

MIAMI BEACH

COMMISSION MEMORANDUM

TO: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Commission
FROM: Commissioner Mark Samuelian
DATE: April 21, 2021

SUBJECT: REFERRAL TO THE NEIGHBORHOOD AND QUALITY OF LIFE COMMITTEE TO DISCUSS RECOMMENDATIONS CONCERNING THE BUSINESS TAX RECEIPT CRITERIA.

ANALYSIS

This item asks the committee to discuss the business tax receipt criteria and proposed modifications sent by residents (attached) with City staff.

Specifically:

(1) Authorize a review of police calls for service history and code enforcement history for any business seeking a business tax receipt renewal, and require such review for certain specific types of such as dance halls, liquor stores, restaurants, convenience stores, and alcohol beverage establishments, in an effort to identify patterns in calls for police service and/or code enforcement that may point to possible public safety concerns associated with the business seeking license renewal.

(2) When such patterns stated in paragraph 1 are identified, require the City Manager to further vet the business seeking license renewal. Such vetting may include a review of business practices and a site visit during hours of operation but must at minimum include consultation with the Director of Code Enforcement and the Chief of Police prior to the renewal of the business license.

(3) Upon such further vetting stated in paragraph 2, allow the City Manager to: a. deny the issuance of business tax receipt or b. issue conditions that must be met for the renewal of the business license.

SUPPORTING SURVEY DATA

N/A

Applicable Area

Citywide

Is this a "Residents Right to Know" item, pursuant to City Code Section 2-14?

Yes

Does this item utilize G.O. Bond Funds?

No

Legislative Tracking

Commissioner Mark Samuelian

ATTACHMENTS:

Description

- [BTR Recommendations](#)

Hi Commissioner -

[This proposal] builds upon the idea of issuing permits based on criteria (like your sidewalk cafe ordinance) and not rewarding or renewing bad businesses that strain our resources. In short, the idea is to review and consider calls for police service and code enforcement history before approve new BTR approves or renewals.

I had previously discussed this proposal with the Interim City Manager and the Chief - they were generally supportive of the idea. Please let me know if you'd like to meet to discuss further.

Proposal:

Urging the City Commission to consider the adoption of legislation that would:

(1) Authorize a review of police calls for service history and code enforcement history for any business seeking a business tax receipt renewal, and require such review for certain specific types of such as dance halls, liquor stores, restaurants, convenience stores, and alcohol beverage establishments, in an effort to identify patterns in calls for police service and/or code enforcement that may point to possible public safety concerns associated with the business seeking license renewal.

(2) When such patterns stated in paragraph 1 are identified, require the City Manager to further vet the business seeking license renewal. Such vetting may include a review of business practices and a site visit during hours of operation but must at minimum include consultation with the Director of Code Enforcement and the Chief of Police prior to the renewal of the business license.

(3) Upon such further vetting stated in paragraph 2, allow the City Manager to:

- a. deny the issuance of business tax receipt or
- b. issue conditions that must be met for the renewal of the business license.

Thanks for your consideration of this proposal!