

**Miami River Commission's
Holiday Boat Parade Subcommittee
May 15, 2023**

Miami River Commission's (MRC) Holiday Boat Parade Subcommittee convened a public meeting on May 15, 2023, Curtis Park Community Center, 1901 NW 24 Ave. The sign in sheet is attached.

Attendees discussed the Miami River Holiday Boat Parade on the Miami River, December 9, estimated 6:30 - 9 PM, a line of 40 vessels x 45 feet max each = 1,800 feet. 200 feet between each vessel x 23 gaps = 4,600 feet. Grand total = 6,400 feet navigates at idle no wake speed from Brickell Bridge to Tamiami Canal and back. An estimated 15 boats will require openings on taller bridges, while 25 boats will slip beneath without an opening. All boats in parade, plus marine patrol boats, will monitor Radio Channel 9 and all trade cell phone #'s. The line will proceed from east to west before it gets dark, and then when it is dark the parade starts as the boats return from west to east, ending at the confluence of the Miami River and Biscayne Bay with a potential fireworks or drone display. All vessels will be required to indemnify the City, MRC, etc and provide Certificates of Insurance coinsuring the City, MRC, etc.

- I. **Status of USCG Permit** – Brett Bibeau, Managing Director, Miami River Commission, presented a May 10 email from the USCG acknowledging receipt of the subject “Marine Event” permit application.
- II. **Status of FDOT Permit** – Mr. Bibeau presented a draft letter which the City of Miami is required to sign and must be included when the subject “Special Event” permit application is submitted.
- III. **Status of Miami-Dade County Public Works Permit** – Sandra, Miami-Dade County Public Works, stated they will not require a separate permit for their Bridge openings, rather will accept the USCG permit which was previously applied for.
- IV. **Status of DERM Permit** – Spencer Crowley stated Miami-Dade County DERM does not have the legal authority to regulate nor require a permit for the subject Miami River Holiday Boat Parade.
- V. **Discussion Regarding City of Miami Police Department Participation** – City of Miami Marine Patrol LT Tameron and SGT Kostowic stated the City will provide a marine patrol vessel in the front and back of the parade.

- VI. **Discussion Regarding City of Miami Fire Department Participation** – Joe Marrowitz, City of Miami Fire Department, state the City will provide the Fire Boat for the parade.
- VII. **Discussion Regarding City of Miami Parks Department Participation** – German Mata, City of Miami Parks Department, attended the MRC Holiday Boat Parade Subcommittee's March and April public meetings, but was unable to attend the May meeting. Coordination and communication will continue with the Parks Department.
- VIII. **Status of DDA Sponsorship** – Attendees thanked the DDA for including a \$10,000 sponsorship for the Holiday Boat Parade in their draft Budget to be voted on by the City Commission in September and if approved would become available in October 2023.
- IX. **Status of Miami-Dade County Community Grant (CG) Application** – Mr. Bibeau stated the MRC was awarded a CG grant for Riverday in 2023, therefore isn't eligible to apply again for the Holiday Boat Parade. Therefore, he thanked the Friends of the Underline whom agreed to submit the \$10,000 competitive grant application and he will assist with the paperwork.
- X. **Status of Miami Dade County Tourist Development Council (TDC) Grant Application** - Mr. Bibeau stated the MRC was awarded a TDC grant for Riverday in 2023, therefore isn't eligible to apply again for the Holiday Boat Parade. Therefore, he thanked the Friends of the Underline whom agreed to submit the \$10,000 competitive grant application and he will assist with the paperwork.
- XI. **Discuss Yacht Clubs** – Mercedes Rodriguez stated she will reach out to schedule meetings with the Miami Outboard Club, Miami Yacht Club, and the Coral Reef Yacht Club.
- XII. **Discuss Pro Sports Teams Vessels** – Attendees agreed to strategize the best way to invite all local professional sports teams to have vessels in the parade.

- XIII. **Status of Miami River Shipping Terminals Not Navigating Miami River on 12/9, from 6-10 PM** – On April 26 Mark Bailey, Miami River Marine Group, emailed the Miami River's international shipping terminals regarding the planned Holiday Boat Parade. As of May 10, he had not received any objections to shipping vessels not navigating the Miami River during the Parade.
- XIV. **Findings of Logistical Boat Ride Conducted May 3, 2023** – Mr Bibeau thanked Mike Simpson, Sightseeing Tours Management, for providing a logistical boat ride on the Miami River on May 3. While traveling idle no wake speed (6 knots) times were recorded at all bridges. It essentially takes 1 hour in each direction.
- XV. **Update on Meeting With City of Miami Communications Director Kenya** - On May 8, 2023 Mercedes Rodriguez and Brett Bibeau had a positive preliminary meeting with City of Miami Communications Director Kenya, whom was very supportive of the Miami River Holiday Boat Parade.
- XVI. **Update on Meeting with Rolando Aedo, Greater Miami Convention and Visitors Bureau** - Mercedes Rodriguez and Brett Bibeau had a positive meeting with Rolando Aedo, GMCVB, whom kindly offered GMCVB graphic designer assistance to beautify the Parade summary authored by Mr Bibeau. In addition, Mr Aedo kindly offered assistance from GMCVB staffer Matt Ratner, whom works on Sports and Entertainment.
- XVII. **New Business** – The next Miami River Holiday Boat Parade subcommittee's public meeting will be held June 12 at 1 PM.

The public meeting adjourned.

Miami River Commission

Miami River Holiday Boat Parade Public Meeting

May 15, 2023 - 1 PM

Curtis Park Community Center, 1901 NW 24 Ave

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