

RESOLUTION NO. _____

A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA, SUPPORTING THE NINETY (90) DAY PILOT STUDY ON THE CLOSURE OF THE MEDIAN OPENINGS ON 31ST, 34TH, AND 37TH STREETS ALONG PINE TREE DRIVE FOR TRAFFIC SAFETY PURPOSES, AND DIRECTING THE CITY ADMINISTRATION TO PROVIDE AN UPDATE VIA A LETTER TO COMMISSION (“LTC”) ON THE PROGRESS OF THE PILOT STUDY, ALONG WITH ANY PROFESSIONAL RECOMMENDATIONS WITH REGARD TO THE PERMANENT CLOSURE OF THE MEDIAN OPENINGS, NO LATER THAN SIXTY (60) DAYS AFTER THE COMMENCEMENT OF THE STUDY.

WHEREAS, area residents have advised the City that crossing the medians at Pine Tree Drive intersection between 28th and 40th Streets is unsafe; and

WHEREAS, there have been a number of vehicular accidents with fatalities, with the most recent accident taking place on April 17, 2021, where a single-car crash on Pine Tree Drive killed two men, and injured two women; and

WHEREAS, City staff has been working diligently with the Bayshore Homeowner Association (“HOA”), area residents, and Miami-Dade County’s Department of Transportation and Public Works (the “County”) on a solution for improving safety at various intersections along Pine Tree Drive, which is a County-owned street; and

WHEREAS, the County’s initial recommendation was to close the existing median openings at 31st and 37th Streets, and install a traffic signal at 34th Street; and

WHEREAS, however, area residents, including the Bayshore HOA, expressed concerns with the proposed traffic signal at 34th Street; and

WHEREAS, in addition, City staff expressed concern regarding the adverse impact that a traffic signal at 34th Street could have on City’s proposed Bayshore Neighborhood Traffic Calming Project, a General Obligation Bond project which will begin construction in Summer 2022 with the intent to reduce volumes and speeds on 34th Street; and

WHEREAS, after recent meetings with City staff and the Bayshore HOA on this issue, the County agreed to halt the installation of the proposed traffic signal at 34th Street to allow the City to temporarily close the existing median openings at 31st, 34th, and 37th Streets, with delineators, as part of a 90-day Pilot Study to evaluate the effectiveness of the median closures; and

WHEREAS, regardless of the outcome of the Pilot Study, due to traffic accidents and resulting fatalities, area residents have requested the closure of the medians; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and City Commission support the Pilot Study, and direct City Administration to provide an update on the progress of the study, along with any professional recommendations regarding permanent closure of the median openings, no later than sixty (60) days after the commencement via a Letter to Commission (“LTC”).

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 support the ninety (90) day Pilot Study on the closure of the median openings on 31st, 34th, and 37th Streets along Pine Tree Drive for traffic safety purposes, and direct the City Administration to provide an update via a Letter to Commission (“LTC”) on the progress of the Pilot Study, along with any professional recommendations regarding permanent closure of the median openings, no later than sixty (60) days after the commencement of the Pilot Study.

PASSED and **ADOPTED** this _____ day of _____, 2021.
ATTEST:

Dan Gelber
Mayor

Rafael E. Granado
City Clerk

(sponsored by Commissioner Alex Fernandez)

APPROVED AS TO
FORM & LANGUAGE
& FOR EXECUTION

Nick Callegaris 12/6/2021
for City Attorney Date