



City of Miami Beach, 1700 Convention Center Drive, Miami Beach, Florida 33139, www.miamibeachfl.gov

COMMITTEE MEMORANDUM

TO: Honorable Chair and Members of the Finance and Economic Resiliency Committee

FROM: Alina T. Hudak, City Manager

DATE: October 22, 2021

SUBJECT: **DISCUSS FUNDING BOLLARDS ALONG THE BEACHWALK**

BACKGROUND

The Miami Beach Recreational Corridor, commonly referred to as the Beachwalk, runs parallel to the oceanfront from South Pointe Park to north 87th Terrace. Currently, Section 70-67 of the City Code prohibits the use of any motorized means of transportation along the length of the Beachwalk. However, over the years, there have been several discussions about the safety of pedestrians and cyclists on the boardwalk. Different user groups including the Mid-Beach Neighborhood Association (MBNA) have voiced concerns about unauthorized vehicles potentially breaching the boardwalk and causing harm to pedestrians or cyclists. This item was initially discussed by City staff in August 2019. Concerned members of MBNA suggested that the City's Capital Improvement Projects Department include protective bollards in their Beachwalk enhancement projects. The request could not be accommodated within the allotted project budgets. Subsequently, during their May 2020 meeting, the MBNA suggested that the Beachwalk Bollards project be funded from Government Obligation (GO) Bond project #53, Security for Public Spaces. However, this was not feasible as funds for this project had already been earmarked for the design and installation of hostile vehicle barriers in the City's Entertainment District.

ANALYSIS / UPDATE

In October of 2020, the Facilities and Fleet Management Department was charged with developing a project to design and deploy protective bollards at vulnerable areas along the length of the Beachwalk (the Project). Department staff engaged Gannett Fleming, a safety and security consultant, and independent third-party firm that has provided similar bollard studies in other areas of the City. Phase I of the Project, Assessment and Basis of Design, entailed three-day site visits assessing vehicular access. Accordingly, on May 24, 2021 through May 27, 2021, the team from Gannett Fleming visited the City to assess all vehicle accessible points along the Beachwalk from South Pointe Park to north 87th Terrace. The Consultant's site visits also included hour-long In-Brief and Out-Brief sessions with the City's internal stakeholder group consisting of staff from Police, Fire Rescue, Parks and Recreation, Public Works, Transportation and Tourism Departments. This initial phase of the Project concluded with the delivery of a Basis of Design (BOD) Report wherein the different Beachwalk access points were ranked regarding their

vulnerability using a Design Basis Threat (DBT) methodology and recommendations were made for vehicle barriers and/or alternate mitigation measures for each access point.

Phase II of the Project, Analysis and Conceptual Design Development, is presently unfunded. Deliverables of this second phase would include 30% Concept Design. The proposed Phase II, attached herein by way of reference as Attachment A, is approximately \$139,000.

Considering construction of typical active barrier elements at nine Beachwalk locations, passive barriers for the remaining locations identified in the Basis of Design, and consultant fees through design and construction support services, the Consultant has provided a rough order magnitude (ROM) cost analysis of \$5M. This includes factors for construction cost escalation and additional contingencies.

CONCLUSION

These Projects, including Phase II provided herein are unfunded. In consideration of the foregoing, the Administration is researching funding opportunities and will present a recommendation, that may include pay as you go projects, at the next Committee meeting.