

TO: Members of the Neighborhood and Quality of Life Committee

FROM: Vice Mayor Michael Gongora

DATE: MAY 19, 2021

SUBJECT: Referral to the May 19, 2021 Neighborhood and Quality of Life Committee Discussion regarding co-naming a street after Simón Bolívar

At its April 28, 2021 meeting, the NQLC reviewed my proposal to consider the co-naming of a public street in Honor of late Simón Bolívar, a Venezuelan military and political leader who was instrumental in helping Latin American countries achieve independence from the Spanish Empire, along with any amendment to Section 82-503 of the City Code that may be required to accomplish the naming. Without making a recommendation on the merits, directed for this proposal and draft ordinance to be fully considered by the City Commission at first reading.

On May 12, 2021, the Mayor and City Commission passed on first reading an ordinance amending Section 82-503(c) of the City Code to provide additional criteria for the co-naming of streets in honor of deceased historical figure who was instrumental in helping Latin American countries achieve independence from the Spanish Empire, such as Simón Bolívar.

I would like for the Committee to make a recommendation regarding a suitable street to co-name after Simón Bolívar, subject to the adoption of the ordinance at second reading on June 23, 2021.

The City's Hispanic Affairs Committee supported this proposal and recommended to co-name 22nd Street after Simón Bolívar due to its proximity to Simón Bolívar's bust in Collins Park, at the Bass Museum between Collins Avenue and 21st Street in Miami Beach, or alternatively, some undefined location in North Beach.

Co-naming 22nd Street after Simón Bolívar would be especially fitting considering that the 21st Street between Washington Avenue and Collins Avenue has already been named after José Martí, a Cuban national hero and an important figure in Latin American literature. However, I am open to other fitting, alternative proposals for the co-naming site.