

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-31524

A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA, ACCEPTING THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE FINANCE AND CITYWIDE PROJECTS COMMITTEE, FROM ITS JULY 31, 2019 MEETING, TO PROCEED WITH THE CREATION OF A PEDESTRIAN CONNECTION BETWEEN OCEAN DRIVE AND LINCOLN ROAD THROUGH ESPAÑOLA WAY; FURTHER DIRECTING CITY STAFF TO DEVELOP A FEASIBILITY STUDY CONSISTING OF A TRAFFIC IMPACT ANALYSIS, DEVELOPMENT OF PRELIMINARY DESIGN CONCEPTS AND COST ESTIMATES, AND COMMUNITY AND STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT, IN AN AMOUNT NOT-TO-EXCEED \$195,000 WHICH FUNDS ARE INCLUDED IN THE TRANSPORTATION AND MOBILITY DEPARTMENT'S FY 2020/2021 BUDGET; AND FURTHER PROVIDING THAT PROPOSALS BE BROUGHT BACK TO THE CITY COMMISSION AT A LATER DATE FOR REVIEW AND INPUT.

WHEREAS, the Finance and Citywide Projects Committee ("FCWPC") placed a referral on the June 5, 2019 City Commission agenda regarding the creation of a pedestrian connection between Ocean Drive and Lincoln Road through Española Way; and

WHEREAS, at the June 5, 2019 City Commission Meeting, the Mayor and City Commission requested that the FCWPC take the next step and consider linking Ocean Drive through the Betsy Hotel alleyway to Española Way, through the Drexel Avenue neighborhood greenway to Lincoln Road, creating a long, fluid pedestrian pathway which would link the City's major economic engines; and

WHEREAS, at its July 31, 2019 meeting, FCWPC passed a motion to approve \$208,000 to be allocated from the Fiscal Year 2019/2020 Capital Budget South Beach Quality of Life Funds for this project, and for the Administration to return to the Finance Committee with proposals; and

WHEREAS, the Public Works Department has completed the lighting improvements, including upgrading existing street lighting to LED and wrapping the coconut palm trees on Española Way between Washington Avenue and Collins Avenue with LED string lighting; and

WHEREAS, the Transportation and Mobility Department has established an immediate pedestrian and bicycle connection by extending the Flamingo Park Neighborhood Slow Streets pilot project north along Pennsylvania Avenue to Lincoln Road and is working with the Department of Marketing and Communications to create tailored way-finding signage to raise awareness and formally designate the pedestrian connection along Pennsylvania Avenue from Lincoln Road Mall to Española Way; and

WHEREAS, Transportation and Mobility Department staff worked with Miami-Dade County Commissioner Eileen Higgins' Office to secure County approval and implementation of an exclusive pedestrian phase at the intersection of Española Way and Washington Avenue to improve pedestrian crossing safety; and

WHEREAS, the Transportation and Mobility Department's Fiscal Year 2020/2021 Operating Budget includes \$195,000 to fund a planning feasibility study consisting of a traffic impact analysis, development of preliminary design concepts and cost estimates, and community and stakeholder engagement; and

WHEREAS, the traffic analysis will require review and approval by Miami-Dade County and the Florida Department of Transportation given the proposed pedestrian promenade would impact and traverse roadways and intersections under both County and State jurisdiction; and

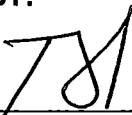
WHEREAS, draft concept proposals will be developed and vetted by City staff and will be brought before the City Commission at a future date for review and input; and

WHEREAS, the Administration recommends that the Mayor and Commission approve this Resolution and accept the recommendation of the FCWPC to proceed with the creation of a pedestrian connection between Ocean Drive and Lincoln Road through Española Way, and to direct City staff to proceed with a planning feasibility study in an amount not-to-exceed \$195,000, which funds are already included in the Transportation and Mobility Department's Fiscal Year 2020/2021 Operating Budget.

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 recommendation of the Finance and Citywide Projects Committee, from its July 31, 2019 meeting, to proceed with the creation of a pedestrian connection between Ocean Drive and Lincoln Road through Española way; further directing City staff to develop a feasibility study consisting of a traffic impact analysis, development of preliminary design concepts and cost estimates, and community and stakeholder engagement, in an amount not-to-exceed \$195,000 which funds are included in the Transportation and Mobility Department's FY 2020/2021 budget; and further providing that proposals be brought back to the City Commission at a later date for review and input.

PASSED and ADOPTED this 9th day December, 2020.

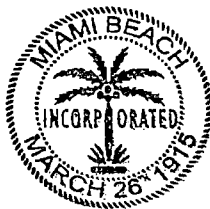
ATTEST:



12/18/2020

Rafael E. Granado, City Clerk



Dan Gelber, Mayor



**APPROVED AS TO
FORM & LANGUAGE
& FOR EXECUTION**


City Attorney
ff 12/7/2020
Date

MIAMI BEACH

COMMISSION MEMORANDUM

TO: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Commission
FROM: Jimmy L. Morales, City Manager
DATE: December 9, 2020

SUBJECT: A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA, ACCEPTING THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE FINANCE AND CITYWIDE PROJECTS COMMITTEE, FROM ITS JULY 31, 2019 MEETING, TO CREATE A PEDESTRIAN CONNECTION BETWEEN OCEAN DRIVE AND LINCOLN ROAD THROUGH ESPAÑOLA WAY.

RECOMMENDATION

The Administration recommends that the Mayor and City Commission approve the resolution accepting the recommendation of the Finance and Citywide Projects Committee, from its July 31, 2019 meeting, to create a pedestrian connection between Ocean Drive and Lincoln Road through Española Way.

BACKGROUND/HISTORY

A referral to the Finance and Citywide Projects Committee (FCWPC) was placed on the June 5, 2019 City Commission agenda by Commissioner Ricky Arriola, regarding the creation of a pedestrian connection between Ocean Drive and Lincoln Road through Española Way.

At the June 5, 2019 referral, Commissioner Arriola referenced the Betsy Hotel alleyway as having received worldwide accolades for its creative placemaking. Commissioner Arriola requested that the FCWPC take the next step and consider linking Ocean Drive through the Betsy Hotel alleyway to Española Way, through the Drexel Avenue neighborhood greenway, and finally to Lincoln Road, creating a long, fluid pedestrian pathway which would link the City's major economic engines. Such a public infrastructure enhancement would also serve to activate the 200-400 blocks of Española Way (between Collins Avenue and Washington Avenue) that have remained underlit.

At the July 31, 2019 FCWPC meeting, several short-term options were discussed, including making the area of Española Way from Washington Avenue to Collins Avenue more pedestrian-friendly by improving street lighting, wrapping the existing coconut trees with decorative lighting, similar to Washington Avenue, installing street pavers, activating the street with programming, and the possibility of projecting art onto the walls of existing buildings.

Preliminary cost estimates for some of the short-term considerations discussed were as

follows:

Replacement of mainstream pedestrian lighting with LED's: \$6,000

Wrapping of coconut palm trees with decorative lighting: \$2,000

Road asphalt removal and installation of standard brick pavers: \$200,000

Projection of art could potentially be funded by the Washington Avenue Business Improvement District.

At the meeting, the FCWPC passed a motion to approve the \$208,000 to be allocated from the Fiscal Year 2019/2020 Capital Budget South Beach Quality of Life Funds for this project and for the Administration to return to the Finance and Economic Resiliency Committee with proposals.

ANALYSIS

The Public Works Department has completed the lighting improvements, including upgrading the existing street lighting to LED and wrapping the coconut palm trees on Española Way between Washington Avenue and Collins Avenue with LED string lighting. No work has been done regarding the brick pavers as that would entail a much more extensive effort.

The Transportation and Mobility Department has established an immediate pedestrian and bicycle connection by extending the Flamingo Park Neighborhood Slow Streets pilot north along Pennsylvania Avenue to Lincoln Road and is working with the Department of Marketing and Communications to create tailored way-finding signage to raise awareness and formally designate the pedestrian connection along Pennsylvania Avenue from Lincoln Road Mall to Espanola Way. In addition, staff worked with Miami-Dade County Commissioner Eileen Higgins' office to secure County approval and implementation of an exclusive pedestrian phase at the intersection of Española Way and Washington Avenue to improve pedestrian crossing safety.

In order to advance the vision of creating a pedestrian promenade connecting Lincoln Road Mall, Española Way, and Ocean Drive via Drexel Avenue, and should the City Commission accept the FCWPC's recommendation, the Transportation and Mobility Department will take the lead in coordinating with various City departments, including Public Works, Office of Capital Improvements, Tourism and Culture, Economic Development, and Planning to initiate a planning feasibility study consisting of a traffic impact analysis, development of preliminary design concepts and cost estimates, and community and stakeholder engagement.

The traffic analysis will require review and approval by Miami-Dade County and the Florida Department of Transportation given the pedestrian promenade would impact and traverse roadways and intersections under County and State jurisdiction.

Draft concept proposals, once developed and vetted by City staff, will be brought before the City Commission at a future date for review and input.

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

The Transportation and Mobility Department's Fiscal Year 2020/2021 operating budget includes \$195,000 to fund a traffic study and the development of preliminary design concepts, public

involvement, and cost estimates for a pedestrian promenade pursuant to the Committee's recommendation.

Ultimately, once the study is completed and approved by the City Commission, funding will need to be identified through the capital budget process to fund the design and construction of the recommended long-term infrastructure improvements.

Amount(s)/Account(s):

\$195,000 - Account No. 106-9615-000312-30-403-529-00-00-00-

Applicable Area

South Beach

Is this a "Residents Right to Know" item, pursuant to City Code Section 2-14?

No

Does this item utilize G.O. Bond Funds?

No

Strategic Connection

Mobility - Improve the walking and biking experience.

Legislative Tracking

Transportation and Mobility

Sponsor

Commissioner Ricky Arriola