

# MIAMI BEACH

## COMMISSION MEMORANDUM

TO: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Commission  
 FROM: Commissioner Kristen Rosen Gonzalez  
 DATE: February 22, 2023

SUBJECT: A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA, AUTHORIZING THE CITY ADMINISTRATION TO PURCHASE THE DIGITAL CINEMA PACKAGE EQUIPMENT, WHICH SHALL REMAIN PROPERTY OF THE CITY, IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$75,000, FOR THE USE BY O CINEMA FOR THE DURATION OF ITS LEASE OPERATING THE CITY'S SOLE MOVIE THEATRE AT CITY OWNED HISTORIC CITY HALL.

### BACKGROUND/HISTORY

"With the impending closure of the Regal Cinema next week, residents and visitors of Miami Beach will have no movie theater serving them---other than O Cinema South Beach at Historic City Hall. Traditionally, we have been limited in our ability to showcase newer films as Regal demanded exclusivity from distributors but also, due to our lack of the industry-standard DCP (Digital Cinema Package) equipment, we were unable to show many films from larger distributors. Up to this point, we have had to rely on getting films after their initial release and when (and if) they become available for our exhibition system. Installing the DCP equipment has been cost-prohibitive for us to this point.

The cost of outfitting the theater with DCP is about \$70,000. In order to do so, we need the city's support in funding the expense. Given Regal's exit from the city, there is both an opportunity and a need here that O Cinema is uniquely positioned to quickly fulfill with the city's support. By doing so, we can make certain that residents and tourists alike will continue to have access to seeing new and exciting films in a theater without leaving the island. I believe this could be transformational for our organization, build upon the strong work we've already been doing, and bring more people to the Washington Avenue corridor to enjoy accessible art and culture- and patronize local restaurants and businesses as most theatergoers do when they leave.

thank you,  
 Kareem

--

O CINEMA  
**Kareem Tabsch**  
 Co-Founder/ Board Member  
[kareem@o-cinema.org](mailto:kareem@o-cinema.org)  
*pronouns: he/him/his*

**MIAMI'S HEADQUARTERS FOR INDEPENDENT, FOREIGN, & ART FILMS**

### SUPPORTING SURVEY DATA

na

### FINANCIAL INFORMATION

na

### 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 Kristen Rosen Gonzalez

### ATTACHMENTS:

#### Description

📎 [O Cinema Email](#)

☐ [Resolution](#)

Dear Commissioner Rosen-Gonzalez,

With the impending closure of the Regal Cinema next week, residents and visitors of Miami Beach will have no movie theater serving them---other than O Cinema South Beach at Historic City Hall. Traditionally, we have been limited in our ability to showcase newer films as Regal demanded exclusivity from distributors but also, due to our lack of the industry-standard DCP (Digital Cinema Package) equipment, we were unable to show many films from larger distributors. Up to this point, we have had to rely on getting films after their initial release and when (and if) they become available for our exhibition system. Installing the DCP equipment has been cost-prohibitive for us to this point.

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**MIAMI'S HEADQUARTERS FOR INDEPENDENT, FOREIGN, & ART FILMS**

**RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA, AUTHORIZING THE CITY ADMINISTRATION TO PURCHASE THE DIGITAL CINEMA PACKAGE EQUIPMENT, WHICH SHALL REMAIN PROPERTY OF THE CITY, IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$75,000, FOR THE USE BY O CINEMA FOR THE DURATION OF ITS LEASE OPERATING THE CITY'S SOLE MOVIE THEATRE AT CITY OWNED HISTORIC CITY HALL.**

**WHEREAS**, O Cinema is an independent, community-based, mission-driven, nonprofit arthouse cinema operating on City property inside Historic City Hall at the corner of Washington Avenue and 12th Street; and

**WHEREAS**, with the impending closure of the Regal Cinema next week, residents and visitors of Miami Beach O Cinema will become the City's sole movie theatre; and

**WHEREAS**, traditionally, O Cinema has been limited in its ability to showcase newer films from larger distributors, partially due to the lack of the industry-standard DCP (Digital Cinema Package) equipment; and

**WHEREAS**, typically, O Cinema had to rely on obtaining films after their initial release and when (and if) they become available for O Cinema's existing exhibition system; and

**WHEREAS**, the cost of installing the DCP equipment is estimated to be \$75,000 and is cost-prohibitive for an independent nonprofit arthouse movie theatre such as O Cinema; and

**WHEREAS**, in light of Regal Cinema's exit from the City, O Cinema is uniquely positioned to become a popular destination for both residents and visitors who desire to see movies without leaving the City, and help increase foot traffic along the Washington Avenue corridor, benefitting surrounding restaurants and businesses; and

**WHEREAS**, O Cinema's future as the City's sole movie theatre is hinged on its ability to showcase latest releases from larger distributors that require the use of the industry-standard DCP equipment; and

**WHEREAS**, the Mayor and City Commission wish to authorize the City to purchase the DCP equipment in an amount not to exceed \$75,000 for the use by O Cinema for the duration of its lease operating the City's sole movie theatre at City owned Historic City Hall.

**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 authorize the City to purchase the Digital Cinema Package equipment, which shall remain property of the City, in an amount not to exceed \$75,000, for the use by O Cinema for the duration of its lease operating the City's sole movie theatre at City owned Historic City Hall.

**PASSED** and **ADOPTED** this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2023.

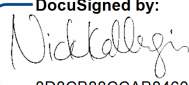

**ATTEST:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Dan Gelber, Mayor

\_\_\_\_\_  
Rafael E. Granado, City Clerk

(sponsored by Commissioner Kristen Rosen Gonzalez)

APPROVED AS TO  
FORM & LANGUAGE  
& FOR EXECUTION

DocuSigned by:  
  
8D8CB88CCAB8460...  
City Attorney 

2/17/2023 | 3:48 PM EST

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

## MIAMI BEACH

## COMMISSION MEMORANDUM

TO: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Commission  
 FROM: Commissioner Kristen Rosen Gonzalez  
 DATE: February 22, 2023

SUBJECT: ~~REFERRAL TO THE FINANCE AND ECONOMIC RESILIENCY COMMITTEE TO DISCUSS FUNDING TO PURCHASE THE SCREEN EQUIPMENT FOR OUR ONLY MOVIE THEATER IN ORDER TO SCREEN CURRENT FILMS.~~

**BACKGROUND/HISTORY**

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**Legislative Tracking**

Commissioner Kristen Rosen Gonzalez

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