

We Advocate for Residents of Miami Beach!
We are a community-based 501(c)4 not-for-profit organization providing Miami Beach residents a cohesive voice for city-wide issues that impact our quality of life. Click here to [join us!](#)



December 11, 2019 - the last Commission meeting of 2019 and the first for the new Commission - this is Miami Beach United's Resolution:

- Agenda Item **C4-K** - Referral to 12/17/19 Planning Board Regarding Amendments to Clarify Definition of Floor Area Ratio

While this may not seem like an exciting topic, it may have the most far-reaching consequences of any being considered by the Commission. If you have strong feelings about it, you can [attend meetings](#) at which this will be discussed and [contact your elected officials](#) to share your views.

Want to read the proposed Commission agenda items and get info about the Commission meeting on Wednesday at 8:30 a.m. Click [here](#) .

Want to contact your elected officials directly? Click [here](#) .

Commission meetings start at 9 a.m. at the Commission Chambers on the 3rd floor of City Hall. There is a Sutnick Hour, at which residents may address the Commission on any subject, from 8:30-9:00 a.m., and 1:00-1:30 p.m.

Referral to 12/17/19 Planning Board Regarding Amendments to Clarify Definition of Floor Area Ratio Agenda Item **C4-K**

Executive summary:

After a surprising reversal of the longstanding definition of FAR by the Board of Adjustment in November, which will have impact on future developments throughout Miami Beach, the City is seeking to codify more carefully the language in the ordinances regarding FAR. The City is also appealing the ruling by the BOA in the Circuit Court Appellate Division; you can read the complaint [here](#) and see the exhibits [here](#) .

However, the City is also considering an exception for the 500 Alton Rd. project, allowing it to continue under the new ruling, which threatens to set a precedent on future projects.

Why It Matters

- The Board of Adjustments should not have changed the longstanding interpretation of FAR.
- The City is proposing to strengthen and codify the historic language regulating FAR.
- The City should strongly defend its historic definition of FAR and appeal to the Board of Adjustment Ruling.
- An exception to the FAR definition is being considered for the development at 500 Alton Rd. which could set precedents for future projects

Miami Beach United supports codifying a nd defen ding the historic language regulating FAR. However, MBU strongly OPPOSES granting any exceptions for the project at 500 Alton Rd.

Read the MBU Resolution in its entirety by clicking [HERE](#) and MBU's previous statement on this issue [HERE](#) .
Read the Commission documents by clicking [HERE](#) .

The Miami Beach United [website](#): full of information, with more on the way !

Located at www.miamibeachunited.org , the site is packed with new features, including a digital "suggestion box" in the footer, a new [YouTube channel](#) , and an [archive of past newsletters](#) with live links to past resolutions and supporting documents.



Miami Beach United 2019 Commission Scorecard

Tracks Commission Votes To Show How Resident-Friendly the City Of Miami Beach Elected Officials Are

Miami Beach United, the only community-based non-profit organization providing Miami Beach residents a cohesive voice for residents' rights and city-wide issues which impact their quality of life, is pleased to present its [Second Annual Commission Scorecard](#) covering the 2018-2019 fiscal year.

This is not a comprehensive review of the voting record of each elected official; it is merely an accounting of how each elected official voted on matters upon which Miami Beach United submitted a resolution to the Commission.

Here's how it works:

Each month, Miami Beach United identifies and tracks issues pertaining to residents rights and quality of life issues that are coming before the Commission. Many of these issues become resolutions, voted on by the Board of Directors, and shared in advance of the monthly Commission meetings with the Mayor and Commissioners (and staff) of the city of Miami Beach. They are also shared with all of you via this mailing list for Miami Beach United.

In each case, whenever Miami Beach United passed a resolution on a matter before the Commission, the scorecard indicates whether or not an individual elected official supported or opposed the action recommended by Miami Beach United. This scorecard ONLY reflects the items upon which MBU took a position, and therefore is not a representation of an elected official's complete voting record.

For ordinances, which require two hearings, only the final vote on Second Reading was recorded and counted. In some cases, when Miami Beach United's recommendations were only partially implemented, that was treated as a neutral action, and that vote was excluded from the total score.

All items were weighted equally when calculating an overall percentage grade for each elected official during the measurement period.

This Commission Scorecard process commenced for the 2018-2019 Fiscal Year with the November 2018 Commission meeting, with the final scorecard to be published after the October 17 2019 Commission meeting.

The Commission Scorecard process for the 2019-2020 Fiscal Year will commence with the October 30 2019 Commission meeting, with the final scorecard to be published after the final October 2020 Commission meeting.

Click [here for more information](#) and [here to view the scorecard](#) in its entirety, including which resolutions were tracked for the legislative year 2018.

2019 Miami Beach United Board of Directors

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Our Mission

Dedicated to improving the quality of life for Miami Beach residents, managed and measured growth of our city, and ethical leadership of government – for a vibrant city rooted in history, its people, resources and neighborhoods, with focus on the future – by providing educational and analytical focus on the organization, structure, policies and performance of Miami Beach government.