

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

**RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA, ACCEPTING THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE NEIGHBORHOOD/COMMUNITY AFFAIRS COMMITTEE AND DIRECTING THE CITY ADMINISTRATION TO: 1) REQUEST THAT THE FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (FDOT) SUSPEND THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROPOSED ENHANCEMENTS TO THE EXISTING BICYCLE LANES ON THE MACARTHUR CAUSEWAY OUTSIDE SHOULDERS; 2) REQUEST THAT FDOT EVALUATE THE POTENTIAL IMPACT THAT AN ENHANCED BICYCLE LANE CAN HAVE ON THE FEASIBILITY OF FUTURE BUS-ON-SHOULDER OPERATION ALONG THE MACARTHUR CAUSEWAY FOR THE BEACH EXPRESS SOUTH BUS EXPRESS RAPID TRANSIT (BERT) SERVICE; 3) REQUEST THAT MIAMI-DADE COUNTY EVALUATE THE POTENTIAL IMPACT THAT AN ENHANCED BICYCLE LANE CAN HAVE ON THE FEASIBILITY OF THE FUTURE BEACH CORRIDOR TRANSIT CONNECTION PROJECT ALONG THE MACARTHUR CAUSEWAY; AND, 4) REQUEST THAT FDOT AND MIAMI-DADE COUNTY PROVIDE THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH WITH THE RESULTS OF THEIR ANALYSES TO DETERMINE HOW TO BEST PROCEED.**

**WHEREAS**, the adopted 2016 Miami Beach Transportation Master Plan (TMP) was built on a mode share goal and modal prioritization strategy adopted by Resolution 2015-29083 on July 8, 2015, which places pedestrians first; transit, bicycles, and freight second; and private automobiles third; and

**WHEREAS**, transit priority corridors were suggested in the TMP to provide exclusive right-of-way (dedicated lanes) for transit service on the MacArthur Causeway; and

**WHEREAS**, Miami-Dade County has plans for enhanced transit service on the MacArthur Causeway. The Miami-Dade County Adopted Strategic Miami Area Rapid Transit (SMART) Plan consists of six (6) Rapid Transit Corridors and nine (9) Bus Express Rapid Transit (BERT) routes to improve mass transit connectivity throughout Miami-Dade County; and

**WHEREAS**, the Miami Beach City Commission adopted Resolution No. 2018-30180 on February 14, 2018 (Attachment 1) supporting the efforts of the Miami-Dade Transportation Planning Organization (TPO) to develop a transit network throughout the County pursuant to the SMART Plan, and urging the TPO to additionally consider the Julia Tuttle Causeway as the Beach Corridor connecting Downtown; and

**WHEREAS**, the SMART Plan Beach Corridor premium transit project and the SMART Plan Beach Express South BERT project are proposed for the MacArthur Causeway; and

**WHEREAS**, BERT service consists of enhanced, branded buses operating limited stop service on shoulders or dedicated transit lanes, where feasible, to reduce travel time and help ensure service schedule reliability; and

**WHEREAS**, on May 16, 2018, the City Commission authorized the City to jointly apply with the County to the Miami-Dade TPO's Smart Demonstration Program for the Beach Express North BERT demonstration service using the shoulders of the Julia Tuttle Causeway; and

**WHEREAS**, on June 21, 2018, the TPO awarded grant funds in the amount of \$1,720,000 annually for three (3) years to the City of Miami Beach for a three (3) year Beach Express North BERT demonstration project on the Julia Tuttle Causeway, via TPO Resolution #18-29; and

**WHEREAS**, FDOT denied the use of the outside shoulders of the Julia Tuttle Causeway for the Beach Express North BERT demonstration service; and

**WHEREAS**, the Beach Express North BERT demonstration service is currently expected to be implemented in 2022 on the inside shoulder of the Julia Tuttle Causeway after FDOT completes the necessary infrastructure work; and

**WHEREAS**, on February 27, 2018, the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) presented to the Miami-Dade County Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC) regarding the proposed SR AIA/MacArthur Causeway Bicycle Facility Improvements Project; and

**WHEREAS**, the proposed SR AIA/MacArthur Causeway Bicycle Facility Improvements Project recommends implementing a 7' wide bicycle lane (including a 3' buffer using white chevron striping wherever possible); and

**WHEREAS**, the City Administration has concerns with the potential impact an enhanced bicycle lane can have on the feasibility of future BERT and Beach Corridor operation along the MacArthur Causeway; and

**WHEREAS**, at its meeting on March 19, 2019, the Neighborhood/Community Affairs Committee supported suspension of the proposed implementation of enhanced bike lanes on the MacArthur Causeway outside shoulder in order to evaluate the potential impact the enhanced bike lane could have on future BERT and Beach Corridor operations and directed the City Administration to:

- 1) Request FDOT to suspend the implementation of the proposed enhances bike lanes on the MacArthur Causeway outside shoulder;
- 2) Request FDOT and Miami-Dade County to evaluate the potential impact that an enhanced bicycle lane can have on the feasibility of future bus-on-shoulder operations along the MacArthur Causeway for Beach Express South BERT service;
- 3) Request FDOT and Miami-Dade County to evaluate the potential impact that an enhanced bicycle lane can have on the feasibility of future Beach Corridor Transit Connection operation along the MacArthur Causeway; and

- 4) Request FDOT and Miami-Dade County to provide the City of Miami Beach with the results of their analyses to determine how to best proceed.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT DULY RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA** that the Mayor and City Commission hereby accept the recommendations of the Neighborhood/Community Affairs Committee and direct the City Administration to:

1. Request FDOT to suspend the implementation of the proposed enhances bike lanes on the MacArthur Causeway outside shoulder;
2. Request FDOT and Miami-Dade County to evaluate the potential impact that an enhanced bicycle lane can have on the feasibility of future bus-on-shoulder operations along the MacArthur Causeway for Beach Express South BERT service;
3. Request FDOT and Miami-Dade County to evaluate the potential impact that an enhanced bicycle lane can have on the feasibility of future Beach Corridor Transit Connection operation along the MacArthur Causeway; and
4. Request FDOT and Miami-Dade County to provide the City of Miami Beach with the results of their analyses to determine how to best proceed.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED** this 10th day of April, 2019.

**ATTEST:**

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Dan Gelber, Mayor

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Rafael E. Granado, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO  
FORM & LANGUAGE  
& FOR EXECUTION

*R. E. Granado*  
City Attorney *DX*

4-5-19  
Date