

RESOLUTION NO. _____

A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA, TEMPORARILY SUSPENDING THE AFTERNOON STANLEY SUTNICK CITIZENS' FORUM DURING CITY COMMISSION MEETINGS FOR THE DURATION OF THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC, IN VIEW OF THE ENHANCED PUBLIC PARTICIPATION OPTIONS AFFORDED BY THE CITY'S "VIRTUAL" CITY COMMISSION MEETINGS AND THE USE OF MEDIA TECHNOLOGY WHICH PERMITS MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC TO PARTICIPATE IN MEETINGS REMOTELY EITHER DURING THE MORNING "SUTNICK" SESSION, OR BY PROVIDING COMMENT ON INDIVIDUAL AGENDA ITEMS AS THEY ARISE THROUGHOUT THE COURSE OF EACH CITY COMMISSION MEETING.

WHEREAS, historically, the City Commission has provided for citizen input at City Commission meetings; and

WHEREAS, on January 12, 1991, a Citizens' Forum was formally created by motion of the City Commission to provide an established time during Commission meetings for residents to address the City Commission; and

WHEREAS, on July 28, 1993, pursuant to City Commission motion, the Citizens' Forum was renamed the "Dr. Stanley Sutnick Citizens' Forum" (the "Sutnick Hour") in recognition of the civic activist who contributed to the creation of the formal forum; and

WHEREAS, over the years, the schedule for the Sutnick Hour has been changed, and upon the adoption of Resolution No. 2013-28440, the City Commission modified the times for the Sutnick Hour to reflect the following schedule: from 8:30 a.m. to 9:00 a.m., and from 1:00 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. during regular City Commission meetings; and

WHEREAS, in light of the on-going pandemic and virtual City Commission meetings, the public has been afforded additional opportunities to participate and comment at Commission meetings through remote means without the need to travel to City Hall, with convenient options to provide comment either during the morning session of the Sutnick Hour or as each agenda item is heard throughout the day; and

WHEREAS, in addition, the City Commission frequently takes public comments on every single agenda item, regardless of whether the agenda item formally requires a public hearing; and

WHEREAS, in order to conduct more efficient City Commission meetings, it is the desire of the Mayor and City Commission to temporarily suspend the 1:00 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. Sutnick Hour during the course of the pandemic.

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 temporarily suspend the afternoon Stanley Sutnick Citizens' Forum during City Commission meetings for the duration of the COVID-19 pandemic, in view of the enhanced public participation options afforded by the city's "virtual" City Commission meetings and the use of media technology which permits members of the public to participate in meetings remotely

during the morning "Sutnick" session, or by providing comment on individual agenda items as they arise throughout the course of each City Commission meeting.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this ____ day of January, 2021.

Dan Gelber, Mayor

ATTEST:

Rafael E. Granado, City Clerk

(sponsored by Commissioner Ricky Arriola)

APPROVED AS TO
FORM & LANGUAGE
& FOR EXECUTION



City Attorney

1-19-21

Date

FR