

MIAMI BEACH

COMMISSION MEMORANDUM

TO: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Commission
FROM: Vice-Mayor Steven Meiner
DATE: March 27, 2023

SUBJECT: REFERRAL TO THE PUBLIC SAFETY AND NEIGHBORHOOD QUALITY OF LIFE COMMITTEE TO EXPLORE THE FEASIBILITY OF THE CITY ESTABLISHING A MOTORCYCLE/GATOR AMBULANCE RAPID RESPONSE PILOT PROGRAM.

ANALYSIS

Please place on the March 27, 2023 agenda a referral to the Public Safety and Neighborhood Quality of Life Committee to explore the feasibility of the City establishing a motorcycle/gator ambulance rapid response pilot program in order to more swiftly and efficiently facilitate emergency response times during high traffic periods to individuals in need of immediate medical attention.

In time-sensitive medical emergencies, such as a trauma with a severe injury, a stroke or a heart attack, getting medical attention as promptly as possible is a critical component in enhancing the patient's odds of survival and long-term well-being.

Congestion in the City is often substantial, which can make fast and efficient travel on the City's streets and roadways difficult even for marked emergency vehicles. As a result, and through no fault of the emergency medical providers, delays are inevitable in the City, when a few minutes can mean the difference between a positive or negative outcome for the patient. In order to help with response times in arriving at the patient's location, the use of motorcycles/gators (or scooters, mopeds or similar such vehicles) may assist in decreasing travel times. Motorcycles, scooters, mopeds and similar such vehicles are sleek, versatile, and highly maneuverable (even in areas of heavy traffic congestion), attributes which will provide the operators of such vehicles the distinct advantage of being able to navigate through stopped or idle speed traffic.

I request that the Miami Beach Fire Department explore the possibility of establishing a motorcycle/gator ambulance rapid response service for persons who experience time-sensitive medical emergencies in the City. Additionally, I request that the Fire Department examine the various issues surrounding this potential endeavor including, but not limited to, the various costs associated with this pilot program, any required licenses or accreditation for such program, and any other relevant procedural, personnel, or medical control issues.

SUPPORTING SURVEY DATA

N/A

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

N/A

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

Vice-Mayor Steven Meiner