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## COMMISSION MEMORANDUM

TO: Honorable Mayor Dan Gelber and Members of the City Commission

FROM: Alina T. Hudak, City Manager

DATE: September 17, 2021

SUBJECT: **AN ORDINANCE OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA, AMENDING CHAPTER 14 OF THE MIAMI BEACH CITY CODE, ENTITLED "BUILDING REGULATIONS," BY AMENDING ARTICLE III, ENTITLED "NUMBERING," BY AMENDING SECTION 14-107 THEREOF, ENTITLED "OWNERS SHALL OBTAIN NUMBERS; SIZE; CITY NOT TO FURNISH MATERIAL," TO REQUIRE OWNERS OF HOUSES AND BUILDINGS WITHIN THE CITY WITH ACCESS TO A BEACHWALK TO PLACE THE CORRECT STREET NUMBER ON THE SIDE OF THE EASTERNMOST PERIMETER GATE OR FENCE, OR SIDE OF THE STRUCTURE FACING A BEACHWALK; AND, PROVIDING FOR REPEALER, SEVERABILITY, CODIFICATION, AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

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### **RECOMMENDATION**

The Administration recommends that the Mayor and City Commission approve the Amendment to Chapter 14, Section 14-107 of the Miami Beach City Code.

### **BACKGROUND**

On September 11, 2019, the Mayor and City Commission adopted Resolution 2019-30947 which amended Resolutions No. 2016-29649 and No. 2018-30143; said Resolutions approved the following amendments: (1) eliminating the Brick Paver Program in its entirety; and (2) eliminating the element of commemorative bench plaques from the Adopt-A-Bench Program. This item (C7-J), initiated a discussion of and direction to Administration to implement a standard for the Beachwalk by installing medallions to indicate street numbers only where there is a beachwalk egress. Consequently, a referral to the Neighborhood/Community Affairs Committee (NCAC) was made on the dais to further discuss street medallions.

On October 23, 2019, the NCAC deliberated on implementing Beachwalk street medallions as a resource to aid visitors and residents in wayfinding and assist police by providing accurate locations when needed. Further discussion revealed that the locations contemplated along the Beachwalk without street number identification totaled thirty-five (35). The cost of implementing

the artistic medallions was excessive in nature and furthermore, limited the location-finding to the street-ends.

## **ANALYSIS**

The Administration reviewed other methods to provide a solution to implementing street numbering along the Beachwalk. Pursuant to Section 14-107(a) (2) of the City Code, all owner of houses and building within the City having access to an alley shall cause the correct street number of the structure to be placed on the any side of the structure facing the ally. The Office of the City Attorney evaluated this Ordinance and opined that the existing City Code may be modified to include structures having access to the Beachwalk. Accordingly, an amended Ordinance was presented before the Mayor and City Commission at its April 21, 2021 meeting. The proposed modified Ordinance would require owners of houses and buildings within the City having access to any beachwalk to place the correct street number of the structure on the side of the house or building facing a beachwalk. Upon deliberation of this item, a referral was made on the dais to the Neighborhood and Quality of Life Committee (NQLC) to discuss the concept of Beachwalk markers and how to identify buildings.

The Administration further evaluated Beachwalk markers that could facilitate wayfinding. In addition to the street numbers placed on buildings, other areas should also be contemplated in the amended Ordinance. These options were presented and discussed at the July 21, 2021 NQLC meeting. The proposed amendment to the Ordinance would require that all owners of houses and buildings within the city having access to a beachwalk shall cause the correct street number of the structure to be placed on the easternmost perimeter gates facing a beachwalk, or, in the absence of the perimeter gates, on the easternmost perimeter fence facing the beachwalk, or in the absence of the above mentioned gate or fence, on the side of the structure facing a beachwalk. The Committee supported the amendment to the Ordinance and made a motion to move the item to Commission for approval.

In addition, the Planning Department has opined that its review of proposed street number signs will not be necessary due to the fact that (1) the Ordinance limits the copy to the street address number of the property; and 2) the maximum size of the copy does not exceed two square feet in area. The amended Ordinance shall be implemented upon adoption by the Mayor and City Commission and effective April 1, 2022.

## **CONCLUSION**

The Administration recommends an amendment to the Chapter 14 of the Miami Beach City Code, entitled "Building Regulations", by amending Article III, entitled "Numbering", by amending Section 14-107 thereof, entitled "Owners Shall Obtain Numbers; Size; City Not to Furnish Material", to require owners of houses and buildings within the City having access to any beachwalk to place the correct street number of the structure to be placed on the easternmost perimeter gates facing a beachwalk, or, in the absence of the perimeter gates, on the easternmost perimeter fence facing the beachwalk, or in the absence of the above mentioned gate or fence, on the side of the structure facing a beachwalk.