MIAMIBEACH

COMMISSION MEMORANDUM

TO: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Commission
FROM: Commissioner David Suarez
DATE: January 31, 2024

SUBJECT: REFERRAL TO THE FINANCE AND ECONOMIC RESILIENCY COMMITTEE TO FUND AN INDEPENDENT THIRD-PARTY STUDY ON ELECTROMAGNETIC FREQUENCY (EMF) READINGS AT THE FLORIDA POWER & LIGHT (FPL) SUBSTATION LOCATED AT 1031 4TH STREET.

BACKGROUND/HISTORY

Was this Agenda Item initially requested by a lobbyist which, as defined in Code Sec. 2-481, includes a principal engaged in lobbying? __ Yes X No

If so, specify name of lobbyist(s) and principal(s): N/A

ANALYSIS

I would like to refer a discussion to the Finance and Economic Resiliency Committee to consider allocating funding for an independent third-party study on electromagnetic frequency (EMF) readings at the Florida Power & Light (FPL) substation located at 1031 4th Street. Concerned parents of South Pointe Elementary School, which is located approximately 70 feet from the substation, have expressed worries about potential health risks associated with the new substation.

While FPL provides its own EMF & Health informational handout, I believe we owe it to our residents to fund our own unbiased study to address community concerns objectively, particularly on a matter as critically important to residents as the health of their children. There is precedent for the City to fund a study, as last year the City contributed to a facilities assessment study, following concerns about the deplorable conditions at the North Beach Elementary School.

This independent assessment will ensure transparency and assist our community in identifying any issues requiring corrective action by FPL, or otherwise hopefully serve to corroborate the information provided by FPL and bring closure and peace of mind for our residents.

SUPPORTING SURVEY DATA

N/A

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

N/A

Is this a "Residents Right to Know" item, pursuant to City Code Section 2-14?	**Does this item utilize G.O. Bond Funds?**
No	No

Legislative Tracking

Commissioner David Suarez