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## PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **City of Miami Beach Steps Up to Salvage the OutGames Athletic Events**

**Miami Beach, FL** – Since the World OutGames announced the cancellation of many of their activities yesterday, the City of Miami Beach along with the Greater Miami Convention and Visitors Bureau (GMCVB) and the Miami Beach Gay and Lesbian Chamber of Commerce, has worked with the event's logistics organizers to restore many of the events that were planned.

In the last 24 hours alone, the Miami Beach Parks and Recreation Department was able to confirm and staff the Field Hockey tournament in the Flamingo Park soccer field on Monday, May 29 through Wednesday, May 31; the Soccer Finals in the Flamingo Park Stadium on Friday, June 2; and relocated the Indoor Basketball tournament to the Scott Rakow Youth Center on Sunday, May 28 through Monday, May 29.

City staff is working with the regular Lummus Park volleyball community to keep and manage the volleyball tournament as scheduled at the 7th Street volleyball courts from Tuesday, May 30 through Friday, June 2.

In addition, the city and GMCVB are welcoming all registered athletes and their families to a reception Wednesday night, May 31, at the Miami Beach Botanical Garden to express the true nature of Miami Beach hospitality.

The city is extremely proud of our business and cultural partners, which have stepped up to offer free and discounted admission and services to all OutGames attendees. The list of such partners includes the Miami Design and Preservation League, the Palace Bar, the Gaythering Hotel and the Gay Men's Chorus, which offered free admission to all OutGames attendees to their performance last night at the city's Colony Theater.

Please find attached a letter to commission that detailed the city's grave concerns on March 28 [here](#), along with the letter to commission sent last Thursday, May 25 [here](#).

City staff has worked consistently for the past several months to assist the event producers with special events planning and permitting; fundraising efforts; relocating events to low or no cost venues; assisting with local partners to provide support and access; and providing financial support to cover police staffing costs. As a lead sponsor

of the event, the City also waived all related special event and permitting fees for this event and provided cash sponsorship to the OutGames.

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