

# MIAMI BEACH

City of Miami Beach, 1700 Convention Center Drive, Miami Beach, Florida 33139, www.miamibeachfl.gov

## Item 11. COMMITTEE MEMORANDUM

TO: Land Use and Sustainability Committee

FROM: Alina T. Hudak, City Manager

DATE: March 4, 2022

**TITLE: DISCUSS THE SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE'S MOTION RECOMMENDING THAT THE \$25,000 ALLOCATED FOR THE ENHANCEMENT AND CONSERVATION OF FLAGLER MONUMENT ISLAND BE ALLOCATED TO PROJECTS THAT WILL STOP MOTORIZED VESSELS FROM REACHING THE ISLAND WHILE ENHANCING THE ISLAND'S ECOLOGICAL FEATURES.**

### HISTORY:

This item is a dual referral to Land Use and Neighborhood Quality of Life Committee. Please see attached Commission Memorandum.

### ANALYSIS:

Monument Island is one of several spoil islands within Miami-Dade County. In 2013, the Prentice Foundation donated \$25,000 to the City with the direction to use the funding for the restoration and conservancy of Monument Island and Flagler Memorial. This was outlined in resolution 2013-28183 (Attachment A). In late 2021, it was discovered that the donation was never used.

The Island currently serves as a recreational opportunity for residents and visitors. Parallel discussions are being held regarding the future use of the Island which include Marine Patrol's recommendation for a complete closure of the Island with the installation of signage and rip rap.

Moreover, a discussion was held at the resident Sustainability Committee on ways to utilize the donation. The motions were transmitted via Letter to Commission (Attachment B) and outlined recommendations to use the funding for projects that will stop motorized vessels from beaching on the island while enhancing the island's ecological features. This includes establishing:

- Swim-only buffer zones marked by swimming buoys;
- Mooring buoys that would allow a limited number of motorized vehicles for short time mooring, while reducing impacts to seagrass; and
- Enhancing habitat for native flora and fauna including osprey nesting.

These recommendations will most likely require additional funding that surpass the \$25,000 donation but will provide the opportunity to enhance and protect the natural and cultural values that Monument Island provides to the community. Based on feedback from City Commission, a project scope and budget would be developed.

### CONCLUSION:

The Administration concurs with the Sustainability Committee's recommendations that would improve the environmental resources of the Island. The following is presented to the members of the Land Use and Sustainability Committee.

### Applicable Area

Citywide

**Is this a "Residents Right to Know" item, pursuant to City Code Section 2-14?**

Yes

**Does this item utilize G.O. Bond Funds?**

No

### Departments

Environment and Sustainability

### Strategic Connection

Environment & Infrastructure - Work regionally and nationally to protect Biscayne Bay water quality and to maintain a healthy dune and beach system.

### ATTACHMENTS:

| Description  | Type |
|--|------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> <a href="#">Commission Memorandum</a>           | Memo |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <a href="#">Sustainability Committee Motion</a> | Memo |

- ▢ [Monument Island Deed](#)
- ▢ [2013-28183 Resolution](#)

Memo

Memo