

RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_

A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA, EXPRESSING CONCERN WITH ROADWAY SAFETY ALONG THE ALTON ROAD CORRIDOR IN MIDDLE BEACH, AND URGING THE FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION TO (1) INCORPORATE EFFECTIVE TRAFFIC CALMING AND SPEED MANAGEMENT IMPROVEMENTS AS PART OF THE PROPOSED SR907/ALTON ROAD RECONSTRUCTION PROJECTS FROM MICHIGAN AVENUE TO ALLISON ROAD; (2) EXPEDITE THE INSTALLATION OF THE RECOMMENDED SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS IN THE VICINITY OF THE HORIZONTAL CURVE AT ALTON ROAD AND 63 STREET, AS IDENTIFIED IN THE FDOT STUDY ENTITLED "ALTON ROAD FROM 62 STREET TO LA GORCE DRIVE SPEED SAFETY STUDY"; AND (3) CONDUCT PUBLIC INPUT MEETINGS/CHARRETTES WITH THE AREA RESIDENTS AND CITY OFFICIALS TO IDENTIFY THE APPROPRIATE TRAFFIC CALMING AND SPEED MANAGEMENT IMPROVEMENTS FOR INCLUSION IN FUTURE ALTON ROAD PROJECTS.

**WHEREAS**, State Road 907/Alton Road is an arterial roadway under the jurisdiction of the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT); and

**WHEREAS**, many of the crashes are related to speeding within the corridor and loss of vehicle control in the vicinity of the pronounced horizontal curve at 63 Street; and

**WHEREAS**, given the prevalent speeding and the number of crashes resulting in property damage, the City and residents of Alton Road have been expressing concerns to FDOT for several years with regard to traffic safety on Alton Road between 41 Street and 63 Street; and

**WHEREAS**, based on historical crash data provided by the Miami Beach Police Department, over 580 crashes, including three fatalities, have occurred along this segment of Alton Road over the past five years; and

**WHEREAS**, FDOT has responded to some of these concerns over time by implementing various signage and pavement marking improvements and installing several electronic signs as speed mitigation; however, to date, FDOT has not made any physical improvements to the configuration of the road to effectively mitigate speeding and reduce crashes; and

**WHEREAS**, FDOT is in the design phase for the reconstruction of three (3) segments of this corridor:

- Michigan Avenue to South of 43<sup>rd</sup> Street (FPID # 429193-1-52-01);
- South of 43<sup>rd</sup> Street to North of 48<sup>th</sup> Street (FPID # 430444-1-52-01); and
- North of 48<sup>th</sup> Street to East Allison Road (FPID # 430444-2-52-01); and

**WHEREAS**, resident concerns with safety and speeding on Alton Road were discussed at the October 29, 2021 Neighborhood and Quality of Life Committee (NQLC); and

**WHEREAS**, the NQLC directed the Administration to work with the residents to develop a resolution to transmit to FDOT with the concerns of the City and its residents; and

**WHEREAS**, the NQLC requested that FDOT conduct public meetings and/or charrettes with the residents to discuss specific design elements to mitigate the concerns of the residents; and

**WHEREAS**, Transportation and Mobility Department staff has met various times with Alton Road residents to collaboratively develop a comprehensive list of key community needs and priorities in terms of safety, traffic calming, and neighborhood walkability and livability for FDOT to include as part of the design of the future Alton Road reconstruction projects in Middle Beach; and

**WHEREAS**, at the March 9, 2022 City Commission meeting, Commissioner Alex Fernandez sponsored an item to "Discuss A Request To FDOT For Possible Emergency Improvements To 63 Street Due To Recurring Traffic Accidents"; and

**WHEREAS**, at the meeting, Transportation and Mobility Department staff shared the recommendations of a recent traffic study conducted by FDOT pursuant to the City's request titled "Alton Road From 62 Street To LaGorce Drive Speed Safety Study" intended to enhance roadway safety in the vicinity of the pronounced horizontal curve located at Alton Road and 63 Street; and

**WHEREAS**, at the March 23, 2022 Public Safety and Neighborhood Quality of Life Committee meeting, the Administration presented the comprehensive list of key community needs and priorities for inclusion in the future FDOT Alton Road projects as well as the list of recommended short-term improvements in advance of the future Alton Road projects; and

**WHEREAS**, the comprehensive list of key community needs and priorities in terms of safety, traffic calming, and neighborhood walkability and livability for FDOT to include as part of the design of the future Alton Road reconstruction projects in Middle Beach, includes:

- Traffic calming by way of raised crosswalks, speed tables, raised intersections, traffic circles and other similar devices to accomplish the target posted speed limit of 30 miles per hour;
- Widen the parking lane to allow for more space to open vehicle doors;
- Replace conventional streetlight poles with aesthetic pedestrian-scale lighting contextual to the single-family residential neighborhood;
- Add signalized crosswalks to cross Alton Road at 23 Street, Chase Avenue (south leg), 44 Court, 54 Street, 57 Street, 62 Street, and other intersections as appropriate to improve pedestrian safety and allow residents to cross Alton Road safely;
- Replace trees and landscape in the median with mature trees to help with traffic calming, walkability, and livability along the corridor;
- Install high-emphasis (zebra) pedestrian crosswalks at all crosswalk locations;
- Install bulb-outs at all existing and proposed crosswalks and other locations as appropriate to serve as traffic calming and reduce pedestrian crossing distances;
- Study the repurposing of the inside lane as a shared through/left turn lane; and
- Modify the east leg of the intersection of Alton Road and 51 Street to a single entrance and exit and signalize the intersection; and

**WHEREAS**, the residents have requested consideration for the following improvements in advance of the reconstruction projects:

- Restripe all pedestrian crosswalks as high emphasis (zebra) crosswalks;

- Reinstall missing reflective raised pavement markers along the corridor;
- Repair broken sidewalks and correct tripping hazards;
- Consider installation of "NO TRUCK" signs on Alton Road north of 43 Street;
- Reinstall missing ADA detectable pads at pedestrian curb ramps;
- Install temporary raised speed humps or other raised traffic calming devices; and
- Implement all the recommended improvements identified in the FDOT study entitled "Alton Road From 62 Street To La Gorce Drive Speed Safety Study"; and

**WHEREAS**, given that a large percent of the crashes can be attributed to speeding on Alton Road, the City is requesting that FDOT District 6 work closely with FDOT Central Office in Tallahassee and the State Legislature to explore the use of speed cameras to more effectively and efficiently enforce speeding and enhance safety along this corridor.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA**, that the Mayor and City Commission hereby express concern with roadway safety along the Alton Road corridor in Middle Beach, and urge the Florida Department of Transportation to (1) incorporate effective traffic calming and speed management improvements as part of the proposed SR907/Alton Road reconstruction projects from Michigan Avenue to Allison Road; (2) expedite the installation of the recommended safety improvements in the vicinity of the horizontal curve at Alton Road and 63 Street, as identified in the FDOT study entitled "Alton Road From 62 Street to La Gorce Drive Speed Safety Study"; and (3) conduct public input meetings/charrettes with the area residents and City officials to identify the appropriate traffic calming and speed management improvements for inclusion in future Alton Road projects.

**PASSED and ADOPTED** this 6<sup>th</sup> day of April 2021.

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Dan Gelber, Mayor

**ATTEST:**

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Rafael E. Granado, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO  
FORM & LANGUAGE  
& FOR EXECUTION

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
City Attorney 

4-1-21  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date