

C7 C 1. CHARTER REVIEW - BILL OF RIGHTS

A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA CALLING FOR A NOVEMBER 5, 2024 CITY OF MIAMI BEACH SPECIAL ELECTION, FOR THE PURPOSE OF SUBMITTING TO THE ELECTORATE OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH A QUESTION ASKING WHETHER THE CITY CHARTER'S "CITIZENS' BILL OF RIGHTS" SHOULD BE AMENDED TO EXPAND UPON ITS EXISTING RIGHTS AND TO INCORPORATE MIAMI-DADE COUNTY ETHICS COMMISSION'S POWERS TO ENFORCE AND IMPOSE PENALTIES (IN ADDITION TO EXISTING CIRCUIT COURT ENFORCEMENT).

2. CHARTER REVIEW - BILL OF RIGHTS-FORFEITURE

A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA CALLING FOR A NOVEMBER 5, 2024 CITY OF MIAMI BEACH SPECIAL ELECTION, FOR THE PURPOSE OF SUBMITTING TO THE ELECTORATE OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH A QUESTION ASKING WHETHER THE CITY CHARTER'S "CITIZENS' BILL OF RIGHTS" SHOULD BE AMENDED REGARDING ITS CIRCUIT COURT FORFEITURE REMEDY FOR WILLFUL VIOLATIONS OF BILL OF RIGHTS, TO PROVIDE THAT FORFEITURE IS SUBJECT TO COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENTS (PER STATE LAW) AND TO ESTABLISH SUCH FORFEITURE REMEDY AS DISCRETIONARY INSTEAD OF MANDATORY BASED UPON COURT'S DETERMINATION THAT THE VIOLATOR HAS COMMITTED REPEATED VIOLATIONS OF BILL OF RIGHTS.

3. CHARTER REVIEW - CHARTER 1.03 SALE/LEASE

A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA CALLING FOR A NOVEMBER 5, 2024 CITY OF MIAMI BEACH SPECIAL ELECTION, FOR THE PURPOSE OF SUBMITTING TO THE ELECTORATE OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH A QUESTION ASKING WHETHER CITY CHARTER SECTION 1.03 SHOULD BE AMENDED TO REQUIRE MAJORITY VOTER APPROVAL FOR ALL RIGHT-OF-WAY VACATIONS, SALES, AND LEASES (10 YEARS OR MORE) OF CITY PROPERTY; AMEND REQUIREMENTS FOR SALES/LEASES/VACATIONS; AND AMEND REQUIREMENTS FOR MANAGEMENT/CONCESSION AGREEMENTS OF 10 YEARS OR MORE.

4. CHARTER REVIEW - CHARTER 2.01 DATE OF ELECTION

A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA CALLING FOR A NOVEMBER 5, 2024 CITY OF MIAMI BEACH SPECIAL ELECTION, FOR THE PURPOSE OF SUBMITTING TO THE ELECTORATE OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH A QUESTION ASKING WHETHER THE CITY CHARTER SHOULD BE AMENDED TO MOVE CITY'S RUNOFF ELECTION DATE FROM 2 WEEKS AFTER CITY'S GENERAL ELECTION TO SECOND TUESDAY IN DECEMBER IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING CITY'S GENERAL ELECTION, ESTABLISH INSTALLATION/ COMMENCEMENT OF TERMS DATE AS MONDAY IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING DATE OF RUNOFF ELECTION, AND IN ORDER TO CONFORM WITH AND ENSURE AN ORDERLY TRANSITION TO THE ABOVE CHARTER AMENDMENTS, PROVIDE THAT EXISTING COMMISSION MEMBERS' TERMS EXPIRING NOVEMBER 2025 AND NOVEMBER 2027 SHALL BE RESPECTIVELY EXTENDED TO THOSE YEARS' DECEMBER INSTALLATION DATE.

5. CHARTER REVIEW - CHARTER 2.05 PUBLIC HEARINGS AND ONLINE NOTICES

A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA CALLING FOR A NOVEMBER 5, 2024 CITY OF MIAMI

BEACH SPECIAL ELECTION, FOR THE PURPOSE OF SUBMITTING TO THE ELECTORATE OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH A QUESTION ASKING WHETHER CITY CHARTER SECTION 2.05 SHOULD BE AMENDED TO REQUIRE TWO PUBLIC HEARINGS INSTEAD OF ONE FOR PROPOSED CITY ORDINANCES (SUBJECT TO EXISTING EXCEPTIONS), AND TO AUTHORIZE THE CITY'S ALTERNATIVE OPTIONAL PUBLICATION OF NOTICE OF PROPOSED ORDINANCES ON A PUBLICLY ACCESSIBLE WEBSITE IN ACCORDANCE WITH CHAPTER 50, FLORIDA STATUTES, INSTEAD OF REQUIRING PUBLICATION OF SUCH NOTICES ONLY IN A NEWSPAPER OF GENERAL CIRCULATION WITHIN CITY.

6. CHARTER REVIEW - CHARTER 2.07 VACANCIES

A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA CALLING FOR A NOVEMBER 5, 2024 CITY OF MIAMI BEACH SPECIAL ELECTION, FOR THE PURPOSE OF SUBMITTING TO THE ELECTORATE OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH A QUESTION ASKING WHETHER CITY CHARTER SECTION 2.07, "VACANCIES IN CITY COMMISSION," SHOULD BE AMENDED TO REQUIRE AN ELECTION TO FILL A VACANCY UNLESS THE CITY COMMISSION MAKES AN APPOINTMENT TO FILL THE VACANCY WITHIN 30 DAYS, PROVIDE THAT COMMISSION'S POWER TO APPOINT SHALL COMMENCE UPON VACANCY OR SUBMITTAL OF RESIGNATION (IF FILED) INSTEAD OF 30 DAYS LATER, REQUIRE APPOINTMENTS BY REMAINING COMMISSION MEMBERS BE APPROVED ON A SUPER-MAJORITY (MAJORITY PLUS 1) VOTE INSTEAD OF MAJORITY VOTE, AND CLARIFY ELECTION AND INSTALLATION DATES REGARDING VACANCIES DUE TO RESIGNATION.

7. CHARTER REVIEW – CONFORMING

A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA CALLING FOR A NOVEMBER 5, 2024 CITY OF MIAMI BEACH SPECIAL ELECTION, FOR THE PURPOSE OF SUBMITTING TO THE ELECTORATE OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH A QUESTION ASKING WHETHER THE CITY CHARTER SHOULD BE AMENDED TO CLARIFY THE ONE-YEAR RESIDENCY REQUIREMENT TO QUALIFY FOR OFFICE AS "IMMEDIATELY" PRIOR TO QUALIFYING, CLARIFY FILING REQUIREMENTS FOR QUALIFYING BY PETITION (CHARTER SECTION 6.03); CLARIFY AND CONFORM TO FLORIDA LAW THE RESTRICTION ON QUALIFYING FOR MORE THAN 1 CITY OFFICE, REPLACE CERTAIN OBSOLETE REFERENCE TO "COMMISSIONER" WITH "COMMISSION MEMBER" (CHARTER SECTION 2.01); AND CONFORM CHARTER SECTION 1.07 TO INCLUDE ALL NONDISCRIMINATION CLASSIFICATION CATEGORIES IN CHAPTER 62 OF THE CITY CODE.

Applicable Area:



COMMISSION MEMORANDUM

TO: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Commission

FROM: City Clerk Rafael E. Granado  
City Attorney Ricardo J. Dopico

DATE: July 24, 2024

TITLE: 1. CHARTER REVIEW - BILL OF RIGHTS  
A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA CALLING FOR A NOVEMBER 5, 2024 CITY OF MIAMI BEACH SPECIAL ELECTION, FOR THE PURPOSE OF SUBMITTING TO THE ELECTORATE OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH A QUESTION ASKING WHETHER THE CITY CHARTER'S "CITIZENS' BILL OF RIGHTS" SHOULD BE AMENDED TO EXPAND UPON ITS EXISTING RIGHTS AND TO INCORPORATE MIAMI-DADE COUNTY ETHICS COMMISSION'S POWERS TO ENFORCE AND IMPOSE PENALTIES (IN ADDITION TO EXISTING CIRCUIT COURT ENFORCEMENT).

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**RECOMMENDATION**



## **BACKGROUND/HISTORY**

In accordance with Section 8.01 of the Miami Beach City Charter, the Ad Hoc Advisory Charter Review and Revision Board (the “Charter Review Board” or “Board”) has reviewed and transmitted recommendations for proposed Charter Amendments intended to enhance governance, transparency, and citizen engagement in Miami Beach. The recommendations presented represent the Board’s best efforts to address key themes identified during its review process:

1. Enhanced Bill of Rights with improved mechanisms to protect residents' rights.
2. Enhanced protections for public land.
3. Enhanced transparency, ethics, electoral process, and compensation adjustment.
4. Enhanced opportunities for public input and engagement.
5. Clarifications and "clean up".

The Mayor and each member of the City Commission directly appointed the Members of the Charter Review Board. The term of the Board commenced on February 6, 2023, and expired on June 30, 2024. The Board’s members included:

- Jorge M. Gonzalez, Chair;
- Ronald Starkman, Vice Chair;
- Michael Band, Esquire;
- Julie Basner;
- Elizabeth Latone; and
- Samuel Rabin, Esquire.

Note: Brian Goldberg, who was originally appointed in 2023, served on the Board until November 16, 2023.

The Board held eighteen public meetings between February 6, 2023 and April 16, 2024. The Board ensured transparency and public participation by holding evening meetings, live-streaming sessions, and engaging with various stakeholders, including City officials, neighborhood-based organizations, and residents.

The Charter Review Board’s recommendations were meticulously crafted and unanimously approved by the Board. The Board’s Final Report and Recommendations were transmitted to the City Commission on May 3, 2024, via LTC 170-2024. At its meetings on May 15, 2024, and June 26, 2024, the City Commission held two Committee of the Whole discussions to discuss the Charter Review Board’s recommendations and provide direction to the City Attorney and City Clerk on the proposed Amendments (including which Amendments to proceed with).

## **ANALYSIS**

### **PROPOSED CITY CHARTER AMENDMENTS<sup>[1]</sup>**

Pursuant to the Mayor and Commissioners’ analysis and discussions of the Charter Review Board’s Report setting forth its recommended City Charter amendments, the attached Resolutions have been prepared calling for a City of Miami Beach Special Election to be held on November 5, 2024 <sup>[2]</sup> for the purpose of submitting to the City’s voters the following seven (7) proposed Charter amendments, briefly summarized as follows.

- Charter's "Citizens' Bill of Rights"-Amending Existing Rights, etc.: Expand existing rights to public records, to no unreasonable postponements, to notice and be heard on City matters; incorporate all City Code Chapter 62 classification categories into "Nondiscrimination" rights; incorporate enforcement powers of Miami-Dade County Ethics Commission.
- Charter's "Citizens' Bill of Rights"—Amending Circuit Court Forfeiture Remedy: Provide that the "forfeiture of office or employment" judicial remedy for willful violations of the Bill of Rights is subject to terms of collective bargaining agreements (per State law); establish such forfeiture remedy is discretionary with the Court instead of mandatory, based upon the Court's determination that the violator has committed repeated violations of the Bill of Rights.
- Charter Section 1.03 "Sale/Lease of City Property, etc.": Amend existing requirements for the sale/lease/disposition of City property to require majority voter approval for the sale/lease (10 years or more) of City property and right-of-way vacations (includes changing approval for Convention Center Campus/Parking Lots from 60% to majority); as well as advisory Planning Board review, planning analysis, appraisal, competitive bidding (for sales/leases), and a public hearing. For management/concession agreements (10 years or more), require a 6/7ths vote of the City Commission, public hearing, and advisory review by the Planning Board. This measure would apply to any sale, lease (10 years or more), vacation, or agreement awarded pursuant to a competitive bidding process (if applicable) or waiver of such process approved by the City Commission after November 5, 2024.
- Charter Section 2.01 "City Commission Elections": (Per request of the Miami-Dade County Elections Supervisor that the City's 2-week gap between its General and Runoff Election be increased to at least 4 weeks) Change the date of City's Runoff Election from 2 weeks after City's November General Election to the second Tuesday in December immediately following said General Election; establish installation/commencement of terms as the Monday immediately following the date of Runoff Election; to conform to above, provide that existing Commission members' terms expiring November 2025 and November 2027 are extended to those years' respective December installation date.
- Charter Section 2.05 "Public hearings and Public Notice": Require two public hearings instead of one for proposed City ordinances; authorize City's alternative optional publication of notice of proposed ordinances on a publicly accessible website per Chapter 50, Florida Statutes, instead of requiring notice only in newspapers of general circulation within the City.
- Charter Section 2.07 "Vacancies in City Commission": Require election to fill vacancy unless City Commission timely appoints a person to fill the vacancy; provide when Commission's power to appoint commences; require appointments by remaining Commission members be super-majority (majority plus 1) vote instead of majority vote; clarify election and installation dates regarding vacancies due to resignation.
- Clarify/Conform to Applicable Laws and/or Current Usage ("housekeeping" ballot measure): Clarify that the one-year residency requirement to qualify as a candidate applies to the year "immediately" prior to qualifying, clarify filing requirements for qualifying by petition (Charter 6.03); clarify and conform to Florida law restriction against qualifying for more than 1 City office, replace certain obsolete reference to "Commissioner" with "Commission member" (Charter 2.01); amend Charter 1.07 to include therein all nondiscrimination classification categories in Code Chapter 62.

The City Commission should note that per the election schedule of the Miami-Dade County Elections Supervisor, July 24, 2024 is the last regularly scheduled meeting of the City Commission

at which a Resolution may be adopted placing a City ballot question on the November 5, 2024 ballot.

<sup>[1]</sup> The seven (7) Resolutions setting forth each of the proposed Charter amendments are attached to this Memorandum.

<sup>[2]</sup> The City Commission should note that any Charter questions adopted pursuant to the Charter Review Board's recommendations would be in addition to the ballot question approved by the prior City Commission on July 26, 2023, pursuant to Resolution No. 2023-32719, asking whether the City should impose a 1% tax on food and beverage sales to address homelessness/domestic violence. This question was submitted to the County Elections Department for placement on the November 5, 2024 ballot pursuant to the Commission's prior Resolution.

### **FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT**

See attached Exhibit – November 5, 2024 MDC Cost Estimate.

### **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**

City Attorney

**Sponsor(s)**

Mayor and City Commission

**Co-sponsor(s)**

**Condensed Title**

Referendum Ballot Questions - Charter Review. CA/CC

RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_

**A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA CALLING FOR A NOVEMBER 5, 2024 CITY OF MIAMI BEACH SPECIAL ELECTION, FOR THE PURPOSE OF SUBMITTING TO THE ELECTORATE OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH A QUESTION ASKING WHETHER THE CITY CHARTER'S "CITIZENS' BILL OF RIGHTS" SHOULD BE AMENDED TO EXPAND UPON ITS EXISTING RIGHTS AND TO INCORPORATE MIAMI-DADE COUNTY ETHICS COMMISSION'S POWERS TO ENFORCE AND IMPOSE PENALTIES (IN ADDITION TO EXISTING CIRCUIT COURT ENFORCEMENT).**

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT DULY RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH:

**SECTION 1.**

In accordance with provisions of the Charter of the City of Miami Beach, Florida and the general laws of the State of Florida, a Special Election is hereby called and directed to be held in the City of Miami Beach, Florida, from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, November 5, 2024, for the purpose of submitting to the electorate the question as set forth hereinafter.

**SECTION 2.**

That the appropriate and proper Miami-Dade County election officials shall conduct the said Special Election hereby called, with acceptance of the certification of the results of said Special Election to be performed by the City Commission. The official returns for each precinct shall be furnished to the City Clerk of the City of Miami Beach as soon as the ballots from all precincts have been tabulated.

**SECTION 3.**

That the said voting precincts in the City of said Special Election shall be as established by the proper and appropriate Miami-Dade County Election Officials. All electors shall vote at the polling places and the voting precincts as determined by the Miami-Dade County Election Officials.<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Pursuant to City Code Section 38-3(b): "...The City Clerk shall further publish, in a newspaper meeting the requirements set forth in Florida Statute § 50.031 and on the City's website, the polling places for the election twice, once in the third week and once in the first week prior to the week in which the election is to be held."



#### **SECTION 4.**

Notice of the adoption of this Resolution and of its provisions calling this Special Election shall be given by publication in the Miami Herald, a newspaper of general circulation in Miami Beach, Miami-Dade County, Florida. Such publication shall be made in accordance with the provisions of Section 100.342, Florida Statutes, and Section 38-3 of the Code of the City of Miami Beach.

#### **SECTION 5.**

The Notice of Election shall be substantially in the following form:

THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA  
NOTICE OF SPECIAL ELECTION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT A SPECIAL ELECTION HAS BEEN CALLED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA, AND WILL BE HELD IN SAID CITY FROM 7:00 A.M. UNTIL 7:00 P.M. ON THE 5th DAY OF NOVEMBER, 2024, AT WHICH TIME THERE SHALL BE SUBMITTED TO THE DULY REGISTERED AND QUALIFIED VOTERS OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH THE FOLLOWING QUESTION:

**Charter's "Citizens' Bill of Rights": Amending Existing Rights, Incorporating County Ethics Commission's Enforcement**

Shall Bill of Rights be amended:

- expanding existing right to public records, right to no unreasonable postponements, and right to notice and be heard on City matters, amendments including: limits on deferring agenda items, increased public hearings and notice requirements;
- incorporating Code Chapter 62 "Human Relations" classification categories (on which discrimination is prohibited) into "Nondiscrimination" rights;
- incorporating Miami-Dade County Ethics Commission's powers to enforce and impose penalties (in addition to existing Circuit Court enforcement)?

Yes \_\_\_\_\_  
No \_\_\_\_\_

Said Notice shall further set forth pertinent information regarding eligibility of electors to participate in said elections.

**SECTION 6.**

That the official ballot to be used in the Special Election to be held on November 5, 2024, hereby called, shall be in substantially the following form, to-wit:

**“OFFICIAL BALLOT”**

**Charter’s “Citizens’ Bill of Rights”: Amending Existing Rights, Incorporating County Ethics Commission’s Enforcement**

Shall Bill of Rights be amended:

- expanding existing right to public records, right to no unreasonable postponements, and right to notice and be heard on City matters, amendments including: limits on deferring agenda items, increased public hearings and notice requirements;
- incorporating Code Chapter 62 “Human Relations” classification categories (on which discrimination is prohibited) into “Nondiscrimination” rights;
- incorporating Miami-Dade County Ethics Commission’s powers to enforce and impose penalties (in addition to existing Circuit Court enforcement)?

Yes \_\_\_\_\_

No \_\_\_\_\_

**SECTION 7.**

The form of the ballots to be used in this Special Election and their preparation shall be in compliance with all statutory requirements relating to the use of mechanical or other approved voting machines or devices.

**SECTION 8.**

Registration of persons desiring to vote in the Special Election shall be in accordance with the general law of the State of Florida governing voter registration. Qualified persons may obtain registration forms to vote at the Office of the City Clerk, City Hall, 1700 Convention Center Drive, First Floor, Miami Beach, Florida 33139, during normal business hours, and at such other voter registration centers and during such times as may be provided by the Supervisor of Elections of Miami-Dade County. The Miami-Dade County Supervisor of Elections will register voters for this Special Election until October 7, 2024. All persons eligible to vote at this Special Election must be registered



by the date set forth herein or have registered previously, as provided by law. Each person desiring to become a registered voter shall be responsible for properly filling out the registration form and returning it to the Miami-Dade County Elections Department. All questions concerning voter registration should be directed to the Miami-Dade County Elections Department, 2700 N.W. 87<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Miami, Florida 33172; Telephone: (305) 499-VOTE (8683).

#### **SECTION 9.**

That voters participating via a Vote-by-Mail ballot in said Special Election shall be entitled to cast their ballots in accordance with the provisions of the Laws of the State of Florida with respect to such voting. All questions concerning Vote-by-Mail ballots should be directed to the Miami-Dade County Elections Department, 2700 N.W. 87<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Miami, Florida 33172; Telephone: (305) 499-VOTE (8683).

#### **SECTION 10.**

That the City of Miami Beach shall pay all expenses for conducting this Special Election and will pay to Miami-Dade County or directly to all persons or firms, upon receipt of invoice or statement approved by the Supervisor of Elections of Miami-Dade County, Florida.

#### **SECTION 11.**

That if the Charter Amendment provided for in Sections 5 and 6 above shall be approved by a majority of the qualified electors of the City voting on the subject Charter Amendment, it shall be considered adopted and effective upon the City Commission's acceptance of certification of final election results.

#### **SECTION 12.**

Upon the Charter Amendment's approval by a majority of the qualified electors of the City voting on such measure in the election and the City Commission's acceptance of certification of final election returns, the City Clerk is hereby directed to have the subject Charter amendment incorporated into the City Charter, file such Amendment with the Clerk of the Circuit Court and file the revised Charter with the Department of State.

#### **SECTION 13.**

In the event that some, but not all, of the Charter amendments on the City's subject November 5, 2024 Special Election ballot are approved by the electors, conforming amendments shall be deemed to be adopted, and the City Attorney is authorized to reflect and implement such revisions to the Charter, to the extent necessary to assure that all amendments adopted conform to one another and to all remaining Charter provisions. If conflicting amendments are adopted at the same election, the one receiving the greatest



number of affirmative votes shall prevail to the extent of such conflict.

**SECTION 14.**

If any section, sentence, clause or phrase of this Resolution or of the ballot measure or Charter Amendment set forth in Exhibit A and incorporated herein is held to be invalid or unconstitutional by any court of competent jurisdiction, then said holding shall in no way affect the validity of the remaining portions of this Resolution, ballot measure or Charter Amendment.

**SECTION 15.**

This Resolution shall be effective immediately upon its passage.

**PASSED and ADOPTED** this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2024.

**ATTEST:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
STEVEN MEINER  
MAYOR

\_\_\_\_\_  
RAFAEL E. GRANADO  
CITY CLERK

(Sponsored by the Mayor and City Commission)

APPROVED AS TO  
FORM AND LANGUAGE  
& FOR EXECUTION

 \_\_\_\_\_ 7/14/2024  
City Attorney NK Date

**EXHIBIT “A”**

**CITY CHARTER AMENDMENT RE:  
CITIZENS’ BILL OF RIGHTS-AMENDING EXISTING RIGHTS  
AND INCORPORATING COUNTY ETHICS COMMISSION’S ENFORCEMENT  
JURISDICTION**

**BALLOT QUESTION AND PROPOSED AMENDED CITY CHARTER TEXT  
NOVEMBER 5, 2024 SPECIAL ELECTION**

**Ballot Question:**

**Charter’s “Citizens’ Bill of Rights”: Amending Existing Rights, Incorporating County Ethics Commission’s Enforcement**

Shall Bill of Rights be amended:

- expanding existing right to public records, right to no unreasonable postponements, and right to notice and be heard on City matters, amendments including: limits on deferring agenda items, increased public hearings and notice requirements;
- incorporating Code Chapter 62 “Human Relations” classification categories (on which discrimination is prohibited) into “Nondiscrimination” rights;
- incorporating Miami-Dade County Ethics Commission’s powers to enforce and impose penalties (in addition to existing Circuit Court enforcement)?

**Proposed Amended Charter Text:**

**CITIZENS’ BILL OF RIGHTS**

(A) This government has been created to protect the governed, not the governing. In order to provide the public with full and accurate information, to promote efficient administrative management, to make government more accountable, and to insure to all persons fair and equitable treatment, the following rights are guaranteed:

1. *Convenient access.* Every person has the right to transact business with the City with a minimum of personal inconvenience. It shall be the duty of the City Manager and the City Commission to provide, within the City's budget limitations, reasonably convenient times and places for required inspections, and for transacting business with the City.
2. *Truth in government.* No municipal official or employee shall knowingly furnish false information on any public matter, nor knowingly omit significant facts when giving requested information to members of the public.
3. *Public records.* All audits, reports, minutes, documents and other public records of the City and its boards, agencies, departments and authorities shall be open for inspection and copying, consistent with the requirements of the State of



Florida's public records laws, at reasonable times and places convenient to the public.

4. *Minutes and ordinance register.* The City Clerk shall maintain and make available for public inspection an ordinance register separate from the minutes showing the votes of each member on all ordinances and resolutions<sup>2</sup> listed by descriptive title. Written minutes of all meetings and the ordinance register shall be available for public inspection not later than thirty (30) days after the conclusion of the meeting.
5. *Right to be heard.* So far as the orderly conduct of public business permits, any interested person has the right to appear before the City Commission or any City agency, board or department for the presentation, adjustment or determination of an issue, request or controversy within the jurisdiction of the City. Matters shall be scheduled for the convenience of the public, and the agenda shall be divided into approximate time periods so that the public may know approximately when a matter will be heard. Nothing herein shall prohibit the City or any agency thereof from imposing reasonable time limits for the presentation of a matter.<sup>3</sup>

At each regular meeting of the City Commission there shall be two Dr. Stanley Sutnick Citizens' Forums, both attended by a quorum of the City Commission, one to be held at the meeting's commencement and one to be held after 12:00 noon, at which members of the public shall have an opportunity to address the City Commission on matters relating to the City. The City Commission shall establish by ordinance procedural rules of order consistent with this Section which are necessary for the efficient and effective operation of the Sutnick Forums, including setting the order and scope of public items for discussion at each of the Sutnick Forums.

6. *Right to notice.* Persons entitled to notice of a City hearing shall be timely informed as to the time, place and nature of the hearing and the legal authority pursuant to which the hearing is to be held. Failure by an individual to receive such notice shall not constitute mandatory grounds for canceling the hearing or rendering invalid any determination made at such hearing. Copies of proposed ordinances or resolutions shall be made available at a reasonable time prior to the hearing, unless the matter involves an emergency ordinance or resolution.

The City shall also provide targeted neighborhood notice, timely opportunities for input, and procedural fairness in hearings for any proposed policy,

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<sup>2</sup> Editor's note(s)—The following footnote to this section on citizen's bill of rights was adopted with the Charter:<sup>1</sup> "Ordinance" means an official legislative action of the Miami Beach City Commission, which action is a regulation of a general and permanent nature and enforceable as a local law. "Resolution" means an expression of the Miami Beach City Commission concerning matters of administration, an expression of a temporary character, or a provision for the disposition of a particular item of the administrative business of the Miami Beach City Commission.

<sup>3</sup> See also Miami Beach City Code Section 2-1, entitled "Reasonable Opportunity to be Heard."



ordinance, project, or other matter that impacts residents' quality of life, as defined by Ordinance.<sup>4</sup>

7. *No unreasonable postponements.* No matter once having been placed on a formal agenda by the City shall be postponed to another day except for good cause shown in the opinion of the City Commission, or agency conducting such meeting, and then only on condition that any person so requesting is mailed adequate notice of the new date of any postponed meeting. Failure by an individual to receive such notice shall not constitute mandatory grounds for canceling the hearing or rendering invalid any determination made at such hearing.

Any City Commission agenda item that (i) has been deferred by the City Commission member who has sponsored the item and (ii) has not been heard within 3 regularly-scheduled City Commission meetings following the meeting date the item was first placed on a City Commission agenda shall be automatically withdrawn, and no item based on the same proposal may be placed on another City Commission meeting agenda within the following 3 regularly-scheduled City Commission meetings unless this provision is waived by a six-sevenths vote of the City Commission.

8. *Right to public hearing.* Upon a timely request of any interested party a public hearing shall be held by any City agency, board, department or authority upon any significant policy decision to be issued by it which is not subject to subsequent administrative or legislative review and hearing. This provision shall not apply to the law department of the City nor to any body whose duties and responsibilities are solely advisory.

At any zoning or other hearing in which review is exclusively by certiorari, a party or his counsel shall be entitled to present his case or defense by oral or documentary evidence, to submit rebuttal evidence, and to conduct such cross-examination as may be required for a full and true disclosure of the facts. The decision of any such agency, board, department or authority must be based upon the facts in the record. Procedural rules establishing reasonable time and other limitations may be promulgated and amended from time to time.

9. *Notice of action and reasons.* Prompt notice shall be given of the denial in whole or in part of a request of an interested person made in connection with any municipal administrative decision or proceeding when the decision is reserved at the conclusion of the hearing. The notice shall be accompanied by a statement of the grounds for denial.
10. *Managers' and attorneys' reports.* The City Manager and City Attorney shall periodically make a public status report on all major matters pending or concluded within their respective jurisdictions.
11. *Budgeting.* In addition to any budget required by state statute, the City Manager shall prepare a budget showing the cost of each department for each budget year. Prior to the City Commission's first public hearing on the proposed budget

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<sup>4</sup> See Miami Beach City Code Section 2-17, entitled "Residents' Right to Know."



required by state law, the City Manager shall make public a budget summary setting forth the proposed cost of each individual department and reflecting the personnel for each department, the purposes therefor, the estimated millage cost of each department and the amount of any contingency and carryover funds for each department.

12. *Quarterly budget comparisons.* The City Manager shall make public a quarterly report showing the actual expenditures during the quarter just ended against one quarter of the proposed annual expenditures set forth in the budget. Such report shall also reflect the same cumulative information for whatever portion of the fiscal year that has elapsed.
13. *Adequate audits.* An annual audit of the City shall be made by an independent certified public accounting firm in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards. The independent City Auditor shall be appointed by the City Commission; both appointment and removal of the independent City Auditor shall be made by the City Commission. A summary of the results of the independent City Auditor's annual audit, including any deficiencies found, shall be made public. In making such audit, proprietary functions shall be audited separately and adequate depreciation on proprietary facilities shall be accrued so the public may determine the amount of any direct or indirect subsidy. Duties, method of selection, and method of compensation of the independent City Auditor shall be established by ordinance.
14. *Representation of public.* The City Commission shall endeavor to provide representation at all proceedings significantly affecting the City and its residents before state and federal regulatory bodies.
15. *Natural resources and scenic beauty.* It shall be the policy of the City of Miami Beach to conserve and protect its natural resources and scenic beauty, which policy shall include the abatement of air and water pollution and of excessive and unnecessary noise.
16. *Nondiscrimination.* No person shall be deprived of any rights and privileges conferred by law because of race, color, national origin, religion, gender, sexual orientation, disability, marital status, familial status, or age, or any other classification category set forth in City Code Chapter 62, entitled "Human Relations."
17. *Nondiscrimination in City Employment and Benefits.* The City of Miami Beach shall not discriminate in employment practices and benefits offered based upon an employee or applicant's race, color, national origin, religion, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, disability, marital status, familial status, or age, or any other classification category set forth in City Code Chapter 62, entitled "Human Relations."
18. *Ethics in Government.* The public's confidence and trust in City of Miami Beach operations and government must meet the most demanding ethical standards and demonstrate the highest level of achievement in its adherence to ethics laws. City of Miami Beach officials and employees are agents of the people and hold their positions for the benefit of the public—as public servants, they are to



observe in their official acts a high standard of conduct and to discharge faithfully the duties of their office regardless of personal considerations and interests, recognizing that promoting the public interest and maintaining the respect of the people in their government must be of foremost concern. In upholding the values of accountability and responsibility, all city officials and employees shall abide by applicable codes of ethical conduct, and be subject to all penalties provided for in such regulations.

19. *Improvement of Public Educational Facilities available to Miami Beach Citizenry.* It shall be the policy of the City of Miami Beach to cooperate with the Miami-Dade County public schools, and with other appropriate governmental agencies, which will strive to improve the quality and quantity of public educational facilities available to the citizenry of the City of Miami Beach, Florida.

20. *City Assistance to Condominium and Co-op Owners.* The City of Miami Beach hereby acknowledges the purpose and duties of the City's Administration as assisting condominium and co-op owners to navigate through the City's permitting process; to facilitate the resolution of other condominium-related issues with other outside agencies; and to act as a liaison between condominium or co-op owners, management firms and the City.

(B) The foregoing enumeration of citizens' rights vests large and pervasive powers in the citizenry of the City of Miami Beach. Such power necessarily carries with it responsibility of equal magnitude for the successful operation of government in the City. The orderly, efficient and fair operation of government requires the intelligent participation of individual citizens exercising their rights with dignity and restraint so as to avoid any sweeping acceleration in the cost of government because of the exercise of individual prerogatives, and for individual citizens to grant respect for the dignity of public office.

(C) Remedies for violations.<sup>5</sup>

\* \* \*

Pursuant to Miami-Dade County law, as may be amended from time to time, and concurrent with the Miami-Dade County Circuit Court's jurisdiction over suits alleging violations of this Bill of Rights, the Miami-Dade County Commission on Ethics and Public Trust has jurisdiction to enforce the provisions of this Bill of Rights and may impose any penalty authorized by County Code not otherwise prohibited by a collective bargaining agreement, for a violation of this Bill of Rights, and any penalty imposed by the

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<sup>5</sup> See Resolution No. 2024-\_\_\_\_\_ at Exhibit "A", setting forth corresponding ballot measure and proposed Charter text amendments to subsection (C) of Citizens' Bill of Rights' re: Forfeiture Remedy, said Resolution calling City's November 5, 2024 Special Election on said measure.

Commission on Ethics and Public Trust pursuant to this subsection may be enforced in the Miami-Dade County Circuit Court.

(D) Construction. All provisions of this ~~article~~ Bill of Rights shall be construed to be supplementary to and not in conflict with the general laws of Florida. If any part of this ~~article~~ Bill of Rights shall be declared invalid, it shall not affect the validity of the remaining provisions.

**RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA CALLING FOR A NOVEMBER 5, 2024 CITY OF MIAMI BEACH SPECIAL ELECTION, FOR THE PURPOSE OF SUBMITTING TO THE ELECTORATE OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH A QUESTION ASKING WHETHER THE CITY CHARTER'S "CITIZENS' BILL OF RIGHTS" SHOULD BE AMENDED REGARDING ITS CIRCUIT COURT FORFEITURE REMEDY FOR WILLFUL VIOLATIONS OF BILL OF RIGHTS, TO PROVIDE THAT FORFEITURE IS SUBJECT TO COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENTS (PER STATE LAW) AND TO ESTABLISH SUCH FORFEITURE REMEDY AS DISCRETIONARY INSTEAD OF MANDATORY BASED UPON COURT'S DETERMINATION THAT THE VIOLATOR HAS COMMITTED REPEATED VIOLATIONS OF BILL OF RIGHTS.**

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT DULY RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH:

**SECTION 1.**

In accordance with provisions of the Charter of the City of Miami Beach, Florida and the general laws of the State of Florida, a Special Election is hereby called and directed to be held in the City of Miami Beach, Florida, from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, November 5, 2024, for the purpose of submitting to the electorate the question as set forth hereinafter.

**SECTION 2.**

That the appropriate and proper Miami-Dade County election officials shall conduct the said Special Election hereby called, with acceptance of the certification of the results of said Special Election to be performed by the City Commission. The official returns for each precinct shall be furnished to the City Clerk of the City of Miami Beach as soon as the ballots from all precincts have been tabulated.

**SECTION 3.**

That the said voting precincts in the City of said Special Election shall be as established by the proper and appropriate Miami-Dade County Election Officials. All electors shall vote at the polling places and the voting precincts as determined by the Miami-Dade County Election Officials.<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Pursuant to City Code Section 38-3(b): "...The City Clerk shall further publish, in a newspaper meeting the requirements set forth in Florida Statute § 50.031 and on the City's website, the polling places for the election twice, once in the third week and once in the first week prior to the week in which the election is to be held."



**SECTION 4.**

Notice of the adoption of this Resolution and of its provisions calling this Special Election shall be given by publication in the Miami Herald, a newspaper of general circulation in Miami Beach, Miami-Dade County, Florida. Such publication shall be made in accordance with the provisions of Section 100.342, Florida Statutes, and Section 38-3 of the Code of the City of Miami Beach.

**SECTION 5.**

The Notice of Election shall be substantially in the following form:

THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA  
NOTICE OF SPECIAL ELECTION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT A SPECIAL ELECTION HAS BEEN CALLED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA, AND WILL BE HELD IN SAID CITY FROM 7:00 A.M. UNTIL 7:00 P.M. ON THE 5th DAY OF NOVEMBER, 2024, AT WHICH TIME THERE SHALL BE SUBMITTED TO THE DULY REGISTERED AND QUALIFIED VOTERS OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH THE FOLLOWING QUESTION:

**Charter's "Citizens' Bill of Rights": Amending Circuit Court Forfeiture Remedy**

Shall Bill of Rights at Section (C), "Remedies," be amended to:

- provide that the "forfeiture of office or employment" judicial remedy for willful violations of the Bill of Rights is subject to terms of collective bargaining agreements (per State law); and
- establish that such forfeiture remedy is within the Court's discretion instead of mandatory, based upon the Court's determination that the violator has committed repeated violations of the Bill of Rights?

Yes \_\_\_\_\_

No \_\_\_\_\_

Said Notice shall further set forth pertinent information regarding eligibility of electors to participate in said elections.

## **SECTION 6.**

That the official ballot to be used in the Special Election to be held on November 5, 2024, hereby called, shall be in substantially the following form, to-wit:

### **“OFFICIAL BALLOT”**

#### **Charter’s “Citizens’ Bill of Rights”: Amending Circuit Court Forfeiture Remedy**

Shall Bill of Rights at Section (C), “Remedies,” be amended to:

- provide that the “forfeiture of office or employment” judicial remedy for willful violations of the Bill of Rights is subject to terms of collective bargaining agreements (per State law); and
- establish that such forfeiture remedy is within the Court’s discretion instead of mandatory, based upon the Court’s determination that the violator has committed repeated violations of the Bill of Rights?

Yes \_\_\_\_\_

No \_\_\_\_\_

## **SECTION 7.**

The form of the ballots to be used in this Special Election and their preparation shall be in compliance with all statutory requirements relating to the use of mechanical or other approved voting machines or devices.

## **SECTION 8.**

Registration of persons desiring to vote in the Special Election shall be in accordance with the general law of the State of Florida governing voter registration. Qualified persons may obtain registration forms to vote at the Office of the City Clerk, City Hall, 1700 Convention Center Drive, First Floor, Miami Beach, Florida 33139, during normal business hours, and at such other voter registration centers and during such times as may be provided by the Supervisor of Elections of Miami-Dade County. The Miami-Dade County Supervisor of Elections will register voters for this Special Election until October 7, 2024. All persons eligible to vote at this Special Election must be registered by the date set forth herein or have registered previously, as provided by law. Each person desiring to become a registered voter shall be responsible for properly filling out the registration form and returning it to the Miami-Dade County Elections Department. All questions concerning voter registration should be directed to the Miami-Dade County Elections Department, 2700 N.W. 87<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Miami, Florida 33172; Telephone: (305) 499-VOTE (8683).



**SECTION 9.**

That voters participating via a Vote-by-Mail ballot in said Special Election shall be entitled to cast their ballots in accordance with the provisions of the Laws of the State of Florida with respect to such voting. All questions concerning Vote-by-Mail ballots should be directed to the Miami-Dade County Elections Department, 2700 N.W. 87" Avenue, Miami, Florida 33172; Telephone: (305) 499-VOTE (8683).

**SECTION 10.**

That the City of Miami Beach shall pay all expenses for conducting this Special Election and will pay to Miami-Dade County or directly to all persons or firms, upon receipt of invoice or statement approved by the Supervisor of Elections of Miami-Dade County, Florida.

**SECTION 11.**

That if the Charter Amendment provided for in Sections 5 and 6 above shall be approved by a majority of the qualified electors of the City voting on the subject Charter Amendment, it shall be considered adopted and effective upon the City Commission's acceptance of certification of final election results.

**SECTION 12.**

Upon the Charter Amendment's approval by a majority of the qualified electors of the City voting on such measure in the election and the City Commission's acceptance of certification of final election returns, the City Clerk is hereby directed to have the subject Charter amendment incorporated into the City Charter, file such Amendment with the Clerk of the Circuit Court and file the revised Charter with the Department of State.

**SECTION 13.**

In the event that some, but not all, of the Charter amendments on the City's subject November 5, 2024 Special Election ballot are approved by the electors, conforming amendments shall be deemed to be adopted, and the City Attorney is authorized to reflect and implement such revisions to the Charter, to the extent necessary to assure that all amendments adopted conform to one another and to all remaining Charter provisions. If conflicting amendments are adopted at the same election, the one receiving the greatest number of affirmative votes shall prevail to the extent of such conflict.

**SECTION 14.**

If any section, sentence, clause or phrase of this Resolution or of the ballot measure or Charter Amendment set forth in Exhibit A and incorporated herein is held to be invalid or unconstitutional by any court of competent jurisdiction, then said holding shall in no way affect the validity of the remaining portions of this Resolution, ballot measure or Charter Amendment.

**SECTION 15.**

This Resolution shall be effective immediately upon its passage.

**PASSED and ADOPTED** this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2024.


**ATTEST:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
STEVEN MEINER  
MAYOR

\_\_\_\_\_  
RAFAEL E. GRANADO  
CITY CLERK

(Sponsored by the Mayor and City Commission)

APPROVED AS TO  
FORM AND LANGUAGE  
& FOR EXECUTION

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
City Attorney NK

7/16/2024  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

## EXHIBIT “A”

### CITY CHARTER AMENDMENT RE: CITIZENS’ BILL OF RIGHTS-AMENDING FORFEITURE REMEDY

#### BALLOT QUESTION AND PROPOSED AMENDED CITY CHARTER TEXT NOVEMBER 5, 2024 SPECIAL ELECTION

#### **Ballot Question:**

#### **Charter’s “Citizens’ Bill of Rights”: Amending Circuit Court Forfeiture Remedy**

Shall Bill of Rights at Section (C), “Remedies,” be amended to:

- provide that the “forfeiture of office or employment” judicial remedy for willful violations of the Bill of Rights is subject to terms of collective bargaining agreements (per State law); and
- establish that such forfeiture remedy is within the Court’s discretion instead of mandatory, based upon the Court’s determination that the violator has committed repeated violations of the Bill of Rights?

#### **Proposed Amended Charter Text: CITIZENS’ BILL OF RIGHTS**

\* \* \*

(C) Remedies for violations. Except as otherwise provided by law and subject to the rights of employees under the terms of collective bargaining agreements, the following remedies shall apply to violations of the Bill of Rights:

- 1) In any suit by a citizen alleging a violation of this Bill of Rights filed in the Miami-Dade County Circuit Court pursuant to its general equity jurisdiction, the plaintiff, if successful, shall be entitled to recover costs as fixed by the court.
- 2) Any public official or employee who is found by the court to have willfully violated this article Bill of Rights shall forthwith may, at the Court’s discretion, be required to forfeit his/her office or employment, based upon the Court’s determination that the violator has committed repeated violations of the Bill of Rights.

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<sup>2</sup> See Resolution No. 2024-\_\_\_\_ at Exhibit “A”, setting forth corresponding ballot measure and proposed Charter text amendments to Citizens’ Bill of Rights’ re: Amending Existing Rights, etc., said Resolution calling City’s November 5, 2024 Special Election on said measure.



RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_

**A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA CALLING FOR A NOVEMBER 5, 2024 CITY OF MIAMI BEACH SPECIAL ELECTION, FOR THE PURPOSE OF SUBMITTING TO THE ELECTORATE OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH A QUESTION ASKING WHETHER CITY CHARTER SECTION 1.03 SHOULD BE AMENDED TO REQUIRE MAJORITY VOTER APPROVAL FOR ALL RIGHT-OF-WAY VACATIONS, SALES, AND LEASES (10 YEARS OR MORE) OF CITY PROPERTY; AMEND REQUIREMENTS FOR SALES/LEASES/VACATIONS; AND AMEND REQUIREMENTS FOR MANAGEMENT/CONCESSION AGREEMENTS OF 10 YEARS OR MORE.**

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT DULY RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH:

**SECTION 1.**

In accordance with provisions of the Charter of the City of Miami Beach, Florida and the general laws of the State of Florida, a Special Election is hereby called and directed to be held in the City of Miami Beach, Florida, from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, November 5, 2024, for the purpose of submitting to the electorate the question as set forth hereinafter.

**SECTION 2.**

That the appropriate and proper Miami-Dade County election officials shall conduct the said Special Election hereby called, with acceptance of the certification of the results of said Special Election to be performed by the City Commission. The official returns for each precinct shall be furnished to the City Clerk of the City of Miami Beach as soon as the ballots from all precincts have been tabulated.

**SECTION 3.**

That the said voting precincts in the City of said Special Election shall be as established by the proper and appropriate Miami-Dade County Election Officials. All electors shall vote at the polling places and the voting precincts as determined by the Miami-Dade County Election Officials.<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Pursuant to City Code Section 38-3(b): "...The City Clerk shall further publish, in a newspaper meeting the requirements set forth in Florida Statute § 50.031 and on the City's website, the polling places for the election twice, once in the third week and once in the first week prior to the week in which the election is to be held."

#### **SECTION 4.**

Notice of the adoption of this Resolution and of its provisions calling this Special Election shall be given by publication in the Miami Herald, a newspaper of general circulation in Miami Beach, Miami-Dade County, Florida. Such publication shall be made in accordance with the provisions of Section 100.342, Florida Statutes, and Section 38-3 of the Code of the City of Miami Beach.

#### **SECTION 5.**

The Notice of Election shall be substantially in the following form:

THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA  
NOTICE OF SPECIAL ELECTION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT A SPECIAL ELECTION HAS BEEN CALLED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA, AND WILL BE HELD IN SAID CITY FROM 7:00 A.M. UNTIL 7:00 P.M. ON THE 5th DAY OF NOVEMBER, 2024, AT WHICH TIME THERE SHALL BE SUBMITTED TO THE DULY REGISTERED AND QUALIFIED VOTERS OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH THE FOLLOWING QUESTION:

**Charter Section 1.03: Sale/Lease of City property; right-of-way vacations; management/concession agreements**

Shall Charter be amended, requiring for all sales/leases (10 years or more) of City property (awarded after November 5, 2024) and right-of-way vacations:

- Majority voter approval (includes changing approval for Convention Center Campus/Parking Lots from 60% to majority);
- advisory Planning Board review;
- planning analysis;
- appraisal;
- competitive bidding (sales/leases only);
- public hearing; and

for management/concession agreements (10 years or more):

- 6/7 Commission vote;
- public hearing;
- advisory Planning Board review?

Yes \_\_\_\_\_

No \_\_\_\_\_

Said Notice shall further set forth pertinent information regarding eligibility of electors to participate in said elections.

#### **SECTION 6.**

That the official ballot to be used in the Special Election to be held on November 5, 2024,



hereby called, shall be in substantially the following form, to-wit:

**“OFFICIAL BALLOT”**

**Charter Section 1.03: Sale/Lease of City property; right-of-way vacations; management/concession agreements**

Shall Charter be amended, requiring for all sales/leases (10 years or more) of City property (awarded after November 5, 2024) and right-of-way vacations:

- Majority voter approval (includes changing approval for Convention Center Campus/Parking Lots from 60% to majority);
- advisory Planning Board review;
- planning analysis;
- appraisal;
- competitive bidding (sales/leases only);
- public hearing; and

for management/concession agreements (10 years or more):

- 6/7 Commission vote;
- public hearing;
- advisory Planning Board review?

Yes \_\_\_\_\_

No \_\_\_\_\_

**SECTION 7.**

The form of the ballots to be used in this Special Election and their preparation shall be in compliance with all statutory requirements relating to the use of mechanical or other approved voting machines or devices.

**SECTION 8.**

Registration of persons desiring to vote in the Special Election shall be in accordance with the general law of the State of Florida governing voter registration. Qualified persons may obtain registration forms to vote at the Office of the City Clerk, City Hall, 1700 Convention Center Drive, First Floor, Miami Beach, Florida 33139, during normal business hours, and at such other voter registration centers and during such times as may be provided by the Supervisor of Elections of Miami-Dade County. The Miami-Dade County Supervisor of Elections will register voters for this Special Election until October 7, 2024. All persons eligible to vote at this Special Election must be registered by the date set forth herein or have registered previously, as provided by law. Each person desiring to become a registered voter shall be responsible for properly filling out the registration form and returning it to the Miami-Dade County Elections Department. All questions concerning voter registration should be directed to the Miami-Dade County



Elections Department, 2700 N.W. 87<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Miami, Florida 33172; Telephone: (305) 499-VOTE (8683).

#### **SECTION 9.**

That voters participating via a Vote-by-Mail ballot in said Special Election shall be entitled to cast their ballots in accordance with the provisions of the Laws of the State of Florida with respect to such voting. All questions concerning Vote-by-Mail ballots should be directed to the Miami-Dade County Elections Department, 2700 N.W. 87<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Miami, Florida 33172; Telephone: (305) 499-VOTE (8683).

#### **SECTION 10.**

That the City of Miami Beach shall pay all expenses for conducting this Special Election and will pay to Miami-Dade County or directly to all persons or firms, upon receipt of invoice or statement approved by the Supervisor of Elections of Miami-Dade County, Florida.

#### **SECTION 11.**

That if the Charter Amendment provided for in Sections 5 and 6 above shall be approved by a majority of the qualified electors of the City voting on the subject Charter Amendment, it shall be considered adopted and effective upon the City Commission's acceptance of certification of final election results.

#### **SECTION 12.**

Upon the Charter Amendment's approval by a majority of the qualified electors of the City voting on such measure in the election and the City Commission's acceptance of certification of final election returns, the City Clerk is hereby directed to have the subject Charter amendment incorporated into the City Charter, file such Amendment with the Clerk of the Circuit Court and file the revised Charter with the Department of State.

#### **SECTION 13.**

In the event that some, but not all, of the Charter amendments on the City's subject November 5, 2024 Special Election ballot are approved by the electors, conforming amendments shall be deemed to be adopted, and the City Attorney is authorized to reflect and implement such revisions to the Charter, to the extent necessary to assure that all amendments adopted conform to one another and to all remaining Charter provisions. If conflicting amendments are adopted at the same election, the one receiving the greatest number of affirmative votes shall prevail to the extent of such conflict.

#### **SECTION 14.**

If any section, sentence, clause or phrase of this Resolution or of the ballot measure or Charter Amendment set forth in Exhibit A and incorporated herein is held to be invalid or unconstitutional by any court of competent jurisdiction, then said holding shall in no way affect the validity of the remaining portions of this Resolution, ballot measure or Charter Amendment.

**SECTION 15.**

This Resolution shall be effective immediately upon its passage.

**PASSED and ADOPTED** this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2024.


**ATTEST:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
STEVEN MEINER  
MAYOR

\_\_\_\_\_  
RAFAEL E. GRANADO  
CITY CLERK

(Sponsored by the Mayor and City Commission)

APPROVED AS TO  
FORM AND LANGUAGE  
& FOR EXECUTION

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
City Attorney NK Date 7/22/2024

**EXHIBIT "A"**

**CITY CHARTER AMENDMENT RE:  
SALE/LEASE OF CITY PROPERTY; RIGHT-OF-WAY VACATIONS;  
MANAGEMENT/CONCESSION AGREEMENTS**

**BALLOT QUESTION AND PROPOSED AMENDED CITY CHARTER TEXT  
NOVEMBER 5, 2024 SPECIAL ELECTION**

**Ballot Question:**

**Charter Section 1.03: Sale/Lease of City property; right-of-way vacations; management/concession agreements**

Shall Charter be amended, requiring for all sales/leases (10 years or more) of City property (awarded after November 5, 2024) and right-of-way vacations:

- Majority voter approval (includes changing approval for Convention Center Campus/Parking Lots from 60% to majority);
- advisory Planning Board review;
- planning analysis;
- appraisal;
- competitive bidding (sales/leases only);
- public hearing; and

for management/concession agreements (10 years or more):

- 6/7 Commission vote;
- public hearing;
- advisory Planning Board review?

**Proposed Amended Charter Text:**

**Sec. 1.03. Powers of City.**

(a) *General.* The City shall have all governmental, corporate, and proprietary powers to enable it to conduct municipal government, perform municipal functions, and render municipal services, and may exercise any power for municipal purposes except as expressly prohibited by law or this Charter.

(b) *Disposition of City Property.*

- ~~1. The sale, exchange, conveyance, or lease of ten (10) years or longer (including option periods) of City-owned park, recreation, or waterfront property shall require approval by a majority vote of the voters in a City-wide referendum. This provision shall be liberally construed in favor of the preservation of all park, recreation and waterfront lands.~~
- ~~2. The sale, exchange, conveyance or lease of ten years or longer of the following properties shall also require approval by a majority vote of the voters in a City-wide referendum: (1) *Lots West of the North Shore Open Space Park:* All City-owned property bounded by 87th Street on the North, Collins Avenue on the East, 79th Street on the South, and Collins Court on the West; (2) *Cultural Campus:* All City-owned property bounded by 22nd Street on the North, Park Avenue on the West, 21st Street~~



~~on the South, and Miami Beach Drive on the East; (3) 72nd Street Parking Lot: The City-owned surface parking lot bounded by 73rd Street on the North, Collins Avenue on the East, 72nd Street on the South, and Harding Avenue on the West; (4) Lincoln Road Parking Lots: All City-owned surface parking lots in the vicinity of Lincoln Road located within the area bounded by 17th Street on the North, Euclid Avenue on the East, 16th Street on the South, and West Avenue on the West; and (5) 41st Street Corridor: All City-owned property in the vicinity of 41st Street, in the area bounded by West 43rd Street on the North, West 40th Street on the South, Pine Tree Drive on the East, and Alton Road on the West.~~

- ~~3. The sale, exchange, conveyance or lease of ten years or longer of the following properties shall require approval by vote of at least sixty (60) percent of the City's voters voting thereon in a City wide referendum: (1) Convention Center Parking Lots: All City-owned surface parking lots located in the Civic and Convention Center District, generally bounded by Lincoln Lane on the South, Washington Avenue on the East, Meridian Avenue on the West and Dade Boulevard on the North; (2) Convention Center Campus: All City-owned property, except for the Convention Center and Carl Fisher Club House, located within the Civic and Convention Center District (includes City Hall, 1701 Meridian Street, 555 17th Street, 21st Street Community Center, The Fillmore Miami Beach/Jackie Gleason Theater, and the 17th Street Parking Garage). All local laws, charter provisions and ordinances of the City in conflict with this provision are hereby repealed. This provision shall become effective immediately upon acceptance of the certification of election results by the City Commission.~~
- ~~4. The sale, exchange, conveyance or lease of ten years or longer of all remaining City-owned property (other than public beach rights-of-way — see (d) herein below, and other than those properties addressed more specifically in this Charter [section 1.03](#)) shall, as provided by Ordinance, require approval by a majority 4/7 vote of all members of the Planning Board and 6/7 vote of the City Commission. The sale, exchange, conveyance or lease of ten years or longer of property owned by the Miami Beach Redevelopment Agency (Agency) shall require approval by a majority 4/7 vote of all members of the Planning Board and 7/8 vote of the Agency.~~
- ~~5. The terms of this Charter section shall not apply to any valid written contractual commitments or bids or bonded indebtedness, which commitments, bids or indebtedness existed prior to January 14, 2004; nor shall this Charter section apply to any City property which is the subject of a settlements of a claim which the City had notice of as of January 14, 2004.~~
1. The sale, exchange, conveyance (collectively the "sale"), or lease of ten (10) years or longer (including option periods/renewal terms), of any City-owned property (including, without limitation, air rights and property owned by the Miami Beach Redevelopment Agency or any other City entity/agency) shall be subject to the following requirements:
  - i. The proposed sale or lease shall be transmitted by the City Manager to the Finance and Economic Resiliency Committee (or its successor committee) for its review;
  - ii. The City's Planning Department shall prepare a written analysis to be submitted to the City Commission concurrent with its consideration of the proposed sale or lease. The minimum criteria for the planning analysis shall be as set forth in the City Code, as same may be amended from time to time;



- iii. The City shall obtain an independent appraisal of the fair market or rental value of the property. The City Commission may waive this requirement by 5/7ths vote, upon a finding that the public interest would be served by waiving such requirement;
  - iv. There shall be no sale or lease of City property unless there has been an advertised public competitive bidding process. The City Commission may waive this requirement by 5/7ths vote, upon a finding that the public interest would be served by waiving such requirement;
  - v. The proposed sale or lease shall be referred to the City's Planning Board for its review and advisory recommendation (which shall not be binding on the City Commission);
  - vi. The proposed sale or lease shall be approved by a majority vote of the City Commission (A) subject to the City Commission being presented and having considered the material terms of the proposed sale or lease, and (B) following a duly noticed public hearing in order to obtain citizen input on the proposed sale or lease; and
  - vii. The proposed sale or lease shall require approval by a majority of the voters in a Citywide referendum. At least thirty (30) days prior to the referendum date, the material terms of the proposed sale or lease shall be posted in the Office of the City Clerk and shall be made available for inspection by the public.
2. Vacation of City Right-of-Way. The vacation, sale, exchange, lease, or any other transfer (collectively, the "vacation") of any City-owned, or of any City interest (including, without limitation, air rights) in any street, street-end, sidewalk, alley, or any other right-of-way (collectively, the "right-of-way") shall be subject to the following requirements:
- i. The proposed vacation shall be transmitted by the City Manager to the Finance and Economic Resiliency Committee (or its successor committee) for its review;
  - ii. The City's Planning Department shall prepare a written analysis to be submitted to the City Commission concurrent with its consideration of the proposed vacation. The minimum criteria for the planning analysis shall be as set forth in the City Code, as same may be amended from time to time;
  - iii. The City shall obtain an independent appraisal of the fair market value of the property to be vacated. The City Commission may waive the appraisal requirement by 5/7ths vote, upon a finding that the public interest would be served by waiving such requirement;
  - iv. The proposed vacation shall be referred to the City's Planning Board for its review and advisory recommendation (which shall not be binding on the City Commission);
  - v. The proposed vacation shall be approved by a majority vote of the City Commission following a duly noticed public hearing in order to obtain citizen input on the proposed vacation; and
  - vi. The proposed vacation shall be approved by a majority of the voters in a Citywide referendum.
3. Management and Concession Agreements with Private Operators. The City shall not enter into a management or concession agreement with a private party or operator



(collectively, "agreement"), having a term of ten (10) years or longer (including option periods/renewal terms), for the management, operation, and/or use of City property (including, without limitation, the City's public beachfront), or of a City facility, without complying with the following requirements:

- i. The proposed agreement shall be transmitted by the City Manager to the Finance and Economic Resiliency Committee (or its successor committee) for its review;
- ii. The proposed agreement shall be referred to the City's Planning Board for its review and advisory recommendation (which shall not be binding on the City Commission);
- iii. The proposed agreement shall be approved by 6/7ths vote of the City Commission (A) subject to the City Commission being presented and having considered the final negotiated agreement, and (B) following a duly noticed public hearing in order to obtain citizen input on the proposed agreement.

4. Applicability. Charter Sections 1.03(b)(1), (b)(2), and (b)(3) shall apply to any sale, lease, vacation, or agreement awarded pursuant to a public competitive bidding process (if applicable), or waiver of such process, approved by the City Commission after November 5, 2024. Any sale, lease, vacation, or agreement awarded or approved on or before November 5, 2024 shall continue to be governed by the applicable provisions of Section 1.03 in effect immediately prior to November 5, 2024.

(c) The floor area ratio of any property or street end within the City of Miami Beach shall not be increased by zoning, transfer, or any other means from its current zoned floor area ratio as it exists on the date of adoption of this Charter Amendment [November 7, 2001], including any limitations on floor area ratios which are in effect by virtue of development agreements through the full term of such agreements, unless any such increase in zoned floor area ratio for any such property shall first be approved by a vote of the electors of the City of Miami Beach. The provision shall not preclude or otherwise affect the division of lots, or the aggregation of development rights on unified abutting parcels, as may be permitted by ordinance, except that all or a portion of any street, alley, right-of-way, or any public property, may not be vacated, deeded, or otherwise sold or conveyed, if it has the effect of aggregating the floor area of any unified abutting parcels, unless such aggregation of floor area is first approved by a vote of the electors of the City of Miami Beach. In addition, this provision shall not apply to settlements of any claims the City has notice of as of December 10, 2003. This Charter Amendment shall become effective on the day after its approval by the voters of the City of Miami Beach. No rights in derogation of the provisions of this Amendment under any ordinance or any other action of the Miami Beach City Commission between the time this measure is approved by the Miami Beach City Commission for placement on a ballot and the adoption of this Amendment shall be enforced against the City of Miami Beach.

~~(d) Public Beach Rights-of-Way. The sale, exchange, conveyance, lease, or any other transfer of any City interest in a public beach right-of-way (extending eastward from Collins Avenue/Ocean Drive to the erosion control line) shall require approval by a majority vote of the voters in a Citywide referendum, excluding permits of no greater than one year, and excluding the sale, exchange, conveyance, lease or any other transfer not exceeding 10% in width of such public beach right-of-way.~~

~~(e) Public Street Ends Bordering GU, GC, or Waterfront Land. The sale, exchange, conveyance, lease, or any other transfer of any City interest in any public street end~~

~~bordering on land designated "Government Use", "Golf Course" or Waterfront land, shall require either the unanimous approval of those members of the City Commission with power to vote or approval by a majority vote of the voters in a Citywide referendum, excluding a sale, exchange, conveyance, lease, or any other transfer not exceeding 10% in width of such street end which advances a significant public purpose, and excluding underground utility easements.~~

- ~~(f) *Management and Concession Agreements with Private Operators.* The City shall not enter into a management agreement or concession agreement with a private party or operator, having a term of ten (10) years or longer (including option periods), for the management, operation, and/or use of City owned property, or of a City owned facility, without obtaining the approval of a majority 4/7 vote of all members of the Planning Board and 6/7 vote of the City Commission. For purposes of this subsection, the term "City property" shall include the City's public beach areas in the City of Miami Beach, from Government Cut to 87th Terrace. The term "private party or operator" shall exclude any political subdivision and/or governmental agencies, departments, and/or divisions of the United States, the State of Florida, or Miami Dade County.~~



RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_

A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA CALLING FOR A NOVEMBER 5, 2024 CITY OF MIAMI BEACH SPECIAL ELECTION, FOR THE PURPOSE OF SUBMITTING TO THE ELECTORATE OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH A QUESTION ASKING WHETHER THE CITY CHARTER SHOULD BE AMENDED TO MOVE CITY'S RUNOFF ELECTION DATE FROM 2 WEEKS AFTER CITY'S GENERAL ELECTION TO SECOND TUESDAY IN DECEMBER IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING CITY'S GENERAL ELECTION, ESTABLISH INSTALLATION/ COMMENCEMENT OF TERMS DATE AS MONDAY IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING DATE OF RUNOFF ELECTION, AND IN ORDER TO CONFORM WITH AND ENSURE AN ORDERLY TRANSITION TO THE ABOVE CHARTER AMENDMENTS, PROVIDE THAT EXISTING COMMISSION MEMBERS' TERMS EXPIRING NOVEMBER 2025 AND NOVEMBER 2027 SHALL BE RESPECTIVELY EXTENDED TO THOSE YEARS' DECEMBER INSTALLATION DATE.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT DULY RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH:

**SECTION 1.**

In accordance with provisions of the Charter of the City of Miami Beach, Florida and the general laws of the State of Florida, a Special Election is hereby called and directed to be held in the City of Miami Beach, Florida, from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, November 5, 2024, for the purpose of submitting to the electorate the question as set forth hereinafter.

**SECTION 2.**

That the appropriate and proper Miami-Dade County election officials shall conduct the said Special Election hereby called, with acceptance of the certification of the results of said Special Election to be performed by the City Commission. The official returns for each precinct shall be furnished to the City Clerk of the City of Miami Beach as soon as the ballots from all precincts have been tabulated.

**SECTION 3.**

That the said voting precincts in the City of said Special Election shall be as established by the proper and appropriate Miami-Dade County Election Officials. All electors shall vote at the polling places and the voting precincts as determined by the Miami-Dade County Election Officials.<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Pursuant to City Code Section 38-3(b): "... The City Clerk shall further publish, in a newspaper meeting the requirements set forth in Florida Statute § 50.031 and on the City's website, the polling places for the election twice, once in the third week and once in the first week prior to the week in which the election is to be held."



#### **SECTION 4.**

Notice of the adoption of this Resolution and of its provisions calling this Special Election shall be given by publication in the Miami Herald, a newspaper of general circulation in Miami Beach, Miami-Dade County, Florida. Such publication shall be made in accordance with the provisions of Section 100.342, Florida Statutes, and Section 38-3 of the Code of the City of Miami Beach.

#### **SECTION 5.**

The Notice of Election shall be substantially in the following form:

THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA  
NOTICE OF SPECIAL ELECTION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT A SPECIAL ELECTION HAS BEEN CALLED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA, AND WILL BE HELD IN SAID CITY FROM 7:00 A.M. UNTIL 7:00 P.M. ON THE 5th DAY OF NOVEMBER, 2024, AT WHICH TIME THERE SHALL BE SUBMITTED TO THE DULY REGISTERED AND QUALIFIED VOTERS OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH THE FOLLOWING QUESTION:

#### **Election of City Commission: Moving City's Runoff Election Date, Installation/Term Commencement, Conforming Office Terms**

Shall Charter be amended to provide, commencing City's November 2025 general election:

- City's runoff election date shall be second Tuesday in December immediately following City's general election instead of 2 weeks after said general election;
- installation/commencement of Commission members' terms shall occur on the Monday immediately following runoff election date;
- to conform with above, existing Commission members' terms expiring November 2025 and November 2027 shall be respectively extended to those years' December installation date?

Yes \_\_\_\_\_

No \_\_\_\_\_

Said Notice shall further set forth pertinent information regarding eligibility of electors to participate in said elections.

## **SECTION 6.**

That the official ballot to be used in the Special Election to be held on November 5, 2024, hereby called, shall be in substantially the following form, to-wit:

### **“OFFICIAL BALLOT”**

#### **Election of City Commission: Moving City’s Runoff Election Date, Installation/Term Commencement, Conforming Office Terms**

Shall Charter be amended to provide, commencing City’s November 2025 general election:

- City’s runoff election date shall be second Tuesday in December immediately following City’s general election instead of 2 weeks after said general election;
- installation/commencement of Commission members’ terms shall occur on the Monday immediately following runoff election date;
- to conform with above, existing Commission members’ terms expiring November 2025 and November 2027 shall be respectively extended to those years’ December installation date?

Yes \_\_\_\_

No \_\_\_\_

## **SECTION 7.**

The form of the ballots to be used in this Special Election and their preparation shall be in compliance with all statutory requirements relating to the use of mechanical or other approved voting machines or devices.

## **SECTION 8.**

Registration of persons desiring to vote in the Special Election shall be in accordance with the general law of the State of Florida governing voter registration. Qualified persons may obtain registration forms to vote at the Office of the City Clerk, City Hall, 1700 Convention Center Drive, First Floor, Miami Beach, Florida 33139, during normal business hours, and at such other voter registration centers and during such times as may be provided by the Supervisor of Elections of Miami-Dade County. The Miami-Dade County Supervisor of Elections will register voters for this Special Election until October 7, 2024. All persons eligible to vote at this Special Election must be registered by the date set forth herein or have registered previously, as provided by law. Each person desiring to become a registered voter shall be responsible for properly filling out the registration form and returning it to the Miami-Dade County Elections Department. All questions concerning voter registration should be directed to the Miami-Dade County Elections Department, 2700 N.W. 87<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Miami, Florida 33172; Telephone: (305) 499-VOTE (8683).



## **SECTION 9.**

That voters participating via a Vote-by-Mail ballot in said Special Election shall be entitled to cast their ballots in accordance with the provisions of the Laws of the State of Florida with respect to such voting. All questions concerning Vote-by-Mail ballots should be directed to the Miami-Dade County Elections Department, 2700 N.W. 87" Avenue, Miami, Florida 33172; Telephone: (305) 499-VOTE (8683).

## **SECTION 10.**

That the City of Miami Beach shall pay all expenses for conducting this Special Election and will pay to Miami-Dade County or directly to all persons or firms, upon receipt of invoice or statement approved by the Supervisor of Elections of Miami-Dade County, Florida.

## **SECTION 11.**

That if the Charter Amendment provided for in Sections 5 and 6 above shall be approved by a majority of the qualified electors of the City voting on the subject Charter Amendment, it shall be considered adopted and effective upon the City Commission's acceptance of certification of final election results.

## **SECTION 12.**

Upon the Charter Amendment's approval by a majority of the qualified electors of the City voting on such measure in the election and the City Commission's acceptance of certification of final election returns, the City Clerk is hereby directed to have the subject Charter amendment incorporated into the City Charter, file such Amendment with the Clerk of the Circuit Court and file the revised Charter with the Department of State.

## **SECTION 13.**

In the event that some, but not all, of the Charter amendments on the City's subject November 5, 2024 Special Election ballot are approved by the electors, conforming amendments shall be deemed to be adopted, and the City Attorney is authorized to reflect and implement such revisions to the Charter, to the extent necessary to assure that all amendments adopted conform to one another and to all remaining Charter provisions. If conflicting amendments are adopted at the same election, the one receiving the greatest number of affirmative votes shall prevail to the extent of such conflict.

## **SECTION 14.**

If any section, sentence, clause or phrase of this Resolution or of the ballot measure or Charter Amendment set forth in Exhibit A and incorporated herein is held to be invalid or unconstitutional by any court of competent jurisdiction, then said holding shall in no way affect the validity of the remaining portions of this Resolution, ballot measure or Charter Amendment.



**SECTION 15.**

This Resolution shall be effective immediately upon its passage.

**PASSED and ADOPTED** this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2024.

**ATTEST:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
STEVEN MEINER  
MAYOR

\_\_\_\_\_  
RAFAEL E. GRANADO  
CITY CLERK

(Sponsored by the Mayor and City Commission)

APPROVED AS TO  
FORM AND LANGUAGE  
& FOR EXECUTION

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
City Attorney NK Date 7/9/24

**EXHIBIT "A"**

**CITY CHARTER AMENDMENT RE:**  
**ELECTION OF CITY COMMISSION: MOVING CITY'S RUNOFF ELECTION DATE,**  
**INSTALLATION/TERM COMMENCEMENT, CONFORMING OFFICE TERMS**

**BALLOT QUESTION AND PROPOSED AMENDED CITY CHARTER TEXT**  
**NOVEMBER 5, 2024 SPECIAL ELECTION**

**Ballot Question:**

**Election of City Commission: Moving City's Runoff Election Date, Installation/Term Commencement, Conforming Office Terms**

Shall Charter be amended to provide, commencing City's November 2025 general election:

- City's runoff election date shall be second Tuesday in December immediately following City's general election instead of 2 weeks after said general election;
- installation/commencement of Commission members' terms shall occur on the Monday immediately following runoff election date;
- to conform with above, existing Commission members' terms expiring November 2025 and November 2027 shall be respectively extended to those years' December installation date?

**Proposed Amended Charter Text:**

**Section 2.01. Number and selection.**

The City Commission shall consist of six (6) City Commissioners and a Mayor who shall be elected at large. Each City Commissioner shall be a qualified elector of the City. City Commissioners shall be elected for groups numbered and designated I—VI. No candidates for the office of Commissioner shall be permitted to qualify for more than one (1) group, or for the office of Mayor.

Commencing with the City's general election in 2025, the following provisions shall apply:

Commissioners in groups numbered I, II and III shall be elected at the general election to be held on the first Tuesday in November, ~~1997~~ 2025, and at each general election each four (4) years thereafter. Commissioners in groups numbered IV, V, and VI shall be elected at the general election to be held on the first Tuesday in November, ~~1995~~ 2027 and at each general election each four (4) years thereafter. The Mayor shall be elected at the general election to be held on the first Tuesday in November, ~~1995~~ 2025 and at each general election each two (2) years thereafter.

A candidate must receive a majority of the votes cast to be deemed elected. If no candidate receives a majority of the votes cast, there will be a runoff election between the two candidates for Mayor and/or in each Commissioner group receiving the largest number of votes; should a tie

result, the outcome shall be determined by lot. This runoff election shall occur ~~two weeks from the date of general election~~ on the second Tuesday in December immediately following the date of the general election.

The installation of the Mayor and Commissioners and commencement of their terms shall occur on the Monday immediately following the date of the runoff election. The terms of existing<sup>2</sup> Commission members expiring November 2025 and November 2027 shall be respectively extended to those years' December installation date.

In the event that no candidate has qualified in any Commissioner group, or for Mayor, a vacancy shall be deemed to have occurred, and shall be filled as provided by the Charter of the City of Miami Beach for the filling of a vacancy.

#### **Sec. 2.04. Election of Vice-Mayor and meetings.**

The City Commission shall, at its first meeting after ~~each general election (or at its first meeting after the runoff election, if a runoff election is held);~~ new Commission members are installed and assume office following each biennial election cycle, initially elect from its membership a Vice-Mayor who, during the absence or disability of the Mayor, shall perform the duties of Mayor. In the absence or disability of both the Mayor and Vice-Mayor, the said duty shall be performed by another member appointed by the Commission. ....

\* \* \*

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<sup>2</sup> The term "existing Commission members" shall mean incumbent Commission members as of the date of the City's November 5, 2024 Special Election in which City voters were presented with this Charter amendment.



**RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA CALLING FOR A NOVEMBER 5, 2024 CITY OF MIAMI BEACH SPECIAL ELECTION, FOR THE PURPOSE OF SUBMITTING TO THE ELECTORATE OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH A QUESTION ASKING WHETHER CITY CHARTER SECTION 2.05 SHOULD BE AMENDED TO REQUIRE TWO PUBLIC HEARINGS INSTEAD OF ONE FOR PROPOSED CITY ORDINANCES (SUBJECT TO EXISTING EXCEPTIONS), AND TO AUTHORIZE THE CITY'S ALTERNATIVE OPTIONAL PUBLICATION OF NOTICE OF PROPOSED ORDINANCES ON A PUBLICLY ACCESSIBLE WEBSITE IN ACCORDANCE WITH CHAPTER 50, FLORIDA STATUTES, INSTEAD OF REQUIRING PUBLICATION OF SUCH NOTICES ONLY IN A NEWSPAPER OF GENERAL CIRCULATION WITHIN CITY.**

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT DULY RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH:

**SECTION 1.**

In accordance with provisions of the Charter of the City of Miami Beach, Florida and the general laws of the State of Florida, a Special Election is hereby called and directed to be held in the City of Miami Beach, Florida, from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, November 5, 2024, for the purpose of submitting to the electorate the question as set forth hereinafter.

**SECTION 2.**

That the appropriate and proper Miami-Dade County election officials shall conduct the said Special Election hereby called, with acceptance of the certification of the results of said Special Election to be performed by the City Commission. The official returns for each precinct shall be furnished to the City Clerk of the City of Miami Beach as soon as the ballots from all precincts have been tabulated.

**SECTION 3.**

That the said voting precincts in the City of said Special Election shall be as established by the proper and appropriate Miami-Dade County Election Officials. All

electors shall vote at the polling places and the voting precincts as determined by the Miami-Dade County Election Officials.<sup>1</sup>

#### **SECTION 4.**

Notice of the adoption of this Resolution and of its provisions calling this Special Election shall be given by publication in the Miami Herald, a newspaper of general circulation in Miami Beach, Miami-Dade County, Florida. Such publication shall be made in accordance with the provisions of Section 100.342, Florida Statutes, and Section 38-3 of the Code of the City of Miami Beach.

#### **SECTION 5.**

The Notice of Election shall be substantially in the following form:

THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA  
NOTICE OF SPECIAL ELECTION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT A SPECIAL ELECTION HAS BEEN CALLED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA, AND WILL BE HELD IN SAID CITY FROM 7:00 A.M. UNTIL 7:00 P.M. ON THE 5th DAY OF NOVEMBER, 2024, AT WHICH TIME THERE SHALL BE SUBMITTED TO THE DULY REGISTERED AND QUALIFIED VOTERS OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH THE FOLLOWING QUESTION:

**Charter Section 2.05: Public Hearings and Public Notice for Ordinances**

Shall Charter 2.05 be amended:

- establishing process requiring two public hearings instead of one for proposed City ordinances except emergency ordinances and proposed ordinances subject to adoption procedures established in City's Zoning Ordinance; and
- authorizing City's alternative optional publication of notice of proposed ordinances on a publicly accessible website in accordance with Chapter 50, Florida Statutes, instead of requiring publication of such notices only in a newspaper of general circulation within City?

Yes \_\_\_\_\_

No \_\_\_\_\_

---

<sup>1</sup> Pursuant to City Code Section 38-3(b): "...The City Clerk shall further publish, in a newspaper meeting the requirements set forth in Florida Statute § 50.031 and on the City's website, the polling places for the election twice, once in the third week and once in the first week prior to the week in which the election is to be held."



Said Notice shall further set forth pertinent information regarding eligibility of electors to participate in said elections.

**SECTION 6.**

That the official ballot to be used in the Special Election to be held on November 5, 2024, hereby called, shall be in substantially the following form, to-wit:

**“OFFICIAL BALLOT”**

**Charter Section 2.05: Public Hearings and Public Notice for Ordinances**

Shall Charter 2.05 be amended:

- establishing process requiring two public hearings instead of one for proposed City ordinances except emergency ordinances and proposed ordinances subject to adoption procedures established in City’s Zoning Ordinance; and
- authorizing City’s alternative optional publication of notice of proposed ordinances on a publicly accessible website in accordance with Chapter 50, Florida Statutes, instead of requiring publication of such notices only in a newspaper of general circulation within City?

Yes \_\_\_\_\_

No \_\_\_\_\_

**SECTION 7.**

The form of the ballots to be used in this Special Election and their preparation shall be in compliance with all statutory requirements relating to the use of mechanical or other approved voting machines or devices.

**SECTION 8.**

Registration of persons desiring to vote in the Special Election shall be in accordance with the general law of the State of Florida governing voter registration. Qualified persons may obtain registration forms to vote at the Office of the City Clerk, City Hall, 1700 Convention Center Drive, First Floor, Miami Beach, Florida 33139, during normal business hours, and at such other voter registration centers and during such times as may be provided by the Supervisor of Elections of Miami-Dade County. The Miami-Dade County Supervisor of Elections will register voters for this Special Election until October 7, 2024. All persons eligible to vote at this Special Election must be registered by the date set forth herein or have registered previously, as provided by law. Each person desiring to become a registered voter shall be responsible for properly filling out the registration form and returning it to the Miami-Dade County Elections Department. All questions concerning voter registration should be directed to the Miami-Dade County



Elections Department, 2700 N.W. 87<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Miami, Florida 33172; Telephone: (305) 499-VOTE (8683).

**SECTION 9.**

That voters participating via a Vote-by-Mail ballot in said Special Election shall be entitled to cast their ballots in accordance with the provisions of the Laws of the State of Florida with respect to such voting. All questions concerning Vote-by-Mail ballots should be directed to the Miami-Dade County Elections Department, 2700 N.W. 87<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Miami, Florida 33172; Telephone: (305) 499-VOTE (8683).

**SECTION 10.**

That the City of Miami Beach shall pay all expenses for conducting this Special Election and will pay to Miami-Dade County or directly to all persons or firms, upon receipt of invoice or statement approved by the Supervisor of Elections of Miami-Dade County, Florida.

**SECTION 11.**

That if the Charter Amendment provided for in Sections 5 and 6 above shall be approved by a majority of the qualified electors of the City voting on the subject Charter Amendment, it shall be considered adopted and effective upon the City Commission's acceptance of certification of final election results.

**SECTION 12.**

Upon the Charter Amendment's approval by a majority of the qualified electors of the City voting on such measure in the election and the City Commission's acceptance of certification of final election returns, the City Clerk is hereby directed to have the subject Charter amendment incorporated into the City Charter, file such Amendment with the Clerk of the Circuit Court and file the revised Charter with the Department of State.

**SECTION 13.**

In the event that some, but not all, of the Charter amendments on the City's subject November 5, 2024 Special Election ballot are approved by the electors, conforming amendments shall be deemed to be adopted, and the City Attorney is authorized to reflect and implement such revisions to the Charter, to the extent necessary to assure that all amendments adopted conform to one another and to all remaining Charter provisions. If conflicting amendments are adopted at the same election, the one receiving the greatest number of affirmative votes shall prevail to the extent of such conflict.

**SECTION 14.**

If any section, sentence, clause or phrase of this Resolution or of the ballot measure or Charter Amendment set forth in Exhibit A and incorporated herein is held to be invalid or unconstitutional by any court of competent jurisdiction, then said holding shall in no way affect the validity of the remaining portions of this Resolution, ballot measure or Charter Amendment.

**SECTION 15.**

This Resolution shall be effective immediately upon its passage.

**PASSED and ADOPTED** this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2024.

**ATTEST:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
STEVEN MEINER  
MAYOR

\_\_\_\_\_  
RAFAEL E. GRANADO  
CITY CLERK

(Sponsored by the Mayor and City Commission)

APPROVED AS TO  
FORM AND LANGUAGE  
& FOR EXECUTION

 7/8/2024  
City Attorney NK Date



**CITY CHARTER AMENDMENT RE:**  
**CHARTER SECTION 2.05: PUBLIC HEARINGS AND PUBLIC NOTICE**

**BALLOT QUESTION AND PROPOSED AMENDED CITY CHARTER TEXT**  
**NOVEMBER 5, 2024 SPECIAL ELECTION**

**Ballot Question:**

**Charter Section 2.05: Public Hearings and Public Notice for Ordinances**

Shall Charter 2.05 be amended:

- establishing process requiring two public hearings instead of one for proposed City ordinances except emergency ordinances and proposed ordinances subject to adoption procedures established in City's Zoning Ordinance; and
- authorizing City's alternative optional publication of notice of proposed ordinances on a publicly accessible website in accordance with Chapter 50, Florida Statutes, instead of requiring publication of such notices only in a newspaper of general circulation within City?

**Proposed Amended Charter Text:**

**Charter Section 2.05. - Procedures for passing ordinances generally.**

The City Commission shall have the power to make, establish and ordain for the government of the City of Miami Beach and the officers of said City, ordinances in writing not inconsistent with this Charter, the Constitution and laws of the State of Florida and of the United States, as it may deem necessary provided a majority of the City Commission shall consent thereto.

Each ordinance shall be introduced in writing and shall embrace one subject and matters properly connected therewith. The subject shall be clearly stated in the title. The enacting clause shall be "BE IT ORDAINED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION..." No ordinance shall be revised or amended by reference to its title only. Ordinances to revise or amend shall set out in full the revised or amended act or section or subsection or paragraph of a section or subsection. A proposed ordinance may be read by title, or in full, on at least two (2) separate dates, and shall, The City shall conduct two advertised public hearings on all proposed ordinances (except emergency ordinances, and subject to adoption procedures established in the City of Miami Beach's Zoning Ordinance, as provided below). ~~a~~At least ten (10) days prior to both first reading and adoption, the proposed ordinance shall be noticed once in either a newspaper of general circulation in the municipality or on a publicly accessible website as permitted by Chapter 50, Florida Statutes. The notices of proposed enactment shall state the date, time, and place of the ~~meeting~~ first and second public hearings conducted by the City Commission, the title or titles of proposed ordinances, and the place or places within the municipality where such proposed ordinance or ordinances may be inspected by the public. Said notices shall also advise that interested parties may appear at the City Commission meetings and be heard at the public hearings with



respect to the proposed ordinance or ordinances. No ordinances shall be declared invalid by reason of any defect in publication or title if the published summary notice gives reasonable notice of ~~its~~ the ordinance's intent. At the time and place so advertised, or at any time and place to which such public hearings may, from time to time, be adjourned, the ordinance shall be read by title and a the public hearings shall be held. After the second public hearing, the City Commission may pass the ordinance with or without amendment. The effective date shall not be earlier than ten (10) days after its enactment.

Proposed ordinances which enact or amend the City's Zoning Ordinance or Comprehensive Plan of the City of Miami Beach shall be adopted according to the procedures set forth in the City of Miami Beach's Zoning Ordinance.

To meet a public emergency affecting life, health, property or public safety, the City Commission by two-thirds ( $\frac{2}{3}$ ) vote of the members of the City Commission may adopt an emergency ordinance at the meeting at which it is introduced and may make it effective immediately. After adoption of an emergency ordinance, the City Commission shall cause it to be published in full within ten (10) days in a newspaper of general circulation in the municipality or on a publicly accessible website, as permitted by Chapter 50, Florida Statutes. No emergency ordinance shall be enacted which enacts or amends a land use plan or which rezones private property.

RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_

**A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA CALLING FOR A NOVEMBER 5, 2024 CITY OF MIAMI BEACH SPECIAL ELECTION, FOR THE PURPOSE OF SUBMITTING TO THE ELECTORATE OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH A QUESTION ASKING WHETHER CITY CHARTER SECTION 2.07, "VACANCIES IN CITY COMMISSION," SHOULD BE AMENDED TO REQUIRE AN ELECTION TO FILL A VACANCY UNLESS THE CITY COMMISSION MAKES AN APPOINTMENT TO FILL THE VACANCY WITHIN 30 DAYS, PROVIDE THAT COMMISSION'S POWER TO APPOINT SHALL COMMENCE UPON VACANCY OR SUBMITTAL OF RESIGNATION (IF FILED) INSTEAD OF 30 DAYS LATER, REQUIRE APPOINTMENTS BY REMAINING COMMISSION MEMBERS BE APPROVED ON A SUPER-MAJORITY (MAJORITY PLUS 1) VOTE INSTEAD OF MAJORITY VOTE, AND CLARIFY ELECTION AND INSTALLATION DATES REGARDING VACANCIES DUE TO RESIGNATION.**

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT DULY RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH:

**SECTION 1.**

In accordance with provisions of the Charter of the City of Miami Beach, Florida and the general laws of the State of Florida, a Special Election is hereby called and directed to be held in the City of Miami Beach, Florida, from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, November 5, 2024, for the purpose of submitting to the electorate the question as set forth hereinafter.

**SECTION 2.**

That the appropriate and proper Miami-Dade County election officials shall conduct the said Special Election hereby called, with acceptance of the certification of the results of said Special Election to be performed by the City Commission. The official returns for each precinct shall be furnished to the City Clerk of the City of Miami Beach as soon as the ballots from all precincts have been tabulated.

### **SECTION 3.**

That the said voting precincts in the City of said Special Election shall be as established by the proper and appropriate Miami-Dade County Election Officials. All electors shall vote at the polling places and the voting precincts as determined by the Miami-Dade County Election Officials.<sup>1</sup>

### **SECTION 4.**

Notice of the adoption of this Resolution and of its provisions calling this Special Election shall be given by publication in the Miami Herald, a newspaper of general circulation in Miami Beach, Miami-Dade County, Florida. Such publication shall be made in accordance with the provisions of Section 100.342, Florida Statutes, and Section 38-3 of the Code of the City of Miami Beach.

### **SECTION 5.**

The Notice of Election shall be substantially in the following form:

THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA  
NOTICE OF SPECIAL ELECTION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT A SPECIAL ELECTION HAS BEEN CALLED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA, AND WILL BE HELD IN SAID CITY FROM 7:00 A.M. UNTIL 7:00 P.M. ON THE 5th DAY OF NOVEMBER, 2024, AT WHICH TIME THERE SHALL BE SUBMITTED TO THE DULY REGISTERED AND QUALIFIED VOTERS OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH THE FOLLOWING QUESTION:

**Charter Section 2.07 “Vacancies in City Commission”**

Shall Charter Section 2.07 be amended to:

- require election to fill vacancy unless City Commission appoints person to fill vacancy within 30 days;
- provide that Commission’s power to appoint shall commence upon vacancy or submittal of resignation (if filed) instead of 30 days later;
- require appointments by remaining Commission members be super-majority (majority plus 1) vote instead of majority vote;
- clarify election and installation dates regarding vacancies due to resignation?

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<sup>1</sup> Pursuant to City Code Section 38-3(b): “...The City Clerk shall further publish, in a newspaper meeting the requirements set forth in Florida Statute § 50.031 and on the City’s website, the polling places for the election twice, once in the third week and once in the first week prior to the week in which the election is to be held.”



Yes \_\_\_\_\_  
No \_\_\_\_\_

Said Notice shall further set forth pertinent information regarding eligibility of electors to participate in said elections.

**SECTION 6.**

That the official ballot to be used in the Special Election to be held on November 5, 2024, hereby called, shall be in substantially the following form, to-wit:

**“OFFICIAL BALLOT”**

**Charter Section 2.07 “Vacancies in City Commission”**

Shall Charter Section 2.07 be amended to:

- require election to fill vacancy unless City Commission appoints person to fill vacancy within 30 days;
- provide that Commission’s power to appoint shall commence upon vacancy or submittal of resignation (if filed) instead of 30 days later;
- require appointments by remaining Commission members be super-majority (majority plus 1) vote instead of majority vote;
- clarify election and installation dates regarding vacancies due to resignation?

Yes \_\_\_\_\_  
No \_\_\_\_\_

**SECTION 7.**

The form of the ballots to be used in this Special Election and their preparation shall be in compliance with all statutory requirements relating to the use of mechanical or other approved voting machines or devices.

**SECTION 8.**

Registration of persons desiring to vote in the Special Election shall be in accordance with the general law of the State of Florida governing voter registration. Qualified persons may obtain registration forms to vote at the Office of the City Clerk, City Hall, 1700 Convention Center Drive, First Floor, Miami Beach, Florida 33139, during normal business hours, and at such other voter registration centers and during such times as may be provided by the Supervisor of Elections of Miami-Dade County. The Miami-Dade County Supervisor of Elections will register voters for this Special Election until

October 7, 2024. All persons eligible to vote at this Special Election must be registered by the date set forth herein or have registered previously, as provided by law. Each person desiring to become a registered voter shall be responsible for properly filling out the registration form and returning it to the Miami-Dade County Elections Department. All questions concerning voter registration should be directed to the Miami-Dade County Elections Department, 2700 N.W. 87<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Miami, Florida 33172; Telephone: (305) 499-VOTE (8683).

#### **SECTION 9.**

That voters participating via a Vote-by-Mail ballot in said Special Election shall be entitled to cast their ballots in accordance with the provisions of the Laws of the State of Florida with respect to such voting. All questions concerning Vote-by-Mail ballots should be directed to the Miami-Dade County Elections Department, 2700 N.W. 87<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Miami, Florida 33172; Telephone: (305) 499-VOTE (8683).

#### **SECTION 10.**

That the City of Miami Beach shall pay all expenses for conducting this Special Election and will pay to Miami-Dade County or directly to all persons or firms, upon receipt of invoice or statement approved by the Supervisor of Elections of Miami-Dade County, Florida.

#### **SECTION 11.**

That if the Charter Amendment provided for in Sections 5 and 6 above shall be approved by a majority of the qualified electors of the City voting on the subject Charter Amendment, it shall be considered adopted and effective upon the City Commission's acceptance of certification of final election results.

#### **SECTION 12.**

Upon the Charter Amendment's approval by a majority of the qualified electors of the City voting on such measure in the election and the City Commission's acceptance of certification of final election returns, the City Clerk is hereby directed to have the subject Charter amendment incorporated into the City Charter, file such Amendment with the Clerk of the Circuit Court and file the revised Charter with the Department of State.

#### **SECTION 13.**

In the event that some, but not all, of the Charter amendments on the City's subject November 5, 2024 Special Election ballot are approved by the electors, conforming amendments shall be deemed to be adopted, and the City Attorney is authorized to reflect and implement such revisions to the Charter, to the extent necessary to assure that all amendments adopted conform to one another and to all remaining Charter provisions. If

conflicting amendments are adopted at the same election, the one receiving the greatest number of affirmative votes shall prevail to the extent of such conflict.

**SECTION 14.**

If any section, sentence, clause or phrase of this Resolution or of the ballot measure or Charter Amendment set forth in Exhibit A and incorporated herein is held to be invalid or unconstitutional by any court of competent jurisdiction, then said holding shall in no way affect the validity of the remaining portions of this Resolution, ballot measure or Charter Amendment.

**SECTION 15.**

This Resolution shall be effective immediately upon its passage.

**PASSED and ADOPTED** this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2024.

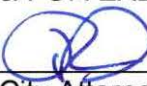
**ATTEST:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
STEVEN MEINER  
MAYOR

\_\_\_\_\_  
RAFAEL E. GRANADO  
CITY CLERK

(Sponsored by the Mayor and City Commission)

APPROVED AS TO  
FORM AND LANGUAGE  
& FOR EXECUTION

 7/8/2024  
City Attorney NK Date



## EXHIBIT "A"

### CITY CHARTER AMENDMENT RE: CHARTER SECTION 2.07 "VACANCIES IN CITY COMMISSION"

#### **BALLOT QUESTION AND PROPOSED AMENDED CITY CHARTER TEXT** **NOVEMBER 5, 2024 SPECIAL ELECTION**

##### **Ballot Question:**

##### **Charter Section 2.07 "Vacancies in City Commission"**

Shall Charter Section 2.07 be amended to:

- require election to fill vacancy unless City Commission appoints person to fill vacancy within 30 days;
- provide that Commission's power to appoint shall commence upon vacancy or submittal of resignation (if filed) instead of 30 days later;
- require appointments by remaining Commission members be super-majority (majority plus 1) vote instead of majority vote;
- clarify election and installation dates regarding vacancies due to resignation?

##### **Proposed Amended Charter Text:**

##### **Charter Section 2.07. - Vacancies in City Commission.**

Any vacancy occurring in the City Commission shall be filled as follows by the scheduling of an election, unless the City Commission appoints a person to fill said vacancy, pursuant to the following process:

- (a) *Vacancy for reasons other than resignation.* The City Commission shall, have within 30 days after the vacancy occurs, the power decide whether to fill said vacancy by City election or by Commission appointment. Should the Commission choose to appoint, said action shall be taken by vote of the super-majority vote (majority plus 1) of the remaining Commission members (thus not including the Commission member who created the vacancy) of the City Commission within 30 days after the expiration of the above subject initial 30-day period, with the appointee serving the remainder of the unexpired term until the next succeeding Ggeneral City Election and with any further remainder of said unexpired term to be filled by a Commission member elected at said Ggeneral Election. If the remaining members of the City Commission shall choose instead to fill such vacancy by election not so appoint, then a Special Election shall be called to be held within 90 days after the expiration of the subject 30-day period to elect a Commission member to fill such vacancy for the remainder of the unexpired term.
- (b) *Vacancy due to resignation.* Resignations from office shall be filed with the City Clerk and shall be irrevocable upon such filing, thus creating a vacancy in office per the effective date of the resignation. The Commission shall have, within 30 days from submittal of a resignation to the City Clerk, the power decide whether



to fill said vacancy by ~~City election or by Commission appointment.~~ 1.

~~Should the Commission choose to appoint, said action shall be taken by vote of the super-majority vote (majority plus 1) of the remaining Commission members (thus not including the Commission member who has resigned), of the Commission within 30 days after expiration of the subject 30-day period (referenced in (b) above), with the appointee serving the remainder of the unexpired term from the date the resigning official would take office, if elected (assuming the resignation was filed pursuant to Section 99.012, Florida Statutes) until the next succeeding Ggeneral City Eelection, and with any further remainder of the unexpired term to be filled by a Commission member elected at said Ggeneral Eelection. However, if the resignation was not filed pursuant to Section 99.012, Florida Statutes, then the appointee shall serve the remainder of the unexpired term from either the resignation's effective date or from the date the appointee is appointed, whichever occurs later, and shall serve until the next succeeding Ggeneral City Eelection, and with any further remainder of the unexpired term to be filled by a Commission member elected at said Ggeneral Eelection.~~

2. If the remaining members of the City Commission shall ~~choose instead to fill such vacancy by election, not make an appointment,~~ then a ~~Sspecial Eelection~~ shall be called to be held within 120 days after expiration of the subject initial 30-day period (referenced directly above in subsection (b) above) to elect a Commission member to fill such vacancy for the remainder of the unexpired term; but if a City or County-wide election is otherwise scheduled to be held during the intervening period from expiration of the subject initial 30-day period through and including the resignation's effective date, or (if vacancy due to resignation filed pursuant to Section 99.012, Florida Statutes) the date the resigning official would take office, if elected, then the Sspecial Eelection to fill the vacancy for the unexpired term as provided above may occur at any such City or County-wide election.

Any person who has been elected to fill a vacancy due to resignation filed pursuant to Section 99.012, Florida Statutes, shall be installed and take office following on whichever of the following occurs later: the date the resigning official would take office, if elected, or upon the City Commission's acceptance of final election returns from the City's special election to fill vacancy (if no City runoff election is required) or runoff election (if required), but if the subject election to fill vacancy is held at time of the City's biennial general election cycle, such person shall be installed and take office on the date the resigning official would take office if elected or the date Commission members elected at said general election cycle are installed, whichever occurs later. ; ~~a~~Any person who has been elected to fill a vacancy due to resignation not filed pursuant to Section 99.012, Florida Statutes, shall be installed and take office following on whichever of the following occurs later: the effective date set forth in said resignation, or upon the City Commission's acceptance of final election returns from the City's special election to fill the vacancy (if no City runoff election is required) or runoff election (if required), but if the subject election to fill vacancy is held at time of the City's biennial general election cycle, such person shall be installed and take

office on the effective date set forth in said resignation or date Commission members elected at said general election cycle are installed, whichever occurs later.

- (c) *Resolution calling ~~S~~special ~~E~~election.* Provisions related to a ~~S~~special ~~E~~election called pursuant to this section, including the qualifying period and ~~R~~unoff ~~E~~election (if required), shall be established in the City Resolution calling the ~~S~~special ~~E~~election.



RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_

A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA CALLING FOR A NOVEMBER 5, 2024 CITY OF MIAMI BEACH SPECIAL ELECTION, FOR THE PURPOSE OF SUBMITTING TO THE ELECTORATE OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH A QUESTION ASKING WHETHER THE CITY CHARTER SHOULD BE AMENDED TO CLARIFY THE ONE-YEAR RESIDENCY REQUIREMENT TO QUALIFY FOR OFFICE AS “IMMEDIATELY” PRIOR TO QUALIFYING, CLARIFY FILING REQUIREMENTS FOR QUALIFYING BY PETITION (CHARTER SECTION 6.03); CLARIFY AND CONFORM TO FLORIDA LAW THE RESTRICTION ON QUALIFYING FOR MORE THAN 1 CITY OFFICE, REPLACE CERTAIN OBSOLETE REFERENCE TO “COMMISSIONER” WITH “COMMISSION MEMBER” (CHARTER SECTION 2.01); AND CONFORM CHARTER SECTION 1.07 TO INCLUDE ALL NONDISCRIMINATION CLASSIFICATION CATEGORIES IN CHAPTER 62 OF THE CITY CODE.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT DULY RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH:

**SECTION 1.**

In accordance with provisions of the Charter of the City of Miami Beach, Florida and the general laws of the State of Florida, a Special Election is hereby called and directed to be held in the City of Miami Beach, Florida, from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, November 5, 2024, for the purpose of submitting to the electorate the question as set forth hereinafter.

**SECTION 2.**

That the appropriate and proper Miami-Dade County election officials shall conduct the said Special Election hereby called, with acceptance of the certification of the results of said Special Election to be performed by the City Commission. The official returns for each precinct shall be furnished to the City Clerk of the City of Miami Beach as soon as the ballots from all precincts have been tabulated.

**SECTION 3.**

That the said voting precincts in the City of said Special Election shall be as established by the proper and appropriate Miami-Dade County Election Officials. All electors shall vote at the polling places and the voting precincts as determined by the Miami-Dade County Election Officials.<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Pursuant to City Code Section 38-3(b): “...The City Clerk shall further publish, in a newspaper meeting the requirements set forth in Florida Statute § 50.031 and on the City’s website, the polling places for the election twice, once in the third week and once in the first week prior to the week in which the election is to be held.”

**SECTION 4.**

Notice of the adoption of this Resolution and of its provisions calling this Special Election shall be given by publication in the Miami Herald, a newspaper of general circulation in Miami Beach, Miami-Dade County, Florida. Such publication shall be made in accordance with the provisions of Section 100.342, Florida Statutes, and Section 38-3 of the Code of the City of Miami Beach.

**SECTION 5.**

The Notice of Election shall be substantially in the following form:

THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA  
NOTICE OF SPECIAL ELECTION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT A SPECIAL ELECTION HAS BEEN CALLED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA, AND WILL BE HELD IN SAID CITY FROM 7:00 A.M. UNTIL 7:00 P.M. ON THE 5th DAY OF NOVEMBER, 2024, AT WHICH TIME THERE SHALL BE SUBMITTED TO THE DULY REGISTERED AND QUALIFIED VOTERS OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH THE FOLLOWING QUESTION:

**Charter Amendments: Clarifying and Conforming Certain Charter Language to Applicable Laws and/or Current Usage**

Shall Charter be amended to clarify that the one-year residency requirement to qualify as candidate applies to the year "immediately" prior to qualifying, and clarify filing requirements for qualifying by petition (Charter 6.03); clarify and conform to Florida law restriction against qualifying for more than 1 City office, and replace certain obsolete reference to "Commissioner" with "Commission member" (Charter 2.01); amend Charter 1.07 to include therein all nondiscrimination classification categories in Code Chapter 62?

Yes \_\_\_\_\_

No \_\_\_\_\_

Said Notice shall further set forth pertinent information regarding eligibility of electors to participate in said elections.

**SECTION 6.**

That the official ballot to be used in the Special Election to be held on November 5, 2024, hereby called, shall be in substantially the following form, to-wit:

**"OFFICIAL BALLOT"**



**Charter Amendments: Clarifying and Conforming Certain Charter Language to Applicable Laws and/or Current Usage**

Shall Charter be amended to clarify that the one-year residency requirement to qualify as candidate applies to the year “immediately” prior to qualifying, and clarify filing requirements for qualifying by petition (Charter 6.03); clarify and conform to Florida law restriction against qualifying for more than 1 City office, and replace certain obsolete reference to “Commissioner” with “Commission member” (Charter 2.01); amend Charter 1.07 to include therein all nondiscrimination classification categories in Code Chapter 62?

Yes     \_\_\_\_\_  
No       \_\_\_\_\_

**SECTION 7.**

The form of the ballots to be used in this Special Election and their preparation shall be in compliance with all statutory requirements relating to the use of mechanical or other approved voting machines or devices.

**SECTION 8.**

Registration of persons desiring to vote in the Special Election shall be in accordance with the general law of the State of Florida governing voter registration. Qualified persons may obtain registration forms to vote at the Office of the City Clerk, City Hall, 1700 Convention Center Drive, First Floor, Miami Beach, Florida 33139, during normal business hours, and at such other voter registration centers and during such times as may be provided by the Supervisor of Elections of Miami-Dade County. The Miami-Dade County Supervisor of Elections will register voters for this Special Election until October 7, 2024. All persons eligible to vote at this Special Election must be registered by the date set forth herein or have registered previously, as provided by law. Each person desiring to become a registered voter shall be responsible for properly filling out the registration form and returning it to the Miami-Dade County Elections Department. All questions concerning voter registration should be directed to the Miami-Dade County Elections Department, 2700 N.W. 87<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Miami, Florida 33172; Telephone: (305) 499-VOTE (8683).

**SECTION 9.**

That voters participating via a Vote-by-Mail ballot in said Special Election shall be entitled to cast their ballots in accordance with the provisions of the Laws of the State of Florida with respect to such voting. All questions concerning Vote-by-Mail ballots should be directed to the Miami-Dade County Elections Department, 2700 N.W. 87<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Miami, Florida 33172; Telephone: (305) 499-VOTE (8683).

**SECTION 10.**

That the City of Miami Beach shall pay all expenses for conducting this Special Election and will pay to Miami-Dade County or directly to all persons or firms, upon receipt of invoice or statement approved by the Supervisor of Elections of Miami-Dade County, Florida.



**SECTION 11.**

That if the Charter Amendment provided for in Sections 5 and 6 above shall be approved by a majority of the qualified electors of the City voting on the subject Charter Amendment, it shall be considered adopted and effective upon the City Commission's acceptance of certification of final election results.

**SECTION 12.**

Upon the Charter Amendment's approval by a majority of the qualified electors of the City voting on such measure in the election and the City Commission's acceptance of certification of final election returns, the City Clerk is hereby directed to have the subject Charter amendment incorporated into the City Charter, file such Amendment with the Clerk of the Circuit Court and file the revised Charter with the Department of State.

**SECTION 13.**

In the event that some, but not all, of the Charter amendments on the City's subject November 5, 2024 Special Election ballot are approved by the electors, conforming amendments shall be deemed to be adopted, and the City Attorney is authorized to reflect and implement such revisions to the Charter, to the extent necessary to assure that all amendments adopted conform to one another and to all remaining Charter provisions. If conflicting amendments are adopted at the same election, the one receiving the greatest number of affirmative votes shall prevail to the extent of such conflict.

**SECTION 14.**

If any section, sentence, clause or phrase of this Resolution or of the ballot measure or Charter Amendment set forth in Exhibit A and incorporated herein is held to be invalid or unconstitutional by any court of competent jurisdiction, then said holding shall in no way affect the validity of the remaining portions of this Resolution, ballot measure or Charter Amendment.

**SECTION 15.**

This Resolution shall be effective immediately upon its passage.

**PASSED and ADOPTED** this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2024.

**ATTEST:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
STEVEN MEINER, MAYOR

\_\_\_\_\_  
RAFAEL E. GRANADO, CITY CLERK

(Sponsored by the Mayor and City Commission)

APPROVED AS TO  
FORM AND LANGUAGE  
& FOR EXECUTION

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
City Attorney NK Date 7/16/2024

**EXHIBIT “A”**

**CITY CHARTER AMENDMENT RE:  
CLARIFY/CONFORM TO APPLICABLE LAWS AND/OR CURRENT USAGE**

**BALLOT QUESTION AND PROPOSED AMENDED CITY CHARTER TEXT  
NOVEMBER 5, 2024 SPECIAL ELECTION**

**Ballot Question:**

**Charter Amendments: Clarifying and Conforming Certain Charter Language to Applicable Laws and/or Current Usage**

Shall Charter be amended to clarify that the one-year residency requirement to qualify as candidate applies to the year “immediately” prior to qualifying, and clarify filing requirements for qualifying by petition (Charter 6.03); clarify and conform to Florida law restriction against qualifying for more than 1 City office, and replace certain obsolete reference to “Commissioner” with “Commission member” (Charter 2.01); amend Charter 1.07 to include therein all nondiscrimination classification categories in Code Chapter 62?

**Proposed Amended Charter Text:**

**Charter Section 1.07. - Public vote required to repeal, diminish, or otherwise negatively impact a right or duty established in Miami Beach City Code Chapter 62 that inures to the benefit of a member of the classification categories of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, gender identity, sexual orientation, disability, marital status, familial status, and age, and all other classification categories set forth in and as defined in City Code Section 62-31.**

Any revision to Chapter 62 of the Code of the City of Miami Beach, entitled Human Relations, that repeals, diminishes, or otherwise negatively impacts a right or duty established in that section that inures to the benefit of a member of the classification categories of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, gender identity, sexual orientation, disability, marital status, familial status, and age, and all other classification categories set forth in City Code Chapter 62, as defined in section 62-31, must be approved by a majority of the voters in a city-wide referendum.

**Charter Section 2.01. - Number and selection.**

The City Commission shall consist of six (6) City Commissioners and a Mayor who shall be elected at large. Each City Commissioner member shall be a qualified elector of the City. City Commissioners shall be elected for groups numbered and designated I—VI. No candidates for the office of ~~Commissioner~~ shall be permitted to qualify for more than one (1) office; group, or for the office of Mayor i.e. a candidate may qualify for either Mayor or one (1) Commissioner group.

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\*



**Charter Section 6.03. - Qualifying.**

The City Commission shall cause to be placed on the ballot to be used in the general election the name of any qualified elector of the City residing within the City at least one year immediately prior to qualifying and who, within the four (4) consecutive days immediately following the first Monday of September prior to said general election, 1) shall have submitted one (1) or more documents upon which he/she relies upon to evidence that he/she has resided in the City for at least one year immediately prior to qualifying, which type document(s) shall include but not be limited to: a Florida government issued identification, a voter's registration card, driver's license, property tax receipt, homestead exemption, utility bill or lease agreement, 2) shall have paid to the City Clerk of the City of Miami Beach the sum equal to seven and one-half percent (7½%) of the annual salary of the office to which he/she seeks election as a qualifying fee, and 3) shall have been photographed and fingerprinted by the identification bureau of the Police Department of the City, unless such person shall file with the City Clerk no later than noon of the 14th day prior to the first day of qualifying as a candidate for such office; the above qualifying documents evidencing residency, photograph, and fingerprints (no qualifying fee), along with a petition approving his/her candidacy signed by sufficient qualified and registered voters to constitute not less than two percent (2%) of this number of such voters as the same shall be on the date sixty (60) days prior to the first day of qualifying as a candidate for office; in the event the Miami-Dade County Elections Department has not issued its certificate verifying the required number of valid signatures on the subject qualifying petition by 5:00 p.m. on the second day of the City's four-day qualifying period, the City's 7½% qualifying fee shall be waived by the City in the event the subject candidate should otherwise qualify for office pursuant to this Charter section. All candidates qualifying for office shall have taken, signed and subscribed to an oath or affirmation in writing in which he/she shall state (1) the title of the office for which he/she is a candidate; (2) that he/she is a qualified elector of the City of Miami Beach, Florida, and has resided in the City at least one year immediately prior to qualifying; (3) his/her legal residence, by street and number; (4) that he/she is qualified under the ordinances (including Miami Beach City Code Chapter 38 governing "Elections") and Charter of the City of Miami Beach, Florida, to hold the office for which he/she is a candidate.

Such oath or affirmation shall be substantially in the following form:

STATE OF FLORIDA	)	
		SS:
COUNTY OF DADE	)	

Before me, an officer authorized to administer oaths, personally appeared to me well known who, being sworn, says that he/she is a candidate for the office of City Commissioner (Group No. \_\_\_\_\_ (or Mayor) for the City of Miami Beach, Florida; that he/she is a qualified elector of said City residing within the City at least one year before immediately prior to qualifying for City of Miami Beach elected office; that his/her legal residence is: \_\_\_\_\_, Miami Beach, Dade County, Florida; that he/she is qualified under the ordinances (including Miami Beach City Code Chapter 38 governing "Elections") and



Charter of said City to hold such office; and that he/she has paid (if applicable) the required qualification fee.

/s/

Signature of Candidate

Sworn to and subscribed before me this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ A.D., 19 \_\_\_\_.

/s/

Authorized Officer

The City Commission shall, by ordinance, prescribe the manner of holding general and special elections not inconsistent with the provisions hereof, and shall, by ordinance or resolution, prescribe polling places in the various voting precincts in the City.

## ESTIMATE

### Election Cost Estimate - MIAMI BEACH - PIGGYBACK - 11.05.24

Rafael E. Granado City Clerk  
MIAMI BEACH (City)  
1700 Convention Center Dr.,  
Miami Beach, FL 33139

Estimate N°: MB-PB-11.05.24  
Estimate Date: July 16, 2024

Registered Voters:	49,000	Early Voting Days:	14
Precincts:	21	Early Voting Sites:	33
Estimated Polling Places:	21		
Estimated Vote by Mail Ballots:	9,950		

<b>Personnel</b>	\$	-
<i>Salaries &amp; Fringe Benefits, Overtime, Poll Workers</i>		
<b>Polling Places</b>	\$	-
<i>Security, Polling Place Rentals</i>		
<b>Supplies and Services</b>	\$	-
<i>Election Supplies, Communication Charges, Vote by Mail Ballot Set Up</i>		
<b>Trucks and Vehicles</b>	\$	-
<i>Truck and Vehicle Rentals, Equipment Delivery and Pick-up</i>		
<b>Ballot Creation and Printing</b>	\$	60,580
<i>Ballot coding and printing of Vote by Mail, Consumables, Temporary Polling Place Change Notices, Contractual Services, Translations</i>		
<b>Postage</b>	\$	-
<i>Vote by Mail Sent and Business Reply, Temporary Polling Place Change Notices, Letters</i>		
<b>Advertising</b>	\$	-
<b>Early Voting</b>	\$	-
<b>Administrative Overhead</b>	\$	6,060
<b>*TOTAL</b>	<u>\$</u>	<u>66,640</u>

\* Please note these are estimated costs subject to change. If your question(s)/race(s) create additional ballot pages, the costs will be adjusted accordingly.

For more information, you may contact:

Robert Villar  
Assistant Deputy Supervisor of Elections  
Miami-Dade Elections Department  
2700 NW 87 Avenue  
Miami, Florida 33172

Office: 305-499-8424 E-mail: robert.villar@miamidade.gov