

MEMORANDUM

Agenda Item No. 3(A)(2)

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

DATE: October 6, 2026

FROM: Geri Bonzon-Keenan
County Attorney

SUBJECT: Resolution approving the City
of Miami's codesignation of
Southeast 3rd Street between
Southeast 2nd Avenue and
Biscayne Boulevard as "Ruth
Shack Way"

The accompanying resolution was prepared and placed on the agenda at the request of Prime Sponsor Commissioner Vicki L. Lopez.



Geri Bonzon-Keenan
County Attorney

GBK/wm

MDC001



MEMORANDUM

(Revised)

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

DATE: October 6, 2026

FROM: 
Gen Bonzon-Keenan
County Attorney

SUBJECT: Agenda Item No. 3(A)(2)

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
- ☐ Requires more than a majority vote (i.e., 2/3's present ____, 2/3 membership ____, 3/5's ____, unanimous ____, majority plus one ____, CDMP 7 votes (majority of membership) ____, CDMP 2/3 members present but not less than 7 votes (majority of membership) ____, CDMP 9 votes (2/3 membership) ____) 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)(2)
10-6-26

RESOLUTION NO. _____

RESOLUTION APPROVING THE CITY OF MIAMI'S
CODESIGNATION OF SOUTHEAST 3RD STREET BETWEEN
SOUTHEAST 2ND AVENUE AND BISCAYNE BOULEVARD
AS "RUTH SHACK WAY"

WHEREAS, on July 23, 2026, the City Commission of the City of Miami passed a resolution, a copy of which is attached hereto and incorporated by reference, codesignating that portion of Southeast 3rd Street between Southeast 2nd Avenue and Biscayne Boulevard as "Ruth Shack Way" in honor of Ruth Shack; and

WHEREAS, Ruth Shack was born in Long Island, New York in 1931 and moved to South Florida during her honeymoon in 1952; and

WHEREAS, Ruth Shack attended the University of Virginia and ultimately earned her Bachelor of Arts in humanities from Barry University in 1970 and a Master of Arts in Social Science with specialization in Urban Sociology from the University of Colorado, leading to her teaching sociology and political science at Florida International University; and

WHEREAS, Ruth Shack was a distinguished civic leader, public servant, and advocate who devoted more than seven decades to improving the quality of life for residents of Miami-Dade County; and

WHEREAS, Ruth Shack served three terms as a Metro-Dade County Commissioner beginning in 1976 through 1986, where she played a significant role in shaping public policy and advancing equity and inclusion in the community; and

WHEREAS, in 1977, she sponsored an amendment to the Miami-Dade Human Rights Ordinance to prohibit discrimination in the workplace, housing and other places based on sexual orientation, demonstrating her leadership as an early and courageous advocate for LGBTQ rights; and

WHEREAS, during her tenure in public office, Ruth Shack also sponsored the County's first historic preservation ordinance and helped secure approval for the "Surrounded Islands" public art installation in 1983 that surrounded the 11 islands in Biscayne Bay with hot pink fabric; and

WHEREAS, following her public service, Ruth Shack continued her impact as the first Chief Executive Officer of the Dade Community Foundation, now known as The Miami Foundation, diversifying and reaching out to multicultural communities for its board, staff and grantmaking; and

WHEREAS, Ruth Shack was widely recognized as a pioneering leader in philanthropy, the arts, and community-building, and was instrumental in Miami's evolution into a major cultural destination; and

WHEREAS, Ruth Shack passed away on May 24, 2026, at the age of 94, leaving behind a lasting legacy of public service and advocacy; and

WHEREAS, this Board would also like to honor Ruth Shack's extraordinary contributions by approving the City of Miami's codesignation of that portion of Southeast 3rd Street between Southeast 2nd Avenue and Biscayne Boulevard as "Ruth Shack Way"; and

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

WHEREAS, that portion of Southeast 3rd Street between Southeast 2nd Avenue and Biscayne Boulevard is a city-maintained road located in the City of Miami; and

WHEREAS, this codesignation is located in County Commission District 5,

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 Southeast 3rd Street between Southeast 2nd Avenue and Biscayne Boulevard as "Ruth Shack Way".

Section 2. Directs the Clerk of the Board to transmit a certified copy of this resolution to the Mayor, City Commission, City Manager and City Clerk 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 Fire Rescue Department.

The Prime Sponsor of the foregoing resolution is Commissioner Vicki L. Lopez. 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 6th day of October, 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.

MV

Marisol Vilasuso
Michael J. Mastrucci



AGENDA ITEM COVER PAGE

File ID: #19557

Resolution

Sponsored by: Commissioner Damian Pardo

A RESOLUTION OF THE MIAMI CITY COMMISSION CO-DESIGNATING SOUTHEAST 3RD STREET BETWEEN SOUTHEAST 2ND AVENUE AND BISCAYNE BOULEVARD AS "RUTH SHACK WAY" IN HONOR OF RUTH SHACK; DIRECTING THE CITY MANAGER TO TAKE ALL NECESSARY ACTION TO EFFECTUATE THE CO-DESIGNATION; AND FURTHER DIRECTING THE CITY CLERK TO TRANSMIT A COPY OF THIS RESOLUTION TO THE HEREIN DESIGNATED OFFICIALS.



City of Miami

Legislation

Resolution

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

File Number: 19557

Final Action Date:

A RESOLUTION OF THE MIAMI CITY COMMISSION CO-DESIGNATING SOUTHEAST 3RD STREET BETWEEN SOUTHEAST 2ND AVENUE AND BISCAYNE BOULEVARD AS "RUTH SHACK WAY" IN HONOR OF RUTH SHACK; DIRECTING THE CITY MANAGER TO TAKE ALL NECESSARY ACTION TO EFFECTUATE THE CO-DESIGNATION; AND FURTHER DIRECTING THE CITY CLERK TO TRANSMIT A COPY OF THIS RESOLUTION TO THE HEREIN DESIGNATED OFFICIALS.

WHEREAS, Ruth Shack was born in Long Island, New York in 1931 and moved to South Florida during her honeymoon in 1952; and

WHEREAS, Ruth Shack attended the University of Virginia and ultimately earned her Bachelor of Arts in humanities from the Barry University in 1970 and a Master of Arts in Social Science with specialization in Urban Sociology from the University of Colorado, leading to her teaching sociology and political science at Florida International University; and

WHEREAS, Ruth Shack was a distinguished civic leader, public servant, and advocate who devoted more than seven decades to improving the quality of life for residents of Miami-Dade County; and

WHEREAS, Ruth Shack served three (3) terms as a Metro-Dade County Commissioner beginning in 1976 thru 1986, where she played a significant role in shaping public policy and advancing equity and inclusion in the community; and

WHEREAS, in 1977, she sponsored an amendment to the Miami-Dade Human Rights Ordinance to prohibit discrimination in the workplace, housing and other places based on sexual orientation, demonstrating her leadership as an early and courageous advocate for LGBTQ rights; and

WHEREAS, during her tenure in public office, Ruth Shack also sponsored the County's first historic preservation ordinance and helped secure approval for the 'Surrounded Islands' public art installation in 1983 that surrounded the eleven (11) islands in Biscayne Bay with hot pink fabric; and

WHEREAS, following her public service, Ruth Shack continued her impact as the first Chief Executive Officer of the Dade Community Foundation, now known as The Miami Foundation, diversifying and reaching out to multicultural communities for its board, staff and grantmaking; and

WHEREAS, Ruth Shack was widely recognized as a pioneering leader in philanthropy, the arts, and community-building, and was instrumental in Miami's evolution into a major cultural destination; and

WHEREAS, Ruth Shack passed away on May 24, 2026, at the age of 94, leaving behind a lasting legacy of public service and advocacy; and

WHEREAS, it is appropriate and fitting to honor Ruth Shack's extraordinary contributions by co-designating a portion of Southeast 3rd Street in her name;

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 herein.

Section 2. The City Commission hereby co-designates Southeast 3rd Street between Southeast 2nd Avenue and Biscayne Boulevard as "Ruth Shack Way," in recognition of her many contributions to the community.

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

Section 4. 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 representing District 5; the United States Postal Service; and, if applicable, the Florida Department of Transportation, District Six.

Section 5. This Resolution shall become effective immediately upon its adoption.

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND CORRECTNESS:


George K. Wysocki III, City Attorney 7/14/2026