

RESOLUTION NO. _____

A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA, ESTABLISHING A POLICY FOR CITY OF MIAMI BEACH COOLING SITES DURING PERIODS WHEN EXCESSIVE HEAT WARNINGS HAVE BEEN ISSUED FOR MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, TO ENSURE THAT THE GENERAL PUBLIC HAS BASIC ACCESS TO AN AIR CONDITIONED FACILITY AND WATER DURING PERIODS OF EXCESSIVE HEAT WARNINGS; AND FURTHER PROVIDING THAT SO LONG AS MIAMI-DADE COUNTY CONTINUES TO DESIGNATE ITS THREE (3) LIBRARY FACILITIES LOCATED WITHIN THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH AS COOLING SITES WITH GENERAL PUBLIC ACCESS TO AIR CONDITIONING AND WATER, SUCH MIAMI-DADE COUNTY COOLING SITES SHALL SATISFY THE REQUIREMENTS OF THIS RESOLUTION.

WHEREAS, on July 16, 2023, the National Weather Service issued its first ever Excessive Heat Warning for Miami-Dade County; and

WHEREAS, an Excessive Heat Warning is issued when the heat index is expected to reach 105 degrees for at least two hours; and

WHEREAS, the oppressive daytime heat, limited overnight cooling, and widespread record warm nighttime lows pose a significant health risk to the general public; and

WHEREAS, according to data from the National Conference of Citizenship, heat-related deaths in Florida have increased 88% in the last three years; and

WHEREAS, individuals most impacted by extreme weather changes include, without limitation, seniors, individuals experiencing homelessness, individuals with outdoor jobs, and individuals residing in neighborhoods with lack of tree shade canopies; and

WHEREAS, families continue to face increasing financial burdens of rising energy costs, while many living units are not adequately equipped with proper functioning cooling systems; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and City Commission desire to establish a policy with respect to the activation and operation of cooling sites any time an Excessive Heat Warning is issued in Miami-Dade County, with the cooling site to include access to drinking water for those utilizing the cooling site facility; and

WHEREAS, this summer, in response to a significant number of Excessive Heat Warnings, Miami-Dade County activated 14 cooling sites to help South Floridians combat rising temperatures; and

WHEREAS, three of the Miami-Dade County cooling sites are located within the City of Miami Beach, including the North Shore Branch Library (7501 Collins Ave), the Miami Beach Regional Library (227 22 Street), and the South Shore Branch Library (131 Alton Road); and

WHEREAS, during Excessive Heat Warnings for Miami-Dade County, residents are visitors are able to enjoy these cooling sites and one aluminum, reusable bottle of Proud Source courtesy of PepsiCo Beverages North America (PBNA), which recently entered a 10-year plastic-free pouring rights contract with the City of Miami Beach; and

WHEREAS, as long as Miami-Dade County continues to operate the three aforementioned cooling sites within the City, those cooling sites will satisfy the goals of this Resolution, and no additional cooling sites will be required; and

WHEREAS, however, should Miami-Dade County discontinue its cooling site services in the City of Miami Beach, in the interests of public health, the Mayor and City Commission wish to ensure that cooling sites remain available within the City of Miami Beach during periods of Excessive Heat Warnings, and direct the City Administration to identify and designate suitable City facilities to serve as cooling sites to provide this amenity during excessive heat waves.

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 establish a policy for City of Miami Beach cooling sites during periods when excessive heat warnings have been issued for Miami-Dade County, to ensure that the general public has basic access to an air conditioned facility and water during periods of excessive heat warnings; and further provide that so long as Miami-Dade County continues to designate its three (3) library facilities located within the City of Miami Beach as cooling sites with general public access to air conditioning and water, such Miami-Dade County cooling sites shall satisfy the requirements of this Resolution.

PASSED and ADOPTED this ____ day of _____, 2023.

ATTEST:

Dan Gelber, Mayor

Rafael E. Granado, City Clerk

(sponsored by Alex J. Fernandez)

APPROVED AS TO
FORM & LANGUAGE
& FOR EXECUTION

City Attorney *FA*

9-1-23

Date