

RESOLUTION NO. _____

A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA, ACCEPTING THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE PUBLIC SAFETY AND NEIGHBORHOOD QUALITY OF LIFE COMMITTEE, AND APPROVING, BY 5/7TH VOTE, FOLLOWING A DULY NOTICED PUBLIC HEARING, THE CO-NAMING OF THE PORTION OF MERIDIAN AVENUE, LOCATED BETWEEN DADE BOULEVARD AND 18TH STREET/HARVEY MILK WAY AS "CELIA CRUZ WAY," SUBJECT TO FINAL APPROVAL OF THE CO-NAMING BY THE MIAMI-DADE COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 2-1, RULE 9.02 OF THE MIAMI-DADE COUNTY CODE.

WHEREAS, on December 8, 2021, the Mayor and City Commission adopted Ordinance No. 2021-4457, amending Section 82-503(c) of the City Code to provide for additional criteria for the co-naming of street in honor of deceased Cuban-American artists who made vast contributions to Latin music history and culture, such as Celia Cruz; and

WHEREAS, known to many as the "Queen of Salsa," Celia Cruz is unquestionably an enduring symbol of Cuban Culture and continues to be recognized as one of the most popular Latin artists of all time nearly 18 years after her death; and

WHEREAS, Cruz began her rise to worldwide stardom in the 1950's with the legendary Afro-Cuban group La Soñora Matancera, and enjoyed a nearly 60-year career of recording and performing salsa, rumba and reggaeton, while also starring in films and appearing on radio; and

WHEREAS, in 1994, President Clinton awarded Cruz the National Endowment for the Arts award, the highest recognition granted by the United States government to an artist, and in 1999, Cruz was inducted into the International Latin Music Hall of Fame; and

WHEREAS, a strong connection exists between Celia Cruz and Miami Beach and the surrounding areas – on March 13, 2003, Celia Cruz gave her final performance and last public appearance at the Miami Beach Convention Center during the tribute special Celia Cruz: Azucar!, just four months before her passing; and

WHEREAS, in 2005, a 6,000-square foot exhibit titled Azucar! The Life and Music of Celia Cruz opened at the Smithsonian Institution's National Museum of American History – the exhibit was later displayed at The Bass Museum in Miami Beach; and

WHEREAS, in 2016, the Wolfsonian-FIU Museum opened the exhibit Promising Paradise: Cuban Allure, American Seduction, which highlighted Cuba's once thriving

nightlife and featured one of the glamorous gowns that Cruz wore while performing at the famous Cuban nightclub and casino the Tropicana; and

WHEREAS, at its March 23, 2022 meeting, the Public Safety and Neighborhood Quality of Life Committee considered and recommended for the Mayor and City Commission to co-name the portion of Meridian Avenue, located between Dade Boulevard and 18th Street/Harvey Milk Way as "Celia Cruz Way"; and

WHEREAS, co-naming the portion of Meridian Avenue, located between Dade Boulevard and 18th Street/Harvey Milk Way, after Celia Cruz would be particularly fitting due to its proximity to the Miami Beach Convention Center, the place of her final performance and last public appearance prior to her death; and

WHEREAS, as Meridian Avenue is a platted, public road, the proposed co-naming must be approved by the Miami-Dade County Board of County Commissioners pursuant to Rule 9.02 of Section 2-1 of the Miami-Dade County Code.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT DULY RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA, that the Mayor and City Commission hereby accept the recommendation of the Public Safety and Neighborhood Quality of Life Committee, and approve, by 5/7th vote, following a duly noticed public hearing, the co-naming of the portion of Meridian Avenue, located between Dade Boulevard and 18th Street/Harvey Milk Way as "Celia Cruz Way"; subject to final approval of the co-naming by the Miami-Dade County Board of County Commissioners, in accordance with Section 2-1, rule 9.02 of the Miami-Dade County Code.

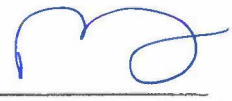
PASSED AND ADOPTED this ____ day of _____ 2022.

Dan Gelber, Mayor

ATTEST:

Rafael E. Granado, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO
FORM & LANGUAGE
& FOR EXECUTION



City Attorney
GA

6-15-22

Date