

# MIAMI BEACH

## Neighborhood and Quality of Life Committee

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May 20, 2020 - 8:30 AM

Commissioner Micky Steinberg, Chair  
Commissioner Steven Meiner, Vice-Chair  
Commissioner Michael Góngora, Member  
Commissioner David Richardson, Alternate

Eric Carpenter, Liaison  
Christina Baguer, Support Staff

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## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **1. DISCUSSION REGARDING POSSIBLE WAYS TO IMPROVE THE HOMELESS ISSUE IN MIAMI BEACH.**

February 12, 2020 - C4S  
Commissioner Steven Meiner  
Housing and Community Services

Commissioner Meiner introduced the item and asked for an update from Maria Ruiz, Director of Community and Housing Services. Ms. Ruiz explained the importance of understanding our specific homeless population. She updated the Committee on available shelters and number of beds open for those in need.

Commissioner Gongora asked several questions regarding food assistance for the homeless and the other services the City offers. Ms. Ruiz explained that currently her department is distributing food cards for Burger King and Dunkin Donuts. Other City services include addiction treatment program, Miami Beach Community Health Center, mental health consulting and reconnection with families. Masks were distributed last month and will be distributed again this week.

Commissioner Meiner asked why the homeless population has increased. Ms. Ruiz explained that, although she did not have any data, the only change during this time is the food cards being distributed.

Commissioner Gongora asked about the Rental Assistance Program and shared his concerns regarding the closing of the program so quickly after it opened. Ms. Ruiz explained the requirements for the program and the extent of their promoting and educating people on the program. She also explained that another \$271,000 has been identified and will be discussed during Friday's Commission meeting.

**Direction: Commissioner Gongora asked that staff be prepared to provide Commission on Friday with funding options and solutions for the people who could not get through on the first day of the program. Return to the NQLC July 15, 2020 meeting to continue discussions on how to improve the homeless situation in Miami Beach.**

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **2. DISCUSSION REGARDING THE ADDITION OF A 3-WAY STOP SIGN ON CHASE AVENUE AND 40TH STREET TO IMPROVE PEDESTRIAN AND VEHICULAR SAFETY.**

March 18, 2020 - C4 K

Commissioner Steven Meiner

Transportation & Mobility

Commissioner Meiner introduced the item and explained that the intersection in question has several parking lots in the area along with shopping centers and synagogues, making it a heavily populated area.

Jose Gonzalez, Director of Transportation described the process for this type of request. He explained that data is collected and analyzed by in-house staff. If the data shows a need for the stop sign, the analysis is sent to the County for final approval. Due to the pandemic, traffic patterns are not as high. Mr. Gonzalez recommends waiting until traffic returns to normal before conducting the study.

**Direction: By acclamation, the Committee instructed the Administration to conduct the study once traffic normalizes.**

### **3. DISCUSSION REGARDING SARGASSUM SEAWEEED PLAN.**

March 18, 2020 - C4 D

Commissioner Góngora

Property Management

Commissioner Gongora introduced the item with a brief history of the sargassum issue.

Adrian Morales, Director of Property Management provided the following update:

As of today, 1,700 cubic yards of sargassum has been collected

The County has contracted Beach Raker for these services

Administration is working with the County to ensure theses services continue

Commissioner Meiner asked staff about the high season for sargassum. Elizabeth Wheaton, Director of Environment and Sustainability, replied that experts predict the highest amount of sargassum will accumulate between mid-June to mid-July

**Direction: Administration should continue to work closely with the County on this issue, report to the Commission via LTC with any updates and advise Commission if any future action should be taken. Remove item from the NQLC agenda.**

## **DEFERRED ITEMS**

4. **DISCUSSION REGARDING HOW TO CREATE MORE AFFORDABLE HOUSING IN MIAMI BEACH.**  
January 15, 2020 C4 E  
Commissioner Gongora  
HOUSING & COMMUNITY SERVICES  
**Status: Deferred to the June 17, 2020 NQLC meeting.**
5. **DISCUSSION REGARDING CRIME IN MIAMI BEACH - UPDATE**  
February 14, 2018 - R9X  
Commissioner Gongora  
Police  
**Status: Deferred to the June 17, 2020 NQLC meeting.**
6. **DISCUSSION REGARDING THE MIAMI BEACH POLICE DEPARTMENT'S ENHANCED PUBLIC SAFETY CITIZEN VOLUNTEER INITIATIVE**  
January 15, 2020 - C4G  
Commissioner Meiner  
Police  
**Status: Deferred to the June 17, 2020 NQLC meeting.**
7. **DISCUSSION REGARDING THE POSSIBILITY OF STARTING A PILOT PADDLEBOARD RENTAL PROGRAM AT PARKVIEW PARK ANNEX AND/OR PINE TREE PARK KAYAK LAUNCHES.**  
March 18, 2020 - C4 G  
Mayor Dan Gelber  
Parks and Recreation Department  
**Status: Deferred to the June 17, 2020 NQLC meeting.**
8. **DISCUSSION REGARDING REVIEWING UNESCO WORLD HERITAGE LIST QUALIFICATIONS WITHIN THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH.**  
March 18, 2020 - C4 F  
Commissioner Góngora  
Planning  
**Status: Deferred to the June 17, 2020 NQLC meeting.**
9. **DISCUSSION REGARDING THE INTEREST OF THE COMMISSION IN OPERATING ELECTRIC SCOOTERS AT ALL AND THE POSSIBILITY OF A FUTURE PILOT PROGRAM.**  
July 25, 2018 - R9V  
Commissioner Góngora  
Transportation  
**Status: Deferred to the June 17, 2020 NQLC meeting.**
10. **DISCUSSION REGARDING MOTIONS PASSED BY THE PARKS AND RECREATIONAL FACILITIES BOARD ON OCTOBER 2, 2019.**  
October 30, 2019 - C4 E  
Commissioner Samuelian  
Parks and Recreation Department  
**Status: Deferred to the June 17, 2020 NQLC meeting.**

11. **DISCUSSION REGARDING NORTH BEACH REGIONAL PARKING ANALYSIS - WALKER CONSULTANTS.**  
October 30, 2019 - C4 F  
Commissioner Samuelian  
Parking  
**Status: Deferred to the June 17, 2020 NQLC meeting.**
12. **DISCUSSION REGARDING THE ANIMAL WELFARE COMMITTEE MOTIONS CONCERNING FUMIGATION.**  
September 11, 2019 - C4 H  
Commissioner Samuelian  
Public Works  
**Status: Deferred to the June 17, 2020 NQLC meeting.**
13. **DISCUSSION REGARDING PEAFOWL POPULATION.**  
March 18, 2020 - C4 J  
Commissioner Meiner  
Property Management  
**STATUS: DEFERRED TO THE JUNE 17, 2020 NQLC MEETING.**
14. **DISCUSSION REGARDING CLEANLINESS IN MIAMIBEACH.**  
January 16, 2019 - C4 S  
Commissioner Góngora  
Public Works  
**Status: Deferred to the June 17, 2020 NQLC meeting.**
15. **DISCUSSION REGARDING THE OCTOBER 29, 2019 ANIMAL WELFARE COMMITTEE MOTIONS REGARDING ANIMAL ADOPTION EVENT, ANIMAL LIAISON, AND CODE COMPLIANCE EVIDENCE.**  
March 18, 2020 - C4 E  
Commissioner's Gongora and Samuelian  
Public Works  
**Status: Deferred to the June 17, 2020 NQLC meeting.**
16. **DISCUSSION REGARDING LIGHTING IN LUMMUS PARK AND MARINE TURTLE PROTECTION.**  
March 18, 2020 - C4 H  
Environment and Sustainability  
**Status: Deferred to the June 17, 2020 NQLC meeting.**
17. **DISCUSSION REGARDING NORMANDY SHORES GATE DISTRICT.**  
March 18, 2020 - C4 A  
Property Management  
**Status: Deferred to the June 17, 2020 NQLC meeting.**
18. **DISCUSSION REGARDING RELOCATING PEACOCKS.**  
March 18, 2020 - C4 I  
Commissioner Arriola  
Property Management  
**Status - Deferred to the June 17, 2020 NQLC meeting.**

19. **DISCUSSION REGARDING DEVELOPING A REAL ESTATE MARKETING KIT/MATERIAL ABOUT "WHAT MAKES MIAMI BEACH FEEDER PATTERN PUBLIC SCHOOLS GREAT ."**  
October 30, 2019 - C4 I  
Commissioner Góngora  
Organizational Development Performance Initiatives  
**Status: Deferred to the June 17, 2020 NQLC meeting.**
20. **DISCUSSION REGARDING PEDESTRIAN SAFETY ON THE BEACHWALK**  
December 11, 2019 - C4G  
Commissioner Micky Steinberg  
TRANSPORTATION & MOBILITY  
**STATUS: DEFERRED TO THE SEPTEMBER 23, 2020 NQLC MEETING.**
21. **DISCUSSION REGARDING THE CURRENT STATUS OF THE TOPS PROGRAM: OFF DUTY POLICE.**  
October 30, 2019 - C4G  
Commissioner Samuelian  
Police  
**Status: Deferred to the September 23, 2020 NQLC meeting.**
22. **DISCUSSION REGARDING ESTABLISHING A FAST PASS TRACK FOR SMALL BUSINESSES FOR THE BUILDING DEPARTMENT PERMIT PROCESS.**  
February 12, 2020 - C4K  
Commissioner Gongora  
Building  
**Status: Workshop to be held, date pending COVID-19 restrictions.**
23. **DISCUSSION REGARDING THE BUILDING DEPARTMENT'S PERMITTING PROCESS INCLUDING WALK-IN CUSTOMERS AND THE TIMELINE TO OBTAIN PERMITS.**  
January 15, 2020 - R9Y  
Commissioner Steinberg  
Building  
**Status: Workshop to be held, date pending COVID-19 restrictions.**
24. **DISCUSSION REGARDING AN UPDATE ON THE ELECTRONIC PLANS FILING FOR PERMITTING PURPOSES.**  
February 12, 2020 - C4M  
Commissioner Góngora  
Building  
**Status: Workshop to be held, date pending COVID-19 restrictions.**
25. **DISCUSSION REGARDING COMMEMORATING MR. IRVING KARP WITH A PLAQUE ON SIXTH STREET.**  
January 15, 2020 - C4J  
Commissioner Steinberg  
Parks and Recreation Department  
**Status: Deferred pending the Parks Department meeting with business owner for permission to install the plaque.**
26. **DISCUSSION TO CONSIDER CONCEPTS FOR THE NORTH BEACH NEIGHBORHOOD GREENWAY.**  
December 12, 2018 - C4Q  
Transportation

**Status: Deferred pending completion of traffic study.**

**27. DISCUSSION REGARDING THE REVIEW AND ANALYSIS OF EXTRANEIOUS AND POTENTIALLY OUTDATED LEGISLATION IN MIAMI BEACH.**

July 25, 2018 - C4 E

Commissioner Góngora

Office of the City Attorney

**Status: Deferred pending recommendations from each department. City attorney to bring back comprehensive multi-department recommendation to NCAC meeting when ready.**

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