

RESOLUTION NO. _____

A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA, URGING THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE MIAMI-DADE EXPRESSWAY AUTHORITY (MDX) TO REMOVE OR SIGNIFICANTLY REDUCE THE TOLLS ON THE FIVE MDX EXPRESSWAYS WHICH SERVE AS MAJOR LINKS TO THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH FOR TOURISTS AND COMMUTING WORKERS.

WHEREAS, created in 1994 by the Miami-Dade County Commission, the Miami-Dade Expressway Authority (MDX) is a user funded transportation agency, which is tasked with improving the mobility of people, goods, and the economy in Miami-Dade County, and is governed by a nine member Board of Directors; and

WHEREAS, the five expressways under MDX control are: SR 112/Airport Expressway, SR 836/Dolphin Expressway, 874/Don Shula Expressway, SR 878/Snapper Creek Expressway, and SR 924/Gratigny Parkway; and

WHEREAS, MDX controls toll revenues collected on the five MDX expressways for improvements to local transportation; and

WHEREAS, the expressways under MDX control are major connectors to the City of Miami Beach ("City") for tourists traveling from the airport, and from other destinations; and, further, these expressways are utilized daily by workers who commute to the City to support its hospitality, medical, and other business industries; and

WHEREAS, although MDX recently reduced its toll rates, which will take effect July 1, 2018, the reductions are but pennies per trip and offer negligible relief; specifically, the reductions are as follows for drivers with SunPass accounts:

- SR 836/Dolphin Expy. Current toll: 70 cents. New toll: 66 cents, 4 cent reduction.
- SR 112/Airport Expy. Current toll: 35 cents. New toll: 33 cents, 2 cent reduction.
- SR 874/Don Shula Expy. Current toll: 50 cents. New toll: 47 cents, 3 cent reduction.
- SR 878/Snapper Creek. Current toll: 25 cents. New toll: 23 cents, 2 cent reduction.
- SR 924/Gratigny Pkwy. Current toll: 50 cents. New toll: 47 cents, 3 cent reduction.

Toll reductions for toll-by-plate rates, which are double that for SunPass account holders, are similarly being reduced by mere pennies; and

WHEREAS, workers who commute to the City are the most affected by high toll rates because their annual tolls can amount to many hundreds of dollars; and

WHEREAS, although MDX offers a Frequent Driver Rewards Program for SunPass account holders spending more than \$100 annually (between July 1st and June 30th) on MDX expressways, the short enrollment period is only between December 1st and March 31st and cash back rebates are not guaranteed in any given year; and

WHEREAS, those who profit from the development of commercial and residential projects that increase density in our community and, thus, require enhanced and expanded roadway infrastructure, should be responsible for funding the additional traffic impacts on our highways—not our visitors or the commuting workers who staff our hotels, restaurants, hospitals, and other businesses that support our local economy.

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 urge the Board of Directors of the Miami-Dade Expressway Authority to remove or significantly reduce the tolls on the five MDX expressways which serve as major links to the City of Miami Beach for tourists and commuting workers.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this ____ day of July, 2018.

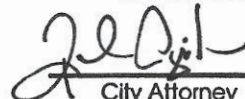
ATTEST:

Dan Gelber, Mayor

Rafael E. Granado, City Clerk

(Sponsored by Commissioner Kristen Rosen Gonzalez)

APPROVED AS TO
FORM & LANGUAGE
& FOR EXECUTION



City Attorney

6-28-18

Date