



**THE HOUSING AUTHORITY
OF THE
CITY OF MIAMI BEACH**



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September 10, 2021

County Commissioner Eileen Higgins, Chairwoman
Miami-Dade Transportation, Mobility and Planning Committee
c/o District 5 Main Office
2100 Coral Way, Suite 400
Miami, FL 33145

Re: Agenda Item Number: 8N
Better Bus Network

Dear Commissioner Higgins:

The Housing Authority of the City of Miami Beach ("HACMB") respectfully requests that the Miami-Dade Transportation, Mobility and Planning Committee defer approval of Agenda Item Number 8N regarding the implementation of the Better Bus Network.

The HACMB is a public housing authority created by Section 421.04, Florida Statutes, and provides housing assistance to over 4,000 low-income families annually in Miami Beach and Miami-Dade County. As such, the HACMB is concerned with the disparate impact and limited outreach during the Covid-19 pandemic to the low-income and minority residents we serve that rely on public transportation for their daily lives and related services.

With the assistance of your Office, the HACMB was able to convey our specific concerns and explained that outreach was not conducted to the HACMB or to the over 500 low-income and minority elderly and disabled residents that live in the South of Fifth neighborhood of Miami Beach. This area was served by the M and C bus routes; however, the Better Bus Network eliminates all stops in the neighborhood. The replacement routes of 14 and 20 should service the residents in the South of Fifth neighborhood. The proposed 14 bus route is critical as it provides service to Mt. Sinai Hospital, and the Washington Avenue and 41st Street retail corridors. The proposed 20 bus route is also of critical importance as it provides service to the Social Security Office, Miami Beach Community Health Center, City Hall, Baptist Health South Florida, and numerous pharmacies and retail establishments in South Beach. In addition, the HACMB is

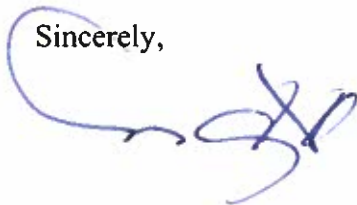
concerned with the proposed elimination of route 115 that serves the low-income residents of the newly adopted North Beach CRA.

On July 26, 2021, the Miami Beach Senior Affairs Committee which represents over 1,500 elderly residents at eight low-income housing developments passed the attached resolution urging deferral and reconsideration of the Better Bus Network. The Committee was concerned with the limited outreach to the senior community, and the elimination of routes and bus stops across the city.

We hope that the Committee can defer this item so that outreach can be conducted to the HACMB and the many stakeholders that proudly serve the low-income and minority residents that the Better Bus Network is intended to assist.

Once again, we thank your Office for its accessibility, interest, and dedication to our community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Miguell Del Campillo", with a large, stylized flourish extending from the end of the signature.

Miguell Del Campillo
Executive Director

Attachment

cc: Miami-Dade County Mayor Daniella Levine Cava
County Commissioner Kionne L. McGhee, Committee Vice Chairman
County Commissioner Danielle Cohen Higgins
County Commissioner Oliver G. Gilbert, III
County Commissioner Sally A. Heyman
County Commissioner Joe A. Martinez
County Commissioner Raquel A. Regalado
County Commissioner Rebeca Sosa
Eulois Cleckley, Director and CEO, Department of Transportation and Public Works
Miami Beach Mayor Dan Gelber and City Commissioners
Miami Beach City Manager Alina T. Hudak
HACMB Board of Commissioners

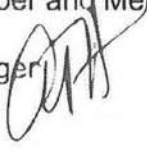
MIAMI BEACH

OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

NO. LTC# **373-2021**

LETTER TO COMMISSION

TO: Honorable Mayor Dan Gelber and Members of the City Commission

FROM: Alina T. Hudak, City Manager 

DATE: September 8, 2021

SUBJECT: **SENIOR AFFAIRS COMMITTEE MOTION**

The purpose of this Letter to Commission (LTC) is to inform the Mayor and Commission of the motion that was passed at the Senior Affairs Committee meeting that was held on July 26, 2021.

MOTION 1

The Senior Affairs Committee motions to pause any action or consideration of the Better Bus Program based on the lack of senior community input. Dade County Bus System is primary source of transportation for senior and those with disabilities. All buses are equipped with a low floor easy access ramp and disability seating at front of bus. This Committee is very concerned that no outreach was done to local community to find out how it would affect them to remove over 100+ bus sites across Miami Beach. Please know that across entire City there is large population of seniors with disabilities and walking impairments that are physically unable to walk more than 2 blocks. Committee strongly urges Commission to delay and say "NO" to any decision on Better Bus Project. This will provide additional time for further investigation and analysis and staff presentation on the impact on our senior community and those with walking impairments and disabilities.

Motion Made by: Magui Benitez

Motion Seconded by: Carolina Cuadros

Motion Passes Unanimously

ATH/DF