

MIAMI BEACH

Commission Meeting / Special Commission Meeting
PH 855.756.7520, Ext. 57817# for public access
March 25, 2020 - 10:30 AM

Mayor Dan Gelber
Commissioner Ricky Arriola
Commissioner Michael Gongora
Commissioner Steven Meiner
Commissioner David Richardson
Commissioner Mark Samuelian
Commissioner Micky Steinberg

City Manager Jimmy L. Morales
City Attorney Raul J. Aguila
City Clerk Rafael E. Granado

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ATTENTION ALL LOBBYISTS

Chapter 2, Article VII, Division 3 of the City Code of Miami Beach, entitled "Lobbyists," requires the registration of all lobbyists with the Office of the City Clerk prior to engaging in any lobbying activity with the City Commission, any City Board or Committee, or any personnel as defined in the subject Code sections. Copies of the City Code sections on lobbyists laws are available in the Office of the City Clerk. Questions regarding the provisions of the Ordinance should be directed to the Office of the City Attorney.

To request this material in alternate format, sign language interpreter (five-day notice required), information on access for persons with disabilities, and/or any accommodation to review any document or participate in any City-sponsored proceedings, call 305.604.2489 and select option 6; TTY users may call via 711 (Florida Relay Service).

In order to ensure adequate public consideration, if necessary, the Mayor and City Commission may move any agenda item to an alternate meeting. In addition, the Mayor and City Commission may, at their discretion, adjourn the Commission Meeting without reaching all agenda items.

AGENDA KEY

Consent Agenda:

C2 - Competitive Bid Reports
C4 - Commission Committee Assignments
C6 - Commission Committee Reports
C7 - Resolutions

Regular Agenda:

R2 - Competitive Bid Reports
R5 - Ordinances
R7 - Resolutions
R9 - New Businesses & Commission Requests
R10 - City Attorney Reports

PA - Presentations and Awards

AGENDA

1. CALL TO ORDER

R9 - New Business and Commission Requests

- R9 A DISCUSSION REGARDING UNITE HERE AND HEAT INC. EMERGENCY FUNDING REQUEST.

Office of the City Manager

Notices

1. NOTICE OF SPECIAL COMMISSION MEETING.

MIAMI BEACH

COMMISSION MEMORANDUM

TO: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Commission
FROM: Jimmy L. Morales, City Manager
DATE: March 25, 2020

SUBJECT: DISCUSSION REGARDING UNITE HERE AND HEAT INC. EMERGENCY FUNDING REQUEST.

BACKGROUND/HISTORY

As a result of the health concerns related to the global pandemic resulting from a novel corona virus (COVID-19) the City of Miami Beach, Miami-Dade County and the State of Florida have issued emergency declarations. Following the emergency declaration on March 12, 2020 the City of Miami Beach has issued numerous emergency orders to help keep the residents and visitors in the City safe. The order of March 20, 2020 directed the closing of all commercial lodging establishments effective 11:59 pm on March 23, 2020. Early morning on March 23, 2020 the City Administration received the attached proposal from UNITE HERE and HEAT Inc for a relief and recovery program offered by the two groups working collectively. The specific request is for a \$200,000 commitment from the City of Miami Beach to the proposal in hopes of reaching their target of \$2M.

ANALYSIS

The approximately \$2M program presented is a combination of case management for up to 2,500 workers and financial assistance for up to 1,000 workers in hardship conditions. The attached spreadsheet breaks down the cost. Approximately 15% of the total program will address administrative costs of these services while the remainder will go to direct assistance. Nevertheless, due to COVID-19, we are experiencing dramatic impacts to our Resort Tax, Parking, and General Fund revenues. Cumulative revenue losses in these three funds total approximately \$2.9 million per week. We expect these losses to continue over the upcoming weeks and months until the COVID-19 emergency is behind us. Like many cities across the country, we will be requesting an infusion of funding from the State and Federal Governments to help offset these dramatic revenue losses that are critical to providing continued services during this time. At this point, of course, there is no assurance if and when such funding will materialize.

Similarly the State and Federal Governments are working on legislation that will assist the workers that are being hit hard by this economic shutdown to slow the spread of the virus.

Some of the provisions of the Federal legislation currently on the floor of the Senate include the following:

- **Direct payment to qualified Americans of up to \$1,200**
 - o Married couples could get \$2,400

- o Taxpayers who earn more than \$75,000 annually will begin to see that payment reduced by \$5 for every \$100 they earn over the \$75,000 threshold, with those who make more than \$99,000 getting nothing
- o Families with children would get \$500 per child
- **Delays filing deadline for tax returns**
 - o Extends the April 15 filing date to July 15
- **Retirements funds**
 - o Waives penalties for early withdrawal from qualified retirement accounts for coronavirus-related purpose of up to \$100,000
- **Education loans**
 - o Enables the Secretary of Education to defer student loan payments
 - o Allows students who were forced to drop out of school due to coronavirus to keep their Pell grants
 - o Gives colleges and universities flexibility to continue work-study payments to students who cannot work due to coronavirus closures

CONCLUSION

The City acknowledges that many sectors of our business community and their employees are experiencing catastrophic losses due to COVID-19. However, there are several community partners reaching out to obtain funding for recovery efforts and the City has dedicated staff to assist businesses and individuals in accessing State and Federal Government relief. It is difficult, however, to commit City financial resources given our own needs and the loss of city revenues. If the City Commission is inclined to provide some support, we would recommend to only make 30-day commitments under their proposed schedule and only if there is active participation by other municipal, private and non-profit partners.

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

Legislative Tracking

Office of the City Manager

ATTACHMENTS:

Description

- ▢ Program Proposal
- ▢ HEAT Budget

Emergency Funding Request to Respond to the Effects of the COVID-19 Pandemic on Employees in the Hospitality/Leisure/Tourism Industry in South Florida

UNITE HERE Local 355, on behalf of the thousands of hospitality workers it represents in South Florida along with the Hospitality Employee Advancement & Training Center (HEAT), which is a training partnership between Local 355, hospitality employers, and the Southeast Overtown/Park West Community Redevelopment Agency, is requesting funding to provide emergency relief and recovery assistance to laid off hospitality employees in the region. This relief would be offered to both union and non-union workers alike. In just the last few days, we have been inundated with hundreds of calls for help.

Industry Impact in South Florida: The hospitality industry in South Florida is in a crisis of historic proportions. On March 13, 2020, President Donald Trump declared the coronavirus pandemic a national emergency, invoking powers to allow more federal aid to states and local governments. Florida's Governor Ron DeSantis has declared a state of emergency, as have the Mayors of Miami-Dade and Broward Counties. Since then, all restaurants, bars, and hotels have been ordered to suspend their operations.

In 2018, Miami tourism related industries attracted 23 million visitors and generated \$18 billion in revenue to the economy.ⁱ

According to BLS preliminary data for December 2019, 342,400 people worked in the Leisure & Hospitality Industry in South Florida. Of them, 150,000 worked in the Miami-Miami Beach-Kendall, FL Metropolitan area.ⁱⁱ

Immediate Impact on Hospitality Workers: As of the end of this week, approximately 90% of the workers who are represented by the UNITE HERE Local 355 and other hospitality workers are laid off or are experiencing drastically reduced hours. A majority of employers are not providing any pay for the laid off workers. The number of layoffs is expected to grow to close to 100% by the end of March as more food operations close or reduce operations to skeletal staff. In addition to the workers represented by Local 355, a high proportion of the 342,000 Hospitality and Leisure employees in South Florida will be without paychecks.

Hospitality workers live paycheck to paycheck. The lack of paychecks means that workers will miss rent payments on April 1, miss utility payments, be unable to feed their families, and are in danger of having no health benefits during the health emergency. The ripple effect of inability to pay their bills threatens them and their families, as well as the sustainability of public utilities and medical services throughout the region.

Relief and Recovery for Hospitality Workers in Miami-Dade County

UNITE HERE has a unique ability to communicate with laid off workers and has a working relationship with some of the largest hospitality employers in South Florida. As a result, the union will be in a position to conduct relief operations and recovery training efficiently and in cooperation with employers.

The Hospitality Employees Advancement and Training Center (“HEAT”) is a non-profit 501(c)3 which is well positioned to provide relief and recovery to hospitality employees in Miami-Dade. HEAT has facilities in the Overtown section of Miami’s Downtown through an agreement with the CRA.

Under this grant, HEAT proposes to provide relief and recovery training to 2,500 hospitality employees who are laid off as a result of the state of emergency.

Proposed Relief:

If HEAT obtains grant or donor funding, HEAT could fund case management services to assistance 2,500 hospitality employees in obtaining access to emergency resources, such as unemployment insurance, food stamps, Medicaid, utility deferrals, and similar resources. Given the difficulty of accessing public assistance and language barriers, workers are unlikely to obtain all of the public resources available to them without personal assistance.

In addition, HEAT proposes to provide \$400 a month relief to the most desperate 1,000 hardship cases among hospitality employees, for rent, utility assistance, and food assistance.

Proposed Recovery Training and Case Management:

HEAT proposes to provide case management and training which could be valuable to displaced workers returning to a future recovery of hospitality operations, such as Deep Cleaning Training to CDC/OSHA standards during this epidemic and English language online classes. HEAT would be in a position to consult with union hospitality employers to assess training needs during a recovery. Such training could be provided via online classes or other methods that adhere to public health recommendations of social distancing during this health emergency.

Amount of Funding Support:

HEAT anticipates that the organization can provide case management assistance to 2,500 workers and can help provide financial assistance to 1,000 hardship employees per month for the next 4 months. To do that, HEAT seeks funding of \$500,000 per month for four months to fund \$400 in direct support, staff case management to assist employees in accessing available public resources, and conduct recovery training, for a total of \$2,000,000.

ⁱ <https://www.bizjournals.com/southflorida/news/2019/05/03/2018-was-a-record-breaking-year-for-miami-tourism.html>

ⁱⁱ BLS reporting divisions

HEAT Budget - 4 Month Budget March 23, 2020 through July 23, 2020			
Personnel Cost	Annual	FTE %	BUDGET
Staff Salaries			
HEAT Supervisor	65,000	0.33	21,645
HEAT Case Manager	55,000	0.33	18,315
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Total Staff Salaries			186,480
Fringe Benefits			
HEAT Supervisor		27.7%	6,000
HEAT Case Manager		21.6%	3,960
HEAT Case Manager		21.6%	3,960
HEAT Case Manager		21.6%	3,960
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Total Staff F/B			41,640
Total Personnel Costs			228,120
Direct Services			
Supportive Services	Financial assistance for 1,000 workers per month at \$400 for Rent, Utilities, and Food Assistance for four (4) months		1,600,000
Training (Instruction and development of on-line learning materials).	Short Term Training: Deep Cleaning Training to CDC/OSHA standards for Cooks, Dishwashers, Room Attendants, Servers and Bartenders, ServSafe, English Language, Customer Service, and Hospitality Classifications		
Total Direct Services Costs			1,725,040
Admin. Services			
In-direct Costs	HEAT In-direct costs for Personnel and Operational expenses.		100,000
Total In-direct Costs			100,000
			2,053,160



COMMISSION MEMORANDUM

TO: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Commission
FROM: Rafael E. Granado, City Clerk
DATE: March 25, 2020

SUBJECT: NOTICE OF SPECIAL COMMISSION MEETING.

RECOMMENDATION

CITY OF MIAMI BEACH NOTICE OF SPECIAL CITY COMMISSION MEETING

NOTICE IS HEREBY given that the City Commission of the City of Miami Beach, Florida, will hold a **Special City Commission Meeting** on **March 25, 2020** at **10:30 a.m.** to discuss **relief efforts for hospitality workers**. The City Commission will appear telephonically. **The public may participate by calling 855.756.7520, Extension 57817#.**

INTERESTED PARTIES, or their agents, are invited to appear virtually/telephonically by calling 855.756.7520, Extension 57817# or they may express their views in writing addressed to the City Commission via email to cityclerk@miamibeachfl.gov. Copies of related items are available for public inspection at <https://www.miamibeachfl.gov/city-hall/city-clerk/agenda-archive-main-page-2/> or in the Office of the City Clerk, 1700 Convention Center Drive, 1st Floor, City Hall, Miami Beach, Florida 33139, **Monday through Friday, 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.** This meeting, or any item therein, may be continued, and under such circumstances, additional legal notice need not be provided.

Pursuant to Section 286.0105, Fla. Stat., the City hereby advises the public that if a person decides to appeal any decision made by the City Commission with respect to any matter considered at its meeting or its hearing, such person must ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based. This notice does not constitute consent by the City for the introduction or admission of otherwise inadmissible or irrelevant evidence, nor does it authorize challenges or appeals not otherwise allowed by law.

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Rafael E. Granado, City Clerk
City of Miami Beach

ANALYSIS

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

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