

RESOLUTION NO. 146-16-14701

A Resolution of the City of South Miami, Florida, placing a non-binding ballot question on the Tuesday, November 8, 2016, Presidential Election ballot, to determine whether the voters support the use of the value of the existing Library and/or City Hall/Police Station property to fund the building of a new Library and/or City Hall and Police Station and possibly other improvements in the City.

WHEREAS, several developers/firms have made offers to acquire some properties owned by the City including the South Miami City/Hall/Police Station, and library properties; and

WHEREAS, some have offered to rebuild South Miami City Hall/Police Station, library, and if necessary, to relocate the Sylva Martin building to be repurposed for use by the public; and

WHEREAS, City Hall is 61 years old and in need of repair; and

WHEREAS, the 2nd floor of the main building is not ADA accessible, making it nonconforming under current Federal standards for such structures and therefore inappropriate for public use; and

WHEREAS, redesign and reconstruction of the South Miami City Hall complex was first proposed in the 1994 Hometown Plan Area 2 ("Hometown Too" plan), and has been considered by the City and its residents ever since; and

WHEREAS, due to the current economic strengthening, and the multi-million dollar repairs and retrofitting needed for the City Hall complex, this is an opportune time to investigate a redevelopment of the City Hall campus including, the City Hall, the Police Station, and the Library; and

WHEREAS, a proposed transaction might will provide additional resources to fund the connection of residents in low-lying areas of the City to municipal sewer, at a savings of tens of millions of dollars to the taxpayers; and

WHEREAS, some feel that the Commission would benefit from knowing whether the residents agree that the City should build a new City Hall campus including, the City Hall, Police Station, and the Library, using the value of the existing property as a tool for funding the construction so taxpayers do not have to pay tens of millions of dollars for this purpose.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF SOUTH MIAMI, FLORIDA, THAT:

Section 1. A non-binding straw ballot question shall be placed on the Tuesday, November 8, 2016, Presidential Election ballot for the purpose of submitting to the qualified electors the question as set forth below.

Section 2. Notice of such election shall be published in accordance with the election laws.

Section 3. The result of such election shall be determined by a majority of the qualified electors of the City of South Miami voting upon the proposal at the Tuesday, November 8, 2016, Presidential Election. All qualified electors of the City of South Miami shall be entitled to vote at said election. The question shall appear on the ballot in substantially the following form:

Title: Non-binding ballot question concerning financing of a new City Hall campus and other improvements.

BALLOT QUESTION:

Should the City use the value of the existing Library and/or City Hall and Police Station property to fully fund, at no cost to the taxpayer, the construction of an environmentally sound and more efficient City Hall, Police Station and/or Library and other possible improvements to the City, such as sewer connection for residences in low-lying neighborhood currently on septic tanks, park improvements or tax reduction.

YES

NO

Section 4. The form of the ballot shall be in accordance with the requirements of general election laws.

Section 5. Early voting shall be conducted in accordance with the requirements of general election laws.

Section 6. Vote-by-mail ballot may be used by qualified electors of the City of South Miami for voting on this question. The form of such absentee ballot shall be in accordance with the requirements prescribed by general election laws.

Section 7. A sample ballot showing the manner in which the question or proposal aforesaid will appear at this election shall be published and provided in accordance with the applicable provisions of general election laws.

Section 8. This election on the proposal aforesaid shall be held and conducted in accordance with applicable provisions of the general laws relating to elections and the provisions of the Miami-Dade County Home Rule Charter. The City Manager or the manager's designee, the Finance Director, and the City Clerk are hereby authorized and directed to take all appropriate actions necessary to carry into effect and accomplish the provisions of this resolution.

Section 9. Severability: If any section clause, sentence, or phrase of this resolution is for any reason held invalid or unconstitutional by a court of competent jurisdiction, the holding shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this resolution.

Section 10. Effective Date: This resolution shall become effective immediately upon adoption by vote of the City Commission.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 8th day of August, 2016.

ATTEST:


CITY CLERK

APPROVED:


MAYOR

READ AND APPROVED AS TO FORM,
LANGUAGE, LEGALITY,
AND EXECUTION THEREOF:


CITY ATTORNEY

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| COMMISSION VOTE | 3-2 |
| Mayor Stoddard: | Yea |
| Vice Mayor Welsh: | Yea |
| Commissioner Edmond: | Nay |
| Commissioner Harris: | Nay |
| Commissioner Liebman: | Yea |