



CITY OF MIRAMAR INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor, Vice Mayor, & City Commissioners
FROM: Dr. Roy L. Virgin, City Manager 
BY: Salvador Zuniga, Engineering and Strategic Development
DATE: March 12, 2026
RE: Temp. Reso. No. 8641 – Blasting Community Advisory Board Update

1. Introduction

Blasting Citizen Advisory Committee

Meeting Information:

Day: 3rd Thursday/month

Time: 6:30pm

Location: Engineering Conference Room (Development Services Building, 2nd Floor, 2200 Civic Center Place)

Staff Liaison: Salvador Zuniga (sezuniga@miramarfl.gov; 954-602-3323) / Leah deRiel (lderie@miramarfl.gov; 954-602-3356)

Purpose of the Report: Quarterly Update FY 2026 Q2 (January 2026 – March 2026)

Background of the Advisory Board: The purpose of the Blasting Citizen Advisory Committee is to facilitate communication between the City and residents of the City of Miramar who are impacted by construction materials mining in northwest Miami-Dade County, and to provide a forum for residents to provide information and recommendations to the City Commission.

2. Board Composition

The Blasting Committee is comprised of 9 members who serve 2-year terms. The City Commission appoints 8 members by majority vote, one resident from each of the specific communities listed below. The Broward County School Board Superintendent also selects a representative to serve as a non-voting, ex-officio member. Anyone who is

appointed to fill a vacancy serves only for the remainder of the unexpired term. The current term ends in May 2027.

Members and Appointments:

NAME	AREA/ROLE	APPOINT. DATE	ATTENDANCE
Jose Sanchez	Sunset Lakes Resident	06/04/25	100%
VACANT	Sunset Falls Resident BOARD CHAIRMAN		
VACANT	Riviera Isles Resident		
VACANT	Huntington Resident		
VACANT	Nautica Resident		
Luis Pedraza	Country Club Ranches Resident	05/07/25	100%
Andra Mentore	Miramar Resident	05/07/25	0%
Audrey Tomlinson	Miramar Resident	05/07/25	100%
VACANT	Miramar Business Representative		
VACANT	Broward County School Board Ex-Officio		

- **Member Qualifications:** The board is made up of concerned residents, none of whom have expertise in mining.

3. Meetings and Activities

At the meeting held in Q2 2026, the board has discussed the following:

- Current status of the blasting, including pending legislation and anticipated litigation between the Town of Miami Lakes and the State of Florida. Legislation discussed included SB 56 (introduced by Rep. Sharief) and SB 416 (introduced by Rep. Fabricio). Bill details were reviewed, including proposed changes to administrative hearings, burdens of proof, and qualifications residents must meet in order to submit a claim.

- Potential visits to Tallahassee and possible coordination of a trip with the Town of Miami Lakes blasting board members and residents was were discussed.
- The Board does not have enough members to achieve quorum. Meeting was cancelled in February. March meeting has not occurred as of the date of this report (scheduled for 3/19/26).
- Residents are always encouraged to submit complaints through the State's website: <https://mineactivityclearinghouse.myfloridacfo.gov/>

4. Accomplishments and Outcomes

Until the Board has enough sitting members to achieve quorum, meeting discussion will be for informational purposes only.

5. Challenges and Lessons Learned

The major challenge that this board faces is that the blasting is occurring in Miami Dade County, where Miramar Residents have limited engagement. Also, these mining operations are regulated and permitted by the State, not the City or County. There is an ongoing sense of frustration on the board because of the limited ability to take direct action on these issues. Because of the lack of ability to engage in Miami-Dade, the Board has taken on a supporting role for the Miami Lakes Blasting Board – including outreach to Miramar residents to encourage attendance at Miami Lakes Blasting Board meetings, and notification of updates from that board to Miramar residents.

6. Financial Overview

This board currently has no budget and no expenditures.

7. Future Plans and Recommendations

- **Upcoming Projects:**
 - Board members are planning to attend the next MLBAB meetings to keep up-to-date on the latest legislative and political developments. Board is tentatively planning increased public outreach efforts, and has requested Commission assistance and increased lobbying efforts.
- **Strategic Goals:**
 - Strategic goal – work with the Miami-Lakes Blasting Board to re-introduce a bill in Tallahassee to address the issue (SB-56 has been introduced and is making its way through various subcommittees). Solicit support of the Commission of Miramar to do so. Begin stronger public outreach program to foster resident engagement.
- **Recommendations:**
 - Lobbying in Tallahassee to members of House and Senate to support bills that would provide stronger regulations and accountability for the mining companies.

8. Conclusion

The Board continues pursuing its goal of reducing blasting impacts to the residential areas in Miramar through public awareness and engagement, fostering a unified legislative front with MLBAB, and recommending lobbying efforts and actions to the Commission. As more residents become educated about the rock blasting processes, how the industry is regulated, and where to file complaints, residents can increase the number of complaints filed with the State Fire Marshal's office. Resident complaints, combined with the lobbying efforts of MLBAB and the City of Miramar, will hopefully help to foster meaningful change - to both blasting limits and resident recourse for blast-induced structural damages - at the State's legislative level.