

MEMORANDUM

Agenda Item No. 5(D)

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

DATE: January 22, 2025

FROM: Geri Bonzon-Keenan
County Attorney

SUBJECT: Resolution approving, after a public hearing and by a three-fifths vote of the Board members present, the naming of a portion of The Underline as the “Kenneth C. Griffin Urban Trail” for a period of 10 years through and including April 22, 2034

Resolution No. R-27-25

The accompanying resolution was prepared and placed on the agenda at the request of Co-Prime Sponsors Commissioner Eileen Higgins and Commissioner Raquel A. Regalado.



Geri Bonzon-Keenan
County Attorney

GBK/gh



MEMORANDUM

(Revised)

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

DATE: January 22, 2025

FROM: 
Glen Bonzon-Keenan
County Attorney

SUBJECT: Agenda Item No. 5(D)

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. 5(D)
1-22-25

RESOLUTION NO. _____ R-27-25

RESOLUTION APPROVING, AFTER A PUBLIC HEARING AND BY A THREE-FIFTHS VOTE OF THE BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT, THE NAMING OF A PORTION OF THE UNDERLINE AS THE “KENNETH C. GRIFFIN URBAN TRAIL” FOR A PERIOD OF 10 YEARS THROUGH AND INCLUDING APRIL 22, 2034

WHEREAS, on February 6, 2018, the Board adopted Resolution No. R-120-18, approving The Underline Management Agreement (the “Management Agreement”) between Miami-Dade County and The Underline Management Organization, Inc. d/b/a The Underline Conservancy (“The Underline Conservancy”); and

WHEREAS, under the Management Agreement, The Underline Conservancy undertook the obligation to manage, operate, and maintain the 10-mile stretch of real property that lies underneath the Metrorail guideway, between the southern seawall of the Miami River and the Dadeland South Metrorail Station (“The Underline”); and

WHEREAS, in order to help support its substantial responsibilities in managing, operating, and maintaining The Underline, the Management Agreement grants The Underline Conservancy the power to fundraise through various means, including through the marketing (by either The Underline Conservancy or its fundraising arm, Friends of the Underline, Inc. (“Friends”)) of naming rights for the County facilities within The Underline; and

WHEREAS, under the Management Agreement, the sale of such naming rights is subject to the Board’s approval, as the Management Agreement recognizes that the Board retains the prerogative to approve the naming of any County facility and conduct due diligence prior to the sale of any naming right; and

WHEREAS, The Underline Conservancy notified the County that Friends had entered into a “Gift and Sponsorship Agreement” with Kenneth C. Griffin, through which on December 3, 2021, Mr. Griffin made a grant of \$5,000,000.00 to Friends for the maintenance, operation, and programming of The Underline; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Griffin is the founder, chief executive officer, and co-chief investment officer of Citadel, one of the world’s leading alternative investment firms, and Citadel Securities, one of the world’s leading capital markets firms; and

WHEREAS, in 2020, Mr. Griffin announced plans to relocate Citadel and Citadel Securities’ combined global headquarters from Chicago to Miami; and

WHEREAS, in Miami, Mr. Griffin is continuing his long-standing record of philanthropy, through which he has donated more than \$2,000,000,000.00 to advance education, opportunity, and health sciences initiatives; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Griffin’s contribution to The Underline is in keeping with his previous philanthropic efforts and, by supporting The Underline, Mr. Griffin is contributing to the continued success of what National Geographic identified as one of the 30 most exciting destinations to visit in the world in 2024; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Griffin’s gift contemplates the naming of the cycling and pedestrian portions of the trail—located within County Commission Districts 5 and 7—for a period of 10 years to be known as the “Kenneth C. Griffin Urban Trail”; and

WHEREAS, Rule 9.02 of the Board’s Rules of Procedure provides that resolutions regarding proposed naming, renaming or co-designation of Miami-Dade County roads, facilities or property shall be sponsored by the district commissioner where the road, facility or property is located and shall be considered at a public hearing; and

WHEREAS, Rule 9.02 also provides that the Board may by a three-fifths vote of the Board members present name a County road, facility or property after a living individual who “has made a direct, significant lifetime contribution to this community,”

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

Section 1. Finds that Kenneth C. Griffin has made a direct, significant lifetime contribution to Miami-Dade County, pursuant to Rule 9.02(d) of the Board’s Rules of Procedure, and having considered this matter at a public hearing, by a three-fifths vote of the Board members present, approves the naming of the cycling and pedestrian portions of The Underline as the “Kenneth C. Griffin Urban Trail” for the period commencing with the effective date of this resolution through and including April 22, 2034.

Section 2. Authorizes County Mayor or County Mayor’s designee to notify The Underline Conservancy that it may take such actions as are consistent with the Management Agreement and applicable law to identify the named portion of The Underline as the “Kenneth C. Griffin Urban Trail”.

Section 3. Directs the Clerk of the Board to send 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 Department of Regulatory and Economic Resources, the Division of Environmental and Resources Management of the Department of Regulatory and Economic Resources, the Miami-Dade Fire Rescue Department, the Miami-Dade Police Department, and the chief executive of any municipalities in the named portion of The Underline.

The Co-Prime Sponsors of the foregoing resolution are Commissioner Eileen Higgins and Commissioner Raquel A. Regalado. It was offered by Commissioner **Eileen Higgins**, who moved its adoption. The motion was seconded by Commissioner **Kionne L. McGhee** and upon being put to a vote, the vote was as follows:

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

The Chairperson thereupon declared this resolution duly passed and adopted this 22nd day of January, 2025. 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.

MAG

Miguel A. Gonzalez