 City Commission meeting, a referral was made to the Finance and Economic Resiliency Committee ("FERC") to discuss the funding of an Early Childcare Pilot Program; and

WHEREAS, at its July 17, 2020 meeting, FERC recommended to fund an Early Childcare Pilot Program for implementation in the 2021-2022 school year, with funding in the amount of \$250,000 to be appropriated from Fiscal Year 2022 funds; and

WHEREAS, the details of FERC's recommendation for the Early Childcare Pilot Program are outlined as follows:

1. Eligibility requirements for all Miami Beach child applicants and Miami Beach partner childcare providers:
 - a. Child must be 4 years old on or before September 1 of enrollment school year to enroll;
 - b. Child's parent/legal guardian must be a resident of the City of Miami Beach upon submission of application and throughout the year of Program participation 2021-2022;
2. Eligibility requirements for all partner childcare providers: Early childcare center must meet Florida Statutes applicable sections to be eligible to offer prekindergarten as a public-school provider, nonpublic school provider or faith-based provider.

1. Be licensed as a childcare facility under s.402.305, F.S., family day care home under s.402.313, F.S., or large family childcare facility under s.402.313, F.S.; or
2. Be licensed exempt under s.402. 3025(2), F.S. (nonpublic schools) or s.402.316, F.S. (for faith- based providers), and
 - a. Hold a Gold Seal Quality Care designation under s.402.281, F.S.;
 - b. Each agency must apply for Gold Seal with Department of Children and Families or be accredited by an accrediting association that is a member of:
 - i. National Council for Private School Accreditation
 - ii. The Florida Association of Academic Nonpublic Schools; and

3. The requested funding for the prekindergarten stipend, in the amount of \$250,000 was contemplated to be distributed as follows: \$250,000 would be available to eligible applicants and equally apportioned amongst eligible children in an amount not to exceed \$2,700 per child, for maximum hourly rate of \$6.00 per hour, up to 2.5 hours for 180 days; and

WHEREAS, on July 29, 2020, the Mayor and City Commission adopted Resolution No. 2020-31375, authorizing a Prekindergarten Pilot Program for the 2021-22 school year; and

WHEREAS, on January 5, 2021, the City conducted a computerized lottery to determine the order in which applicants would be screened to determine eligibility based on residency status of the primary parent/guardian and age of the applicant child; and

WHEREAS, as of May 3, 2021, agreements had been executed with fifteen (15) Prekindergarten providers to partner with the City to expand PreK access to Miami Beach families during the 2021-22 school year; and

WHEREAS, as of May 3, 2021, 104 prekindergarten applicants had been cleared to participate in the Program; seventeen (17) applicants had opted out or were not participating for various reasons including their preferred school was not a partner provider, their child was not age eligible, or their selected public school did not require a parental fee contribution; the remaining 87 applicants had been cleared to participate with 76 having signed confirmatory letters of participation; and the remaining eleven (11) were still pending Prekindergarten provider selection due to their child's wait list status at their preferred school or other reasons; and

WHEREAS, at the March 17, 2021 City Commission meeting, a referral was made to the FERC to discuss the extension of the funding for the Early Childcare Prekindergarten Pilot Program to the 2022-23 School Year; and

WHEREAS, on April 30, 2021, FERC members voted unanimously to support the extension of the City's Prekindergarten Program for the 2022-23 School Year, at an amount of \$250,000, for approximately 92 Miami Beach youth, at \$2,700 per child for 180

days of service, at \$6.00 per hour for an additional 2.5 hours a day; and further authorized the appropriation of funding for the Program in Fiscal Year 2023; and

WHEREAS, the Administration authorized \$41,400 from Fiscal Year 2022 to cover Program services for the months of August and September 2022; and

WHEREAS, at the April 30, 2021 meeting, the City Commission adopted Resolution No. 2021- 31935, authorizing the City Manager to extend the Early Childcare Prekindergarten Program for Miami Beach residents, in an amount not to exceed \$250,000 ("Program Funds"), for the 2022-2023 school year; and authorized the appropriation of the Program Funds from the City's budget for Fiscal Year 2023; and

WHEREAS, at the May 12, 2021, Commission meeting the City Commission passed and adopted Resolution No. 2021-31712 to extend the early childcare Prekindergarten Program for Miami Beach residents, in an amount not to exceed \$250,000 (program funds), for the 2022-2023 School Year; and

WHEREAS, at the December 8, 2021, Commission meeting the City Commission adopted Resolution No. 2021-31962 to increase funding for the program, in an amount not to exceed \$475,000, annually, with \$3,000 per child commencing as of the 2023- 2024 School Year; and

WHEREAS, at the December 13, 2023, Commission meeting, the City Commission adopted an amendment to Resolution No. 2021-31962 to increase the number of Pre-K Scholarships from 158 to 177 for School Year 2024-2025, with funding of \$10,000 from Fiscal Year 2024 and \$50,000 as an approved enhancement from Fiscal Year 2025, for \$3,000 per Pre- K scholarship; and increase the number of Pre-K scholarships to 177 each year thereafter with an increase of \$57,000 annually to the program beginning in Fiscal Year 2025; and

WHEREAS, a computerized lottery was held on December 6, 2024, to place all resident applicants in a numerical order for scholarship receipt, with 220 Miami Beach residents assigned lottery numbers for the 2025-26 PreK Scholarship, of which 192 would receive up to \$3,000; and

WHEREAS, out of 192 families who won the lottery, one winning family declined its participation, and one applicant family from the 28 waitlisted families was accepted into the Program, with 27 applicants remaining on the waitlist; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and City Commission increased the available budget in the amount of \$81,000 for Fiscal Year 2025 to allow the 27 waitlisted families to receive up to \$3,000 in scholarship funds for the School Year 2025-26; and

WHEREAS, at the February 3, 2025 Commission meeting, the Mayor and City Commission adopted Resolution No. 2025-33480, increasing the number of available Prekindergarten Scholarships from 192 to 225 for future school years, effective in Fiscal

Year 2026, representing an additional increase to the budget in the amount of \$99,000 to meet the demonstrated demand and need from the City's residents; and

WHEREAS, at the February 26, 2025 Commission meeting, a referral to FERC was made to consider expanding the City's Prekindergarten Scholarship Program to include options for three-year-old students; and

WHEREAS, at the June 11, 2025 Finance and Economic Resiliency Meeting, a recommendation was made to modify the early childcare pre-kindergarten scholarship program for Miami Beach residents commencing in School Year 2026-27 to (i) allocate scholarship funds in an amount not to exceed \$440,000 to serve up to 220 eligible four-year-old Miami Beach children enrolling in prekindergarten 4 classes with a scholarship amount of up to \$2,000; (ii) reallocate the remaining program funds, in the amount not to exceed \$220,000 to serve up to 220 eligible three-year-old Miami Beach Resident children with a scholarship amount of up to \$1,000; and further, recommending a budget enhancement, of approximately \$100,000 for scholarships, to be considered as part of the FY 2026 budget process; and

WHEREAS, the details of FERC' s recommendation for the Prekindergarten 4 Scholarship Program and three (3) year old scholarship program are outlined as follows:

1. Eligibility requirements for all Miami Beach child applicants and Miami Beach partner childcare providers:
 - a. Child must be 4 years old on or before September 1 of enrollment school year to enroll in the City's Prekindergarten 4 Scholarship program.
 - b. Child must be three years old on or before September 1 of enrollment school year to enroll in the City's 3-year-old Scholarship Program.
 - c. Child's parent/legal guardian must be a resident of the City of Miami Beach upon submission of application and throughout the year of Program participation.
 - d. Child may receive a scholarship once for the 3-year-old Scholarship Program of up to \$1,000 and once for the Prekindergarten 4 Scholarship Program of up to \$2,000.
2. Eligibility requirements for all partner childcare providers: Early childcare center must meet Florida Statutes applicable sections to be eligible to offer prekindergarten as a public-school provider, nonpublic school provider or faith-based provider.
 1. Be licensed as a childcare facility under s.402.305, F.S., family day care home under s.402.313, F.S., or large family childcare facility under s.402.313, F.S.; or
 2. Be licensed exempt under s.402. 3025(2), F.S. (nonpublic schools) or s.402.316, F.S. (for faith- based providers), and
 - a. Hold a Gold Seal Quality Care designation under s.402.281, F.S.;
 - b. Each agency must apply for Gold Seal with Department of Children and Families or be accredited by an accrediting association that is a member of:
 - i. National Council for Private School Accreditation

ii. The Florida Association of Academic Nonpublic Schools; and

3. The requested funding for the prekindergarten 4 scholarship, in the amount of \$440,000, was contemplated to be distributed as follows: \$440,000 would be available to eligible applicants and equally apportioned amongst eligible children in an amount not to exceed \$2,000 per child, for maximum hourly rate of \$4.44 per hour, up to 2.5 hours for 180 days; and
4. The requested funding for the three-year-old scholarship in the amount of \$220,000 was contemplated to be distributed as follows: \$220,000 would be available to eligible applicants and equally apportioned amongst eligible children in an amount not to exceed \$1,000 per child, for maximum hourly rate of \$2.22 per hour, up to 2.5 hours for 180 days.

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 accept the recommendation of the Finance and Economic Resiliency Committee, at its June 11, 2025 meeting, to consider as part of the Fiscal Year 2026 budget process, a budget enhancement of approximately \$100,000 for additional scholarships and a modification to the Early Child Care Prekindergarten Program for Miami Beach residents commencing in School Year 2026-2027 by: (i) allocating the scholarship funds, in the amount not to exceed \$440,000.00 to serve up to 220 eligible four-year-old Miami Beach children enrolling in Prekindergarten 4 classes with a scholarship amount of up to \$2,000; (ii) reallocating the remaining Program funds, in the amount not to exceed \$220,000.00 to serve up to 220 eligible three-year-old Miami Beach resident children with a scholarship amount of up to \$1,000; and further, authorize the City Manager or his/her designee to execute any required agreements or documents to implement the Program.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this ____ day of June, 2025.

ATTEST:

Steven Meiner, Mayor

Rafael E. Granado, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO
FORM & LANGUAGE
& FOR EXECUTION

Nickel 6/18/25
for City Attorney fx Date