

# MIAMI BEACH

City of Miami Beach, 1700 Convention Center Drive, Miami Beach, Florida 33139, [www.miamibeachfl.gov](http://www.miamibeachfl.gov)

March 27, 2023

Re: Sea Turtle Nesting Protection

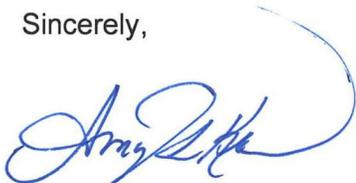
The City of Miami Beach is dedicated to the conservation and preservation of its natural resources including the protection of sea turtles that nest annually on our beaches between April 1<sup>st</sup> and October 31<sup>st</sup>. **To minimize disturbance to sea turtles and their nests, we require the reduction of artificial light sources from your property that may be visible from the beach.**

Light pollution from adjacent properties disorients nesting adults and hatchlings. Sea turtles mistake artificial lighting for the reflection of the night sky on the water. Although there is no substitute for a naturally dark sky, there are practices that our community can follow to improve the nesting conditions for marine turtles that lay their eggs every year on our beaches. This includes minimizing the use of direct artificial lighting from properties located along the beach and never touching or harassing a nesting sea turtle or sea turtle hatchlings.

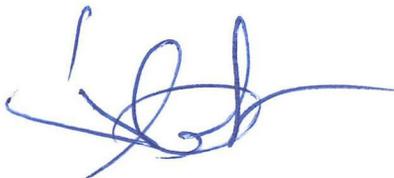
Oceanfront properties can comply with the ordinance by **turning off all unnecessary lighting or keeping the blinds closed at night**. We also recommend the installation of tinted glass or shades on all windows and glass doors facing or within line-of-sight from the beach. Any light fixtures located on the exterior of the property should either be turned off, modified or replaced to decrease disorientation and improve nesting habits through the installation of indirect low profile lighting fixtures and bulbs. Existing fixtures can also be shielded or repositioned so that the point source of the light or any reflective surface is no longer visible from the beach. To obtain more information on sea turtles visit: [www.mbrisingabove.com/seaturtles](http://www.mbrisingabove.com/seaturtles). For specific information on sea turtle-friendly lighting, please visit: <http://www.myfwc.com/>.

Thank you in advance for your help in ensuring the continued survival of the threatened and endangered marine turtles that nest on our City's beaches. If you have any questions or would like to meet to discuss correcting lighting problems, please contact Code Compliance at (305) 604-CITY or Environment and Sustainability at (305) 673-7084.

Sincerely,



Amy Knowles  
Chief Resilience Officer



Hernan Cardeno  
Code Compliance Director