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PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Mass Transit is Fast-Tracked on Miami Beach *--Negotiations Approved for a Wireless Light Rail/Modern Street Car--*

Miami Beach, FL – The City Commission has given a green light to proceed with negotiations for an interim agreement with Greater Miami Tramlink Partners, the topped-ranked proposer in a public private light rail/modern street car project for Miami Beach.

“Today’s decision has catapulted the reality of wireless mass transit on Miami Beach,” said City Manager Jimmy L. Morales. “This project aims to substantially ease traffic congestion, link key points of interest, connect people with jobs and opportunities, reduce air pollution and greenhouse gas emissions, and save thousands of dollars in commuting and parking costs for residents and visitors.”

Electrically-powered, the Miami Beach Light Rail/ Modern Streetcar is proposed to be off-wire and operate on a dedicated travel lane — ensuring efficient service, permanence, and solidifying it as a community asset for many years to come.

The scope of the project, which will be determined by the environmental review process currently underway, will be refined in parallel with negotiations of the interim and comprehensive agreements. Preliminary recommendations include a two-phased route alignment to provide a full loop within South Beach, with potential alignments consisting of 5 Street and Washington Avenue to the Miami Beach Convention Center and either 17 Street or Dade Boulevard and Alton Road to 5 Street.

If for some reason the city cannot reach an agreement with Greater Miami Tramlink Partners, they have also been authorized to negotiate with second and third-ranked proposers, Connect Miami Beach and Miami Beach Mobility Partners.

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