



THE CITY OF MIRAMAR REGULAR COMMISSION MEETING

FEBRUARY 11, 2026

7:00 P.M.

A regular meeting of the Miramar City Commission was called to order by Mayor Messam at 7:02 p.m. in the Commission Chambers, Miramar City Hall, 2300 Civic Center Place, Miramar, Florida.

MAYOR MESSAM: The Miramar City Commission meeting is now called to order. An opportunity was given to the public to register to participate, or email the City Clerk 24 hours prior to the Commission meeting with any questions, comments, concerns on items we will hear on this evening's agenda. Any person may be heard by the City Commission, through the chair, and upon registering, pursuant to the published notice, for not more than three minutes on any proposition before the City Commission unless modified by the chair. This meeting is being streamed live at miramarfl.gov/commissionmeeting, and televised on Comcast channel 78, and AT&T U-verse channels 99 for City of Miramar subscribers. As of February 11th, 2026, 4:30 p.m., one member from the public has registered to participate virtually in this meeting. If someone has registered later than this time, and would like to speak, they can raise their hand, and, at the appropriate time, our IT staff will unmute their mic. Please be sure to mention your name and address for the record prior to addressing the Commission. All comments submitted will be included as part of the record prior to any decision made by the Commission.

ROLL CALL/ANNOUNCEMENTS

MAYOR MESSAM: At this time, Madam Clerk, please call the roll.

CITY CLERK GIBBS: Mayor Messam.

MAYOR MESSAM: Here.

CITY CLERK GIBBS: Commissioner Chambers.

COMMISSIONER CHAMBERS: Here.

CITY CLERK GIBBS: Commissioner Cherasard.

COMMISSIONER CHERASARD: Present.

CITY CLERK GIBBS: Vice Mayor Colbourne.

VICE MAYOR COLBOURNE: Here:

CITY CLERK GIBBS: Commissioner Edwards.

COMMISSIONER EDWARDS: Here.

CITY CLERK GIBBS: City Manager Dr. Virgin.

CITY MANAGER VIRGIN: Here.

CITY CLERK GIBBS: City Attorney Gary.

CITY ATTORNEY GARY: Here.

CITY CLERK GIBBS: City Attorney Powell.

CITY ATTORNEY POWELL: Here.

Upon call of the roll, the following members of the City Commission were present:

Mayor Wayne M. Messam
Vice Mayor Yvette Colbourne
Commissioner Maxwell B. Chambers
Commissioner Avril Cherasard
Commissioner Carson Edwards

The following members of staff were present:

City Manager Dr. Roy Virgin
City Attorney Norman Powell
City Attorney Jordan Gary
City Clerk Denise Gibbs

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

MAYOR MESSAM: Let us rise for the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

A MOMENT OF SILENCE:

MAYOR MESSAM: We do have commemoration list of bereaved City Miramar Employees: Samyah Kohn, Social Services lost grandfather; Clifton Campbell, Utilities Department, wife; Kelvin Lewis, Office of the City Manager, aunt. Let's keep our colleagues in our thoughts and prayers, as they remember their loved ones, as well as any other condolences we are expressing in the Miramar community. Let's have a moment of silence. Thank you.

PRESENTATIONS

MAYOR MESSAM: Onto presentations. We have a couple of proclamations to present.

Proclamation: Government Communicators Day (Mayor Wayne M. Messam)

MAYOR MESSAM: And the first will be in honor of Government Communications Day, and I invite Marketing Director Lorna Walker and team to receive the proclamation; let's give them a round of applause. We have a lot of communicators up here. Proclamation: Government Communications Day, February 20th, 2026:

Whereas, the role of government communications professionals is to inform, educate, and engage their communities; and, Whereas, the City of Miramar's commu -- Marketing Department provides robust government communication that creates trust, and inspires residents to take action, and be involved; and, Whereas, the City of Miramar's Marketing Department create relationships and calls to action, build awareness and understanding through storytelling, engage and foster engagement on civic issues, and use of all channels to include people in critical decisions; and, Whereas, it is essential to have strong communications in government, because it is a foundational element of living in a democracy, where citizens have the freedom to make their voice heard; and, Whereas, the City of Miramar is proud, and has deep gratitude in recognition of the Marketing Department to serve as government communicators, professionalism, dedication, hard work, commitment, enthusiasm, and sacrifice. Now, therefore, I, Wayne Messam, Mayor of the City of Miramar and -- behalf of the City Commission do hereby proclaim February 20th, 2026, as Government Communicators Day.

MAYOR MESSAM: Let's give our Marketing Department a big round of applause. All right. Thank you so much.

Proclamation: Black History Month (Mayor Wayne M. Messam)

MAYOR MESSAM: Our next proclamation I invite Parks & Recs Department Billy Neal, and the Parks & Recs team to come forward to receive the Black History Month proclamation. Let's give them a round of applause, our Parks & Recs Department, as we all know, our staff organizes, and handles all logistics for most of our -- pretty much, all of our city events, and we have some of the best professionals available to put on amazing events for our community. Black History Month, February 2026:

Whereas, Black History Month celebrates the contributions that African Americans have made to American history in their struggles for freedom and equality, and deepens our understanding of our nation's history; and, Whereas, in 1926, Dr. Carter G. Woodson, founder of the Association of the Study of African American Life launched the first Negro History Week, a weeklong ob -- observance of black history to recognize and celebrate the achievements and contributions of African Americans; and, Whereas, Dr. Woodson, and the Association for the Study of African American Life and History sought to turn their com -- commemorations for forthrightly into a far reaching organized and sustained effort to transform how black folks viewed themselves, and how the world viewed them; and, Whereas, on February 10th, 1976, President Gerald R. Ford became the first president to issue a message recognizing Black History Month during the United States Bicentennial, stating, "We can seize the opportunity to honor the too often neglected accomplishments of Black Americans in every area of endeavor throughout our history."; and, Whereas, in 2026, the hundredth anniversary theme "A Century of Black History Commemorations" invites reflection on how Black History celebrations have shaped and elevated the social, cultural, and political status of black people; and, Whereas, the efforts that have made February the month of Black History finds its way, not simply into the schools of the Af -- of the American nation, but also in the cultural heritage sites, public squares, workplaces, houses of worship, and homes across the land, and across the oceans; and, Whereas, recognizing Black History Month fosters awareness, understanding, and appreciation of the significant contributions, and experiences of African Americans, and I encourage all residents to observe this month through meaningful educational, and commemorative activities, honoring African American history and heritage. Now, therefore, in recognition of African Americans past and present, I, Wayne Messam, Mayor of the City of Miramar, and on behalf of the City Commission do hereby proclaim February 2026 to be Black History Month here in the City of Miramar.

MAYOR MESSAM: And we thank our Parks & Recs Department for all that they do, and our various departments, like our Cultural Affairs Department, that all work collectively to extend the black experience to the community, as we recognize black history during the month of February. Thank you all for all that you do.

Proclamation: American Heart Month (Mayor Wayne M. Messam)

MAYOR MESSAM: Our next proclamation, American Heart Month, and I invite Deputy Chief Cliff Rickets, and Division Chief of EMS Jaime Torres to receive this proclamation. American Heart Month, February 2026:

Whereas, American Heart Month was established by President Lyndon B. Johnson in December 1963, and is observed to raise awareness of the importance of a healthy heart, and to encourage healthy habits that help reduce the risk of heart disease; and, Whereas, heart disease is the leading cause of death for men, women, and people of most racial, and ethnic groups in the United States. About 915,973 people in the United States die from heart disease in 2023; that's one in every three deaths; and, Whereas, heart disease affects all ages, genders, and ethnicities. Risk factors include: high cholesterol, high blood pressure, smoking, diabetes, and excess alcohol use; and, Whereas, 73 percent of Americans believe that heart attacks can be prevented but aren't motivated to do anything, while 66 percent of Americans don't consider themselves at risk for heart disease, and 60 percent put no effort into improving their heart health; and, Whereas, the good news -- in most case heart disease is preventable in individuals who adopt a healthy lifestyle, including not smoking, maintaining a healthy weight, managing blood sugar and cholesterol levels, treating high blood pressure, engaging in at least 150 minutes of moderate intensity physical activity each week, and observing regular preventative health checkups; and, Whereas, American Heart Month is observed to raise awareness of the importance of heart health, and to encourage the adoption of healthy habits, and help reduce the risk of heart disease. Warning signs of heart disease have been shown to appear in people as young as 18 years old. Risk factors, such as high blood pressure, should be taken seriously, and people are encouraged to adopt healthy behaviors, including engaging in at least 30 minutes of physical activity daily, and consulting with their healthcare provider to develop nutritious eating habits that support overall health; and, Whereas, the month of February is American Health -- Heart Health Month, a time when all people can focus on their cardiovascular health, and the first Friday of February was National Wear Red in the United States. However, feel free to wear red any day in February to raise awareness by staying active, eating healthy, and watching your weight, all while wearing your favorite red outfit. Now, therefore, I, Wayne Messam, Mayor of the City of Miramar, and on behalf of the City Commission support and encourage all to take an active role in their heart health during the entire month of February, and do hereby proclaim the month of February 2026 in the City of Miramar as American Heart Month.

MAYOR MESSAM: And the City of Miramar has a number of activities that you can participate in, and for free that helps you to get one more step closer to a healthy heart, so thank you all, especially our Fire Department, for all that you do being ready on a moment's call to help to save so many lives. Thank you so much.

Proclamation: Alpha Rho Boule Day (Mayor Wayne M. Messam)

MAYOR MESSAM: Our final proclamation is in observance of Alpha Rho Boule Day, and I invite Sire Archon Tim Hogans, and the archons of the Alpha Rho Boule onto the stage to receive this proclamation. Let's give them a round of applause as they come to the podium. Actually, this proclamation, the 60th fell during the winter break, and we had a scheduling conflict with the presentation, so we're presenting it now. Alpha Rho Boule Day:

Whereas, Sigma Pi Phi Fraternity, the Boule, which stands as the oldest continuously existing African American Greek letter postgraduate fraternity was founded by eminent African American professional men on May 15th in 1904 in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; and, Whereas, Alpha Rho Boule was established 60 years ago on December 3rd, 1965, at the Seville Hotel in Miami Beach; and, Whereas, Archon Gilbert K., squire -- Esquire, has served the community as the past president of the Miami Beach Bar Association, and past president of the Miami-Dade Bar; and, Whereas, Timothy Hogans, Jr., is Sire Archon of Alpha Rho Boule during its 60th anniversary; and, Whereas, Grant Sire Archon Oliver W. Hill, with assistance from archons from Alpha Zeta Boule of Tallahassee, Florida, and Phi Boule of Tuskegee, Alabama, established the Alpha Rho Boule of Sigma Pi Phi Fraternity in Miami, Florida, on December 3rd, 1965; and, Whereas, the ten distinguished charter members of Alpha Rho Boule: Ira P. Davis, Clifton G. Dyson, James Lynnwood Bass, Samuel O. Cohen, G. Britton Sayles, David H. Do -- David H. Do -- Dobbs, John O. Brown, Elmer A. Ward, Warren H. Collie, and Robert L. Smith were leaders in medicine, business, and education across Dade, Broward, and Palm Beach Counties; and, Whereas, for decades the members of Alpha Rho Boule have been pivotal for African Americans in South Florida, gaining access to public accommodations, education, employment, and achieving many other social advances. Now, therefore, I, Wayne Messam, Mayor of the City of Miramar, and on behalf of the City Commission do hereby proclaim January 21st, 2026, Alpha Rho Boule Day in the City of Miramar.

MAYOR MESSAM: And we thank all of the archons of Alpha Rho Boule for all of your contributions throughout South Florida; you service the Miramar community, as well as the tri-county area in many of your endeavors. Although they may be silent, but they're loud in impact throughout South Florida, and we thank you for your contributions to our community.

Presentation: Youth Advisory Council Presentation (Youth Advisory Council)

MAYOR MESSAM: Our first presentation will be by the Youth Advisory Council, and I invite the Miramar Youth Advisory Council to present their presentation. Welcome. Let's give them a round of applause.

MS. BARRY: Good evening, Mayor, Vice Mayor, City Manager, City Attorney, and City Clerk, and the members of the public. My name is Taylor Barry, and I have the honor of serving as president of the Youth Advisory Council. Today, we're going to highlight a lot of our accomplishments. These experience allowed us to represent Miramar on a national stage, learning from leaders across the country, and bringing those ideas back to Miramar. These are the current members of our Youth Advisory Council. So this year's NLC Conference was extremely rewarding; it was amazing to be a part of such a longstanding tradition of civic engagement, and collaboration, especially in the surprisingly wonderful city of Salt Lake City in Utah. So here are some of the highlights that we're about to present to you today.

MS. FERNANDEZ: Good evening everyone. My name is Mia Fernandez, and I am the vice president of the Youth Advisory Council, and I was one of the members who actually worked on creating the workshop, Movement Through Communication. And communication is the foundation of community and social change, and this workshop effective grassroots campaigns are clear about who they're reaching, why it matters, and how to mobilize action. Participants practiced by creating an advocacy campaign by combining elements of communication, persuasion, and mobilization by choosing an issue that they cared about, and defining why it matters, who it affects. They learned how to campaign a message that would resonate through effective framing, and developing a simple action plan outlining their audience, these groups pitched their mini campaigns to the room, compelling advocacy, while also receiving feedback. This exercise ties all workshop threads together, reinforcing that powerful grassroots campaigns connect personal stories, clear messages, and community action to create meaningful change. By understanding how to communicate with purpose and empathy, we can take small, meaningful actions that inspire collective impact, and a lasting community change. Thank you.

MS. BARRY: I had the privilege of working on workshop two, More Than Playgrounds, Integrating Youth Voices into Public Spaces. Workshop two focused on helping students understand how public spaces can be intentionally designed to reflect the needs of people. It challenged us to rethink who gets a voice in that process, and how youth voices can shape meaningful change. Through real world case studies from different cities, we explored common public space issues, and discussed possible solutions. Working together, we created youth center design ideas focused on sustainability, accessibility, and feasibility, then presented visual proposals and projects for feedback from elected officials. But the most important thing to highlight from this session was that our voices mattered, and that young people play an important role into creating exclusive spaces for everyone.

MR. CORA: Good evening. My name is Anthony Cora, and through this process, the youth collaborated to develop -- the Youth Advi -- the youth collaborated to develop practical youth-focused solutions that considered accessibility, safety sustainability, and long-term feasibility. Since creative visual proposals -- presented their ideas, and received feedback from their peers and local officials. These case studies reinforce the

importance of including youth perspectives in local planning, and demonstrated how young people can play an active role in shaping inclusive, and well-designed public spaces. Thank you.

MS. HUGHES: Good evening Com -- Commissioners, my name is Nia Hughes, and I'm the current secretary of the Youth Advisory Council, and today I'll be presenting you workshop three: Accessibility in Public Spaces. Similar to the previous workshops, workshop three followed themes of creativity, and accessibility, and had participants working together to conceptual -- conceptualize what our perfect accessible cities would look like. Youth were given color key to -- to clearly identify aspects like transport, housing, crosswalks, and recreational areas, along with complete creative freedom, as they worked with their fellow delegates to create name, and showcase later what was made. Overall, there was a strong focus on putting people first, and creating designs that allowed all individuals of all abilities to move through the communities safely, and independently. The workshop made it clear that accessible design benefits everyone, and helps put a stronger, more inclusive city. During our time there, we also had the pleasure of, during our first session, hearing from the former NLC president, Mary Victoria Woodards, who left us with a strong message that we are the present, not the future. She also encouraged us to speak boldly, and show our experiences with those around us to build a connection with our community through being present, and being engaged, because, in her words, "People remember what you told them; they remember how you made them feel," because young leaders, our goal should be to leave a positive impact in our community. Danielle Goldberg, Managing Director for the Child Rights Division of UNICEF also spoke; she introduced to us the concept of a child impact statement, which is when, during decision-making processes, you can take -- take into account how a child in the community could possibly be affected. Overall, the session itself had a strong focus on the inclusion, and considering how the effect -- how the actions of those -- on -- and considering how the actions of those in positions of power impact those around them. And we intend to use what we learned to improve the City in the new year.

MS. SYLVESTRE: Good evening. My name Aliyah Sylvestre, and I'm the historian for the Miramar Youth Advisory Council. During this time, we got to -- during this third session, my apologies, we -- it was centered on disability policy, accessibility, and inclusive design, with Dina Klimkina highlighting universal design, the curb cut effect, and laws like the ADA, emphasizing that environmental barriers should be fixed, not the people. Chris Norlem and Amanda Roman showed how advocacy, and inclusive city planning support equal opportunity, and independence for those with disabilities. The general conference featured Mayor Aaron Mendenhall, journalist Laura Evans, Mayor Steve Patterson, and NLC CEO Clarence E. Anthony, emphasizing youth leadership, and local action with speakers stressing that change comes from community engagement, and conversations, ending with Mr. Anthony's hero message, "Hope, empathy, resilience, and ownership" as a call for leaders of any age to act with courage.

MR. DESJARDINS: Hello everyone. My name is Terence. I'm a member of the Youth Advisory Council, and today I'll be talking about the sights we saws at Salt Lake City.

While in Salt Lake City for the first time for the NLC, we got to see a lot of sights of the beautiful city. The first thing we did when we got to Salt Lake City was the tour. The curator of the tour bus told us about the history of Salt Lake City, including the Mormons, famous politicians, and the Pony Express. We got to see the mountains, a beautiful church, the city hall, and the University of Utah campus, and went to go to a restaurant after the tour. The next day we sent to a science museum which had many interactive exhibits about astrophysics, and the way planets interacted with gravity. Lastly, we got to go to High School Musical high school; it was pretty fun, and the high school had a nice atmosphere; I played basketball with some of the students there. At Salt Lake City, we had a chance to not only to learn about the NLC, but also experience the sites of Salt Lake City.

MR. RABINES: Hi, good evening; my name is Enzo. I'm a first year here at the Youth Advisory Council. And I'm here to talk about the North Miami swear in, thank you. Well, I arrived a bit early to the event, and it was where I spoke with Mayor Desulme of North Miami. He had a very friendly demeanor, and I ended up chatting with one of the caterers there who shared a similar to him. After speaking with some more people, the caterers were very nice, offered us some meals, but then what stuck out to us the most was that the room we were in -- sorry, what -- what stuck out to us the most was that the room we were in had a wall of plaques dedicated to the previous mayors of North Miami, and I spent some time lingering around those. But then we were able to finally meet with the - with the board. They were very nice people, they had very nice blazers that were initiated to them, and it was great to see that our inspiration was spreading across communities.

MS. FERNANDEZ: And now we're going to be talking about the ten-year State of the City Address. During the City of Miramar's State of the City Address, Mayor Messam delivered his comprehensive speech, discussing a variety of topics on how he, over his incredible ten-year tenure as Mayor of Miramar has created a Miramar that is more inclusive, brought more opportunities to each and every citizen. The Mayor then proceeded to address many more improvements so quickly recapped them, the establishment of First Fridays, another model public/private partnership developed in order to help senior citizen, residents, Miramar Aviation Expo, which inspire the next generation for STEM students. And then he discussed where are we going next as Miramar, how utilities, and economic development are to expand with attraction of aviation, and various STEM industries, creating jobs right here at home. The goal? Kids don't need to leave Miramar in order to find success, and they can do it right here, at home in Miramar.

MR. CORA: The Mayor's Longest Table Event was designed as a community dinner that focused on bringing residents together in a welcoming and relaxing. The purpose of this event was to give people from different backgrounds, neighborhoods, and age groups an opportunity to sit together, share a meal, and conversations with others. The dinner encouraged connection, understanding, and a strong sense of unity within the City. Food, music, and activities helped people relax, talk, and connect, while a bit of group dancing and holiday photos made the event even more fun and social.

MS. GRAHAM: Good afternoon everyone. My name is Khori Graham I'm the co-president of the Youth Advisory Council. During the Mayor's annual aviation event, we were given a chance to learn about the complexity of robotics, and the world of aviation around us, from seeing airplane models, navigating the struggles of TSA, watching teens from different schools within Broward County participate in a robotics competition, to each of us having experienced an antigravity simulation on a trampoline, attached to a bungee cord of course, was truly captivating. And the best part was we got to connect with the people within our community involved in the mechanics of aviation through it all.

MS. LYER: During the Martin Luther King, Jr. parade, we were given the opportunity to witness firsthand the power of unity, service, and community, from watching the marching bands fill the streets with energy, seeing local organizations proudly represent their missions, greeting residents along the route, to learning about the lasting impact of Martin Luther King, Jr., and his message of equality; every moment of the parade felt extremely meaningful. And the best part was we were able to connect with various community leaders, families, and volunteers, while gaining a deeper understanding -- a deeper appreciation for civic engagement, and what it truly means to serve other people.

YOUTH ADVISORY COUNCIL MEMBER: During the youth roundtable, and cultural exchange event, we had a wonderful time sharing cultural experiences, and collaborating on civic duties, and the responsibility of leadership.

MS. GRAHAM: Finally, on behalf of all of us, I want to extend a warm, heartfelt thank you to everyone who supported, and organized this amazing experience. Our advisors, Ms. Edna, Ms. Mayling, and Officer St. Forte, as well as a special thank you to Mayor Messam, Chief Moss, and the rest of the City Commission. Each activity, workshop, and event was a step forward to building our leadership skills, and enhancing the prospectus of the world around us. Thank you for giving us this opportunity to learn, and continually contribute towards our community. If you'd like to know more about our council, please visit our Instagram @yacmiramar. Thank you guys.

MAYOR MESSAM: Big thanks to the Miramar Youth Advisory Council, and those members of the community. Our -- our Youth Advisory Council is a gold standard across the country; not only do they represent the City of Miramar well, but they have inspired their peers across the country. Many of our members, year after year, are selected by the National League of Cities to serve in leadership roles to help plan the programming for youth during the National League of Cities events, and we could not be more proud of our -- our Youth Advisory Council members. You can hear from their presentation, not only are they very well versed, but they are energetic, they get involved in the community, they've helped lead the fight against the incinerator, as well as issues on their campuses, and we continue to encourage all of students to model excellence. And our Youth Advisory Council members do just that, so thank you all so much for your representation, as well as helping to start a new youth advisory council in the City of North Miami, where they started their chapter inspired by the Miramar Youth Advisory Council. So let's give them a big round of applause. You all are more than welcome to stay the entire

Commission meeting, and get every agenda if you feel so, but we understand if you have to leave to get some homework done. You all don't all run off at the same time now. Our presentation by our Teen Advisory Council Advisory Board, another set of dynamic Miramar students has been deferred until the March 4th meeting, and we're looking forward to their presentation as well; we're proud of all of our Miramar students.

Presentation: Public Schools in Miramar (Broward County School Board Member, District 2, Ms. Rebecca Thompson & Broward County School Board Rep. Dr. Valerie S. Wanza)

MAYOR MESSAM: So our next presentation will be Public Schools in Miramar School Board Member, District 2, Ms. Rebecca Thompson. I saw her working -- walking in earlier. Hey, there you are. Welcome. Let's give our round of applause. Thanks for coming by to give us an update.

MS. THOMPSON: Of course. And I have the presentation that I sent to staff if we could --

MAYOR MESSAM: Oh, and I also want to recognize our very own Dr. Wanza.

MS. THOMPSON: Yeah. I don't go anywhere without her. So I'll get started, and then it will come up. I just first want to thank you guys for taking time out of your meeting to allow me to come. I know that meetings can go very long, and any additions can add to that. And I also want to thank you guys for being such active people in our schools; that's not something we find across Broward County, but every time I go to a school, they always share your accolades, and how supportive you all are, and even Commissioner Chambers was at one of my schools today. I talked to Sea Castle yesterday, and they gave a shout out to Vice Mayor Colbourne, so we just really appreciate that. And hope - - if not -- okay. So I wanted to share today, and as we wait for it to come up, kind of the pathway that we are going through as a district, and how it is impacting Miramar. But before I do that, because I have a captive audience, I do like to share the accolades of all of our -- or of some of the Miramar schools, because redefining, and closing schools was never about our schools not thriving, or schools not performing above standards. It truly was a budgetary issue, and also just reflecting of the time, and of the birthrate changes, and stuff like that. So starting off strong with Miramar High School, our boys' basketball -- basketball team won the district championship, and they're runner up in the 2026 Big 8 Tournament. Our Everglades High School is also thriving; they were able to -- over 30 percent of the students earned Bright Futures Gold Seal Scholarship through industry certification pathways, and that's important to remember for my later part of the conversation. Our middle schools are competing on -- in debate, where they're hosing Broward and Miami-Dade schools, and they're placing overall out of 247 competitors at Glades Middle, and then our elementary schools are winning grants to do hands on gardening activities. They are getting named -- Sunshine Elementary was named Guy Harvey Conservation School, which just exemplifies their commitment to environmental stewardship. And then Sea Castle is always thriving, but they are placing high in debate club, and winning championships everywhere they go. Let's see. So -- there we go,

perfect -- and I'm guessing this -- so these are all of your school -- all your public schools that are in Miramar, and some of the accolades I shared. And so how did we get to this point? I know many of you were able to go to some of the community meetings that the District held. So over the last, about ten years, we have lost almost 50,000 students from our school; this is a combination of factors: it could be contributed to the School Choice Vouchers, which allows families to go to private school, or even homeschool. It is also about the increased cost of living here in Florida, where families truly just cannot afford to stay here. And, also, just -- there are an abundance of choices; so they can go to charter, they can go to private, they could do homeschool, and then there are traditional public schools. And what's important about this is that we are funding our schools based on students; so low enrollment at a school means students have less access to specials, they have less access to the parent community, which does amazing things for the PTA, and they have less opportunities available to them. So by consolidating schools, we are giving them a better experience. So -- some of the strategies we looked at were combining Fairway and Sunshine; we actually -- though Hallandale High School is not in your district, we are -- looked at changing that, so that's going to increase the Miramar boundary, which will increase enrollment at Miramar High School. And then we also -- originally we were looking at turning Glades Middle School into a branch campus for shared, and technical school. So first we looked at Fairway and Sunshine, and the reason we were looking at those schools is, so they were both pretty significantly under enrolled. And so some of the considerations, so you guys know that we took in multiple factors; we looked at feeder pattern, neighborhood integrity to make sure no one -- a neighbor wasn't going to one school, and then another neighbor the other school. We looked at distance, and then also school diversity, and are impact in special needs, student with special needs. And so our final decision is -- was to close Sunshine Elementary; you can see the new boundaries; all of them will be shifted into the Fairway Elementary boundary. There are concerns, and we've heard from the community about crossing Miramar Parkway, because we know that it's a very fast road, and so the probability is everyone into that boundary is going to get a bus, but that's something we are working out right now. And then, like I said, we looked at changing Hallandale High School into a specialty Pompano Beach, if anyone is aware of Pompano Beach, how it's four-day special school. And why I'm bringing that up to you guys is because that means all of those kids that **(unintelligible 39:49)** to Hallandale High are now going to Miramar High, which, again, is going to increase our enrollment, which will increase the availability of funding, and programs we can do at that school. But it's also important for you guys to know in your police department that there might be an increased amount of traffic coming down that road. And then so Glades and New Renaissance, you guys, I'm sure, got some emails from people about not wanting to close Glades Middle School; they were an incredibly vocal community. And so originally we were looking at either combining these two schools, or making every school -- every elementary school K through eight. And so, through this process, not only did the District host multiple community meetings, I also hosted a community meeting at every single school that is impacted, which is 13 in my district. And so from those conversations, we have decided not to do anything with Glades at this moment. However, the pathway that is being considered is to change Glades Middle into a K through 8, focusing on technical -- having like a technical focus, just like Coral Cove

had an art focus, and Silver Shores has a STEAM focus with aviation as the A. And this would tie in well with our Everglades High community, which would -- I just brought up at the beginning; 30 percent of those students are getting technical certifications. So this is an exciting opportunity for those families out west. Oh. But so you guys aren't bombarded, if we turned Glades Middle School into a K through 8, that does mean we are going to close an additional elementary school out west. This was something that was explained to the community, and I think, overall, they get a better experience, because if they transition to a K through 8 in a middle school, they will get a band room, they will get a gymnasium, they will get a larger facility, so we no longer have to have indoor recess, which is where they play in their classroom, because we'll have facilities that they can use. There is also a building at Glades Middle School campus that is completely empty right now, so we can put that entire elementary school in that building, so that families can feel assured that their babies are still going to be babies, but they'll have far more opportunities. They also will have access to the science lab, and some other technical opportunities that they wouldn't necessarily in a traditional five through -- K through 5. So next steps, I'm going to have Dr. Wanza explain how we've been easing the community transition, and what might happen with Sunshine's facilities, and if we close an additional elementary school, or two elementary schools what could potentially be happening to that. And then -- I'll go to the next thing. Yup.

DR. WANZA: I know we're in the month of February, but Happy New Year. Good evening, Mayor, Vice Mayor, Commissioners, city staff, and the viewing public, I'm Valerie Wanza, the Chief Strategy and Innovation Officer for the School District. So, as Ms. Thompson said, the board did vote on January 21st to merge Sunshine and Fairway Elementary Schools into the Fairway Elementary Campus. The Sunshine Elementary Campus, more than likely, will be transitioned for a district purpose for us to move, probably, district staff, and make that some type of an administrative facility. But we are also looking -- and what Ms. Thompson didn't say is to provide at Fairway -- provide academic programming in International Baccalaureate at Fairway.

MS. THOMPSON: I think too --

DR. WANZA: Go ahead, I'm sorry.

MS. THOMPSON: No, no.

DR. WANZA: Oh, okay.

MS. THOMPSON: Take it away.

DR. WANZA: Into Fairway, so that we have a -- a seamless K through 12 International Baccalaureate focus between Fairway, and we also have it currently at A. C. Perry K-8, we have it at New Renaissance, and, obviously, it's one of our anchor high schools that offer the International Baccalaureate program, so that's what we're looking to do there. Well, they're one of two. They're the southern anchor; they -- they're -- very successful

program. One of the things that we're going to do differently at Miramar High -- at Miramar Elementary School is we know that oftentimes our parents with special needs, they need a unique focus, and sometimes more targeted resources and assistance, so we're probably going to put a parent hub at Miramar Elementary School to support our families across the southern region with families -- with students with special needs, so there'll be a resource center there for them, and that will add to the service provided at Miramar Elementary School, but it will also help the entire southern -- southern region of the County. And in March we're going to start the conversation a little bit to talk about what we have done as far as implementing what the Board's decisions were in January. So we've had community meetings at Sunshine Elementary School; we've had -- the staff meeting is actually tomorrow, and then we'll continue to work with families throughout the transition. As Ms. Thompson said, we know that a great concern is around the transition of students going across Miramar Parkway, and so more than likely all of the students will probably get a school bus to come across Miramar Parkway; I understand that safety is paramount. And then in May, we're going to start the conversation for next school year; we're do it a little bit differently; we're actually going to tell the communities early: these are the schools, this is what we're considering, and, ultimately, work with the communities through -- from May through about November, and then the Board will take a vote in December of next school year. And then it is our goal that after going through three significant phases that the bulk will be addressed, and then we'll just look annually, do we need to shift some boundaries; do we need, you know, look at some programmatic things. Because one of the things that we recognize, and we respect is that redefining the school district is a traumatizing experience for the entire community, and, more importantly, for the individual experiences of families.

MS. THOMPSON: Thank you.

DR. WANZA: You're welcome.

MS. THOMPSON: So she kind of explored the timeline, so all of this coming back in March, that's when we'll know -- have a better idea of what's happening with Sunshine, and then that shift for Glades to become a K through 8; while it wasn't formally voted on, there is consensus and support across the Board for that to happen. So that is my expectation, so if people have feedback on that, I'm happy to hear it, but that was truly bourn of the community, and that's what they want. And then opportunities partnerships; you guys are already fabulous partners. We are -- there's a couple community needs that I'd be interested in having our staff talk to your staff; our -- our interest, one, is Coral Cove making a community track, or something that could be used by Miramar residents off school hours, but then used by the schools, so they can develop a sports team, if there's interest in that. There is also -- Sunset Lakes has talked about partnering with the community center to see if there's opportunities for those students to use that facility during the day. So I welcome those conversations as well. And if anyone has any questions, we are here to answer them.

MAYOR MESSAM: Thank you so much to you both for the update, and the presentation. A couple of questions. Can you elaborate just in general the impact of the School Choice Voucher program on public schools, in terms of when families choose to elect to go to private, or a charter school, and what happens, as it relates to the funding that leaves the school with that child when they depart.

MS. THOMPSON: Sure. So I can start, and then Dr. Wanza can chime in. So what -- so, basically, what happens is if they choose to do homeschool, they are given that voucher at the beginning of the year. And then there is no accountability, or really transparency about what they can spend that -- those dollars on. So they could use it for textbooks, for private tutoring, they could also use it for a Disney trip, or ski -- ski equipment; really, anything that they could connect with an educational experience. As far as private schools, what we have found is, oftentimes, private school tuitions just raise their tuition, so that it doesn't really aid families to go to those schools. And then as far as the impact to our schools, well that is how we pay our teachers, is how we maintain our facilities, it is how we provide the excellent academic programs that we are able to. So the more people that transition out of our system is why we have had to go to these drastic measures of consolidating, because that's we're going to be able to maintain our programs. But there is definitely a lack of transparency with School Choice Vouchers. The State just did an audit; they've lost over three -- I think 300 plus million dollars that are unaccounted for, and it truly just hurts our system.

DR. WANZA: You did good.

MS. THOMPSON: Okay. I did good.

MAYOR MESSAM: Also, you mentioned that for Glades Middle School that there will be a proposed technical focus; can you elaborate on what does "technical" mean? Are these STEM programs, or what specifically is -- does "technical" mean?

DR. WANZA: So thank you for the question. So "technical" -- you're very, very right in the ballpark, Mayor. Technical is a wide field, right, so we -- we would actually sit and do some surveys with parents and families, right, to see what are the areas of interest. I know that aviation is a wide interest; we would also look to partner with -- we do have three state, and nationally recognized technical colleges here in the School District, and have them work with us to provide programming. So, yes, it could be aviation; it could be -- it could be a number of fields, and -- but -- but what we will want to do is connect it with some type of industry certification, so that it would transition in a line with programming offered at Everglades High School, right, so that there's that type of matriculation. And then students exit career ready, as well as college ready, but we -- we want to talk to families in the community, as well as the -- you know, here and see what the community wants to see that technical footprint to look like.

MAYOR MESSAM: Thank you, and just a -- just a -- a quick comment to our community. I'd like to thank our parents or residents for their engagement in this process at all the

public meetings. This is testament that when our community comes out, and voice their opinions on where they want the direction of their schools that they can be an impact. So instead of looking at a situation of having Glades Middle closed, that the school is not only preserved, but it will be there to educate our -- our students. Vice Mayor Colbourne, you're recognized followed by Commissioner Cherasard.

VICE MAYOR COLBOURNE: Thank you. First of all, I do want to thank you for giving our residents that opportunity to voice -- I also, you know, along with some of my colleagues here attended several of the meetings, and -- you know, and heard directly from the community, as well as, you know, emails and so forth that we have received. So I -- I thank you for going through that process, and really involving them. In terms of the -- the school crossing, I didn't feel like you had a definite -- they're all going to be bussed.

DR. WANZA: So I can tell you, on behalf of Dr. Hepburn, he has said that he will not see one child in danger, and if it means the District has to provide -- we -- we will ensure that the kids will cross Miramar Parkway safely. And, as of three weeks ago, transportation now reports to me, so we are planning out the routes now to ensure that the kids do receive transportation across Miramar Parkway. The -- the --

VICE MAYOR COLBOURNE: Okay.

DR. WANZA: The Superintendent was adamant that he does not want that to be a question in the minds of parents.

VICE MAYOR COLBOURNE: Okay. Very good. None of them should have to cross; they should all be receiving transportation.

DR. WANZA: He does not want that to be a question in the minds of parents.

VICE MAYOR COLBOURNE: Okay. Great. Thank you. In terms of arts, does Fairway and Sunshine have a strong arts program?

DR. WANZA: So -- I -- I -- I'm not sure verbatim which, you know, one offers music, which one has art, verbatim, but what I will say is, is when you combine both schools, and now you have a greater student enrollment, so you have more funding, so then the school leader, it will be incumbent upon them, and I will certainly relate this to Mr. Strauss, who's the South Regional Superintendent; they need to work with the families to make sure the -- the supplemental programs, like arts, science that -- that they want to see in the school, that those conversations are had, and they come strongly through their School Advisory Council.

VICE MAYOR COLBOURNE: Great. Because that is one of the concerns that I -- that I heard at one of the schools, and -- and, frankly, I was a little shocked that that wasn't -- I don't know if there wasn't any at all, or if it wasn't a strong program, so.

DR. WANZA: So what -- what I'll say is this, and -- and Ms. -- Ms. Thompson said it when she spoke. When you only have 300 kids in a school, you know by law you got to offer P.E. And now you got -- now I got to pick another one, right. So is it going to be media? Is it going to be music? Is it going to be art? But once you get five, 600 kids in a school, now you have additional funding, and that two becomes four that I can offer, so that -- that's going to make a difference.

VICE MAYOR COLBOURNE: Okay. Well certainly looking forward to know that they are receiving music and arts at -- at that level. You said there were 13 schools affected --

MS. THOMPSON: So there were --

VICE MAYOR COLBOURNE: -- my -- my question though -- at least, initially, my question is: Is this about the same amount in all the other districts, or -- or somehow we're going to -- only this district is helping out with the -- with the budget. So can you just elaborate on that for me?

MS. THOMPSON: So I can share mine, and then she can say -- share hers. So 42 percent of the schools named on the list we're originally looking at was in District 2, so that's across Pembroke Pines and Miramar.

VICE MAYOR COLBOURNE: That's a lot.

MS. THOMPSON: It -- is it a significant amount; and so one of the things they looked at, and Dr. Wanza can elaborate, is clusters. So even though a school was poten -- was on the list, that doesn't mean that that was determined because it was going to be closed. It could be -- okay, Sunset Lakes could -- could take students from others, so you have to look at the clusters of schools. The other significant thing in our district, more in Pembroke Pines is the number of charter schools that have just exploded across District 2, so that means there are more options for parents, and we are losing, originally, a significant amount to those charters. So there was just more empty seats in District 2, unfortunately. But you can talk about that process.

DR. WANZA: That -- that's pretty much it. But what we -- what we did was we identified areas of under enrollment, and, obviously, if it's like five schools, you can't close all five, but there may be one or two that you could -- that you can consolidate into other schools. But Ms. Thompson is right, when you look across the southeast and the southwest, that is where the greatest concentration of our charter schools are; in the District, we have 86 charter schools, three are closing; they're not here in this area, but -- but -- but when you have 86 charter schools, and we have just under 50,000 children in charter schools, about 46, 47,000.

VICE MAYOR COLBOURNE: Okay. Thank you so much. Thank you for understanding the sensitivity of it, and -- and just the impact on the community as a whole, so I appreciate it, and please continue to keep us informed as you go through this process. Thanks.

MS. THOMPSON: We definitely will.

MAYOR MESSAM: Commissioner Cherasard.

COMMISSIONER CHERASARD: Thank you. Ladies, I want to first say the thick skin you have to have to have gone through those meetings; I sat in one or two of them, and the emotions from the kids and the families being told the potential for their schools to be lost -- it tugs on your heart, one, but you guys are in a position where you have to work from the top down with the facts that you're working with, and the under enrollment is an issue. So I thank you for being the champions of holding it down to make sure that the best decisions are being made in our city. I had a question, first, about the Coral cove K through 8, and the Glades K through 8 being, I think, it's a half a mile, a mile or so from each other. Is there anticipated to be a to -- a tear between who goes where, or is it going to be bordered for who goes to which one of the K through 8s?

DR. WANZA: So we'll -- we'll -- we'll draw an attendance boundary, right, for which schools get assign -- which students get assigned to which school. But I think what cannot get lost in the conversation is this: There is -- there is passion, and we heard it about Glades. One or two elementary schools will have to close --

COMMISSIONER CHERASARD: Right.

DR. WANZA: -- for Glades to become a K-8; that is just the reality, and we're going to talk with the community, and have the conversation, and then we'll obviously come back if -- you know, with the Commission, and talk about the possibilities of doing something with that facility, the one that would be vacated. But we're going to draw attendance areas to -- you know, so that there's as much of an even distribution as soon as is possible. And Sunset Lakes is in Miramar as well, right? And so -- I'm like -- because, you know, between my lakes, rivers, and trails, I get palms, I get confused. But there's also -- we -- we may look at Sunset Lakes as well, so that there is opportunity for students -- because K-8 is a very popular option for parents, and rightly so. You know, when you have children across that multiple grade -- those multiple grade bands, to be able to drop them all off to one place, and know that they're okay, and then pick them up at one place, that -- that's popular for parents. But I -- I just don't want it to get lost that all of the fanfare around making Glades a K-8, we heard it; we respect it. The -- Ms. Thompson's colleagues have even committed to the funding, because it -- because we do have to make a capital investment in Glades Middle to make it a K-8, you know, with lower restrooms, and some kind of things for the earlier grades, but that will necessitate one or two of the elementary schools now coming off the books.

MS. THOMPSON: And I would also say there's difference between a bounded, and a magnet program; so Silver Shores is a magnet program, which -- that mean anyone from across the District could go to that; Coral Cove is not a bounded -- is not a magnet program, they're a bounded school. And so we would never overlap boundaries to, potentially, hurt Coral Cove like that, and I'm also very cognizant of those concerns from

the schools. Also, Coral Cove's enrollment has exploded both in kindergarten, third grade, and in six grade, so I don't per -- I don't think this is going to happen, especially if we differentiate that Glades is a more technical focus, and Coral Cove is an arts focus, and stuff like that.

COMMISSIONER CHERASARD: The differentiate -- the differentiation would be critical for parents being drawn, --

MS. THOMPSON: Yes.

COMMISSIONER CHERASARD: -- and the athletics that we would hopefully build on.

MS. THOMPSON: Yes. And so that's something -- I met with Coral Cove teachers today about building up their sports program, and that's one of the things I think our staff is interested in partnering with your staff to see if there's -- if you all have a community need for a track, or something like that where we could collaborate on that. I think that would be something, especially in that area, because there is a playground, there is a bathroom already that you guys have, and see if we can make something like that happen.

COMMISSIONER CHERASARD: So Coral Cove has already reached out for communications with us; we've had some quality meetings with them on their desire to offer up, and we were still gauging how much do they need, in terms of blessing from the County, and does the County's blessing also come with a portion of funds to assist. Is it: They -- they have land, we have money, or everyone has some money.

MS. THOMPSON: That would be a track.

DR. WANZA: So -- so I -- so -- so if they want a track, like on the campus, that's something that Ms. Thompson and her colleagues will go through the whole capital process.

COMMISSIONER CHERASARD: Okay.

DR. WANZA: But as it relates to the sports programs, what we did tell them was when you have the full complement of grades, we're going to -- you know, we -- we find facilities for them to practice in, because it's -- it's disingenuous, and it's not right to have a five or six-person, sixth grade only team playing a full middle school team in basketball, flag football. But they will have the complements of a sports program, just like we have it across town at Beachside, like we have at A. C. Perry K-8, but we got to build the student population, so that we can make sure that they have a fair chance at competing in -- participating, like everybody else in the sports.

COMMISSIONER CHERASARD: Thank you. And I'm anticipating that the draw for the K through 8 program would be, at minimum, the promise of having those built out very soon, then they will have the population, because they are looking forward to that. One last question I had was regarding the blending for Hallandale High and Miramar High. Is

that something that you said has already had the vote? Can we talk about the conversation that ensued leading up to verify if Miramar has the capacity, the space, the time, the security, the everything before pulling in?

DR. WANZA: So Miramar would have never been a consideration if it didn't have everything that you said. Miramar has space, and -- and the students that they would -- that would now be boudered to the school -- and it's a phase in, right. Because we give high school kids the opportunity to, you know, graduate out of their high school. However, some kids want to go to Miramar now, next school year, they don't want to wait, and phase out, and -- and that's okay, because I'm a Miramar High grad; I understand why they want to go to a great school, not that Hallandale isn't. But the -- the -- the -- the boundary is the students in the city of West Park would now all -- all of them would be boudered into Miramar High School. And, yes, that does come with transportation because it's more than two miles from the school. And so Hallandale, starting next school year, is going to operate on a full four-day school, so they won't go to school on Fridays. And they'll -- but their school day will be a little longer because they have to get five days of school into four days. And so we have some parents who -- they don't even want that five-day -- they don't want that four-day option, so they'll have other -- you know, they can avail themselves of the choice programs, but it is the students in the city of West Park will now be boudered, officially, to Miramar High School. And, yes, the school will receive whatever is the requisite, you know, increases in staffing, security, the whole nine yards. And Mr. Porter was a part of those conversations.

COMMISSIONER CHERASARD: Thank you. Thank you, ladies, for presenting, and for always keeping us updated.

MAYOR MESSAM: Commissioner Chambers, you're recognized.

COMMISSIONER CHAMBERS: Thank you so much, Mayor. I want to thank you, School Board member, Rebecca Thompson, for coming, sharing information with us. Dr. Wanza, I want to thank you so much for being in the trenches for so many years, and being at those meetings, and understand the sensitivity of -- especially in the Miramar community. But I know that this attrition did not happen overnight. It's go way back on other's watch. And I think we were not quite paying attention, and I assume, moving forward, based on what I'm hearing that from year to year, we are going to evaluate the attention to what happening, what we need to do, and the adjustments, and so forth. Am I kind of correct? Okay. So --

MS. THOMPSON: Yes. But I want to clarify that doesn't mean that every year we're going to be looking at closing schools. It means that after this next phase, --

COMMISSIONER CHAMBERS: Yeah.

MS. THOMPSON: -- that -- because some -- one of my colleagues keeps saying that, and that's not a substage -- substantial way to -- to move forward.

COMMISSIONER CHAMBERS: Right.

MS. THOMPSON: We just mean we are going to evaluate the programs, the --

COMMISSIONER CHAMBERS: Right.

MS. THOMPSON: -- the magnate programs, --

COMMISSIONER CHAMBERS: Right.

MS. THOMPSON: -- and stuff like that, not every year, and maybe shift some boundaries.

COMMISSIONER CHAMBERS: Right.

MS. THOMPSON: Right. After the next phase, for my district, I am done.

COMMISSIONER CHAMBERS: You know, things take time, and this school redefining kind of come as a shock to a lot of folks; even when it was out there, people wasn't paying attention to it. A lot of schools misread it, didn't understand what the School Board was trying to do, and needed more explaining, so on, and so forth. So I would just -- moving forward now, we have blueprint, and whether we're going to make things better, and some things we cannot control, we just have to work with it. We know what happened, and what's **(unintelligible 1:06:04)** happen. There's no schools, there's the home schools, there's shooting in schools, and it make parents afraid, and there's charter schools, Christian schools, all kind of schools. So -- and families are having less children, because homes have gotten so expensive, families can't afford to purchase homes around here in Miramar anymore, so they can -- young families, I should say, so older families are staying where they are, even though they want to downsize; that's not happening. So it -- it's so much things that are happening, so it's just to explain it, and hope that folks understand what's happening, what we have to do, what made it best for our community. And I thank you for repurposing Sunshine, and looking forward to that, because each community in Miramar is very unique to -- the schools are very unique to that community, so we want to make it work, and we are here to work together to make things work for -- for our families, especially our children. And I'm so glad you guys are here tonight to see our advisory board; so given -- if you give opportunities to our children how well they can perform, and that's what we want to do with our schools. So thank you; thank you guys so much. Appreciate it.

MAYOR MESSAM: Commissioner Edwards, you're recognized.

COMMISSIONER EDWARDS: Thank you, Mr. Mayor. Ladies, I want to just express thanks to you all. I mean the process, I -- though it was difficult, I -- we appreciate it, but I have one quick question. As we see the heavy-handed enforcement of immigration rules, and this being a majority immigrant community, what are the effects that we're seeing within the schools, and will that affect some of the plans that we're putting in place?

MS. THOMPSON: So -- and I'll let -- you probably know the numbers. But there's been a dramatic decrease of immigrant students in our schools. Miami-Dade is being impacted a little bit more than we are, but it's definitely -- you can see that. You can also just see it in the State of Florida; there is less people who are immigrating here, in general, so that's going to impact the entire state. But I do want to just emphasize our schools are safe, and that we have very strict requirements if -- if any department wanted to come onto our campus, what we would need to do for that. And so letting your families, or your communities know that schools are safe to attend; that would be helpful as well. I know we're going to do some outreach to those communities to make them feel as comfortable as -- as we can, given the situation that we're in. But it does definitely have -- have a dramatic impact, and I think if that trend continues, not my district, because we are forward thinkers, but I think for the rest of the county, that's something that might impact other districts.

DR. WANZA: So just to round out the -- the response. Typically what happens in the school year is we would lose students, and gain students throughout the school year, so we would always stabilize our enrollment; the students aren't coming during the school year. And we -- last school year, as well as this school year, we are noticing a decline during the school year of roughly 15 to 1,00 students, because they are no longer coming into -- you know, come into the country, coming into the schools, balancing unenrollment, so we -- we see it, and, you know, that's something that, as Ms. Thompson says, you know, we work with our families, we work with our communities, but it is having an impact on enrollment as well.

MAYOR MESSAM: Ladies, thank you so much for a very comprehensive, and much needed update from the School District, and thank you all for all that you do.

MS. THOMPSON: Thank you guys.

Presentation: Homelessness Update (Police Chief Delrish Moss)

MAYOR MESSAM: Okay, and our final presentation is in response to Commission request for our Police Department to give -- I think it's going to be a brief presentation on the status of homelessness in the City of Miramar. And invite Miramar Police Chief Delrish Moss to the podium. Good evening, sir.

POLICE CHIEF MOSS: Good evening, Mr. Mayor, Madam Vice Mayor, members of the Commission, Mr. City Manager, City Attorney, City Clerk, members of the public. As requested, one of the things that we want to talk about is homelessness, and it's a -- it's a -- it's really a situation that's impacting not just Miramar, but the nation. And what I want to talk about, really, is some of the successes that we've had, some of the challenges, and some of the resources that we -- that we use to help us with the program. So I -- I want to start first by saying that one of the things that we understand in Miramar is that being homeless is not a crime. And with it not being a crime, one of the things that we put together a couple years ago was a -- a team of officers who are trained to help provide

resources to help assess situations, and to really go out and -- and figure out what some of the underlying problems are when we run into a person who is a homeless individual, and try to marry that person to resources. So one of the things I want to start with is just looking at some of the statistical data from 2025. In 2025, there were approximately 117 unsheltered people that we located in Miramar; some of those were in crisis, meaning that because of some sort of unfortunate happenstance they ended up homeless, or the chronic homeless are those individuals who have mental health issues, and a host of other issues that caused them to find themselves in that position. There were 139 contacts, and that 139 contact were with that 117 people; meaning that some of those people were repeat, but there were some successes in that. For instance, if you look at the reunifications, we had two families who were -- two sets of people who were reunited with family in Texas. We had a young woman with an 11-month old who was reunified with her family in New York through our efforts. A domestic violence survivor was reunified with family right here in Miramar after a two-year of stint of being away. And one family reunification took place in Georgia. One of our officers, Officer Little, also works with a host of programs, and so that puts us in a situation where we're also helping other communities, because, you know, one of the things that we've learned is they may be in Pembroke Pines today, but the next day they're in Miramar, because the borders are right there. Thirty of those indi -- unhoused individuals received housing -- housing solutions in 2025, and that basically says anyone who's really wishing to receive housing, although there may be a waiting period in that process, they receive some sort of housing; that waiting period is sometimes the challenging period for us. One family was able to purchase a home after living in their car for nearly four years, and many others refused shelter or housing assistance, mainly for just -- just a host of reason; a lot of it has to do with mental health, the restrictions of some of those -- those programs, and some of those things, so -- but those are challenges for us. Thus far, in 2026,, there were 26 unduplicated unsheltered people that were located this year, which included both crisis, and chronic unhoused, and, as you can see the statistical breakdown, the majority of them happen to be women of that -- of that 26, but some also have children. There was one reunification in Jacksonville of a 77 -- a 76-year-old man with his family; and a lot of times for a host of reasons families go without contacting people, and so forth, and so -- through mental health and other things that challenge happens, and -- you know, one of the things that we learn is people love to come to South Florida because of the weather year round, especially if you find yourself in that situation. Nine of the unhoused individuals received housing solutions so far; five others are in contact with team members, and are waiting -- solutions. The other night we actually went out and did sort of a census of -- of -- of the situation to try and find locations where they're hiding, where they're living without our notice. And 12 have outright refused. Now one of the things that we have with regard with refusals, oftentimes we provide bus passes, and that's so they -- they can go to places with more resources, and -- and -- and places of that nature. Now sometimes that cyclical -- because they like Miramar; it's a -- it's a safe, beautiful city, so people want to come back here. But I -- I say to anyone, while our police officers are trained to go out and locate these individuals, one of the things that's incumbent upon our community is when you find people in that situation, and see people who are having those challenges, please contact us at our nonemergency number: (954) 602-4000, so

that you can -- so that we can come out, assess those people, and try to find solutions to some of those issues. And with that, I'll take questions.

MAYOR MESSAM: Thank you so much, Chief, for the update, and very enlightening to see that we are able to have some successes in a very difficult situation, whether it's reunification, or finding housing solutions, so just thanks to the police department for your resources, because it is -- it's a growing issue. Because we are starting to see more and more unhoused individuals, and I like how you started, the first comment in the -- in -- in your report that being unhoused is -- is -- is not a crime, and -- and approaching this from a spirit of empathy is always best. Because these are people, you know, it's someone's father, brother, uncle, son, daughter, and just through life circumstances find them without shelter. So thanks for all of your efforts. We have two speakers: Commissioner Cherasard, followed by Vice Mayor Colbourne. Commissioner Cherasard, you're recognized.

COMMISSIONER CHERASARD: Thank you, Mayor. I wanted to also point out that I was so pleased to hear you start with the bold fact that being unhoused is not a crime, and you are not to be treated as a criminal, even in receiving assistance, and thank you for having the -- the wherewith all to have officers trained to be sensitive to the needs of those who are unhoused. Critical. My -- my heart always extends heavily to those unhoused women with children, and I see that the huge proportion -- and I'm not sure if this is just of the 26 for this year, but, generally, a huge portion of that are females. And so when people are in our city boundaries, whether they have a permanent address or not, they're our neighbors without a home in this instance, but they are our neighbors. And anything we can do to protect, and make sure that they're secure, whether they are sleeping on a bench for a while until there are resources for them, to feel like they have neighbors in the City. My question is if you would please share for me what the examples of housing solutions look like, and what are the criteria for people to be accepted into those solutions?

POLICE CHIEF MOSS: I'm not real specific on some of the criteria; I do know that there are different housing solutions for different -- people that fall in different situations. For instance, there is a center that -- that houses families that -- that have challenges. Now one of the challenges that we have in Broward County is that there's a lot less shelters than there are in, let's say, Miami-Dade County. I think Miami-Dade County has something like 1,600 beds, where Broward, typically, has about 600 on the -- on the temporary scale. But we've worked with a number of organizations once we assess those situations, and those organizations are really better suited to decide what type of housing, and what criteria they actually meet. That's not a question I can really answer intelligently.

COMMISSIONER CHERASARD: So the solutions usually are in the form of a partnership with a broader agency in Broward County?

POLICE CHIEF MOSS: Absolutely. And, as you can see up there, there are a number of agencies that we -- we collaborate with. Footprint to Success, Henderson Behavioral

Health because of mental challenges, FLITE Center, Broward Partnerships; there are a number of agencies that we work together, and we -- collaboratively to try to find the right solution to fit the right circumstances.

COMMISSIONER CHERASARD: Thank you. I had one comment when it comes to an emergency situation. The single working woman; she can probably afford somewhere if she can get on her feet properly; she's sleeping on a church doorstep that night with all of her stuff, planning a way to work the next morning. Is it plausible that there's something in the City, or a creation of a program, a creation of a diversion step for -- for getting someone off the street emergently that night, because it is a temporary thing. They're not chronically homeless; they don't have somewhere to sleep that night; something a little immediate. Is there a need for it? Should we be looking into solutions that are of that quick turnaround for someone like that?

POLICE CHIEF MOSS: Well I will tell you that in some situations where it's been like an emergency situation, I -- I know for a fact that some of our police officers will actually come out of pocket to put people up in a hotel just for that night. And -- and while that's -- that's not the optimal solution, in an emergency, sometimes that's the best they can find. But working with our partners, most of the time we can find other solutions.

COMMISSIONER CHERASARD: And that would sometimes be an immediate place to sleep that night usually?

POLICE CHIEF MOSS: Sometimes that would be, yes.

COMMISSIONER CHERASARD: Maybe what we can do to try and increase the probability of that being a 100-percent situation would be great.

POLICE CHIEF MOSS: I think one of the things it always boils back down to is some of those organizations having the four -- the -- the funding and the space, and certain times a year just totally -- a little bit more crowded than others. So time of years, all those things kind of factor in. And, I'm sorry, I'm losing my voice.

COMMISSIONER CHERASARD: But thank you, thank you.

POLICE CHIEF MOSS: You're welcome.

MAYOR MESSAM: Vice Mayor Colbourne.

VICE MAYOR COLBOURNE: Thank you. I want to thank you for the presentation. I know we had a homeless task force for a number of years now, and I know they have been working, and from time to time we do see individuals homeless, and I -- the presentation that you did really broke it down in terms of what our team is doing out there, so I appreciate it. I know it is difficult, because there are different needs, different wants, and

-- and different men -- mental status as well. But we appreciate all that you do to continue to work, and pros -- provide assistance to these individuals in our city.

POLICE CHIEF MOSS: Thank you, Vice Mayor.

VICE MAYOR COLBOURNE: Thank you.

MAYOR MESSAM: Commissioner Chambers.

COMMISSIONER CHAMBERS: Thank you, Mayor. I want to thank Commissioner Cherasard for mentioning that situation, the scenario. And, I myself, have dealt with some of our officers before where would -- they were apt to put them -- persons in hotels. And what I'm thinking, have a brainstorm, maybe that's something we could look at with our City Manager, and see if we could, maybe, have some funding for -- just specific for families that, you know, go homeless, and do go to work, you know. And -- and see if we can, you know -- I know it's going to run out, but something we could work together, and put together for that, just for that purpose, because we -- from time to time we have that. And to have somebody who's going to work don't have a place to sleep; that's not a good situation. No situation is good, but if we can help that person, or that family, some funding would help. So that's something we're going to talk about. Thank you, Chief; thank you so much.

POLICE CHIEF MOSS: You're welcome.

MAYOR MESSAM: Thanks, Chief, for the update and the report.

POLICE CHIEF MOSS: Thank you.

CONSENT AGENDA

MAYOR MESSAM: All right. Moving the agenda. Onto the Consent. Items listed on the Consent Agenda are viewed to be routine, and the recommendation will be enacted by one motion in the form listed below. If discussion is desired, the items will be removed from the Consent Agenda, and will be considered separately. The Clerk received no requests to speak virtually on the Consent Agenda; are there any members of the public present in the Chambers wish to speak on the Consent Agenda? Seeing none, back to the Commission. Are there any items wish to be pulled? If none, I'll take a motion.

COMMISSIONER CHERASARD: Item three and seven, please. I'm sorry, item three and eight.

MAYOR MESSAM: Hearing no others, may I have a motion on the balance of the Consent Agenda.

VICE MAYOR COLBOURNE: Motion to approve.

COMMISSIONER CHERASARD: Second.

MAYOR MESSAM: Madam Clerk, record the votes.

CITY CLERK GIBBS: Commissioner Chambers.

COMMISSIONER CHAMBERS: Yes.

CITY CLERK GIBBS: Commissioner Cherasard.

COMMISSIONER CHERASARD: Yes.

CITY CLERK GIBBS: Vice Mayor Colbourne.

VICE MAYOR COLBOURNE: Yes.

CITY CLERK GIBBS: Mayor Messam.

MAYOR MESSAM: Yes. Item number three, please.

CITY CLERK GIBBS: Oh, Commissioner Edwards.

COMMISSIONER EDWARDS: Yes.

On a motion by Vice Mayor Colbourne, seconded by Commissioner Cherasard, to approve Consent Agenda Items 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15 and 16, the Commission voted:

Commissioner Chambers	Yes
Commissioner Cherasard	Yes
Vice Mayor Colbourne	Yes
Commissioner Edwards	Yes
Mayor Messam	Yes

1. Minutes from the Workshop Meeting of March 21, 2024.

Approved

2. Temp. Reso. #R8607 approving the procurement of FY27 **General Fund Financial Sustainability Analysis** update from Stantec MTC Financial Management by utilizing the City of Titusville Contract for Request for Proposal (CO25P004LR) entitled Consultant Services for Rate, financial and management services in an amount not-to-exceed \$38,710.00 for a total expenditure of

\$80,000.00 for Fiscal Year 2026. (*Management and Budget Director Rafael Sanmiguel*)

Resolution No. 26-70

MAYOR MESSAM: Item number three, please.

3. Temp. Reso. #R8605 authorizing the execution of a **Master Services Agreement** between the City and **Nova Southeastern University** for the development and delivery of various community and employee training, programs, business and professional development programs, program evaluation services, consultation services, planning and research services, and other related services in an amount not-to-exceed \$85,000.00 per Fiscal Year. (*Chief of Staff Cassandra Lindsay and Procurement Director Alicia Ayum*)

CITY ATTORNEY POWELL: A resolution of the City Commission of the City of Miramar to authorizing the execution of a Master Services Agreement between the City and Nova Southeastern University for the development and delivery of various community and employee training, business and professional development programs, program evaluation services, consultant -- consultation services, planning and research services, and other related services in an amount not-to-exceed \$85,000.00 per Fiscal Year; and providing for an effective date.

MAYOR MESSAM: Good evening, welcome.

MS. LINDSAY: Good evening, Mayor, Vice Mayor, Commissioners, City Manager, City Attorney, city employees. My name is Cassandra Carvalho-Lindsay, and I am the Chief of Staff in the Office of the City Manager. The item before this evening is Temp. Reso. 8605, approving a master services agreement with Nova Southeastern University. Now one of the FY '26 goals and objectives of the City Manager's Office is to strengthen partnerships with local colleges and universities to improve the City's operations and service delivery for our residents. As such, the City Manager seeks authorization from the City Commission to execute a master services agreement with Nova Southeastern University. Now Nova is a private, nonprofit, research university that provides undergraduate, graduate, and professional degree programs across a wide range of disciplines. NSU established the Center for Public Service within the Huizenga College of Business and Entrepreneurship to blend professional expertise and applied research to maximize government and nonprofit community impact. Now the Center for Public Service unit is a specialized academic and outreach division that supports government agencies, and nonprofit organizations through applied research, professional training, leadership development, policy analysis, and community engagement initiatives. This unit brings together faculty, graduate, and doctoral students, and practitioners around real world public service challenges, and combines academic rigor with practical implementation-focused deliverables. Now the purpose of this agreement with -- with NSU is to establish a -- a joint partnership that supports the City's long-term strategic

goals by providing applied research, consulting services, grant opportunities, program evaluation, training and development, coaching and mentoring access to NSU facilities, centers, and other resources. Now through this agreement, the City will have access to a wide range of services, including grant writing, research, and project implementation assistance, development of workforce training and leadership programs, supporting strategic planning. And as you know, Mr. Mayor, Vice Mayor, Commissioners, we are getting ready to work on the City's -- City's strategic plan. Also, one of the -- we'll have access to code policy updates, and budget analysis. Additionally, faculty, and graduate students may conduct program evaluations, facilitate surveys, and focus groups, and lead community engagement efforts. One of the key benefits -- one of the key benefits of this agreement is that it will allow the city to leverage NSU's resources to support community engagement strategies, and strengthen public trust initiatives. The City would also benefit from highly competitive pricing for consulting services, as well as collaborative research opportunities that can generate data for grants, and other alternative funding, and activities. This partnership will also provide internship opportunities to expand workforce gaps, and departmental capacity. Departments will also have access to NSU's facilities for collaborations for meetings, for workshops, and also for events. Now the terms of -- the term of this agreement will be for five years, and can be terminated without cause at any time upon 30 days written notice to the other party. This agreement is procured in accordance with City Code section 2-1413, which provides that services provided by or in partnership with institutions of higher learning are exempt from the competitive procurement process. Funding will not exceed \$85,000.00 in any fiscal year, and this partnership also presents an opportunity for the City to generate revenue through grant funding. City Manager, Dr. Roy Virgin, recommends approval.

MAYOR MESSAM: Thank you for the presentation. Commissioner Cherasard, you're recognized.

COMMISSIONER CHERASARD: Thank you, Mayor, and thank you, Kassandra, for so clearly breaking down the relationship that we are working on. And so my first question was is this something that's an extension of a relationship we've had, and now it's moving into contract stage to get a little more out of the relationship?

MS. LINDSAY: Yes, that's correct. We've -- we've always had a relationship with Nova Southeastern University. And, as you know, a lot of our employees actually attend that school, whether it's in the graduate program, so this is our way formalizing that relationship by -- by entering into this agreement with Nova Southeastern University.

COMMISSIONER CHERASARD: And I know they were housed in the library. Are they no -- they -- no longer in the library, so the community and conversation will be at Nova main in Davie?

MS. LINDSAY: Yes, Commissioner.

COMMISSIONER CHERASARD: And I had one question -- one of the main questions I had was the services that they're going to provide -- I know you mentioned we can use them for the graduate research, for our surveys in the community. Who has access to be able to reach out and say we have this partnership agreement? I need a -- if I needed some information, do I go to the City Manager's Office and say, "Can we reach out to Nova?"

MS. LINDSAY: The City Manager's Office will be managing this agreement, so if there's a need, then you could -- would come through the City Manager, and we'll make the arrangement for whatever you would want to be done.

COMMISSIONER CHERASARD: And one last question. Would things like that fall under the covered agreement for the \$85,000.00, or that would be a request for consultation, which will be kind of quoted for a cost on top of the \$85,000.00 we paid.

MS. LINDSAY: No, this is within the \$85,000.00 --

COMMISSIONER CHERASARD: Okay.

MS. LINDSAY: -- that we're asking for.

COMMISSIONER CHERASARD: So there's a clean line between what we're getting for the agreement, and then anything above and beyond, we talk about consultation, and seeing if we agree with their cost. If not, we move on to another option.

MS. LINDSAY: Yes.

COMMISSIONER CHERASARD: Thank you. Those are the questions I had for clarity. I appreciate your presentation, and your responses.

MS. LINDSAY: Thank you.

MAYOR MESSAM: Thank you, Commissioner. Seeing no other -- no other questions from the Commission, may I have a motion on item three, please.

COMMISSIONER CHERASARD: Motion.

VICE MAYOR COLBOURNE: Second.

MAYOR MESSAM: Record the votes.

CITY CLERK GIBBS: Commissioner Chambers.

COMMISSIONER CHAMBERS: Yes.

CITY CLERK GIBBS: Commissioner Cherasard.

COMMISSIONER CHERASARD: Yes.

CITY CLERK GIBBS: Vice Mayor Colbourne.

VICE MAYOR COLBOURNE: Yes.

CITY CLERK GIBBS: Commissioner Edwards.

COMMISSIONER EDWARDS: Yes.

CITY CLERK GIBBS: Mayor Messam.

MAYOR MESSAM: Yes.

On a motion by Commissioner Cherasard, seconded by Vice Mayor Colbourne, to approve Resolution #R8605, as presented, the Commission voted:

Commissioner Chambers	Yes
Commissioner Cherasard	Yes
Vice Mayor Colbourne	Yes
Commissioner Edwards	Yes
Mayor Messam	Yes

Resolution No. 26-71

- 4. Temp. Reso. #R8612 authorizing the expenditure of \$15,000.00 of **Law Enforcement Trust Funds** that will be utilized to defray the cost of protracted or complex investigations. *(Police Assistant Chief Florinet Derac)*

Resolution No. 26-72

- 5. Temp. Reso. #R8625 expressing support for the City of Pembroke Pines' application to the United States Department of Transportation Fiscal Year 2026 **Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development** (BUILD) Grant Program funding for the Pembroke Road Expansion from SW 160th Avenue to US-27 and Miramar Parkway Extension from SW 192nd Terrace to Pembroke Road Project. *(Assistant City Engineer Leah deRiel)*

Resolution No. 26-73

- 6. Temp. Reso. #R8596 authorizing the City Manager to execute a Memorandum of Understanding with **First Serve Miami** for Fiscal Year 2026. *(Parks & Recreation Athletic Program Manager Clarence Williams)*

Resolution No. 26-74

7. Temp. Reso. #R8591 authorizing the City Manager to execute a Recreational Agreement with **South Broward Hospital District D/B/A [U18] Sports Medicine**. *(Parks & Recreation Athletic Program Manager Clarence Williams)*

Resolution No. 26-75

MAYOR MESSAM: Item number eight, please.

8. Temp. Reso. #R8603 authorizing the City Manager to execute a Facility Use Agreement for **Church in the Glades, Inc.**, with Fiscal Year 2026. *(Parks & Recreation Senior Park Manager Reginal Taylor)*

CITY ATTORNEY POWELL: A resolution of the City Commission of the City of Miramar to authorizing the City Manager to execute a Facility Use Agreement with Church in the Glades, Inc., with Fiscal Year 2026; and providing for an effective date.

MAYOR MESSAM: Good evening, sir; welcome, and Madam.

MR. TAYLOR: Good evening, good evening. Good evening Mayor, good evening Vice Mayor, good evening Commissioners, good evening City Attorney, good evening City Clerk, and good evening City Manager. My name is Reggie Taylor; I'm a senior manager for the Parks Department. Hello everybody. I -- we are here to go over this agreement with the facility use agreement with Glade -- with the Church in the Glades, TR numbers 8603. The issue: City Manager seeks authorization from the City Commission to execute the fac -- facility use agreement with the Church in the Glades, Incorporated, to provide church service every Sunday at Sunset Lakes. This church has been with Sunset Lakes since they opened; it's going on 23 years. Background: Church of the Glades, Incorporated is non-denomination, Christian organization providing workshop services, religious education, community outreach to support spiritual growth, and engagement. The Parks Department propose a one-year agreement to allow the reoccurring Sunday use of the ballroom - church services and class; they have over 100 members. Procurement: Church service will be heard every Sunday at Sunset Lakes; rental fee, \$500.00 per week. The City has the right to notify the organization within five calendar days if the facility becomes unavailable, which is the sole discretion of the City. Agreement terms: The rental agreement constitutes a one-year contract, terms for the option to renew for an additional year. The City receive approximately \$24,000.00 in rental fees in FY '26 budget, which will be deposit into the rental revenue at Sunset Lakes. Seeking City Manager approval.

MAYOR MESSAM: Thank you so much, sir, for the presentation. Commissioner Cherasard, you're recognized.

COMMISSIONER CHERASARD: Thank you. And thank you, Reggie, for presenting on this. Happy to have Church in the Glades at a facility for -- I think they love Sunset Lakes, and they've made it home. I just had a question about the type of reasons that the facility would not be available to the church. Maintenance issues, or you still renting it out --

MR. TAYLOR: Just in case something come up, like a storm, or something. Like anything can happen, and it just won't be available. They've been very available to work with us. We let them know beforehand, and they just -- we work together well; they've been there 23 years.

COMMISSIONER CHERASARD: Thank you. And I just had one question about -- is the facility, at some point, at the end of the day on Sunday available for rentals for persons?

MR. TAYLOR: Yes. Yes.

COMMISSIONER CHERASARD: Okay.

MR. TAYLOR: It don't stop.

COMMISSIONER CHERASARD: Thank you.

MR. TAYLOR: You're welcome.

COMMISSIONER CHERASARD: Thank you.

MAYOR MESSAM: Seeing no other questions -- wait, I do -- do I have one more speaker -- oh, Commissioner Edwards, you're recognized. See, I didn't move forward, I recognized.

COMMISSIONER EDWARDS: Thank you, Mr. Mayor. A question on the rental. What are the hours on Sundays?

MR. SCOTT: It's from 9:00 to 5:00.

COMMISSIONER EDWARDS: 9:00 a.m. --

MR. SCOTT: 8:00 to 5:00; 8:00 to 5:00, I'm sorry.

COMMISSIONER EDWARDS: 8:00 a.m.?

MR. SCOTT: The church is 9:00 to 1:00, but -- **(unintelligible 1:35:40)** to 5:00.

COMMISSIONER EDWARDS: The rental is 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

MR. SCOTT: Yes.

COMMISSIONER EDWARDS: Which blocks that every Sunday, and the facility is not available for rental to any other --

MR. SCOTT: But they have other rooms. They just use the big room. They have smaller rooms that they use.

COMMISSIONER EDWARDS: Other rooms are available, but that --

MR. SCOTT: Yeah, for them to use.

COMMISSIONER EDWARDS: -- big ballroom is not available --

MR. SCOTT: Correct.

COMMISSIONER EDWARDS: -- to the --

MR. SCOTT: Until 1:00.

COMMISSIONER EDWARDS: -- until 1:00?

MR. SCOTT: Yeah.

COMMISSIONER EDWARDS: Okay. So service -- the rental hours are 8:00 to 5:00, but it's available at 1:00?

MR. SCOTT: Correct.

COMMISSIONER EDWARDS: So I could rent it from 1:00 to 7:00?

MR. SCOTT: Say 1:00 -- it's about 1:30, 2:00 once they get it back ready for the rental.

COMMISSIONER EDWARDS: So bottom line is other members of the public can rent it on a Sunday --

MR. SCOTT: Yes.

COMMISSIONER EDWARDS: -- after church?

MR. SCOTT: Yes.

COMMISSIONER EDWARDS: Thank you.

MR. SCOTT: You're welcome.

MAYOR MESSAM: All right. Seeing no other questions, May I have a motion on item number eight, please.

COMMISSIONER CHERASARD: Motion.

COMMISSIONER EDWARDS: Second.

MAYOR MESSAM: Record the votes.

CITY CLERK GIBBS: Commissioner Chambers.

COMMISSIONER CHAMBERS: Yes.

CITY CLERK GIBBS: Commissioner Cherasard.

COMMISSIONER CHERASARD: Yes.

CITY CLERK GIBBS: Vice Mayor Colbourne.

VICE MAYOR COLBOURNE: Yes.

CITY CLERK GIBBS: Commissioner Edwards.

COMMISSIONER EDWARDS: Yes.

CITY CLERK GIBBS: Mayor Messam.

MAYOR MESSAM: Yes.

On a motion by Commissioner Cherasard, seconded by Commissioner Edwards, to approve Resolution #R8603, as presented, the Commission voted:

Commissioner Chambers	Yes
Commissioner Cherasard	Yes
Vice Mayor Colbourne	Yes
Commissioner Edwards	Yes
Mayor Messam	Yes

Resolution No. 26-76

9. Temp. Reso. #R8595 authorizing the City Manager to execute a Recreational Agreement with **Bravo Swimming, L.L.C.**, for Fiscal Year 2026. *(Parks & Recreation Regional and Aquatics Park Manager Silvia Dominguez)*

Resolution No. 26-77

10. Temp. Reso. #R8597 authorizing the City Manager to execute a Recreational Agreement with **In the Tropix, L.L.C., D/B/A Tropix Divers** for Fiscal Year 2026. *(Parks & Recreation Regional and Aquatic Park Manager Silvia Dominguez)*

Resolution No. 26-78

11. Temp. Reso. #R8599 authorizing the City Manager to execute a Recreational Agreement with the **Miramar Mermaids Synchro Team, L.L.C.**, for Fiscal Year 2026. *(Parks & Recreation Regional and Aquatic Park Manager Silvia Dominguez)*

Resolution No. 26-79

12. Temp. Reso. #R8601 approving Recreational Agreement with **Aikido Florida Aikikai, Inc.**, for Fiscal Year 2026. *(Parks & Recreation Regional and Aquatic Park Manager Silvia Dominguez)*

Resolution No. 26-80

13. Temp. Reso. #R8611 authorizing the City Manager to execute a Recreational Agreement with **CPR, Etc., Inc.**, for Fiscal Year 2026. *(Parks & Recreation Regional and Aquatic Park Manager Silvia Dominguez)*

Resolution No. 26-81

14. Temp. Reso. #R8615 authorizing the purchase and installation of **audio-visual equipment** and professional services to upgrade the **Police Department Community Room** from Innovate AV, in an amount of \$130,590.00, through the utilization of the Interlocal Purchasing System (“TIPS”) Cooperative Contract No. 230901, and from Acordis, L.L.C., in an amount of \$34,141.00, through the utilization of the State Of Florida Contract # 43220000-NASPO-19-ACS. *(Information Technology Assistant Director Ricardo Simonis)*

Resolution No. 26-82

15. Temp. Reso. #R8610 authorizing the purchase and installation of a new **video wall, integrated software & supporting hardware systems**, and operator **command consoles** from AVI-SPL, in an amount not-to exceed \$456,770.00, using the TIPS Contract No. 230901; private public partnerships protected places video sharing website and integration with situational awareness platform from Motorola Solutions, Inc., in an amount not-to-exceed \$84,550.00, using the Sourcewell Contract No. 051321-MOT; and federated software & data analytics search tool from Carahsoft in an amount not-to-exceed \$245,140.00, using the Omnia Solutions Contract No. R240303 as Phase 3 of the Real Time Intelligence Center Project; for a total amount not-to-exceed \$875,000.00 for Fiscal Year 2026. *(Information Technology Public Safety Manager Sean MacDonald)*

Resolution No. 26-83

16. Temp. Reso. #R8613 approving the renewal of software licenses and **maintenance services for cloud-based data storage and recovery services** with R2 Unified Technologies, utilizing Contract No. NCPA 01-169, for a 3-year term in an amount not-to-exceed \$291,100. (*Information Systems Manager Vanessa J. Sauveur*)

Resolution No. 26-84

End of Consent

ORDINANCES

MAYOR MESSAM: On to -- to Ordinances. Item number 17 please.

MR. SCOTT: Thank you.

17. **FIRST READING** of Temp. Ord. #O1860 amending **the Land Development Code** of the City of Miramar, pursuant to Section 302 of said Land Development Code and Section 166.041(3)(C)(2), Florida Statutes; more specifically by amending Chapter 5, entitled "Standards," to update Section 506, entitled "Landscaping Standards," to provide for guidelines for **Homeowner Association Tree Mitigation**, provide mechanism to comply with the City's Land Development Code while ensuring infrastructure is not compromised, clarifying requirements and approval processes, and providing for prorated fees; making findings; providing for repeal; providing for severability; providing for correction of scrivener's errors; providing for codification; and providing for an effective date. (*Building, Planning & Zoning Assistant Director Sue-Ling Rosario*)

CITY ATTORNEY POWELL: An ordinance of the City Commission of the City of Miramar to amending the Land Development Code of the City of Miramar, pursuant to Section 302 of said Land Development Code and Section 166.041(3)(C)(2), Florida Statutes; more specifically by amending Chapter 5, entitled "Standards," to update Section 506, entitled "Landscaping Standards," to provide for guidelines for Homeowner Association Tree Mitigation, provide mechanism to comply with the City's Land Development Code while ensuring infrastructure is not compromised, clarifying requirements and approval processes, and providing for prorated fees; making findings; providing for repeal; providing for severability; providing for correction of scrivener's errors; providing for codification; and providing for an effective date.

MAYOR MESSAM: Good evening, welcome.

MS. ROSARIO: Good evening, Mayor Messam, Vice Mayor Colbourne, City Commission, City Manager, City Attorney, and City Clerk. My name is Sue-Ling Rosario from the Building, Planning & Zoning Department, and tonight I have before you the Tree Mitigation Program amendment to the City's Land Development Code, Ordinance #1860. Section 302 of the City's Land Development Code provides that all amendments to the LDC may be accomplished by ordinance. As such, City Commission approval is required. In 2020, Ordinance number 20-13 was adopted, amending section 506 of the City's LDC entitled Landscaping Standards. This amendment updated the development standards governing the installation, maintenance, protection, and conservation of landscaping and open spaces. It incorporated practices, such as right tree, right place, and Florida-friendly landscaping guidelines, and defining conditions in which a tree may be removed or relocated. While Ordinance number 20-13 significantly improved landscaping standards, the City has identified challenges within established residential neighborhoods, particularly those managed by homeowners' associations. Then in July of 2025, Florida Statute 125.572 took effect, requiring the Department of Environmental Protection to adopt minimum standards for use of synthetic turf on single-family residential properties of one acre or less. The proposed amendment accomplishes one of two things: it updates the definition of synthetic turf; allows for the use of syn -- synthetic turf on residential properties of one acre or less consistent with the Department of Environmental Protection, and compliant with state law. And, secondly, the proposed amendment updates section 506 to establish a formal HOA tree mitigation program. This program will be applicable to the homeowner associations, condominium associations, and mobile home communities. The Tree Mitigation Program establishes criteria allowing the substitution of smaller sized trees where spatial limitations exist, and substitution of tree species to avoid conflicts with utilities and infrastructure. The Tree Mitigation program requires a tree inventory, a survey identifying trees and palms within the property to include size, species, and condition. A species designation plan, which is a long-term planting plan identifying approved tree species for current and future replacements, and a risk assessment, a professional evaluation of the surveyed trees, identifying potential hazards. The amendment allows for permit fees to be waived for a mitigation plan provided the HOA complies with all requirements of the program. The purpose of this amendment is to provide a mechanism for communities to comply with the City's LDC, while accommodating for existing site, and infrastructure constraints, and the challenges faced. Support the preservation of Miramar's urban forest, and encourage sustainable practices that are appropriate, and aligned with the City's environmental objectives. A Planning & Zoning Board public hearing was held on January 13, 2026; the board recommended approval of the proposed LDC text amendments. City Manager recommends approval.

MAYOR MESSAM: Thank you for the presentation. The Clerk received no request from the public virtually to speak on this item. Are there any members from the public that are present in the Chambers that wish to speak on this item? Seeing none, back to the dais. I've had two speakers request: Commissioner Cherasard, followed by Vice Mayor Colbourne. Showed up first on the -- okay, Vice Mayor Colbourne, followed by Commissioner Chambers.

VICE MAYOR COLBOURNE: Thank you. I just wanted to -- to make sure that this is something that has been discussed with the homeowners' associations, that they are aware of it, and -- I don't know. If you can just elaborate as to how many of them you've reached out to, and what type of input they had in this.

MS. ROSARIO: Sure. So throughout my experience here within the City, over the last nine years, we have dealt with a multitude of homeowners' associations and tree removal requests. Throughout my tenure, we have had many of them request such program; unfortunately, we didn't have a program available. We have done our best to accommodate within the confinements of our current Land Development Code with these HOAs. In the past, we've dealt with Silver Lakes, who ended up installing root barriers, and redoing their sidewalks, and, unfortunately, weren't able to address the tree issue at that time, and passed that over to the individual homeowners. We've dealt with Huntington; we're in the works now with Montclair, Foxcroft, Mirabella; we've had conversations with Sunset Lakes, so we've had a lot of these homeowners' associations reach out to us and make these requests, and we also have a lot of the individual homeowners themselves coming in, being guided to the City from their homeowners' association.

VICE MAYOR COLBOURNE: All right. Very well. It does seem like something that would be a -- a benefit to -- to the communities, as well as the individual homeowners, so thank you for -- for putting that together, for developing that program. Thank you.

MAYOR MESSAM: Commissioner Chambers.

COMMISSIONER CHAMBERS: Thank you. First question -- I was recently asked this question. If the homeowner has a dead tree in their yard, I think they want to know do they have to get a permit to cut that dead tree down?

MS. ROSARIO: Yes. However, if the tree is dead it could, potentially, be a hazard if it's not removed immediately, so what our code does allow is for immediate removal of that tree, as long as the property owner documents, and notifies the City that the tree was, in fact, dead. There is no penalty for doing that prior to the permit, but they are required to obtain the permit for documentation.

COMMISSIONER CHAMBERS: Okay. So the permit would be more to replace it, so -- let's say it's a palm tree, it's not very tall; it's dead, can they cut it down if they document that it was dead, then there wouldn't be a fine, but to replace it. What if they just replace it? It -- it still wouldn't be a fine, right? Or they would have to get a permit to replace it?

MS. ROSARIO: The permits are required to document the removal, and does require a replacement. If the tree or palm was dead, there is no penalty, as long as we're notified, so that we do have evidence of the tree was dead. So part of a tree removal permit does entail an inspection, where we have city staff go to verify the condition of the tree.

COMMISSIONER CHAMBERS: But that would be just one single permit to remove the tree, and to replace it?

MS. ROSARIO: Correct, one permit.

COMMISSIONER CHAMBERS: Okay. All right. Thanks for this item. There's a lot of issues with a lot of our homeowners' associations here, and individual residents as well. And I guess this address some of those issues, which I'm thankful for. We need to really -- probably later on revisit some more issues that they're dealing with. But one thing I'm hoping for is that -- because of some of the issues that I'm involved with before, that we continue to have -- the City Manager continue to have some discretion where if he needs to approve something, or disapprove something, then he can override whatever we have, and that will happen. So, Mr. Manager, I'm just asking that you continue to make sure that you have some discretion over any issue that come up with these homeowners, tree planting, or removal. So --

CITY MANAGER VIRGIN: We'll -- we'll make a note of that, Commissioner, providing it - it's consistent with the --

COMMISSIONER CHAMBERS: Thank you.

CITY MANAGER VIRGIN: -- the rule.

COMMISSIONER CHAMBERS: Yeah, because some time we need to move quickly. All right. Thank you so much. Thank you for the presentation.

MS. ROSARIO: Thank you.

MAYOR MESSAM: Commissioner Cherasard.

COMMISSIONER CHERASARD: Thank you. And thank you, Sue-Ling. I am right there with you on making sure that we can preserve the canopies, because canopies bring shade, and shade brings reduced costs for so many things. I wanted to ask if there's a plan to communicate, or have a liaison with each community as they're developing their plan for what they would like to do for their communities. I know most of the multi housing areas in Miramar have trees that were placed in places that really shouldn't have a tree in the first place, and so the conversation about replacing it would be where do you place a tree, but not back where it was, because it was in a hazardous place in the first place. Just com -- communication and guidance as they develop these plans, so that it's reasonable, realistic, and can move through the process quickly without multiple attempts. I know you're working on reducing how many permits you may have to pull, or the cost for the permits. That's excellent, but saving some time on going back and forth with the City on what should we do, can we revise this, really good guidance, so that the plans they do come with are sound, and -- and acceptable. But this is very timely. I can tell you myself from personal experience, the trees in places where they have overgrown the

space, or should have never been, the communities have a hard time, one, when it comes to getting the approval to remove them, and the suggestion of what to place there. So thank you for making this change, and reviewing that portion of the code, because it's necessary and timely for the decision making that has to happen in multifamily communities to even remove a tree. So the help from the City is critical, and I'm happy it's making into code. With this in conversation, I want to also ask, when it comes to the tree removal place that is in place, we've had -- we've had conversations in the past about trying to bring the cost of what a homeowner still has to pay after the support from the City, more in line with what it cost to remove the tree, especially for those that are destroying foundations on the property. If you have a choice to deal with paying for a new foundation, and a tree, I mean you're going to try and cough up the money to remove the tree, but it's extremely expensive. And if there's a program, then the program should work sufficiently to help out, if that's what it intends to do. So if there is an opportunity to review -- just the support someone gets when they have a tree that's destroying their home to be able to remove it, and the streamlining of the permit process if they still have to do that.

MS. ROSARIO: Thank you for -- for that comment. We currently do have a tree trimming program right now; it does not cover the cost of tree removal. However, we have seen the program used for some of those issues; for example, lifting of the sidewalks, and damage to some infrastructure where the program does cover root pruning as well, and only trimming of the canopy. So we have had some residents take advantage of that program, and have gone ahead and completed some root pruning work to further preserve their -- their infrastructure. It's not an immediate solution, in terms of the tree is still there and growing, but the program is something that is still available on a reoccurring annual basis, and we have had residents apply annually for those issues. And it helps further the goal of preservation while still maintaining safe infrastructure. And so if it's possible to preserve the tree, the tree trimming program is available to those residents.

COMMISSIONER CHERASARD: Thank you. And this may be a comment that would probably be more of a public works conversation, but when it comes to the canopies that align Miramar Parkway, and how it is intrusive with the lights. We have one side of the street that has zero streetlights, but that's the side of the tree that has -- the side of the street that has a canopy that reaches like Jack and the Beanstalk. And it prohibits the little light that comes from across the street from reaching down to provide light for those who need to use that streetlight from the opposite side of the street at night. It makes the place pitch black. Is that because the canopies need to stay that way, or because attention hasn't been given to pruning those canopies back?

MS. ROSARIO: It could be that a tree is trimmed or pruned, and the canopy -- and depending on where the tree is trimmed, it can promote growth in another direction. We do have a focus now, especially this program, for right tree, right place, and some of our latest landscape updates has been to make sure we don't perpetuate these -- these issues. We can definitely pass that inquiry to our Public Works Department to look at that, but those are some of the situations that our residents do apply to our tree trimming

program for as well. So if it's on residential property, and it's hindering lighting, that is something that they can use the program for.

COMMISSIONER CHERASARD: Okay. And I have one very last question for you, Sue-Ling. I know we have some big trees that may be causing root issues, and it could be a safety problem for a community. If it's a tree that, no, we're not going to allow you to remove the tree and the roots, and somebody is injured because they trip over a root, how does the code protect the community from not being allowed to remove a root, but somebody gets injured on the property simply because of the root? What type of -- is anything built in to protect those communities from that type of liability?

MS. ROSARIO: So we don't have any code provision that prevents someone from not removing a root.

COMMISSIONER CHERASARD: Okay.

MS. ROSARIO: Root pruning is allowed on any -- any tree.

COMMISSIONER CHERASARD: Okay.

MS. ROSARIO: What the individual person, whoever is the property owner of that tree does have to -- is do it properly, so it's not tree abuse, and so that it doesn't affect the stability of the tree itself. But the removal of roots, or trimming -- root pruning is the term we use; it's allowed. We do also have -- there is the state law that was passed in 2021 that applies to residential properties that allows a homeowner to remove a tree without a permit if they obtain proper documentation from a certified arborist, or licensed landscape architect -- architect stating that the tree presents a hazard pass the point of mitigation. So saying that there's no other possible way to mitigate the potential hazard other than removal. So there are mechanisms in place to allow for the work that needs to be done to be completed without, potentially, someone saying you can't remove the tree. Our -- our goal is -- is safety, along with preservation, but, you know, life safety is -- is first.

COMMISSIONER CHERASARD: That's amazing, and thank you for saying that. What I would like to see, if possible, the same way you can do a brochure, explaining in -- in straight seventh grade language some of these possibilities for a homeowner, that would be nice; the arborist guide to Miramar homes. If you have this, you can use this state law to do this; if you come to us, you can get this program. Just a one and a half pager on a brochure that's help people understand just a little bit more. I've never heard of root pruning until you said it just now, and that seems viable for a lot of what's going on in some of these properties, so if we can work on, maybe, just a small pamphlet, a small brochure that kind of educates the public on some of this, and gives the resource in that one space, that would be excellent, I think. But thank you so much for all you do.

MS. ROSARIO: Thank you.

MAYOR MESSAM: Commissioner Chambers.

COMMISSIONER CHAMBERS: Thank you. I think what I'm hearing earlier from Commissioner Cherasard that -- let's say -- I -- I know the program, the tree trimming, and tree root trimming program exist, and it's -- it's \$1,500.00, max.

MS. ROSARIO: It's up to \$1,000.00 per tree.

COMMISSIONER CHAMBERS: \$1,000.00 per tree?

MS. ROSARIO: Per tree.

COMMISSIONER CHAMBERS: It came down from \$1,500.00?

MS. ROSARIO: Yes. And that was increased from -- originally, it was \$750.00.

COMMISSIONER CHAMBERS: Right. \$700 -- okay, so it went up. Okay. So I -- most contractor, once they know how much the City pay, they're going to price it at that, and we have very large trees that require -- that would cost more to trim, or more for -- for the root to cut. And I think from what I was hearing is that, let's say a smaller tree that might be only require about five, \$600.00 to cut, and then the area -- the sidewalk or something was already damaged by -- by the tree toot, and that homeowner now would like for that area to be repaired as well. I -- I'm not sure what's the oversight as far as the cost per tree, if it's just the tree trimmer just give you the price, but if there's some room to -- to cut the tree, and also repair that portion of the sidewalk with the total of \$1,000.00, if that's something that we can look into. Then the homeowner don't have to come out of pocket to try to fix whatever the damage are. And then, also, if we manage the trimming program as to the cost, then we would save more money to cover the person who need more, or more homeowners who need trees to trim. So if it's only \$600.00 or \$700.00, then we save \$300.00, you know, back into the program, instead of paying \$1,000.00 for a tree that only require six or \$700.00 to cut. I'm -- I'm not sure how we're doing it now, but that's something we could look into, because the more we save, the more coverage we have. All right.

MS. ROSARIO: Understood.

COMMISSIONER CHAMBERS: But thank you so much. You guys been doing a good job. Thank you.

MS. ROSARIO: Thank you.

MAYOR MESSAM: I would like to thank staff for bringing this forward. I know my office has liaised with several HOAs, and have referred them to the department, as it relates to this very issue. And for those meetings to result in something that's uniform that could address, you know, a prevalent issue, especially in some of our central and western

communities that are now no longer new, and now they have mature trees that are 30 years old, 25 years old, and now they are experiencing the challenges of mature trees -- trees and root systems that are, you know, lifting up sidewalks, and just causing some hazards to infrastructure. So I'm glad to see this move forward as a result, and thanks for always being responsive to our various communities and homeowners as it relates to -- to this challenge. So thanks for the -- the work. At this time, can we have a motion on item number 17, please?

COMMISSIONER CHERASARD: Motion to approve.

VICE MAYOR COLBOURNE: Second.

MAYOR MESSAM: Record the votes.

CITY CLERK GIBBS: Commissioner Chambers.

COMMISSIONER CHAMBERS: Yes.

CITY CLERK GIBBS: Commissioner Cherasard.

COMMISSIONER CHERASARD: Yes.

CITY CLERK GIBBS: Vice Mayor Colbourne.

VICE MAYOR COLBOURNE: Yes.

CITY CLERK GIBBS: Commissioner Edwards.

COMMISSIONER EDWARDS: Yes.

CITY CLERK GIBBS: Mayor Messam.

MAYOR MESSAM: Yes.

On a motion by Commissioner Cherasard, seconded by Vice Mayor Colbourne, to approve Ordinance #O1860, as presented, the Commission voted:

Commissioner Chambers	Yes
Commissioner Cherasard	Yes
Vice Mayor Colbourne	Yes
Commissioner Edwards	Yes

Passed 1st Reading

SECOND READING SCHEDULED for March 4, 2026

OTHER BUSINESS

Reports and Comments:

MAYOR MESSAM: On to Other Business, Reports and Comments, and so that he's not forgotten, this meeting will start Commissioner Edwards.

COMMISSIONER EDWARDS: Thank you, Mr. Mayor. Just want to comment -- the Cultural Affairs folks on the wonderful event this week. The discussion on the Higher Investors, as we celebrate Black History Month was very enlightening, the discussion was engaging, and I appreciated the effort, and all that was done there, something to be commended. I want to thank you all. But what I wanted to just address in the Q&A there was a statement made by an individual that suggested that this Commission was not unified, and I was going to let it pass, but afterwards a number of folks came to me and asked me what was happening with this Commission. And I was not sure how to answer, because today is 11 months since I've been elected and sitting on this Commission, and I must say my experience has been one of harmony, unity, and all about serving our residents. And so when I hear statements to that effect, I -- I would like to make it go on record that, as far as I'm concerned, this Commission is working solely to represent the residents, and to make Miramar the City that we all are proud of. I would not want to serve on any other commission if there's any dissent on the Commission. And so I just want to make it public, because this -- this accusation, this -- this was made in public, and I want to refute it, because I am proud to sit here among everyone. I know we have a great relationship, and so I'm -- from my experience, we've had -- in all the -- the -- the votes, we've had one dissent on an issue; we've always had unanimous votes. And we support each other's events. We -- we are cordial. We -- we -- I don't see any disunity among this Commission, and I'm happy for that, happy to serve here, and happy to represent our residents. So, Mr. Mayor, and my fellow Commissioners, if you see or hear anything otherwise, what I'm saying is not true, please correct me. But I'm happy to serve on a unified commission, and I want to defend that as much as I can, because I want to uphold what this City stands for. I'm proud to be here, and especially during Black History Month, this city has made a lot of history, and I want to keep it that way. That's my say for tonight, sir.

MAYOR MESSAM: Thank you Commissioner Edwards. Commissioner Cherasard, you're recognized.

COMMISSIONER CHERASARD: Thank you very much. Eddie, my brother on the Commission, yes, I just want to say I would refute if I heard it, because it's not been my personal experience. If somebody else off this dais has experienced it, it has not been with any of us. But Happy Black History Month everyone, and Happy Reggae Month as well. I want to say I am just happy, and I think that's something that you don't hear people say often. I am happy, and work to ensure that the residents of this city are happy living here, and that includes all aged residents of the City of Miramar. And so I want to highlight and thank every single person who has supported the tour for those 5,000 role models

who came here to the City in this month. Those kids came, and they met with some extraordinary men who took time out of their workday to speak into them, to be role models to them, to stand on their same level and tell them, "You can be like me, or greater when you grow up." And that's the kind of roll modeling we have here in the City, as employees, as staff members, and as community people. The City Manager's Office came through with flying colors; those in the departments, Billy, I saw quite a few of you here just walking through, letting those young men feel like they were the stars of the day, and they are; they're the stars of the day, and they're the stars of tomorrow, and we -- we poured into them that they -- thank you, Chief Moss, thank you everyone who made that day a huge success for those young men. It makes a difference when we show up for our children the way everyone did that day, so thank you to the coordinators, the facilitators, the tour guides, everyone for making that happen. I also, in my doings for the City of Miramar, I pulled women aside, I pulled the mom's aside to have a heart-to-heart talk, to build community with the moms of Miramar right here in this City Commission. And as much as what we spoke about there, stays there, what I will share with the City Manager's Office, and the departments that do work with city programming, we got a lot of truth out of the women that day; a lot of truth about how they feel as Miramar residents, as Miramar caretakers, as Miramar moms, as Miramar businesses about some things they would like to see, or how they would like to feel when they come to the City of Miramar. Honesty, and community, fragility, all of those things came to the forefront, and I don't know if I've ever been at a city event where women were just hugging strangers, pouring their hearts out to each other, and sharing their experiences. It was moving, it was intimate, and it was intentional that women got to have a space in our city to talk amongst themselves, bring up their concerns, give great feedback. And what comes out of that is we can only bring even better programming to them, be more sensitive to their needs, and make them happy Miramar residents. So, in the future, I do plan to have a liaison with the City Manager's Office just to bring some of the concerns to light, and some of the really good feedback, because there was great feedback. People love our city. We are a striving city. Doesn't mean we don't have a few things we could polish when the time comes, and it's good to hear from the mouth of the people who are the stakeholders, our residents, so wanted to just share that that was extremely powerful. Another thing I want to say is a huge thank you; and I know a lot of what we do in the City, our faces are on it, you know, the leaders' faces are on it, but a lot of what comes out of the City are board members, those people who choose, who offer themselves to volunteer to the City of Miramar, a lot of programming comes from their meetings, a lot of things come out of what they do on their volunteer time for the City. And I want to take this moment to thank everyone who has volunteered on all of the city boards; Parks & Recs, oh my God, the - the work that they do; the Affordable Housing Advisory Board; the things that come out of these meetings change Miramar, the effect change, and I want to thank everyone who volunteers their time working on these boards within the City of Miramar for what they do. Lastly, I want to ask our City Clerk if she would work with me in making as special invitation to Marty Kiar, the Broward County Tax Collector, to be a presenter at one of our very soon to come Commission meetings. There's legislation, there's things in the works that everyone in the City of Miramar who is a voter, and a stakeholder should be hearing from that level of government about what's proposed, what it means for our city, what it

means for our residents, so that we can have some informed decision making come November. So I will send that formally to our City Clerk to make an invitation to Marty Kiar to come and talk to us about proposed property tax conversations. Just wanted to just mention I started off saying that I am happy, and I'm hoping to spread happiness across the City of Miramar as well. Very early, I want to make sure that our staff and their families, and our Miramar residents join us for the Joy and Happiness Fest on March 14th; No theme, no real -- nothing to it except come out and enjoy yourself. Some good old -- I'm -- I'm back in childhood again fun, and your kids should come out. It's the beginning of spring break, free spirited activities, fun, dancing, beauty, colorful; it -- it hopes to be a day of happiness and joy, just like the very obvious title it is. But, please, I look forward to continuing to serve; I look forward to making sure that I -- the face that I have on anything that has to do with the City of Miramar is reflective of the residents who I care so much about. You guys make it happen. The ones who are in the room still, and the ones who have gone home for the day, the staff members, the City Manager's Office, our police and fire; you execute so very well. You're professionals, and I thank you for all you do. Thank you for supporting me, as I continue to work for the residents of Miramar. Have a good evening.

MAYOR MESSAM: Commissioner Chambers, you're recognized.

COMMISSIONER CHAMBERS: First, I'd like to say thanks to Director Camasha and her team for her exhibit in the gallery. I want to thank her, as well, for Monday night trapped and exchanged, according to HSBCU, and also Black History. It was a well put together presentation, and she knocked it out the park with the exhibits, the speakers, everything went well. I must say Commissioner Carson Edwards, I was there, and this is the second year we have an -- what should I say, maybe statement being made that was not factual, and it's just not a good look for such a beautiful presentation, and for the City of Miramar. I think that if we're going to ask our directors, and staff to put on presentation, we have to give them some kind of control how to control the audience when they come as to how they conduct them -- their self. It's -- it's -- it's -- it's just not a good thing. I know Assistant City Manager Johnson was there, myself, Commissioner Carson Edwards, his wife; I was going to rebut what was said, but out of fear of escalation, I chose not to say anything; I leave it alone. But I know for a fact that this dais has been working together 97 to 98 percent of the time, so, you know, it -- when persons come up and make statements that's not true, that are false, it doesn't sit well. I believe Commissioner Cherasard left a little earlier. So Commissioner Carson, you right, so -- it was a bit disappointing. I just want to say that coming up on the 27th, we'll have Praise on the Green on the plaza; Minister Mary Hall will be here to perform with the likes of others. Also, I want to say this morning I was at Miramar High School with the school and business leaders, and it was a very nice get together; the Mayor was there as well; thank him for stopping by. It went over well with -- the welcome was nice with the children, the drums, the -- Mr. Porter, staff -- it was just amazing. Like to say the breakfast was really good; the caterer was good; I was quite surprised, so. I had to leave a little early, but most folks was coming. I did see Chief, all your representatives from the police department was there; we thank them as well. It was a good look for our community, for midtown Miramar, and for our youths in

the school. Any time that we can support all the children in any schools in Miramar, or anywhere, it's a good thing. So we want to thank them for that. I do have a concern with the work that being done in Historic Miramar. I got a few calls as to the driveways, and resident property that been touched, so we want to make sure that we address that with our resident out there, giving them notice, explaining what's going on. And I do have a concern with -- I believe this is a street, which is 25th Street and 63rd as to if we're going to repave the street from the damage from the contractor that's been done out there; where are we with that. I don't have to get an answer tonight, but we just need to know that we can explain to our residents that whatever damage is done to the roadway by the equipment that the contractors use, that those roadway will be replaced based on the damage there. And some of our residents are elderly, and they're concerned with the unevenness and the holes, and so forth, so we want to assure them that we are going to repair those roads. All right. With that said, also want to invite folks to come out this Saturday to Love on the Run at Regional Park; it's our Annual 5K Run/Walk; we expect you guys to come at 6:00 a.m., so we could start the run at 7:00. So this coming Saturday, the 14th, it's Love on the Run at Miramar Regional Park right here in our community, so please sign up, and if you don't sign up, be able to come on and sign up right there. We will have a lot of giveaways, a lot of medals, awards for the winners. Everyone who enter the race and get a bib will get a medal. Also, the Autism is coming up in April; April is Autism Month, and we will have a Autism Appreciation Day, and resource fair on the 18th at the amphitheater. And follow that, we will have the Autism Walk on the April 25th at Miramar Regional Park as well; it's just a walk. All right. So looking forward to seeing you out there. Thank you. Enjoy the rest of the week.

MAYOR MESSAM: Vice Mayor Colbourne, you're recognized.

VICE MAYOR COLBOURNE: Thank you. I don't really have a report, but I would like to go ahead and follow up on what, I guess, Commissioner Edwards brought up. I did not attend that event; I did hear that it was a -- a great event. I guess with a not so great finished. But I would say that I get a lot of compliments in regards to how this Commission handles themselves throughout the years in professional manner that they do. I take pride in being very professional, and collegial to all the members of the Commission, and to our staff. I do think it is important -- and I know that it's a responsibility for the City to maintain a safe environment for our employees, for us as commissioners, and for our residents. And when we have things that happen that are just plain rule, disruptive, or even unlawful at our events, I think the City -- I know the City has a responsibility to deal with it to make sure that our residents, our employees, and all of us can feel that we are in a safe environment. When you come to Miramar at an event, it is safe. Sometimes we take small things for granted, but when we see it escalate year after year, incident after incident, Mr. Manager, take note that you have a responsibility to deal with these things. I do believe we have a resolution in place that addresses this issue. Thank you.

MAYOR MESSAM: Good evening everyone. Just want to give an update on some real important issues, as it relates to the City. The City's efforts to address, or to fight against the incinerator. Our state bill was successful in passing both chambers of the House and

the Senate, and it has moved onto their second committees; there's three committees that the bill has to successfully move through, and be passed before it reaches the floor for vote in both chambers. We were successful in the first, and our next committee meeting will be tomorrow on the House side, where it -- we hope that it will pass as well, so that it can continue. I will say that there is opposition against the bill by the energy industry, but we have a strong team that continues to work on our behalf to help navigate through the turbulent waters of -- of the State Legislature. So I will continue to keep the residents updated on the progress on the -- the bill that we have moving forward in both the House and the Senate. I would like to wish every citizen of the City of Miramar, residents of the City of Miramar happy Black History Month. Our Marketing Department, through our social media channels, they're publicizing many events that are taking place, and various ways that our community can participate in the great events for families throughout the month; most of them free. And I we -- I'd like to thank our staff for the curation of these wonderful events that are taking place in our city as we recognize Black History Month. I'll conclude the update with our event on Monday, which was wonderfully curated by mo -- our Cultural Affairs Department; the exhibit is amazing. It talks about the founding of our historically black colleges and universities, schedule of where they exist, the states, and just nice illustration in the gallery that educates our community, and I encourage all residents of all races and cultures to take a look. Because HBCUs not only serve a great purpose, but they are relevant today, and they must be protected, and I'm just proud that our City of Miramar is doing our part in educating the community, and letting them know. I wasn't going to respond to some of the comments that were made, and I think there -- everyone has their opinion, and in this country there's a right for free speech. And just as some have opinions, people have opinions, and freedom of speech; that's what makes this country so great. Even when we disagree with the comments that may come from the public, and because we may not agree with what is stated doesn't make it wrong, doesn't make it illegal, and we don't live in a fascist society where speech is silent, especially during a time when the public is asked to give opinion, and comments, and questions. I'll keep it at that. There won't be no back and forth tonight about it, but in this country there's a first amendment of speech, whether we agree with it or not. And when anyone from the public chooses to voice their opinion, they have the right to do so, whether we agree with it or not; whether we agree with tone, whether we agree with delivery, it's freedom of speech, whether we agree with it or not. So I'd like to thank our Cultural Affairs team for a great program, a great exhibit. We've brought people in to take a look at the exhibit; we'll continue to do so. We had a great time during the Divine 9 Super Bowl Party where our residents were able to enjoy a not so great game, but great halftime show, and they also got a chance to see the exhibit as well, and got a lot of comments about the exhibit. And as long as it's there, our community will benefit from it. Look forward to having a great Valentine's Day weekend in the City of Miramar; for those who have purchased tickets to the Teddy Riley Experience, look forward to having a great time with one our industry greats, and legends who will be performing, and we will recognize black-owned businesses on Sunday with the Fireside Chat with Teddy Riley. We have confirmation of students attending as well, and they'll have a great opportunity to meet one of the great music producers right here in our city, and will get a copy of his recently released autobiography which was released on the tenth. So we're the first city

of his national tour for his book release, and we're just excited to have a notable artist like Teddy Riley to come to the City of Miramar. So take a look at the many opportunities to participate in the Black History events. As was communicated, we also are recognizing Reggae Month, so we have the Icon Awards that will be put on by Commissioner Edwards, as well as the Afro Caribe Fest towards -- at the end of the month, so we look forward to enjoying the balance of Black History Month. Black History, you know, is 365, and we just are fortunate to be able to have the opportunities to share the contributions of the African American community.

City Manager Reports:

MAYOR MESSAM: Mr. Manager, you have a report?

CITY MANAGER VIRGIN: Thank you. Thank you, Mr. Mayor. Just want to highlight two achievements, if you will, and the first is that our own Deputy Baker has been selected to receive award from the Florida City and County Management Association for Career Development in 2026, so let's give him a round of applause. Great work, Mr. Baker, for your -- your hard work in this field for a very long time. And if that was not enough, Mr. Mayor, our Deputy Director for Parks & Recreation, Ms. Janine Alleyne-Maragh has been appointed to the National League of Cities Race, Equity, and Leadership Committee, and also the National League of Cities' Council on Youth, Education, and Families -- and Family Committee. And this is the first City of Miramar employee to serve on these boards. I want to congratulate both of them for the work they do; we're proud of them. Thank you very much.

City Attorney Reports:

MAYOR MESSAM: Mr. Attorney, any -- or Madam Attorney, any announcements?

CITY ATTORNEY POWELL: Yes, just one concerning an executive committee meeting.

CITY ATTORNEY GARY: At approximately 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, March 4th, 2026, or as soon thereafter as it may be heard, the City Commission shall meet privately to discuss pending litigation. Pursuant to Section 286.011(8); the case of Alan Reinfel et al vs. City of Miramar et al, Case No. 23-010570. This executive closed-door session will take place on the third floor conference room at 2300 Civic Center Place, Miramar, Florida. Present at the attorney/client session will be Mayor Messam, Vice Mayor Colbourne, Commissioner Chambers, Commissioner Cherasard, Commissioner Edwards, City Manager Dr. Roy Virgin, City Attorneys Burnadette Norris Weeks, Norman Powell, Michelle Austin-Pamies, Jordan Gary, and on-the-record court reporters. The estimated length of the attorney/client session will be 15 minutes. Thank you.

ADJOURNMENT

18. VOTE TO ADJOURN

MAYOR MESSAM: All right, that concludes our meeting. Motion to adjourn.

COMMISSIONER CHAMBERS: Motion to adjourn.

COMMISSIONER EDWARDS: Second, second.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:32 p.m.

Denise A. Gibbs, MMC
City Clerk
DG/cp