

**A RESOLUTION OF THE MIDBEACH NEIGHBORHOOD  
ASSOCIATION (MBNA) OPPOSING ORDINANCE AMENDMENT  
PROVIDING AN EXCEPTION, FOR A NINE  
MONTH PILOT PROGRAM BASIS, TO PERMIT AN ADULT RIDING AN  
ELECTRIC BICYCLE WITH A CHILD 16 YEARS OLD OR YOUNGER TO  
OPERATE SUCH ELECTRIC BICYCLE ON THE BEACHWALK AND  
OTHER SPECIFIED AREAS UNDER CERTAIN CONDITIONS**

WHEREAS, the MidBeach Neighborhood Association (MBNA) represents more than sixty-four (64) condominiums and hotels and more than twelve-thousand (12,000) units within the geographical boundaries of the City of Miami Beach from Collins Avenue and Indian Creek Drive from 24th Street through 63rd Street; and

WHEREAS, the Beachwalk is a shared public amenity designed primarily for pedestrians, families, joggers, and slow-moving cyclists, serving as one of Miami Beach's most accessible recreational corridors; and

WHEREAS, the current ordinance prohibiting motorized vehicles on the Beachwalk, including electric bicycles, was adopted to protect pedestrians, children, and vulnerable users from unsafe interactions with faster-moving traffic; and

WHEREAS, the proposed ordinance amendment permitting adults to ride electric bicycles with children on the Beachwalk, even on a pilot basis, undermines this protection and places pedestrians at higher risk; and

WHEREAS, the enforcement of speed, rider behavior, and vehicle type on the Beachwalk is already a challenge for City staff and the Miami Beach Police Department, and granting exceptions will make enforcement inconsistent and impractical; and

WHEREAS, allowing one group (parents with children) to utilize electric bicycles on the Beachwalk may open the door for additional groups to seek similar exemptions, creating inequities in access and undermining the original intent of the ordinance to safeguard all users equally; and

WHEREAS, electric bicycles are capable of higher speeds than pedal bicycles, and when velocity is increased, the force of a collision grows exponentially ( $force = \frac{1}{2}mv^2$ ), which can cause severe injury to pedestrians, children, and elderly residents using the Beachwalk; and

WHEREAS, the MBNA supports safe cycling in appropriate locations, including bike lanes on Collins Avenue and Indian Creek Drive, but reaffirms that the Beachwalk should remain a pedestrian-priority zone with only non-motorized bicycles permitted at safe speeds; and

WHEREAS, as alternative to this proposed legislation the City of Miami Beach in encouraged to further invest in bicycle infrastructure on streets, including protected bike lanes and traffic-calmed corridors that are designed to accommodate electric bicycles at safe speeds, demonstrating that the Beachwalk is not the appropriate facility for motorized cycling; and

WHEREAS, the City of Miami Beach has consistently advanced Vision Zero goals to eliminate traffic-related fatalities and serious injuries, prioritizing pedestrian safety in all transportation corridors, including the Beachwalk; and

WHEREAS, the City of Miami Beach Transportation Master Plan identifies the Beachwalk as a pedestrian-and bicycle-priority facility with a focus on safety, accessibility, and enjoyment, which is incompatible with introducing higher-speed motorized vehicles; and

WHEREAS, the adoption of piecemeal exceptions to the current ordinance risks undermining the City's long-term transportation planning by creating inconsistent policies that complicate enforcement and conflict with adopted pedestrian-first goals; and

WHEREAS, MBNA supports the City's commitment to equitable, safe, and sustainable mobility solutions, and therefore opposes the introduction of motorized vehicles into spaces intended for the most vulnerable road users—pedestrians, children, elderly residents, and visitors;

WHEREAS, MBNA members strongly believe that amending the ordinance would erode hard-won safety protections, reduce enjoyment of the Beachwalk for residents and visitors, and pose a liability risk for the City;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The MidBeach Neighborhood Association (MBNA) opposes the ordinance amendment creating an exception for electric bicycles with children on the Beachwalk and urges the City of Miami Beach Mayor and Commissioners to preserve the current ordinance prohibiting all motorized vehicles on the Beachwalk without exception.

**APPROVED AS TO FORM AND CORRECTNESS:**



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**Anamarie Ferreira de Melo**, President



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**Alicia Casanova**, Vice-President/Secretary

**Joined by MBNA Executive Board Members:**

Oscar Vazquez, Esteban Porcelli, Avra Bank, Randy Hollingworth, Jorge Pante, and Jose Flores

**Dated this 2nd day of September, 2025**