

MEMORANDUM

Amended
Agenda Item No. 5(A)

TO: Honorable Chairman Oliver G. Gilbert, III
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

DATE: March 19, 2024

FROM: Geri Bonzon-Keenan
County Attorney

SUBJECT: Resolution codesignating that
portion of NW 65th Street from
NW 18th Avenue to NW 19th
Avenue as “Tree of Knowledge
Street”

Resolution No. R-206-24

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



Geri Bonzon-Keenan
County Attorney

GBK/ks

MDC001



MEMORANDUM

(Revised)

TO: Honorable Chairman Oliver G. Gilbert, III
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

DATE: March 19, 2024

FROM: 
Gen Bonzon-Keenan
County Attorney

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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 _____

Amended
Agenda Item No. 5(A)
3-19-24

RESOLUTION NO. R-206-24

**RESOLUTION CODESIGNATING THAT PORTION OF NW
65TH STREET FROM NW 18TH AVENUE TO NW 19TH
AVENUE AS “TREE OF KNOWLEDGE STREET”**

WHEREAS, the Tree of Knowledge is a meeting place in Liberty City where a group of individuals would gather on a daily basis, located on NW 65th Street and NW 18th Avenue; and

WHEREAS, these individuals are primarily retired, elderly African-American men who grew up in Liberty City in the historic Liberty Square housing project built in the 1930s, and who served in the United States Armed Forces; and

WHEREAS, the Liberty Square housing project opened in the 1930s and was the first New Deal public housing apartment complex for African-Americans and was built in the segregated area of Liberty City in Miami-Dade County, Florida; and

WHEREAS, when living in Liberty City and Liberty Square housing complex, the Tree of Knowledge individuals formed part of a larger African-American community in the area that valued respect, discipline, education, compassion, culture and community; and

WHEREAS, the Tree of Knowledge individuals are a close-knit group that meets daily to discuss the issues of the day and reminisce about their neighborhood and community; and

WHEREAS, the group meets in the vicinity of a large tree that they came to call the Tree of Knowledge because it was a meeting place where they would share their knowledge with each other and with their friends and neighbors; and

WHEREAS, the group shared a collective memory of an important era in Miami-Dade County history when the Liberty Square housing project was the childhood home of many individuals who would go on to accomplish notable careers and serve their countries and communities, including many notable Miami-Dade County residents such as Miami-Dade County's first African-American Commissioner Earl J. Carroll and Miami-Dade County's first African-American Circuit Court Judge Wilkie D. Ferguson Jr.; and

WHEREAS, this Board would like to honor the Tree of Knowledge and the individuals who have gathered there by codesignating that portion of NW 65th Street from NW 18th Avenue to NW 19th Avenue as "Tree of Knowledge Street" and to have signage of this codesignation installed only on NW 18th Avenue; and

WHEREAS, NW 65th Street from NW 18th Avenue to NW 19th Avenue is a County-maintained road located in unincorporated Miami-Dade County; and

WHEREAS, this codesignation is located in County Commission District 3,

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

Section 1. Having considered this matter at a public hearing, codesignates that portion of NW 65th Street from NW 18th Avenue to NW 19th Avenue as "Tree of Knowledge Street" and directs the Department of Transportation and Public Works to install signage of this codesignation only on NW 18th Avenue.

Section 2. Directs the Clerk of the Board to transmit certified copies of this Resolution to 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 Miami-Dade County Police Department, and the Miami-Dade County Fire Rescue Department.

The Prime Sponsor of the foregoing resolution is Commissioner Keon Hardemon. It was offered by Commissioner **Keon Hardemon**, who moved its adoption. The motion was seconded by Commissioner **Anthony Rodriguez** and upon being put to a vote, the vote was as follows:

Oliver G. Gilbert, III, Chairman	aye		
Anthony Rodríguez, Vice Chairman	aye		
Marleine Bastien	aye	Juan Carlos Bermudez	aye
Kevin Marino Cabrera	aye	Sen. René García	aye
Roberto J. Gonzalez	aye	Keon Hardemon	aye
Danielle Cohen Higgins	aye	Eileen Higgins	aye
Kionne L. McGhee	aye	Raquel A. Regalado	aye
Micky Steinberg	aye		

The Chairperson thereupon declared this resolution duly passed and adopted this 19th day of March, 2024. 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: Basia Pruna
Deputy Clerk

Approved by County Attorney as
to form and legal sufficiency.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "AGM", is written over a horizontal line.

Andrea Gonzalez Mateo