

RESOLUTION NO. 2023-_____

A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA, AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENGAGE A CONSULTANT, FOR A FEE NOT TO EXCEED \$75,000.00, TO ASSIST THE CITY WITH THE PREPARATION OF A FEASIBILITY STUDY REGARDING THE POSSIBLE CONVERSION OF NORTH BEACH ELEMENTARY SCHOOL FROM A PUBLIC SCHOOL TO A CHARTER SCHOOL WITH THE GOAL OF ADDRESSING MAINTENANCE ISSUES AT THE SCHOOL IN A MORE EXPEDITIOUS MANNER.

WHEREAS, North Beach Elementary School located at 4100 Prairie Avenue (the "School") is currently in a state of disrepair, with various building issues including exposed rebar, cracking in the walls throughout the building, peeling paint, damaged floors representing tripping hazards, roofing issues, and potential mold issues ("Maintenance Issues"); and

WHEREAS, residents whose children attend North Beach Elementary have in recent months voiced significant concerns regarding the Maintenance Issues, including the structural condition and safety of the facilities at the School, and in response, pursuant to Resolution 2022-32385, as amended by Resolution 2022-32413, the City Commission approved a grant in the amount of \$75,000 to reimburse the School's Parent Teacher Association for expenses incurred in connection with the engagement of an independent structural engineering firm and an environmental consultant to assess conditions at the School and assist in the resolution of on-going building conditions in furtherance of the shared goal of protecting the students and faculty; and

WHEREAS, the cost of addressing the Maintenance Issues at the School, which was originally built in 1936, is anticipated to be in the millions of dollars; and

WHEREAS, the School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida (the "School Board") has committed to addressing the issue, but parents are concerned that the School Board, which has responsibility for all public K-12 schools throughout the County, may not have the resources necessary to prioritize the Maintenance Issues at the School in a timely manner; and

WHEREAS, the City Commission would like to consider all options available that would help expedite addressing the Maintenance Issues at the School, including the possible conversion of the school from a public school to a charter school, with the City as its sponsor; and

WHEREAS, Section 1002.33 of the Florida Statutes outlines the process for the formation of charter schools, either by the creation of a new school or the conversion of an existing public school; and

WHEREAS, a conversion of the School from a public school to a charter school would require the approval by a majority of teachers at the school as well as majority of parents voting whose children are enrolled in the school; and

WHEREAS, a municipality can assist in the development of charter schools under the Statute pursuant to an interlocal agreement with the relevant school district, and a few municipalities have successfully operated charter schools, such as the City of Aventura; and

WHEREAS, in considering the possible conversion of the School to a charter school, the City should engage a consultant to prepare a “pro forma” and a financial analysis to help assess the feasibility of the City or other qualifying entity operating the School as a charter school, taking into account statutory funding per enrolled student, the costs of addressing Maintenance Issues and ongoing operating costs.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT DULY RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA authorize the City Manager to engage a consultant, for a fee not to exceed \$75,000.00, to assist the City with the preparation of a feasibility study regarding the possible conversion of North beach Elementary School from a public school to a charter school with the goal of addressing maintenance issues at the school in a more expeditious manner.

PASSED and ADOPTED this ____ day of _____, 2023.

Dan Gelber, Mayor

ATTEST:

Rafael E. Granado, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO
FORM & LANGUAGE
& FOR EXECUTION



City Attorney *no*

1-18-23
Date