

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

## COMMITTEE MEMORANDUM

TO: Honorable Chair and Members of the Public Safety and

Neighborhood Quality of Life Committee

FROM: Alina T. Hudak, City Manager

DATE: May 17, 2022

SUBJECT: A DISCUSSION REGARDING INSTALLING A MEMORIAL PLAQUE IN

THE MEMORY OF JOE TOM EASLEY

## **BACKGROUND**

At the April 6, 2022 City Commission meeting, Commissioner Mark Samuelian submitted a referral (Item C4 N) to the Public Safety and Neighborhood Quality of Life Committee to discuss installing a memorial plaque in honor of the late Joe Tom Easley.

## **ANALYSIS**

A resident of Miami Beach, Mr. Joe Tom Easley was a devoted human rights lawyer and advocate. His work on behalf of LGBTQ military personnel was instrumental in repealing the discriminatory "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" law and paving the way to marriage equality.

The Palm View Association's Board of Directors and residents reached out to Commissioner Samuelian with a request to commemorate Mr. Easley with a memorial plaque on the City-owned vacant land on the corner of Jefferson and 19<sup>th</sup> Street bordering the Collins canal.

The installation of the commemorative plaque (the Project), including design, fabrication, installation, and necessary improvements to the area is approximately \$15,000. This Project is currently unfunded.

## **CONCLUSION**

The above is presented for the Committee's review and consideration. Should the Committee move forward with a favorable recommendation of installing a commemorative plaque, this Project would require funding and be transmitted for the City Commission's approval pursuant to Section 82-504 of the City Code. Based on the foregoing, the Administration recommends Committee approval and submitting this Project as part of Capital Budget requests.