

RESOLUTION NO. _____

A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA, ACCEPTING THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE PUBLIC SAFETY AND NEIGHBORHOOD QUALITY OF LIFE COMMITTEE AT ITS MARCH 29, 2022 MEETING TO CONVERT THE TENNIS COURTS AT THE MIAMI BEACH GOLF CLUB TO DEDICATED PICKLEBALL COURTS, CONVERT ONE (1) TENNIS COURT AT THE POLO PARK TO A DEDICATED PICKLEBALL COURT, STRIPE ONE (1) TENNIS COURT AT THE PALM ISLAND PARK TO CREATE TWO (2) NON-DEDICATED PICKLEBALL COURTS THAT WOULD STILL ALLOW FOR TENNIS PLAY, AND IDENTIFY AND ALLOCATE FUNDING FOR THE INSTALLATION OF LIGHTING AT THE MIAMI BEACH GOLF CLUB COURTS THROUGH THE FY 2023 CAPITAL BUDGET PROCESS.

WHEREAS, during the May 12, 2021 and January 20, 2022 Commission Meetings, several referrals were made to the Public Safety and Neighborhood Quality of Life Committee (“PSNQLC”) to discuss the creation or expansion of pickleball and padel sports in the City of Miami Beach (Exhibit A); and

WHEREAS, pickleball is a racket sport that combines elements of badminton, table tennis, and tennis on a court with players using paddles and a polymer ball similar to a wiffle ball; and

WHEREAS, pickleball’s ease of play, and its low impact on joints, has made it popular for groups of all ages and skill sets, and it has experienced tremendous growth in the last five years; and

WHEREAS, participation increased by 21% from 2019 to 2020, with a five-year average annual growth rate of 11%, making it the fastest growing racket sport in the country; and

WHEREAS, the 2021 Sports & Fitness Industry Association’s (“SFIA”), Sports, Fitness and Leisure Activities Topline Participation Report estimates there are 4.2 million pickleball players nationwide; and

WHEREAS, the City of Miami Beach (“City”) has experienced significant pickleball participation growth over the past few years; and

WHEREAS, the Parks and Recreation Department (the “Department”) receives numerous requests per month for additional pickleball courts, and is in regular contact with a Miami Beach pickleball advocacy group which has more than 150 members; and

WHEREAS, additionally, the Department is working closely with the USA Pickleball Ambassador, Lily Azel, in promoting and expanding the sport of pickleball within the City; and

WHEREAS, the City, like many others across the country, has met this exponential growth by retrofitting existing tennis and indoor recreational facilities into multi-purpose courts to accommodate pickleball; and

WHEREAS, currently, there are five convertible outdoor tennis/pickleball courts at four facilities throughout the City: Fairway Park (2), Polo Park (1), Normandy Shores Park (1) and Miami Beach Golf Club (1); and

WHEREAS, during the March 9, 2022 City Commission meeting, the Mayor and City Commission adopted Resolution No. 2022-32066 (Exhibit B), directing Administration to paint lines on up to ten additional tennis courts at City parks to allow for both tennis and pickleball play; and

WHEREAS, during the March 29, 2022 PSNQLC meeting, the Department proposed three (3) recommendations to meet the short-and long-term needs of the pickleball players

- The first recommendation was to construct new pickleball-specific facilities within City parks and property such as Flamingo Park and Normandy isle Park;
- The second recommendation was to purchase a portable flooring system and activating underutilized spaces throughout the City for temporary activations at potential sites such as Altos del Mar Park, Collins Park spoil, Crespi Park, Lummus Park, Indian Beach Park, and street closures for special events and tournaments;
- Lastly, the third recommendation was to stripe one (1) tennis court at Palm Island Park to create two pickleball courts that would still allow for a traditional tennis match option; and

WHEREAS, during the meeting, the Department withdrew the second recommendation due to negative feedback from the public on the playability on this surface; and

WHEREAS, after discussion and input from the public, the Committee recommended the following for approval:

- The conversion of the tennis courts at Miami Beach Golf Club to dedicated pickleball courts;
- The conversion of one (1) tennis court at Polo Park to a dedicated pickleball courts;
- Striping of one (1) tennis court at Palm Island Park to create two (2) non-dedicated pickleball courts that would still allow for a traditional tennis match option;
- Requesting funding for the installation of lighting at the Miami Beach Golf Club courts through the FY 2023 capital budget process; and

WHEREAS, the Department will work quickly and closely with contractors to effectuate the above recommendations; and

WHEREAS, the Parks and Recreation Department has identified funds in their current FY 2021-2022 budget to complete the Committee's recommendation, and will work with the Office of Management and Budget to place an FY 2023 capital project request for the installation of lighting at the Miami Beach Golf Club courts; and

WHEREAS, the total fiscal impact for the Committees recommendations is an estimated total of \$62,000.00; and

WHEREAS, Administration will return to the May 2022 PSNQLC meeting to give updates on the projects and further discuss permanent pickleball and padel facilities in the City.

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 accept the recommendation of the Public Safety and Neighborhood Quality of Life Committee at its March 29, 2022 meeting to convert the tennis courts at the Miami Beach Golf Club to dedicated pickleball courts, convert one (1) tennis court at the Polo Park to a dedicated pickleball court, stripe one (1) tennis court at the Palm Island Park to create two (2) non-dedicated pickleball courts that would still allow for tennis play, and identify and allocate funding for the installation of lighting at the Miami Beach Golf Club courts through the FY 2023 capital budget process.


PASSED and ADOPTED this 6th day of April 2022.

ATTEST:

Dan Gelber, Mayor

Rafael E. Granado, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO
FORM & LANGUAGE
& FOR EXECUTION



City Attorney

3-31-22
Date