


## COMMISSION MEMORANDUM

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

**FROM:** Rafael Paz, City Attorney 

**DATE:** March 27, 2023

**SUBJECT:** REFERRAL TO THE PUBLIC SAFETY AND NEIGHBORHOOD QUALITY OF LIFE COMMITTEE DISCUSSION TO CONSIDER NAMING THE NORTH BEACH OCEANSIDE DOG PARK AS THE "SALLY HEYMAN DOG PARK", IN HONOR OF FORMER COUNTY COMMISSIONER SALLY HEYMAN'S MANY YEARS OF PUBLIC SERVICE.

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In accordance with Section 82-503 of the City Code, Mayor Gelber has requested that the above-referenced item be referred to the Public Safety and Neighborhood Quality of Life Committee (the "Committee"), to consider the re-naming of the North Beach Oceanside Dog Park, an interior portion of North Beach Oceanside Park, in honor of former County Commissioner Sally Heyman.

Whenever a request is made to re-name portions of a public facility, including interior portions of a park, Section 82-503(b) of the City Code requires review by the Committee, and subsequently, a public hearing and a 5/7ths vote of the City Commission.

County Commissioner Sally A. Heyman was first elected to the District 4 seat of the Miami-Dade Board of County Commissioners in September 2002, after serving in the Florida House of Representatives for four consecutive terms. Commissioner Heyman faithfully served District 4, which includes portions of the City of Miami Beach, for twenty (20) years.

As County Commissioner, Commissioner Heyman championed human rights issues, especially in the areas of funding for social services; the protection and care of women, children and vulnerable adults; protecting personal freedoms; affordable healthcare; animal protection and green sustainability initiatives.

The proposed naming is particularly appropriate in view of Commissioner Heyman's lifelong advocacy for animals in Miami-Dade County. Specifically, during her tenure, Commissioner Heyman spearheaded many animal-related initiatives, including the following:

- Led efforts to create a number of dog parks in District 4, including the Haulover Park Dog Park & Greynolds Park Dog Park;
- Lowered euthanasia rates for animals countywide;
- Promoted adopt-not-shop initiatives;
- Passed bonds to increase funding for basic animal services; and
- Created the Miami-Dade Fire Rescue Peer Support Response K-9 Trust Fund.

In honor of Commissioner Heyman for her tireless, twenty-year long service, and in appreciation of her love for animals and leadership on animal-related issues, the sponsor wishes to re-name the proposed interior portion of the North Beach Oceanside Park as the "Sally Heyman Dog Park."

RAP/FA/ag