



MIAMI BEACH

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR AND COMMISSION

MEMORANDUM

TO: Jorge Gonzalez, City Manager

FROM: Jerry Libbin, Commissioner

DATE: February 18, 2009

SUBJECT: Agenda item for the February 25, 2009 Commission Meeting under new business to consider giving the authorization to bring the South Beach Local Bus to Collins Park and Belle Isle.

Please place on the February 25, 2009 Commission meeting agenda the proposal to bring the South Beach Local Bus to Collins Park and Belle Isle. Please see attached email from Ray Breslin, Collins Park Neighborhood Association President.

You may contact our office at ext. 6722 if you have any questions.

attachment

JL/er

Agenda Item R9H
Date 2-25-09




MIAMI BEACH

City of Miami Beach, 1700 Convention Center Drive, Miami Beach, Florida 33139, www.miamibeachfl.gov

COMMISSION MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor Matti Herrera Bower and Members of the City Commission

FROM: Jorge M. Gonzalez, City Manager 

DATE: February 25, 2009

SUBJECT: **DISCUSSION REGARDING EXTENSION OF THE SOUTH BEACH LOCAL ROUTE.**

BACKGROUND

Several individuals have contacted Miami-Dade Transit (MDT) regarding the possibility of extending the South Beach Local to serve both Belle Isle and the Collins Park area.

MDT has informed the Administration that the change in the South Beach Local Route could be accommodated at the City's direction in the Fall, either by having the City pay an additional \$800,000 per year to maintain the same bus headways or to allow the bus headways to increase from the current headway of approximately ten (10) minutes to a headway of twelve to thirteen minutes.

The two (2) route changes have only been assessed in terms of possible costs or headway impact. It is unknown at this time what impacts, if any, there may be upon ridership by requiring longer rides in an extended loop.

The discussion item also anticipates that both route extensions be accomplished at the same time. In considering this question, the City Commission may wish to choose one as a first phase to more accurately determine impacts and then, if successful, add the second extension as the next increment.

Members of the City Commission may wish to refer the extension question either to a City Commission committee or to the City's Transportation and Parking Committee for further consideration of possible phasing and a more detailed discussion with MDT staff about possible impacts on ridership.

JMG\RCM\sam

T:\AGENDA\2009\February 25\Regular\SouthBeachLocal RouteExtCommemo2-25-09.doc

Rodriguez, Enid

From: Rodriguez, Enid on behalf of Libbin, Jerry
Sent: Friday, February 13, 2009 5:02 PM
To: 'jerlib@aol.com'
Subject: FW: South Beach Local

MIAMI BEACH

Enid Rodriguez, Aide to Commissioner Jerry Libbin
 OFFICE OF THE MAYOR AND COMMISSION
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We are committed to providing excellent public service and safety to all who live, work and play in our vibrant, tropical, historic community.

From: Bresaro@aol.com [mailto:Bresaro@aol.com]
Sent: Thursday, February 12, 2009 11:26 AM
To: jorgegonzalez@miamibeachfl.gov
Cc: bggehring@bellsouth.net; pakku55@yahoo.com; wsfeir@setai.com; frank@talulaonline.com; Weithorn, Deede; Bjmakemeover22@aol.com; Diaz, Victor; mark_c@miamicityballet.org; Wolfson, Jonah; Bresaro@aol.com; Libbin, Jerry; sobemeland@gmail.com; roseniori@mdpls.org; TFigueras@miamiherald.com; Bower, Matti H.; SOMIAMIBE@aol.com; Tobin, Ed; sidneymdavis@comcast.net; lortega@bassmuseum.org; Gross, Saul; jlcouriel@att.net; Nathan@nathanlieberman.com; Frances, Saul
Subject: South Beach Local

Jorge:

Last August at a Parking and Transportation meeting I attended, the County finally brought forth a proposal to bring the local bus to Collins Park and Belle Isle. They said it couldn't happen in November but could in April, the only 2 times a year the realignments are done.

I called Bob Piercesol, from the County, earlier this week to see where we were at and he said that the City (that would be you) never responded whether you were going to pay the additional eight or so million dollars annually needed to make this route change or add two to three minutes to the headway and not pay any additional money. My recollection was the P & T Committee recommended to change the headway but that all got lost somewhere along the line and no decision was given to the County so they are doing nothing.

After years of trying to bring the South Beach Local to the Regional Library and finally feeling success, this is a harsh and unacceptable blow. What can you do? The commission has long backed bringing the Local to Collins Park. Do we have to start all over? Isn't there something you can do to make the April timing? It is utterly ridiculous that the Library is cut off from all of South Beach when the Local stops at 2 Publix, soon to be 3. FYI, Walgreens at 23rd and Collins is set to open in less than 60 day, another reason to act quickly on this routing change. Personally, I don't care if you spend the dollars or change the headway. We just want the bus!

Come on Jorge, pull some strings and work your magic. I know you can. Yesterday would have been better than today. You and the Commission preach quality of live for the residents, so I'm sure this is not an issue, just a misunderstanding. Right? Please help.

Thanks,
 Ray

Ray Breslin, president

Collins Park Neighborhood Association

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