



City of Miami Beach, 1700 Convention Center Drive, Miami Beach, Florida 33139, www.miamibeachfl.gov

COMMISSION MEMORANDUM

TO: Honorable Mayor Steven Meiner and Members of the City Commission

FROM: Rickelle Williams, Interim City Manager

DATE: May 15, 2024

SUBJECT: **A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION ACCEPTING THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE FINANCE AND ECONOMIC RESILIENCY COMMITTEE AT ITS APRIL 19, 2024 MEETING TO PROCURE ADDITIONAL STATE LEGISLATIVE CONSULTING SERVICES AND TO PRIORITIZE FUNDING DURING THE FY 2025 BUDGET PROCESS; AND FURTHER, DIRECTING THE ADMINISTRATION TO ISSUE PREPARE A REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS (RFQ) TO PROCURE STATE LEGISLATIVE CONSULTING SERVICES FOR REVIEW AND APPROVAL BY THE COMMISSION AT ITS JUNE 26, 2024 MEETING.**

BACKGROUND

On March 17, 2021, the Mayor and City Commission approved the issuance of Request for Qualifications (RFQ) 2021-136-WG for state legislative consulting services and RFQ responses were due and received on May 31, 2021. On June 21, 2021, an Evaluation Committee appointed by the City Manager convened to consider the proposals received. Ronald L. Book, P.A., was determined as the top-ranked proposer.

On September 17, 2021, the Mayor and City Commission accepted the recommendation of the City Manager, pursuant to the RFQ 2021-136-WG for State Legislative Consulting Services and authorized the Administration to enter negotiations with Ronald L. Book, P.A., as the top ranked proposer via Resolution 2021-31839. Rutledge & Ecenia serves as a subcontractor to Ronald L. Book, P.A. as part of this contract.

The contract had an initial term starting November 2021 and ending November 2023. The initial term was extended through November 2024, with one additional extension available that would take the contract through November 2025. The contract fee is \$107,254.92 per year.

At the March 13, 2024 Commission meeting, a referral to the Finance and Economic Resiliency Committee (FERC) was approved to discuss taking action/allocating funding for new or additional lobbyist(s) to advocate for the City for the 2025 legislative session.

On April 9, 2024, FERC discussed the funding for new or additional state lobbying efforts to advocate for the City for the 2025 Florida legislative session. FERC recommended to have

this item heard at Commission with a favorable recommendation to procure additional State Legislative Consulting Services to be ready for the 2025 legislative session.

ANALYSIS

Attached are the City of Miami Beach Final Session Report for 2024 and a City of Miami Beach funding history that the city was able to secure from the state during the term of the current lobbyist contract. Note that from 2021 through 2024 the City has been able to secure \$83.25 million in state grants and direct appropriations.

CONCLUSION

If the resolution is approved, the Administration will return with a request to issue a RFQ for additional state legislative consulting services and include a budget enhancement for consideration during the upcoming FY 2025 budget process.

JDG