

RESOLUTION NO. _____

A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA, DIRECTING THE CITY ADMINISTRATION TO EXPLORE ATTRACTING A PRIVATE ENTITY TO PLAN AND PRODUCE A PRIVATE EVENT ACTIVATION ON OCEAN DRIVE AND SURROUNDING AREAS DURING SELECT WEEKENDS OF SPRING BREAK 2024, WITH SUCH EVENT ACTIVATION TO FEATURE, AT A MINIMUM, A SECURED PERIMETER AND TICKETED ADMISSIONS, WITH APPROPRIATE SECURITY PROVISIONS TO ENSURE THE SAFETY OF EVENT ATTENDEES INSIDE THE SECURED SAFE-ZONE PERIMETER, PROVIDED THAT THE FINAL PERMIT AND CONTRACT FOR THE PRIVATE EVENT SHALL BE SUBJECT TO CITY COMMISSION REVIEW AND APPROVAL, AND THE FINAL EVENT PRODUCT SHALL BE SUBJECT TO THE REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF THE CITY MANAGER OR DESIGNEE.

WHEREAS, the City of Miami Beach (the “City”) is an internationally renowned tourist destination that is famous for its beautiful beaches, world-class shopping, entertainment, fine dining, and vast array of artistic and cultural events; and

WHEREAS, in recent years, the City has seen an increasingly large number of visitors during the Spring Break period, which has posed significant challenges including, but not limited to, extreme traffic and congestion, and severe impacts to the City’s Police, Fire, Sanitation, and Code Compliance services; and

WHEREAS, many of the visitors to the City during high impact periods, such as Spring Break, are under the influence of alcoholic beverages and have demonstrated a blatant disregard for the rule of law; and

WHEREAS, in 2021, unruly crowd control issues during Spring Break resulted in the imposition of emergency measures, including an 8:00 pm. curfew in the area between 5th Street and 16th Street, from Pennsylvania Avenue to Ocean Drive; and

WHEREAS, in March 2022, the City also experienced massive crowds and mayhem in a concentrated tourist area over a period of a few days, resulting in the declaration of a state of emergency and imposition of a weekend curfew for the last weekend of March, 2022; and

WHEREAS, in March 2023, there have been multiple fights, fatalities, and various other incidents and police calls for service—for example, for the period between February 27, 2023 and March 18, 2023, there have been four (4) aggravated assault arrests, three (3) aggravated battery arrests, seven (7) robbery arrests, twenty (20) arrests for carrying a concealed firearm, thirty-seven (37) felony drug arrests, twelve (12) arrests for battery on a law enforcement officer, and eighty-two (82) arrests for other felonies; and

WHEREAS, despite the vast and highly-visible police officer presence in the City, criminals and their illegal behavior continue undeterred; and

WHEREAS, regrettably, many of these disturbing incidents and arrests in the above-referenced area have garnered attention (including national attention) from various news outlets and media; and

WHEREAS, there is a clear pattern of unruly crowds, general mayhem, and violence that takes place in the City during every Spring Break season; and

WHEREAS, the sponsors of this Resolution desire for the City Administration to explore attracting a private entity to plan and produce a private event activation on Ocean Drive and surrounding areas during select weekends of Spring Break 2024, in order to prevent future violent acts committed within the City; and

WHEREAS, the Event should feature, at a minimum, a secured perimeter and ticketed admissions, with appropriate security provisions to ensure the safety of event attendees inside the secured safe-zone perimeter, provided that the final permit and contract for the private event shall be subject to City Commission review and approval, and the final event product shall be subject to the review and approval of the City Manager or designee.

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 direct the City Administration to explore attracting a private entity to plan and produce a private event activation on Ocean Drive and surrounding areas during select weekends of Spring Break 2024, with such event activation to feature, at a minimum, a secured perimeter and ticketed admissions, with appropriate security provisions to ensure the safety of event attendees inside the secured safe-zone perimeter, provided that the final permit and contract for the private event shall be subject to City Commission review and approval, and the final event product shall be subject to the review and approval of the City Manager or designee.

PASSED and ADOPTED this _____ day of _____, 2023.

ATTEST:

Dan Gelber, Mayor

Rafael E. Granado, City Clerk

(Sponsored by Vice-Mayor Steven Meiner, Commissioner Alex J. Fernandez, Mayor Dan Gelber, and Commissioner Laura Dominguez)

APPROVED AS TO
FORM & LANGUAGE
& FOR EXECUTION

Robert R...

City Attorney

3/24/23

Date

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RXP*

MAF