

RESOLUTION:_____

A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA, ACCEPTING THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE NEIGHBORHOODS AND COMMUNITY AFFAIRS COMMITTEE AT ITS JANUARY 28, 2019 MEETING, TO PROVIDE FUNDING FOR AIRA TECHNOLOGY IN THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF \$5,000, TO ASSIST RESIDENTS AND VISITORS WHO ARE BLIND OR VISUALLY IMPAIRED WITH ACCESSIBLE WAYFINDING VIA A LIVE AGENT SERVICE PROVIDED THROUGH THE AIRA MOBILE APPLICATION.

WHEREAS, in 2018, the Disability Access Committee (DAC) recommended that the City Commission approve a funding request in the amount of \$5,000 for a pilot program to test the Aira Wayfinding Technology for the blind within the City of Miami Beach; and

WHEREAS, although the Aira technology has an mobile application that is free to download, payment of a fee is required to access the program's live agent service, a service which connects users to a trained professional agent who provides the user with visual descriptions and orientation via the user's smartphone camera; and

WHEREAS, by connecting a user with the live agent service and providing visual descriptions and orientation to the user, the service enhances the user's experience, mobility and safety; and

WHEREAS, after several discussions with City Administration about the proposed scope of service in Miami Beach, the foregoing item was referred to the Neighborhoods/Community Affairs Committee (NCAC); and

WHEREAS, at its January 28, 2019 meeting, the Committee recommended approval of a funding request in the amount of \$5,000, to be used for a pilot program, to purchase up to 2,500 minutes of the live agent service (at a fee of \$2 per minute), to permit any resident or visitor accessing the mobile application within the geographic boundaries of the City of Miami Beach to use the live agent service free of charge (up to the total of 2,500 minutes approved under this pilot program for use within the City); and

WHEREAS, under the Miami Beach pilot program, the program will provide users with improved wayfinding navigation through construction zones, bus stop locations, building addresses, and audible pedestrian signal crossings, among other locations; and

WHEREAS, Public Works staff will provide the vendor with an Acceptable Use Policy for the vendor's agents and users to follow, as well as a Geographic Information Systems (GIS) map identifying all City assets related to pedestrian use in the public right of way; and

WHEREAS, if the pilot program is approved by the City Commission, the City's communications department will conduct outreach to advise residents and visitors of the availability of the free service (in addition to the notice any user would receive once they accessed the mobile application); and

WHEREAS, funds from the Miami Dade Parking Fines Reimbursement Fund will be used towards the pilot program.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT DULY RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA, that the Mayor and City Commission hereby accept the recommendation of the Neighborhoods and Community Affairs Committee at its January 28, 2019 meeting, to provide funding for AIRA Technology in the amount of \$5k to assist residents and visitors who are blind or visually impaired with accessible wayfinding via a live agent.

PASSED and ADOPTED this 8th day of May, 2019.

ATTEST:

Dan Gelber, Mayor

Rafael E. Granado, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO
FORM & LANGUAGE
& FOR EXECUTION

Rafael Granado 4-29-19
City Attorney RAG Date