

C7 V 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 4, 2025 MEETING, AND DIRECTING THE ADMINISTRATION TO CONSIDER, AS PART OF THE FISCAL YEAR 2026 BUDGET PROCESS, THE DEPLOYMENT OF PRIVATE SECURITY OFFICERS ON LINCOLN ROAD AND WASHINGTON AVENUE AS A PILOT PROGRAM, WITH THE APPROXIMATE ANNUAL COST OF \$1,227,699.
Applicable Area:

MIAMI BEACH

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 4, 2025 MEETING, AND DIRECTING THE ADMINISTRATION TO CONSIDER, AS PART OF THE FISCAL YEAR 2026 BUDGET PROCESS, THE DEPLOYMENT OF PRIVATE SECURITY OFFICERS ON LINCOLN ROAD AND WASHINGTON AVENUE AS A PILOT PROGRAM, WITH THE APPROXIMATE ANNUAL COST OF \$1,227,699.

RECOMMENDATION

The Administration recommends that the Mayor and City Commission consider implementing a pilot security guard program along both the Lincoln Road and Washington Avenue corridors.

The Administration recommends that while the Commission evaluates this pilot deployment, 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 implementation of a pilot security guard initiative align with the City's broader long-term financial stability and strategic priorities. If the Committee recommends funding private security officers on Lincoln Road and Washington Avenue, the Administration recommends it be considered as part of the FY 2026 budget process.

BACKGROUND/HISTORY

At the February 3, 2025 City Commission Meeting, at the request of Commissioner David Suarez, the Mayor and City Commission approved a referral (C4 AQ) to the Financial and Economic Resiliency Committee ("FERC") to discuss the deployment of private security officers on Lincoln Road and Washington Avenue.

The item was heard at the June 4, 2025 FERC meeting and moved to the full Commission with a favorable recommendation to be considered as part of the FY 2026 budget process.

ANALYSIS

In 2009 a security vendor was tasked with staffing and deploying security officers on bicycles along Lincoln Road. Although it is unknown by whom this was funded, the program was a success

as it not only augmented police resources but provided increased uniformed visibility and deterrence. In addition to security being a force multiplier for the Miami Beach Police Department (MBPD), this program successfully reduced the number of incidents that required the response of police officers as many quality-of-life incidents were quickly handled by the security officers. In addition, security officers provided countless numbers of “citizen contacts” to pedestrians who desired information along this mall. It is thought that after this security program was dissolved, the Lincoln Road BID staffed and deployed Lincoln Road Ambassadors which are still there today. Although helpful, these ambassadors do not participate in any enforcement role.

In preparing this memorandum, the Department anecdotally polled police officers assigned to both the Lincoln Road and Washington Avenue corridors to determine when officers experienced the most amount of foot traffic in addition to the amount of police incidents self-initiated or responded to. Data identifying the hours, days of the week, and the number of incidents was also gathered by the Department’s Crime Analysis Unit (Exhibit A). While several incidents did in fact occur after midnight, these incidents are speculated to have occurred at or outside of late-night establishments such as a package stores, restaurants, bars, or nightclubs. The Department does not recommend that security officers patrol after midnight as many of those incidents involve pedestrians or club revelers that could be under the influence of alcohol or narcotics thereby increasing the danger level for unarmed uniformed security personnel.

Studies show that a criminal event is less likely to occur if there is visible enforcement personnel present such as security guards. Supported by the data gathered, the Administration, therefore, recommends the staffing and deployment of security officers on bicycles along these corridors as a pilot program for re-evaluation after an agreed to period. Four (4) security officers would be assigned to Lincoln Road in two shifts, seven (7) days per week from 8:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M. and again from 4:00 P.M. to midnight. Their patrol areas would be from the Beachwalk to Alton Road with two (2) officers assigned from the Beachwalk to Washington Avenue, one (1) officer assigned from Washington Avenue to Meridian, and one (1) officer from Meridian to Alton Road.

Along Washington Avenue, the Administration recommends the same shift schedule in the following configurations: two (2) security guards from 5th Street to 11th Street and two (2) security guards from 11th Street to 16th Street. Communication plan details would be further established internally if the program were to be implemented.

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

Based on this proposed plan, an estimated 896 hours would be worked per week, totaling 112 hours per officer. The weekly amount is estimated at \$23,609 with an annualized cost of approximately **\$1,227,699** (Exhibit B).

CONCLUSION

The Administration recommends that the Mayor and City Commission consider moving forward with a pilot security guard program along the both the Lincoln Road and Washington Avenue corridors and consider it as part of the FY 2026 budget process. It is the belief of the Administration that the pilot would not only enhance public safety by being a force multiplier for the police department, the program would also establish community ambassadors as well as be cost efficient as the price of security guards is significantly less than the cost of engaging police officers.

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):

Department

Police

Sponsor(s)

Commissioner David Suarez

Co-sponsor(s)

Condensed Title

Accept Rec/Deploy Private Security Officers on Lincoln Road & Washington Avenue. (Suarez)
PD

Previous Action (For City Clerk Use Only)

MIAMI BEACH

POLICE

DATE: March 10, 2025

SUBJECT: Washington Ave & Lincoln Rd CFS Breakdown



WASHINGTON AVENUE STATISTICS
MARCH 6, 2024 – MARCH 6, 2025

TOP 5 CFS LOCATIONS - WASHINGTON AVE

LOCATION	COUNT
1650 WASHINGTON AVE	181
1235 WASHINGTON AVE	157
800 WASHINGTON AVE	146
743 WASHINGTON AVE	136
900 WASHINGTON AVE	109

DAY OF WEEK COUNT - WASHINGTON AVE

DOW	COUNT
TUESDAY	460
SATURDAY	451
SUNDAY	447
FRIDAY	434
MONDAY	407
THURSDAY	384
WEDNESDAY	373

CFS COUNT BY SHIFT - WASHINGTON AVE

SHIFT	COUNT
C-2200-0559	1302
B-1400-2159	947
A-0600-1359	707

CFS COUNT BY BLOCK - WASHINGTON AVE

BLOCK	COUNT
700	509
1200	370
800	368
1600	322
900	288
500	226
1100	218
1400	210
1000	174
1300	126
600	104
1500	41

MIAMI BEACH

POLICE

LINCOLN ROAD STATISTICS
MARCH 6, 2024 – MARCH 6, 2025

TOP 5 CFS LOCATIONS - LINCOLN RD

LOCATION	COUNT
350 LINCOLN RD	225
669 LINCOLN LN	207
320 LINCOLN RD	192
100 LINCOLN RD	176
1675 MERIDIAN AVE	171

DAY OF WEEK COUNT - LINCOLN RD

DOW	COUNT
WEDNESDAY	786
FRIDAY	722
THURSDAY	669
TUESDAY	642
MONDAY	641
SATURDAY	625
SUNDAY	602

CFS COUNT BY SHIFT - LINCOLN RD

SHIFT	COUNT
B - 1400-2159	1979
A - 0600-1359	1459
C - 2200-0559	1249

CFS COUNT BY BLOCK - LINCOLN RD

BLOCK	COUNT
300	1176
700	537
600	445
800	424
400	404
100	377
1000	288
000	268
200	214
500	186
900	178
1100	172
1200	18

Security Alliance, LLC
Miami Beach

Bicycle Patrol Price Proposal

Billing

	Weekly hours	Billing Rate	Weekly	Annual
Lincoln Road Bike 1	112.00	\$ 26.35	\$ 2,951.20	\$ 153,462.40
Lincoln Road Bike 2	112.00	\$ 26.35	\$ 2,951.20	\$ 153,462.40
Lincoln Road Bike 3	112.00	\$ 26.35	\$ 2,951.20	\$ 153,462.40
Lincoln Road Bike 4	112.00	\$ 26.35	\$ 2,951.20	\$ 153,462.40
Washington Ave Bike 1	112.00	\$ 26.35	\$ 2,951.20	\$ 153,462.40
Washington Ave Bike 2	112.00	\$ 26.35	\$ 2,951.20	\$ 153,462.40
Washington Ave Bike 3	112.00	\$ 26.35	\$ 2,951.20	\$ 153,462.40
Washington Ave Bike 4	112.00	\$ 26.35	\$ 2,951.20	\$ 153,462.40

Communications Revenue

Total Weekly hours	896.00	\$ 23,609.60	\$ 1,227,699.20
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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 TO DISCUSS THE VIABILITY, FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS, AND EXPECTED OUTCOMES REGARDING THE POTENTIAL DEPLOYMENT OF PRIVATE SECURITY OFFICERS ON LINCOLN ROAD AND WASHINGTON AVENUE.

RECOMMENDATION

N/A

BACKGROUND/HISTORY

N/A

ANALYSIS

Please place on the February 3, 2025 City Commission agenda a referral to the Finance and Economic Resiliency Committee ("FERC") to discuss the viability, financial implications, and expected outcomes regarding the potential deployment of private security officers on Lincoln Road and Washington Avenue.

As set forth in Exhibit "A" (attached hereto), the proposed initiative seeks to contract private security officers for heavily-touristed business districts, particularly Lincoln Road and Washington Avenue. The private security officers would serve as a visible crime deterrent and provide additional support for the Police Department, while simultaneously serving as a force multiplier to optimize police resources and improve public safety. The City of Hollywood, which implemented a similar program, has been highly successful with no major incidents reported since the program's inception.

Accordingly, I would request that the Administration be prepared to discuss the proposal as set forth in Exhibit "A," address any foreseeable issues or concerns, and provide the Committee with its recommendation, so that my colleagues and I may discuss, analyze, and take any action we deem appropriate.

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

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 - Private Security Officers for Lincoln Road and Washington Avenue. (Suarez)

Previous Action (For City Clerk Use Only)

RESOLUTION NO. 2025 - _____

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 4, 2025 MEETING, AND DIRECTING THE ADMINISTRATION TO CONSIDER, AS PART OF THE FISCAL YEAR 2026 BUDGET PROCESS, THE DEPLOYMENT OF PRIVATE SECURITY OFFICERS ON LINCOLN ROAD AND WASHINGTON AVENUE AS A PILOT PROGRAM, WITH THE APPROXIMATE ANNUAL COST OF \$1,227,699.

WHEREAS, at the February 3, 2025, City Commission Meeting, the Mayor and City Commission approved a referral to the Finance and Economic Resiliency Committee ("FERC") to discuss the deployment of private security officers on Lincoln Road and Washington Avenue; and

WHEREAS, the item was subsequently heard at the June 4, 2025, FERC meeting and the Committee unanimously agreed to move the item to the full commission with a favorable recommendation to be considered as part of the FY 2026 budget process; and

WHEREAS, a successful deployment of private security along Lincoln Road in 2009 provided increased uniform visibility and deterrence, in addition to reducing the number of incidents requiring police response and providing increased "citizen contacts" to assist pedestrians; and

WHEREAS, the Administration recommends the staffing and deployment of security officers on bicycles along the Lincoln Road and Washington Avenue corridors as a pilot program for re-evaluation after an agreed to period; and

WHEREAS, four (4) security officers would be assigned to Lincoln Road in two shifts, seven (7) days per week from 8:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M. and again from 4:00 P.M. to midnight, patrolling areas from the Beachwalk to Alton Road with two (2) officers assigned from the Beachwalk to Washington Avenue, one (1) officer assigned from Washington Avenue to Meridian, and one (1) officer from Meridian to Alton Road; and

WHEREAS, an estimated 896 hours would be worked per week, totaling 112 hours per officer for an approximate weekly cost of \$23,609 and an approximate annual cost of \$1,227,699; and

WHEREAS, the Administration believes that the Pilot will enhance public safety by being a force multiplier for the police department and establish community ambassadors while being cost efficient, as the price of security guards is significantly less than the cost of engaging police officers.

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 hereby accept the recommendation of the Finance and Economic Resiliency Committee, at its June 4, 2025 meeting, and direct the Administration to consider, as part of the Fiscal Year 2026 budget process, the deployment of private security officers on Lincoln Road and Washington Avenue as a pilot program, with the approximate annual cost of \$1,227,699.

PASSED and ADOPTED this ____ day of _____, 2025.


ATTEST:

Steven Meiner, Mayor

Rafael E. Granado, City Clerk

(sponsored by Vice-Mayor David Suarez)

APPROVED AS TO
FORM & LANGUAGE
& FOR EXECUTION



City Attorney

6/16/2025
Date