

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 KITEBOARDING IN MIAMI BEACH, AND DIRECTING THE CITY ADMINISTRATION TO DEVELOP KITEBOARDING REGULATIONS, INCLUDING A CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENT, BASED UPON THE INTERNATIONAL KITEBOARDING ORGANIZATION (IKO) LEVEL 3, OR EQUIVALENT, FOR KITEBOARDERS, AND AN ENFORCEMENT PLAN; AND TO DESIGNATE KITEBOARDING LOCATIONS AT 35TH STREET, 76TH STREET, AND 84TH STREET, WITH LESSONS RESTRICTED TO THE 76TH STREET LOCATION; AND, FURTHER, DIRECTING THE CITY ADMINISTRATION TO RESEARCH ADDITIONAL KITEBOARDING LOCATIONS AT 25TH STREET, 53RD STREET, AND 64TH STREET.

WHEREAS, since 2014, the City of Miami Beach has offered, through its Public Beachfront Concession Agreement with Boucher Brothers Miami Beach LLC and its subcontractor, TKS Concessions, LLC, kiteboarding lessons at 76th Street; and

WHEREAS, with the rise in popularity of kiteboarding, the City's beaches have experienced an increase in recreational users as well as unauthorized business activity associated with the sport, most notably, the area between 25th and 27th Streets; and

WHEREAS, out of concern for the safety and well-being of beachgoers, the City Code prohibits the use of watercraft in restricted swim areas around lifeguard stands, thus kiteboarders have spread into certain unguarded areas behind private properties and pose a safety hazard to condominium residents and other beachgoers; and

WHEREAS, on December 13, 2017, following several meetings in which it discussed the need to balance safety concerns with allowing kiteboarding enthusiasts to practice their sport, the City Commission referred the item to the Neighborhood/Community Affairs Committee (NCAC); and

WHEREAS, the City conducted a public workshop on kiteboarding on December 1, 2017 and on February 9, 2018, each of which was attended by various stakeholders, including kiteboarders, residents, law enforcement, and City staff, at which serious discussion occurred about rules and regulations for responsible kiteboarding; and

WHEREAS, the City also launched an online feedback forum for individuals who could not attend the public workshops; and

WHEREAS, on February 21, 2018, the NCAC recommended that the City Administration (1) develop kiteboarding regulations, including a certification requirement

for IKO Level 3, or equivalent, for kiteboarders, and an enforcement plan; (2) designate kiteboarding locations at 35th Street, 76th Street, and 84th Street, with lessons restricted to the 76th Street location; and (3) research additional locations at 25th Street, 55th Street, and 65th Street; and

WHEREAS, the additional three locations to be researched by City Staff, which were referred to, erroneously, during the February 21, 2018 NCAC meeting, in actuality, related to 25th Street, 53rd Street (instead of 55th Street), and 64th Street (instead of 65th Street); and

WHEREAS, the City Administration has completed its preliminary research of the proposed additional kiteboarding locations and does not recommend that the 53rd Street location be considered, because it is the proposed location of the Sabrina Cohen adaptive recreation center; however, the 64th Street and 25th Street locations could be considered as additional kiteboarding locations, with the 25th Street location being implemented on a six month trial basis, due to the high volume of beachgoers at the 25th Street location.

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 accept the recommendations of the Neighborhood/Community Affairs Committee regarding kiteboarding in Miami Beach, and direct the City Administration to develop kiteboarding regulations, including a certification requirement based upon the International Kiteboarding Organization (IKO) Level 3, or equivalent, for kiteboarders, and an enforcement plan; and to designate kiteboarding locations at 35th Street, 76th Street, and 84th Street, with lessons restricted to the 76th Street location; and, further, direct the City Administration to research additional kiteboarding locations at 25th Street, 53rd Street, and 64th Street.

PASSED and ADOPTED THIS ____ day of _____ 2018.

ATTEST:

Dan Gelber, Mayor

Rafael E. Granado, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO
FORM & LANGUAGE
& FOR EXECUTION

City Attorney *DM* 3/6/18
Date