

RESOLUTION NO. 16 - 2359

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN OF SURFSIDE, FLORIDA, SUPPORTING THE UNITED STATES COAST GUARD MODIFICATION OF THE OPERATING SCHEDULE OF THE 63<sup>RD</sup> STREET BRIDGE ACROSS INDIAN CREEK, MILE 4.0 AT MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA, PURSUANT TO DOCKET NUMBER USCG-2015-0940; URGING THE UNITED STATES COAST GUARD TO CONSIDER MODIFICATIONS TO THE OPERATING SCHEDULE OF THE 96<sup>TH</sup> STREET BRIDGE ACROSS BAY HARBOR ISLANDS; DIRECTING THE TOWN CLERK TO TRANSMIT A COPY OF THIS RESOLUTION TO THE FEDERAL ERULEMAKING PORTAL, THE CLERK OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH, THE CLERK OF THE TOWN OF BAY HARBOR ISLANDS, THE CLERK OF THE VILLAGE OF BAL HARBOUR, THE CLERK OF THE CITY OF NORTH MIAMI AND THE CLERK OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY; PROVIDING FOR INCORPORATION OF RECITALS; PROVIDING FOR APPROVAL AND AUTHORIZATION; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to docket number USCG-2015-0940 the United States Coast Guard proposes to modify the operating schedule that governs the 63rd Street Bridge across Indian Creek, mile 4.0, at Miami Beach, FL; and

**WHEREAS**, the intersection of Indian Creek Drive and 63rd Street is one of the key intersections in the City of Miami Beach and significant in the commute between the Town of Surfside, North Beach, South Beach and downtown Miami; and

**WHEREAS**, the opening of the 63<sup>rd</sup> Street bridge during peak hours causes major traffic congestion extending into Surfside, adversely affecting residents and commuters traversing the Indian Creek Drive/63rd Street intersection; and

**WHEREAS**, modifying the bridge operating schedule will reduce major vehicle traffic issues during rush hour times; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Miami Beach conducted traffic studies and reviewed the bridge logs which showed a 45% increase in vehicular traffic from 7 a.m. to 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. with no corresponding increase in vessel traffic during those time periods; and

**WHEREAS**, based on these studies, the Coast Guard proposes to add a new regulation for the operations of the 63rd Street Bridge, Indian Creek mile 4.0, at Miami

Beach that would implement three closure periods, which would allow the bridge to not open for vessels during morning and afternoon peak vehicle traffic times; and

**WHEREAS**, the following schedule is proposed: (1) From Monday through Friday from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. the bridge would only open on the hour and half hour; (2) from 7:10 a.m. to 9:55 a.m. and 4:05 p.m. to 6:59 p.m. Monday through Friday, the bridge would remain closed; and (3) from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. the seven days before and the four days following the City of Miami Beach Yacht and Brokerage Show the second week of February, the bridge would only open for ten minutes at the top of the hour. For federal holidays, weekends, and other times the bridge would continue to open for vessels on signal; and

**WHEREAS**, these proposed changes will still allow vessels to pass through the bridge while taking into account the reasonable needs of other modes of transportation; and

**WHEREAS**, the Surfside Chief of Police has advised that bridge openings at 96<sup>th</sup> Street Bridge in the Town of Bay Harbor Islands also cause massive traffic congestion during the rush hours for the communities of the Town of Surfside, the Village of Bal Harbour, the Town of Bay Harbor Islands, and the City of North Miami. A similar modification of the bridge operating schedule is recommended to the United States Coast Guard; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town of Surfside recommends the United States Coast Guard consider modification of the operating schedule of the 63<sup>rd</sup> Street bridge and the 96<sup>th</sup> Street bridge to ease traffic congestion during peak hours.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWN OF SURFSIDE, FLORIDA, AS FOLLOWS:**

**Section 1. Recitals Adopted.** That each of the above stated recitals are hereby adopted, confirmed, and incorporated herein.

**Section 2. Support by the Town of Surfside Town Commission for the United States Coast Guard to modify the Operating Schedule of 63<sup>rd</sup> Street Bridge** The Town of Surfside Commission supports the United States Coast Guard modification of the operating schedule of the 63<sup>rd</sup> street bridge across Indian Creek, mile 4.0 at Miami Beach, Florida pursuant to docket number USCG-2015-0940, to ease traffic congestion during peak hours and allow for better mobility between the Town of Surfside, the City of Miami Beach, and downtown Miami.

**Section 3. Urging by the Town of Surfside Town Commission for the United States Coast Guard to modify the Operating Schedule of 96<sup>th</sup> Street Bridge.** The Town of Surfside Commission urges the United States Coast Guard to consider modifications to the operating schedule of the bridge on 96<sup>th</sup> street to ease the massive traffic congestion during the rush hours for the communities of the Town of Surfside, the Village of Bal Harbour, the Town of Bay Harbor Islands, and the City of North Miami.

**Section 4. Authorization and Implementation.** The Town Manager is hereby authorized to take any and all action necessary to implement this Resolution.

**Section 5. Direction to the Town Clerk.** The Town Clerk is hereby directed to send a copy of this Resolution to the federal eRulemaking portal, the Clerk of the City of Miami Beach, the Clerk of the Town of Bay Harbor Islands, the Clerk of the Village of Bal Harbour, the Clerk of the City of North Miami, and the Clerk of Miami-Dade County.

**Section 6. Effective Date.** This Resolution shall become effective immediately upon its adoption.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 8<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2016.

Motion by Commissioner Karukin.

Second by Commissioner Olchyk.

**FINAL VOTE ON ADOPTION**


Commissioner Barry Cohen  
Commissioner Michael Karukin  
Commissioner Marta Olchyk  
Vice Mayor Eli Tourgeman  
Mayor Daniel Dietch

yes  
yes  
yes  
Absent  
yes

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Daniel Dietch, Mayor

ATTEST:   
\_\_\_\_\_  
Sandra Novoa, MMC, Town Clerk

**APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGAL SUFFICIENCY FOR THE TOWN OF SURFSIDE ONLY:**

  
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Linda Miller, Town Attorney

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