

MEMORANDUM

Agenda Item No. 4(G)

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

DATE: January 21, 2026

FROM: Geri Bonzon-Keenan
County Attorney

SUBJECT: Ordinance relating to Miami
International Airport (“MIA”);
creating an advisory board
related to the consumer
experience and operations at
MIA; providing for purpose,
composition, and duties of the
board and other related matters

The accompanying ordinance was prepared and placed on the agenda at the request of Prime Sponsor Chairman Anthony Rodriguez.



Geri Bonzon-Keenan
County Attorney

GBK/smm

MDC001



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 ____, 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. 4(G)
1-21-26

ORDINANCE NO. _____

ORDINANCE RELATING TO MIAMI INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT (“MIA”); CREATING AN ADVISORY BOARD RELATED TO THE CONSUMER EXPERIENCE AND OPERATIONS AT MIA; PROVIDING FOR PURPOSE, COMPOSITION, AND DUTIES OF THE BOARD AND OTHER RELATED MATTERS; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY, INCLUSION IN THE CODE, AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE

WHEREAS, Miami International Airport (“MIA”) is the largest economic engine in Miami-Dade County and serves as a global gateway for millions of travelers each year; and

WHEREAS, MIA supports more than 700,000 jobs and generates over \$118 billion in business revenue across our County and state; and

WHEREAS, MIA achieved its third consecutive record-breaking year for passenger traffic in 2024 and maintains its status as one of the fastest-growing hub airports in the nation for seat capacity growth over the last five years; and

WHEREAS, MIA was recently ranked one of the best U.S. airports for business travelers; and

WHEREAS, the modernization of MIA is a priority of this Board, which has already approved myriad projects to make MIA a future-ready world class airport; and

WHEREAS, MIA is undergoing a multi-year, multi-billion-dollar investment for the benefit of the public; and

WHEREAS, for instance, MIA is constructing a brand new Concourse, Concourse K, a \$750 million, 300,000-square-foot expansion designed to add six new passenger gates and boarding areas for both domestic and international flights, along with post-security concessions and a new passenger lounge; and

WHEREAS, MIA has also initiated a \$330 million concession modernization plan focused on a complete revamp of the concessions program to enhance the traveler experience; and

WHEREAS, in addition, a \$101 million restroom renovation project is currently underway to completely modernize nearly 200 restrooms by 2030—with 44 already completed—utilizing touchless fixtures and antimicrobial surfaces to prioritize cleanliness, comfort, and accessibility; and

WHEREAS, MIA recently completed construction of the brand new Ibis parking garage, a state-of-the-art, seven level parking facility that adds 2,240 parking spaces, including 50 spaces dedicated to electric vehicle charging, energy-efficient LED lighting fixtures, and a Parksmart Silver Certification design, the global standard for environmentally responsible and high-performing parking structures; and

WHEREAS, moreover, a comprehensive \$700 million investment is being made at MIA to modernize 616 elevators, escalators, and moving walkways over the next 5 to 10 years to ensure the reliability and efficiency of MIA’s conveyance units; and

WHEREAS, as Miami International Airport continues to grow and modernize, it is essential that the day-to-day experiences of passengers, employees, and visitors remain a top priority; and

WHEREAS, a Consumer Advisory for Responsive Experience at MIA (“CARE-MIA”) Advisory Board composed of community members, stakeholders, and individuals with relevant expertise and experience will enable this Board to benefit from a structured and transparent mechanism for receiving first-hand, practical, and expert input to ensure that MIA provides the best overall airport experience possible; and

WHEREAS, the CARE-MIA Advisory Board’s primary purpose would be to identify concerns and areas for improvement and to propose solutions for the enhancement of MIA and its reputation as a world-class airport; and

WHEREAS, by formalizing the CARE-MIA Advisory Board, this Board can strengthen accountability, encourage civic engagement, and ensure that the voices of those who use and rely on MIA are meaningfully considered in decisions affecting MIA,

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA:

Section 1. Article CLXXII of Chapter 2 of the Code of Miami-Dade County, Florida, is hereby created to read as follows:

ARTICLE CLXXII

Sec. 2-2476. Creation.

There is hereby created a Consumer Advisory for Responsive Experience at Miami International Airport (“CARE-MIA”) Advisory Board.

Sec. 2-2477. Composition; membership; qualifications.

(a) *Composition.* The CARE-MIA Advisory Board shall be composed of seven (7) voting members appointed as follows: two (2) members appointed by the chairperson of the Board of County Commissioners; one (1) member appointed by the chairperson of the Miami-Dade County State Legislative Delegation; one (1) member appointed by the Commissioner for County Commission District 6; one (1) member appointed by the County Mayor; one (1) member appointed by the Miami-Dade Beacon Council, provided that such appointee is a Beacon Council officer, board member, or staff member; and one (1) member appointed by the Greater Miami Convention and Visitors Bureau (“GMCVB”), provided that’s such appointee is a Greater Miami Convention and Visitors Bureau executive team or staff member. All members must meet the general qualification requirements set forth in article IB of Chapter 2 of the Code of Miami-Dade County, Florida (the “Code”) but, in addition to those general qualification requirements, the members appointed by the Chairperson of the Board, the District 6

Commissioner, the chairperson of Miami-Dade County State Legislative Delegation, and the County Mayor shall be long-term residents of the County who are users of MIA.

(b) *Appointment procedure.* Each appointment shall be effective upon the providing of written notice to the Miami-Dade County Clerk of the Board. All appointments shall be made within fourteen (14) days after the effective date of this ordinance. Notwithstanding and prevailing over the appointment powers set forth above, in the event that any of the persons or entities with appointment powers as set forth above has not made their initial appointment within fourteen (14) days of the effective date of this ordinance, the Chairperson of the Board of Miami Dade County Commissioners shall make such initial appointment.

(c) *Attendance, removal, and vacancies.* Attendance, removals, and vacancies shall be governed by article IB of chapter 2.

(d) *Terms.*

(1) The initial term of the members appointed by the Chairperson of the Board, the District 6 Commissioner, and the chairperson of Miami-Dade County State Legislative Delegation shall be four (4) years.

(2) The initial term of the members appointed by the County Mayor, the Beacon Council, and the GMCVB shall be 3 years.

(3) After the initial terms set forth above, each member shall be appointed for a term of four (4) years.

(e) *Compensation.* CARE-MIA Advisory Board members shall serve without compensation.

Sec. 2-2478. Organization; meetings; staff support.

(a) *Bylaws, Rules, and Regulations.* The CARE-MIA Advisory Board shall be governed by article IB of Chapter 2 of the Code and may establish, adopt, and amend bylaws, rules, and regulations for its own governance as are not inconsistent therewith. If the CARE-MIA Advisory Board does not adopt such rules or policies, or its adopted rules or policies do not address a particular situation, then the applicable provisions of the Board of County Commissioners' Rules of Procedure, as such may be amended from time to time, shall apply.

(b) *Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson.* The CARE-MIA Advisory Board shall elect a chairperson and a vice-chairperson who shall serve at the will of the CARE-MIA Advisory Board. The chairperson shall preside at all meetings at which he or she is present. The vice-chairperson shall act as chairperson in the absence of the chairperson.

(c) *Staff Support.* The CARE-MIA Advisory Board shall have assistance to be designated by the County Mayor or County Mayor's designee. The staff shall (1) maintain and keep the records of the CARE-MIA Advisory Board; (2) prepare, in consultation with the chairperson, the agenda for each meeting; (3) be responsible for the preparation of any reports, minutes, documents, correspondence, or resolutions of the CARE-MIA Advisory Board; (4) generally administer the business and affairs of the CARE-MIA Advisory Board, subject to budgetary limitations, and (5) provide the CARE-MIA Advisory Board with access to any airport facilities or information (including any reports or other records maintained by the Aviation Department) requested by the CARE-MIA Advisory Board in furtherance of its powers and duties provided that such access complies with applicable law. The Office of the County Attorney shall provide legal counsel to the CARE-MIA Advisory Board.

Sec. 2-2479. Powers; Duties. The CARE-MIA Advisory Board shall have the following powers, duties, functions, and responsibilities:

(a) Make recommendations to the Board regarding areas for improvement to the operations and the day-to-day experiences of passengers, employees, and visitors at MIA for the overall purpose of ensuring that MIA provides the best airport experience possible; and

(b) Maintain a continuous review of the operations and day-to-day experiences of passengers, employees, and visitors at MIA and identify areas of concern and propose solutions to the Board for any such areas of concern; and

(c) Have the ability to receive from the Aviation Department access to any airport facilities or information (including any reports or other records maintained or obtainable by the Aviation Department) requested by the CARE-MIA Advisory Board in furtherance of its powers and duties provided that such access complies with applicable law; and

(d) Serve as a forum at which individuals and groups can express concerns and provide suggestions related to operations and the day-to-day experiences of passengers, employees, and visitors at MIA; and

(e) Perform such other duties as may from time to time be assigned to it by the Board of County Commissioners.

Sec. 2-2480. Meeting; Reports.

(a) *Meetings.* The CARE-MIA Advisory Board shall meet no less frequently than once per month. The first meeting shall occur no later than twenty-one (21) days after the effective date of this ordinance.

(b) *Reports.* Beginning no later than one month after the CARE-MIA Advisory Board's second meeting, the CARE-MIA Advisory Board shall provide a monthly report to the Board of County Commissioners, which report shall be subject to committee review, with a copy simultaneously provided to the chairperson of the Airport Committee or any successor committee of the Board with jurisdiction over MIA's affairs. Such report shall include, at a minimum, the following: (1) a summary of its activities, including a summary of any items or issues addressed at its most recent meeting; (2) the identification of any areas of concern identified by the CARE-MIA Advisory Board and any suggested proposals to address any areas of concern identified by the CARE-MIA Advisory Board and, as the case may be, a status update for any areas of concern previously identified by the CARE-MIA Advisory Board; and (3) any other recommendations that the CARE-MIA Advisory Board has for the improvement to the operations and the day-to-day experiences of passengers, employees, and visitors at MIA.

Sec. 2-2481. Applicability of State and County rules and procedures.

(a) All proceedings of the CARE-MIA Advisory Board shall be conducted in accordance with Florida's open government laws, including but not limited to, the Government in the Sunshine Law and the Citizens' Bill of Rights of the Miami-Dade Home Rule Charter. The CARE-MIA Advisory Board shall be deemed an "agency" for the purposes of the State's public records laws.

(b) The CARE-MIA Advisory Board shall be governed by article IB of Chapter 2 of the Code, including, without limitation, as to application of the Miami-Dade County Conflict of Interest and Code of Ethics Ordinance and the requirement to provide members of the public a reasonable opportunity to be heard on any proposition before the CARE-MIA Advisory Board.

Section 2. If any section, subsection, sentence, clause or provision of this ordinance is held invalid, the remainder of this ordinance shall not be affected by such invalidity.

Section 3. It is the intention of the Board of County Commissioners, and it is hereby ordained that the provisions of this ordinance, including any sunset provision, shall become and be made a part of the Code of Miami-Dade County, Florida. The sections of this ordinance may be renumbered or relettered to accomplish such intention, and the word "ordinance" may be changed to "section," "article," or other appropriate word.

Section 4. This ordinance shall become effective ten (10) days after the date of enactment unless vetoed by the Mayor, and if vetoed, shall become effective only upon an override by this Board.

PASSED AND ADOPTED:

Approved by County Attorney as
to form and legal sufficiency:



Prepared by:



Ryan C. Zagare

Prime Sponsor: Chairman Anthony Rodriguez