

RESOLUTION #2023/24-005

A Resolution of the Flagler District BID

APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY

April 18, 2024

FLAGLER STREET CLOSURE “PILOT PROGRAM” IN DOWNTOWN MIAMI

The Board of Directors of the Flagler Business Improvement District (Flagler District BID) hereby supports development of an implementation plan for a Flagler Street Pilot Program BEFORE the street is re-opened to automotive traffic.

Flagler District stakeholders are excited about final completion of the first sections of the new curbsless, festival-style streetscape along Flagler Street. The more-than-a-year of pedestrian-only access during substantial completion has led to much discussion regarding regular periods of future street closure for pedestrian-only access, activities, and events.

The implementation plan for the Flagler Street Pilot Program should:

- include pilot program objectives and explore the opportunities created by street closure during specific times of day.
- identify hours of operation, and clear assignment of authority and responsibility for day-to day management of street closure/opening.
- explore accommodation on north-south Avenues, east-west streets, and public/private parking lots and garages for self-parking, valet service, additional commercial loading, local/app deliveries, rideshare pickup & drop-off to compliment Flagler Street closure.

Please feel free to contact us if we can provide further information.

Board Members

Dylan Finger, Mana Miami (President/Chair)
Daniel Pena Giraldi, Stambul USA (Vice President/Vice-Chair)
Sergio Rok, Rok Enterprises (Secretary)
Gary Ressler, Tilia Properties (Treasurer)
Randy Alonso, Lost Boy Dry Goods (Director)

Executive Director

Terrell Fritz, fritz@downtownmiami.net, 786-200-9200

FOR DISCUSSION ONLY

Flagler Street Pilot Program Objectives

Align the Streetscape Vision and Public Purpose

- The new curbless, festival-style streetscape design of Flagler Street was intentionally conceived to facilitate road closures and create a more pedestrian-oriented, public realm.
- Allowing for regular street closures aligns with the core objectives of the Flagler Beautification project - to transform Flagler Street into a vibrant, community-focused destination that prioritizes people over vehicles.
- Regular closures will enable the Flagler District to host events, activate the public space, and foster a lively, walkable environment that serves the broader public interest.

Maximizing Placemaking/Pedestrian Accessibility

- Carefully planned street closures can strike an appropriate balance between providing support functions for Flagler Street businesses and creating a vibrant, pedestrian-friendly public space.
- By opening Flagler Street during morning hours, the plan accommodates essential loading, deliveries, and access needs during times of highest demand, while prioritizing pedestrians during peak activity periods.
- Reconfiguration of adjacent streets and parking facilities will ensure continued connectivity and multimodal access to businesses and residences within the Flagler District.

Opportunities by Time of Day

NOTE: If all opportunities outlined in (red) below were implemented, Flagler Street would only be open to automotive traffic from 6am – 11am, Mon.- Fri. (Maximum Closure).

1. (Open) Morning Hours (6am - 11am)

- Allow for essential commercial loading, unloading, and deliveries to businesses.
- Maintain early-morning access for residents, workers, and those visiting the district.
- Enable street cleaning, maintenance, and preparatory set-up for daytime activities.
- Minimize disruption to commuters and those running errands before the workday.

2. (Closed) Before Lunch and Afternoon Hours (11am - 4pm)

- Create a pedestrian-focused, public gathering space during peak daytime hours.
- Facilitate outdoor dining, pop-up markets, live entertainment, and other activations.
- Enhance the district's appeal as a lunchtime destination for nearby office workers.
- Encourage lingering, exploration, and spontaneous discovery of local businesses.

3. **(Closed) Dinner and Evening Hours (4pm - 11pm)**

- Extend the pedestrian-oriented experience into the high-traffic dinner and night life hours.
- Enable expanded outdoor seating, al fresco dining, and festive evening programming.
- Support the growth of the district's restaurant, bar, and entertainment offerings.
- Foster a vibrant, walkable atmosphere that attracts residents, visitors, and tourists.

4. **(Closed) Late Night (11pm - 6am)**

- Improve safety and security by eliminating vehicular traffic during overnight hours.
- Reduce noise and disturbances for nearby residents.
- Allow for more efficient sidewalk/street cleaning, maintenance, and infrastructure repairs.

5. **(Closed) Weekend (Friday 11am - Monday 6am)**

- Create a celebrated, car-free public space for the entire weekend period.
- Maximize opportunities for community events, street festivals, and other programming.
- Encourage lingering, leisure, and exploration of local shops, restaurants, and attractions.