

RESOLUTION NO. _____

**A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION OF
THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA, ACCEPTING THE
RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE NEIGHBORHOOD/COMMUNITY
AFFAIRS COMMITTEE REGARDING THE SOUTH BEACH
TROLLEY ROUTE, VEHICLE COMFORT, AND ACCESSIBILITY.**

WHEREAS, at its December 20, 2017 meeting, the Neighborhood/Community Affairs Committee (NCAC) discussed the current routes and conditions of the Miami Beach trolleys, as well as accessibility for seniors and handicapped persons, and recommended extending the South Beach Trolley route to the Collins Park neighborhood; and

WHEREAS, on January 17, 2018, the City Commission accepted the NCAC's recommendation and directed the Administration to extend the South Beach Trolley Loops A and B to the Collins Park neighborhood, while keeping the "Via 10 Street Loop" as-is; and

WHEREAS, at the same meeting, the City Commission requested that the item be referred to NCAC for further discussion regarding operating scenarios of the South Beach Trolley, including options that do not eliminate the "Via 10 Street Loop" and the financial impacts associated with the scenarios; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to City Commission direction, South Beach Trolley Loops A and B were extended to Collins Park on January 22, 2018; and

WHEREAS, since the extended service was implemented without any changes to the "Via 10 Street Loop," and with no additional vehicles, the City Commission directed that the Administration monitor the impact of increased headways; and

WHEREAS, at its January 24, 2018 meeting, the NCAC discussed the current routes and conditions of the Miami Beach Trolleys, as well as accessibility for seniors and handicapped persons; and

WHEREAS, the NCAC requested that the Administration return in February and present the specific concerns received by staff regarding the accessibility of high-floor and low-floor trolleys, as well as the cost and timeline associated with modifying low-floor trolley vehicles to address concerns reported by passengers and the community; and

WHEREAS, at the same meeting, the NCAC discussed the "Via 10 Street Loop" and requested a ridership breakdown of all three (3) trolley loops operating in South Beach; and

WHEREAS, at the February 21, 2018 NCAC meeting, the Administration presented concerns received by staff regarding the accessibility of high-floor and low-floor trolleys, as well as the cost and timeline associated with modifying low-floor trolley vehicles to address concerns reported by passengers and the community, and provided suggestions to improve passenger comfort and convenience, including:

- A new footrest for high bench above front right wheel well
- A new storage rack above the left front wheel well
- A new rear support railing
- Longer leather straps
- Raised benches above the rear wheel wells to allow for more passenger legroom; and

WHEREAS, at the same meeting, the Administration also presented ridership figures for all three (3) South Beach Trolley loops: Loop A (Clockwise); Loop B (Counterclockwise); and "Via 10 Street Loop," including ridership at the Belle Isle stop and along the recently extended route segment to the Collins Park neighborhood; and

WHEREAS, at this meeting, the NCAC made the following motions:

1. Display the low-floor trolley vehicle, with recently implemented modifications intended to improve passenger comfort and convenience, at Rebecca Towers.
2. Implement similar modifications to all 12 low-floor trolley vehicles at an estimated cost of approximately \$400 per vehicle (total of \$4,800 for all 12 low-floor trolley vehicles).
3. Monitor when the current trolley contract expires to ensure more user-friendly trolleys are ordered in the future.
4. Continue working with the City of Miami on establishing enhanced transit service along the Venetian Causeway to connect Miami Beach and Miami.
5. Obtain input from the Transportation, Parking and Bicycle/Pedestrian Facilities Committee (TPBPFC) on the current trolley routes, with specific emphasis on whether the Belle Isle extension should be continued, and ensure that the Belle Isle Neighborhood Association is provided advance notice of this meeting; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the NCAC request, a low-floor and high-floor trolley vehicle was displayed at Rebecca Towers (Alton Road and 2nd Street) on Tuesday, February 27, 2018 from 2 PM to 3 PM, for a side-by-side comparison; and

WHEREAS, the low-floor trolley on display included the above-referenced and recently implemented modifications intended to improve passenger comfort and convenience; and

WHEREAS, the funding required to implement the recommended modifications to all 12 low-floor trolley vehicles is currently available from trolley operating savings; and

WHEREAS, the anticipated timeline for implementation of the recommended modifications to all 12 low-floor trolley vehicles is approximately four (4) weeks.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT DULY RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA that the Mayor and City Commission hereby accept the recommendations of the Neighborhood/Community Affairs Committee as set forth herein regarding the South Beach Trolley route, vehicle comfort, and accessibility.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this ____ day of March, 2018.


ATTEST:

Dan Gelber, Mayor

Rafael E. Granado, City Clerk

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APPROVED AS TO
FORM & LANGUAGE
& FOR EXECUTION

 3/5/18
for City Attorney Date