

# MEMORANDUM

Agenda Item No. 3(A)(1)

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**TO:** Honorable Chairman Anthony Rodriguez  
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

**DATE:** January 21, 2026

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

**SUBJECT:** Resolution approving the City  
of Miami's codesignation of that  
portion of Northwest 10th Street  
between Northwest 2nd Avenue  
and Northwest 1st Avenue as  
"Harold L. Francis Way"

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



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Geri Bonzon-Keenan  
County Attorney

GBK/wm

MDC001



**MEMORANDUM**  
(Revised)

**TO:** Honorable Chairman Anthony Rodriguez  
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

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**FROM:**   
Gen Bonzon-Keenan  
County Attorney

**SUBJECT:** Agenda Item No. 3(A)(1)

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 \_\_\_\_, majority plus one \_\_\_\_, 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) \_\_\_\_, 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. 3(A)(1)  
1-21-26

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

RESOLUTION APPROVING THE CITY OF MIAMI'S CODESIGNATION OF THAT PORTION OF NORTHWEST 10TH STREET BETWEEN NORTHWEST 2ND AVENUE AND NORTHWEST 1ST AVENUE AS "HAROLD L. FRANCIS WAY"

**WHEREAS**, on September 25, 2025, the City Commission of the City of Miami passed and adopted Resolution No. R-25-0399, a copy of which is attached hereto and incorporated by reference (the "City Resolution"), which codesignated that portion of Northwest 10th Street between Northwest 2nd Avenue and Northwest 1st Avenue as "Harold L. Francis Way" in honor of the late Harold L. Francis; and

**WHEREAS**, as stated in the City Resolution, Harold L. Francis was a mortician and innovator who in the mid-1930s founded one of Miami's first black-owned funeral homes (his namesake, Francis Funeral Home) in Overtown alongside other partners and was among the first to introduce Cadillac limousines into the funeral profession; and

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Francis also established the first ambulance service for the local black community, using a fleet of 24 fin-tail Cadillacs, which remained in business for four decades; and

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Francis not only built his historic businesses but invested his talent and knowledge into other funeral homes by teaching other morticians the mortuary trade while working alongside them; and

**WHEREAS**, beyond his contributions to the local economy and business community, Harold L. Francis was a leader in his service to the social, civic, and religious fabric of the community; and

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Francis was a founding member of the Ebenezer United Methodist Church and an active member of the New Providence Lodge Free and Accepted Prince Hall Masonry, earning the highest rank in ancient craft masonry; and

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Francis sponsored a number of youth baseball and softball teams, providing uniforms and equipment and paying for travel expenses to enable the youth to compete in championship games throughout Miami-Dade County and the State of Florida; and

**WHEREAS**, because of his leadership in business and civic life, Harold L. Francis was well known, respected, and loved by those in his community; and

**WHEREAS**, that portion of Northwest 10th Street between Northwest 2nd Avenue and Northwest 1st Avenue is a city road maintained by the City of Miami and located within County Commission District 3; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Miami would like for the County to install signage indicating this codesignation on County street signs and traffic signal mast arms; and

**WHEREAS**, this Board would also like to honor Mr. Francis by approving the City of Miami's codesignation of that portion of Northwest 10th Street between Northwest 2nd Avenue and Northwest 1st Avenue as "Harold L. Francis Way",

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

**Section 1.** Approves the City of Miami's codesignation of that portion of Northwest 10th Street between Northwest 2nd Avenue and Northwest 1st Avenue as "Harold L. Francis Way".

**Section 2.** Directs the Clerk of the Board to send certified copies of this resolution to the Mayor and City Commission of the City of Miami, the United States Postal Service, the Traffic Signals and Signs Division of the Department of Transportation and Public Works, the Development Services Division of the Regulatory and Economic Resources Department, the City of Miami Police Department, and the City of Miami Department of Fire-Rescue.

The Prime Sponsor of the foregoing resolution is Commissioner Keon Hardemon. 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:

Anthony Rodriguez, Chairman	
Kionne L. McGhee, Vice Chairman	
Marleine Bastien	Juan Carlos Bermudez
Sen. René García	Oliver G. Gilbert, III
Roberto J. Gonzalez	Keon Hardemon
Danielle Cohen Higgins	Vicki L. Lopez
Natalie Milian Orbis	Raquel A. Regalado
Micky Steinberg	

The Chairperson thereupon declared this resolution duly passed and adopted this 21<sup>st</sup> day of January, 2026. 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

JUAN FERNANDEZ-BARQUIN, CLERK

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

Approved by County Attorney as  
to form and legal sufficiency.



Chiyel R. A. Hayles  
Michael J. Mastrucci



**City of Miami  
Certified Copy**

City Hall  
3500 Pan American Drive  
Miami, FL 33133  
www.miamigov.com

**File Number: 18170**

**Enactment Number: R-25-0399**

A RESOLUTION OF THE MIAMI CITY COMMISSION, BY A FOUR-FIFTHS AFFIRMATIVE (4/5THS) VOTE, PURSUANT TO SECTION 54-137 OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF MIAMI, FLORIDA, AS AMENDED ("CITY CODE"), WAIVING THE RESTRICTIONS AND CO-DESIGNATING NORTHWEST 10 STREET BETWEEN NORTHWEST 2 AVENUE AND NORTHWEST 1 AVENUE AS "HAROLD L. FRANCIS WAY" IN HONOR OF HAROLD L. FRANCIS' CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE CITY OF MIAMI; DIRECTING THE CITY MANAGER TO TAKE ALL NECESSARY ACTION TO EFFECTUATE THE CODESIGNATION; AND FURTHER DIRECTING THE CITY CLERK TO TRANSMIT A COPY OF THIS RESOLUTION TO THE HEREIN DESIGNATED OFFICIALS.

**SPONSOR(S): Mayor Francis X. Suarez**

WHEREAS, Harold L. Francis (1908-1991), a mortician, founded Francis Funeral Home one of Miami's first black-owned funeral homes in the mid-1930's in Overtown with two other partners and was the first mortician to introduce Cadillac limousines into the funeral profession; and

WHEREAS, Harold L. Francis also established the first ambulance service for the black community, using a fleet of 24 fin-tail Cadillacs, which remained in business for some 40 years; and

WHEREAS, Harold L. Francis was a founding member of the Ebenezer United Methodist Church and was an active member of the New Providence Lodge Free and Accepted Prince Hall Masonry, earning his 33 degree rank – the highest and last degree in ancient craft masonry; and

WHEREAS, as a mortician, Harold L. Francis worked part-time at several other funeral homes in the black community, selflessly teaching other morticians the trade; and

WHEREAS, Harold L. Francis sponsored a number of youth baseball and softball teams, providing uniforms and equipment and paying for the expenses associated with travel to championship games throughout the County and State; and

WHEREAS, Harold L. Francis was also one of the first known black man to own racehorses; and

WHEREAS, Harold L. Francis, as a leading businessman, was well-known, respected and loved by those in the community; and

WHEREAS, Ordinance No. 14317, adopted on September 26, 2024, provides that the restrictions related to street co-designations, including the distance requirements, contained

in Section 54-137 of the Code of the City of Miami, Florida ("City Code"), may be waived by a four-fifths (4/5ths) affirmative vote of the City Commissioners, or an unanimous vote of the quorum that exists because of either abstentions or vacancies resulting from resignation, death, suspension, or physical incapacitation;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF MIAMI, FLORIDA:

Section 1. The recitals and findings contained in the preamble to this Resolution are adopted by reference and incorporated as if fully set forth in this Section.

Section 2. The Miami City Commission hereby co-designates Northwest 10<sup>th</sup> Street between Northwest 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue and Northwest 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue as "Harold L. Francis Way" in honor of his dedicated service and lasting impact on the community.

Section 3. The City Manager is directed to take all necessary steps to effectuate this co-designation, including the installation of appropriate signage.

Section 3. The City Clerk is directed to transmit a certified copy of this Resolution to the Departments of Police, Fire-Rescue, and Solid Waste; the Miami-Dade County Department of Transportation and Public Works; the Miami-Dade County Commissioner of District 5; the United States Postal Service; and, if a State of Florida road, to the Florida Department of Transportation, District Six, for sign installation within the newly designated roadway.

Section 5. If any section, clause, or provision of this resolution is declared invalid, the remainder shall not be affected and shall remain in full force and effect.

Section 6. This resolution shall become effective immediately upon its adoption.

<b>DATE:</b>	<b>9/25/2025</b>
<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>ADOPTED</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	<b>Joe Carollo, Commissioner</b>
<b>SECONDER:</b>	<b>Miguel Angel Gabela, Commissioner</b>
<b>AYES:</b>	Christine King, Joe Carollo, Miguel Angel Gabela, Damian Pardo, Ralph "Rafael" Rosado

I, Todd B. Hannon, City Clerk of the City of Miami, Florida, and keeper of the records thereof, do hereby certify that this constitutes a true and correct copy of Resolution No. R-25-0399, passed by the City Commission on 9/25/2025.



\_\_\_\_\_  
**City Clerk, Deputy City Clerk**  
 (for Todd B. Hannon, City Clerk)

\_\_\_\_\_  
**October 6, 2025**  
**Date Certified**