

# MEMORANDUM

Agenda Item No. 11(A)(2)

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**TO:** Honorable Vice Chairwoman Rebeca Sosa  
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

**DATE:** November 19, 2020

**FROM:** Geri Bonzon-Keenan  
Successor County Attorney

**SUBJECT:** Resolution directing the County Mayor to prepare a report identifying the organizational needs to establish a comprehensive plan for the proactive approval, installation and maintenance of mobility improvements for pedestrian and cyclist within urban areas of Miami-Dade County, including any recommendations as to staffing allocation and potential reorganization, expedited processes, design manual updates, and implementation of Complete Streets and Vision Zero measures including installation of crosswalks and protected bicycle lanes, reprogramming of traffic signals, and implementation of play streets

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The accompanying resolution was prepared and placed on the agenda at the request of Prime Sponsor Commissioner Eileen Higgins.

  
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Geri Bonzon-Keenan  
Successor County Attorney

GBK/smm



**MEMORANDUM**  
(Revised)

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and Members, Board of County Commissioners

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Please note any items checked.

- "3-Day Rule" for committees applicable if raised
- 6 weeks required between first reading and public hearing
- 4 weeks notification to municipal officials required prior to public hearing
- Decreases revenues or increases expenditures without balancing budget
- Budget required
- Statement of fiscal impact required
- Statement of social equity required
- Ordinance creating a new board requires detailed County Mayor's report for public hearing
- No committee review
- Applicable legislation requires more than a majority vote (i.e., 2/3's present \_\_\_\_, 2/3 membership \_\_\_\_, 3/5's \_\_\_\_, unanimous \_\_\_\_, CDMP 7 vote requirement per 2-116.1(3)(h) or (4)(c) \_\_\_\_, CDMP 2/3 vote requirement per 2-116.1(3)(h) or (4)(c) \_\_\_\_, or CDMP 9 vote requirement per 2-116.1(4)(c)(2) \_\_\_\_) to approve
- Current information regarding funding source, index code and available balance, and available capacity (if debt is contemplated) required

Approved \_\_\_\_\_ Mayor  
Veto \_\_\_\_\_  
Override \_\_\_\_\_

Agenda Item No. 11(A)(2)  
11-19-20

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

RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE COUNTY MAYOR OR COUNTY MAYOR’S DESIGNEE TO PREPARE A REPORT IDENTIFYING THE ORGANIZATIONAL NEEDS TO ESTABLISH A COMPREHENSIVE PLAN FOR THE PROACTIVE APPROVAL, INSTALLATION AND MAINTENANCE OF MOBILITY IMPROVEMENTS FOR PEDESTRIAN AND CYCLIST WITHIN URBAN AREAS OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, INCLUDING ANY RECOMMENDATIONS AS TO STAFFING ALLOCATION AND POTENTIAL REORGANIZATION, EXPEDITED PROCESSES, DESIGN MANUAL UPDATES, AND IMPLEMENTATION OF COMPLETE STREETS AND VISION ZERO MEASURES INCLUDING INSTALLATION OF CROSSWALKS AND PROTECTED BICYCLE LANES, REPROGRAMMING OF TRAFFIC SIGNALS, AND IMPLEMENTATION OF PLAY STREETS

**WHEREAS**, according to the 2019 “Dangerous by Design” report from Smart Growth America and the National Complete Streets Coalition, the Miami-Fort Lauderdale-West Palm Beach metropolis ranked the 14th least safe metro area in the country for pedestrians, with 1,549 pedestrian deaths between 2008-2017; and

**WHEREAS**, this Board, on April 8, 2014, adopted Resolution No. R-347-14, supporting the creation of a “Downtown Pedestrian Priority Zone” in Downtown Miami, and directing the County Mayor to set up a process in coordination with the City of Miami to implement the “Downtown Pedestrian Priority Zone”, and directing the County Mayor to explore possible ways to implement similar pedestrian-friendly zones in the County’s “Urban Center Districts”; and

**WHEREAS**, to date only one of the 10 recommendations of the “Downtown Pedestrian Priority Zone” has been completed, which was the implementation of a 25 mile per hour speed limit; and

**WHEREAS**, this Board adopted Resolution No. R-383-17, on April 4, 2017, which directed the County Mayor or County Mayor's designee to prepare a feasibility report relating to the establishment of a comprehensive plan to reduce pedestrian fatalities by incorporating components of Los Angeles' Vision Zero campaign; and

**WHEREAS**, this Board, on June 6, 2017, adopted Resolution No. R-627-17, establishing County policy that Miami-Dade County's streets should be designed in accordance with Complete Streets guidelines; directing the County Mayor or County Mayor's designee to incorporate, whenever feasible, the Complete Streets guidelines into the operations of any County department responsible for the planning, design, construction, operation and maintenance of County roads; and directing the County Mayor or County Mayor's designee to prepare a written report on the implementation of the directives set forth in this resolution; and

**WHEREAS**, this Board, on October 23, 2018, adopted Resolution No. R-1099-18, requesting the administration prepare a report within 180 days on scramble crosswalks, a traffic signal movement that stops all vehicular traffic and prioritizes pedestrians; and

**WHEREAS**, this same Resolution No. R-1099-18, requested the administration analyze signage and communication needs for existing scrambles to pedestrians; and

**WHEREAS**, this Board, on November 19, 2019, adopted Resolution No. R-1255-19, directing the County Administration to prepare a report identifying locations for the installation of pedestrian crosswalk features; and

**WHEREAS**, this Board, on May 5, 2020, adopted Resolution No. R-426-20, directing the County Administration to reprogram traffic signals to automatic pedestrian signal phasing at high pedestrian volume areas in Downtown Miami, Brickell, Little Havana, and Miami Beach and to submit a report on such installation; and

**WHEREAS**, to date, these reports have not been provided; and

**WHEREAS**, play streets which are closed to vehicular traffic officially designated as a place where children can play and socialize, have become a trend in various cities throughout the country; and

**WHEREAS**, the use of play streets for regular community activities, may assist in facilitating more walkable and livable urban neighborhoods; and

**WHEREAS**, this Board has adopted numerous policies to promote transit-oriented development which requires pedestrian and bicycle safety; and

**WHEREAS**, municipalities have attempted to implement pedestrian friendly measures, such as a scramble crosswalk at Española Way and a raised crosswalk at Liberty Avenue and 23rd Street in Miami Beach; and

**WHEREAS**, similarly, organizations and municipalities have attempted to paint crosswalks, a national trend to promote pedestrianism by making crosswalks more attractive thereby creating a sense of placemaking and community building; and

**WHEREAS**, organizations and residents have advocated for protected bike lanes on the Venetian Causeway, one of the most highly trafficked bike routes in the County; and

**WHEREAS**, the above initiatives have been met with resistance from the County's Department of Transportation and Public Works (the "Department"); and

**WHEREAS**, during the COVID-19 pandemic, cities including Oakland, Denver, and Montreal moved quickly to open interconnecting networks of streets and bike lanes to allow for increased pedestrian and bicycle traffic while allowing for social distancing; and

**WHEREAS**, the Department continues to prioritize vehicular traffic at the expense of promoting pedestrianism and bicycle usage throughout the County and deters the implementation

of pedestrian- and bicycle-friendly features, such as protected bike lanes, painted crosswalks, narrow vehicular lanes, pedestrian prioritization at crosswalks, scramble crosswalks, reduced speed limits, prohibition of right turns on red, and more; and

**WHEREAS**, a thorough review of the staffing needs and allocation and potential reorganization of the Department may assist in creating a more efficient and effective response to the needs within the County's urban areas to ensure that the Department prioritizes pedestrianism, bicycle riding, and mass transit and is responsive to the issues affecting pedestrians and cyclists in urban areas,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA**, that this Board:

**Section 1.** Approves the foregoing recitals, which are incorporated herein by reference.

**Section 2.** Directs the County Mayor or County Mayor's designee to prepare a report identifying the organizational needs to establish a comprehensive plan for the proactive approval, installation and maintenance of mobility improvements for pedestrian and cyclist within urban areas of Miami-Dade County, including any recommendations as to staffing allocation and potential reorganization, new expedited processes, design manual updates, and implementation of Complete Streets and Vision Zero measures, including installation of protected bicycle lanes and crosswalks, reprogramming of traffic signals, and implementation of play streets, painted crosswalks, reduced speed limits, and pedestrian prioritization at crosswalks.

**Section 3.** Directs the County Mayor or County Mayor's designee to place a report within 90 days of the effective date of this resolution on an agenda of the Board in accordance with Ordinance No. 14-65.

The Prime Sponsor of the foregoing resolution is Commissioner Eileen Higgins. It was offered by Commissioner \_\_\_\_\_, who moved its adoption. The motion was seconded by Commissioner \_\_\_\_\_ and upon being put to a vote, the vote was as follows:

Rebeca Sosa, Vice Chairwoman

- |                        |                     |
|------------------------|---------------------|
| Jose "Pepe" Diaz       | Sen. René García    |
| Oliver G. Gilbert, III | Keon Hardemon       |
| Sally A. Heyman        | Eileen Higgins      |
| Joe A. Martinez        | Kionne L. McGhee    |
| Jean Monestime         | Raquel A. Regalado  |
| Sen. Javier D. Souto   | District 8 - Vacant |


The Chairperson thereupon declared this resolution duly passed and adopted this 19<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2020. This resolution shall become effective upon the earlier of (1) 10 days after the date of its adoption unless vetoed by the County Mayor, and if vetoed, shall become effective only upon an override by this Board, or (2) approval by the County Mayor of this resolution and the filing of this approval with the Clerk of the Board.

MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA  
BY ITS BOARD OF  
COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

HARVEY RUVIN, CLERK

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Deputy Clerk

Approved by County Attorney as  
to form and legal sufficiency.



Bruce Libhaber  
Annery Pulgar Alfonso