

# MIAMI BEACH

## COMMISSION MEMORANDUM

TO: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Commission  
FROM: Rickelle Williams, Interim City Manager *RW*  
DATE: May 15, 2024

**SUBJECT: A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA, DIRECTING THE TRANSPORTATION AND MOBILITY DEPARTMENT, SUBJECT TO FUNDING AVAILABILITY, TO EVALUATE THE FEASIBILITY OF ELIMINATING THE EXISTING DEDICATED NORTHBOUND RIGHT TURN LANE AT THE INTERSECTION OF OCEAN DRIVE AND 5 STREET IN ORDER TO ESTABLISH GREEN BICYCLE LANE CONNECTIVITY ALONG NORTHBOUND OCEAN DRIVE THROUGH THE INTERSECTION OF 5 STREET; AND, IF FEASIBLE, TO PROCEED WITH THE DESIGN, PERMITTING, AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RECOMMENDED GREEN BICYCLE LANE IMPROVEMENTS; AND TO PRIORITIZE FUNDING DURING THE FISCAL YEAR 2025 BUDGET DEVELOPMENT PROCESS, OR SUBJECT TO APPROPRIATION THROUGH A FISCAL YEAR 2024 BUDGET AMENDMENT.**

### **RECOMMENDATION**

The City Administration ("Administration") recommends that the Mayor and City Commission ("City Commission") adopt the Resolution.

### **BACKGROUND/HISTORY**

In 2015, the City of Miami Beach ("City") implemented dedicated bicycle lanes along the east and west sides of Ocean Drive between South Pointe Drive and 5 Street, in the South of Fifth neighborhood.

On April 13, 2016, the City Commission adopted the Bicycle-Pedestrian Master Plan ("BPMP"), via Resolution No. 2016-29373. Pursuant to the BPMP, the Transportation and Mobility Department embarked on a program to create a citywide bicycle lane network and paint all existing (and proposed) bicycle lanes green in order to increase driver awareness and enhance bicyclist safety throughout the City.

In March 2017, the City painted green bicycle lanes on Ocean Drive between South Pointe Drive and 5 Street, in the South of Fifth neighborhood. At that time, no bicycle lanes existed on Ocean Drive north of 5 Street, in the Entertainment District, to provide bicycle lane continuity between these two areas of the City.

In January 2022, the City completed the implementation of the interim configuration of Ocean Drive in the Entertainment District, as permitted by the Miami-Dade County Department of Transportation and Public Works ("DTPW"), consisting of a one-way southbound vehicular lane and two-way, protected green bicycle lanes on the east side of Ocean Drive between 5 Street and 14 Place. Due to the existing one-way southbound vehicular lane configuration on Ocean Drive, the intersection approaches at Ocean Drive and 5 Street required some modifications,

including, but not limited to, converting the shared northbound through/right turn lane on Ocean Drive south of 5 Street to a dedicated northbound right turn lane.

Currently, the southbound green bicycle lane on Ocean Drive in the Entertainment District continues through the intersection of 5 Street, safely connecting to the existing southbound green bicycle lane on Ocean Drive in the South of Fifth neighborhood. However, along northbound Ocean Drive in the South of Fifth neighborhood, a lack of bicycle connectivity (i.e. gap) of approximately 350 feet in length exists through the 5 Street intersection as the northbound green bicycle lane currently terminates just south of the dedicated northbound right turn lane at 5 Street. **Given the current lane configuration at the intersection of Ocean Drive and 5 Street, providing bicycle lane continuity along northbound Ocean Drive through the 5 Street intersection would require the elimination of the existing dedicated northbound right turn lane.**

### **ANALYSIS**

DTPW has exclusive jurisdictional authority over all traffic control and traffic engineering services on all local roads in Miami-Dade County, including within incorporated municipalities. DTPW requires that a traffic engineering study be conducted to determine if the elimination of the existing dedicated northbound right turn lane at the intersection of Ocean Drive and 5 Street is warranted.

As such, the Transportation and Mobility Department is prepared to engage one of the City's pre-qualified rotational transportation consultants to evaluate the feasibility of eliminating the existing dedicated northbound right turn lane. If the traffic study determines that the elimination of the right turn lane is warranted, and DTPW approves the traffic study, the City would proceed with the design, permitting, and implementation of a northbound green bicycle lane on Ocean Drive through the intersection of 5 Street to establish bicycle lane connectivity along northbound Ocean Drive. It is important to note that DTPW would also need to review and approve the design plans for such bicycle lane improvement to be implemented.

### **LOBBYIST DISCLOSURE**

In accordance with Resolution No. 2023-32857, adopted by the City Commission on December 13, 2023, the following information has been provided by the primary item sponsor as it relates to the subject resolution:

1. Was the Agenda Item initially requested by a lobbyist which, as defined in Code Sec. 2-481, includes a principal engaged in lobbying? No
2. If so, specify name of lobbyist(s) and principal(s): N/A

### **SUPPORTING SURVEY DATA**

According to the 2022 City of Miami Beach Resident Survey, 51% of residents responded that at least one person in their household regularly rides a bike and 37% of residents consider bicycling the most viable alternative to using cars for trips within Miami Beach. Based on the same survey, while 64% of residents feel somewhat safe when riding their bicycle in the City, 37% of residents feel unsafe.

### **FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT**

The estimated cost of the traffic study/feasibility analysis, design, and implementation of the green bicycle lane improvements is approximately \$100,000. Funding has not been identified, budgeted, or appropriated at this time. Should the City Commission approve this resolution, the

Administration will prioritize funding during the Fiscal Year (“FY”) 2025 Budget development process, or subject to appropriation through a FY 2024 budget amendment.

**FINANCIAL INFORMATION**

**Amount(s)/Account(s):**

N/A

**CONCLUSION**

Currently, the existing green bicycle lane along northbound Ocean Drive in the South of Fifth neighborhood terminates just south of the intersection of Ocean Drive and 5 Street. To provide continuity between the green bicycle lanes along northbound Ocean Drive in the South of Fifth neighborhood and the existing protected green bicycle lanes on Ocean Drive in the Entertainment District would require the elimination of the existing dedicated northbound right turn lane at the intersection of Ocean Drive and 5 Street. DTPW requires that a traffic study be conducted to determine if this modification is warranted.

Should the City Commission approve this resolution, the Administration will prioritize funding through the FY 2025 Budget development process, or subject to appropriation through a FY 2024 budget amendment, for a traffic study to evaluate if the elimination of the existing dedicated northbound right turn lane at the intersection of Ocean Drive and 5 Street is warranted. If the traffic study finds that the modification is warranted, the Administration will proceed with the design, permitting, and implementation of a northbound green bicycle lane through the intersection of Ocean Drive and 5 Street, subject to DTPW approval and funding availability, to provide safe bicycle lane connectivity along northbound Ocean Drive.

**APPLICABLE AREA**

South Beach

**Is this a "Residents Right to Know" item, pursuant to City Code Section 2-14?**

No

**Does this item utilize G.O. Bond Funds?**

No

**STRATEGIC CONNECTION**

Mobility – Improve the walking and biking experience.

**LEGISLATIVE TRACKING**

Transportation and Mobility

**SPONSORED (If applicable)**

Commissioner David Suarez

**ATTACHMENTS:**

Resolution

RW/DM/JRG