

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 BEACH EXPRESS NORTH BUS EXPRESS RAPID TRANSIT (BERT) DEMONSTRATION PROJECT; APPROVING THE RECOMMENDED ROUTE ALIGNMENT ALONG 41ST STREET AND COLLINS AVENUE; APPROVING THE DRAFT BUSINESS PLAN OUTLINE; AND RECOMMENDING ADDITIONAL TERMS IN THE BERT BUSINESS PLAN TO BE NEGOTIATED WITH MIAMI-DADE COUNTY.**

**WHEREAS**, the Miami-Dade County Strategic Miami Area Rapid Transit (SMART) Plan contains six (6) Rapid Transit Corridors and nine (9) Bus Express Rapid Transit (BERT) routes for Miami-Dade County; and

**WHEREAS**, the SMART Plan envisions one (1) Rapid Transit Corridor from Downtown Miami to the Miami Beach Convention Center via the MacArthur Causeway and three (3) BERT routes from the mainland to Miami Beach; and

**WHEREAS**, BERT service consists of enhanced branded buses operating limited stop service on shoulders or dedicated transit lanes, where feasible, to reduce travel time and help ensure service schedule reliability; and

**WHEREAS**, operation on the outside shoulders of the Julia Tuttle Causeway is key to the success of the Beach Express North BERT service; and

**WHEREAS**, on April 26, 2018, the Miami-Dade Transportation Planning Organization (TPO) unanimously approved Resolution No.: 14-18 endorsing the identification and implementation of demonstration projects that advance elements of the SMART Plan; and

**WHEREAS**, at the City Commission's Transportation Workshop held on April 27, 2018, the Commission discussed potential collaboration with the TPO to advance one or two BERT routes connecting to Miami Beach; and

**WHEREAS**, on May 2, 2018, the TPO announced the SMART Demonstration Projects Cycle for Fiscal Year 2019; and

**WHEREAS**, the TPO SMART Demonstration Project program funds new service for three (3) years, requires a 50/50 match, and after three (3) years, should the service be deemed feasible to continue, funding the service would be the responsibility of the Miami-Dade County Department of Transportation and Public Works; and

**WHEREAS**, the benefit of this program is that this allows BERT implementation in the very near term, perhaps even prior to the end of calendar year 2018; and

**WHEREAS**, the City Commission heard this item at its May 16, 2018 meeting and supported applying to the SMART Demonstration Project program via Resolution No.: 2018-30317; and

**WHEREAS**, on May 21, 2018, Miami Beach and the Miami-Dade County Department of Transportation and Public Works jointly applied to the TPO SMART Plan Demonstration Project program for the Beach Express North BERT routes serving Miami Beach; and

**WHEREAS**, on June 11, 2018, the Miami Beach Transportation, Parking and Bicycle Facilities Committees supported a Beach Express North BERT route that serves Mount Sinai Medical Center, the hotel and entertainment destinations on Collins Avenue, and the City Center area; and

**WHEREAS**, on June 20, 2018, the Neighborhoods/Community Affairs Committee supported a Beach Express North BERT route that serves Mount Sinai Medical Center, the hotel and entertainment destinations on Collins Avenue, and the City Center area, reviewed the draft business plan outline (attached hereto as Exhibit A), and provided additional recommendations; and

**WHEREAS**; the additional recommendations for the business plan provided by NCAC on June 20, 2018, included: 1) annual evaluation of the Beach Express North BERT Demonstration Service with an exit strategy for underperformance; 2) input from the hotel industry; 3) standard (non-premium) fares for the BERT demonstration service; and 4) ample opportunities for customer feedback; and

**WHEREAS**, the TPO awarded funding to the Beach Express North BERT Demonstration Project at its June 21, 2018 meeting via Resolution No.: 29-18; and

**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 NCAC regarding the Beach Express North Bus Express Rapid Transit (BERT) demonstration project; approve the recommended route alignment along 41<sup>st</sup> Street and Collins Avenue; approve the draft business plan outline; and, approve the additional recommendations to the BERT Business Plan to be negotiated with Miami-Dade County.

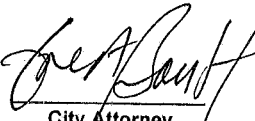
**PASSED AND ADOPTED** this 25th day of July, 2018.

**ATTEST:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Dan Gelber, Mayor

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Rafael E. Granado, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO  
FORM & LANGUAGE  
& FOR EXECUTION

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
City Attorney

7/12/18

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date