

Approved _____ Mayor
Veto _____
Override _____

Agenda Item No. 5(A)
1-21-26

RESOLUTION NO. _____

RESOLUTION APPROVING, AFTER A PUBLIC HEARING AND BY A THREE-FIFTHS VOTE OF THE BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT, THE NAMING OF A PORTION OF THE UNDERLINE AS “THE NIKKI SPOELSTRA PLAY FOREST” FOR A PERIOD OF FIVE YEARS, RENEWABLE THROUGH AND INCLUDING DECEMBER 31, 2040

WHEREAS, on February 6, 2018, the Board adopted Resolution No. R-120-18, approving The Underline Management Agreement (the “Management Agreement”) between Miami-Dade County and The Underline Management Organization, Inc. d/b/a The Underline Conservancy (“The Underline Conservancy”); and

WHEREAS, under the Management Agreement, The Underline Conservancy undertook the obligation to manage, operate, and maintain the 10-mile stretch of real property that lies underneath the Metrorail guideway, between the southern seawall of the Miami River and the Dadeland South Metrorail Station (“The Underline”); and

WHEREAS, to support its substantial responsibilities in managing, operating, and maintaining The Underline, the Management Agreement grants The Underline Conservancy the power to fundraise through various means, including through the marketing (by either The Underline Conservancy or its fundraising arm, Friends of the Underline, Inc. (“Friends”) of naming rights for the County facilities within The Underline; and

WHEREAS, under the Management Agreement, the sale of such naming rights is subject to the Board’s approval, as the Management Agreement recognizes that the Board retains the prerogative to approve the naming of any County facility and conduct due diligence prior to the sale of any naming right; and

WHEREAS, The Underline Conservancy notified the County that Friends had entered into a gift agreement with Nikki Spoelstra, through which Ms. Spoelstra made a gift of \$500,000.00 for an initial five-year term to Friends for the maintenance, operation, and programming of The Underline; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Spoelstra is a Miami native, having been raised in Kendall, and is known in this community as an art gallery director, middle school teacher who was selected as teacher of the year by her colleagues and administrators in 2015, Miami Heat dancer and dance coach, and as a content creator and the podcaster of *Becoming: HER* (previously known as *The Know with Nikki Spo*) in which she is joined by expert guests and other friends to empower women while tackling life's complex challenges with humor, grace, and sass; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Spoelstra's gift contemplates the naming of the area depicted in Exhibit A (consisting of approximately 21,500 square feet and excluding internal pathways), now known as The Underline Play Forest, and located within County Commission District 7, for an initial period of five years (renewable through December 31, 2040) to be known as "The Nikki Spoelstra Play Forest"; and

WHEREAS, The Underline Play Forest features adventure play that is designed to inspire children and families to connect with nature and healthy activity; and

WHEREAS, at a groundbreaking event for The Underline Play Forest, Ms. Spoelstra, a mother of three children, remarked that The Underline furthered certain goals that were important to her, including "family, community, culture, education, service, transportation, and getting people to where they want to go"; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Spoelstra's contribution to The Underline not only furthers each of those objectives, but also contributes to the continued success of what National Geographic identified as one of the 30 most exciting destinations to visit in the world in 2024; and

WHEREAS, Rule 9.02 of the Board's Rules of Procedure provides that resolutions regarding the proposed naming, renaming, or co-designation of Miami-Dade County roads, facilities, or property shall be sponsored by the district commissioner where the road, facility, or property is located and shall be considered at a public hearing; and

WHEREAS, Rule 9.02 also provides that the Board may by a three-fifths vote of the Board members present name a County road, facility, or property after a living individual who "has made a direct, significant lifetime contribution to this community,"

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, that this Board:

Section 1. Finds that Nikki Spoelstra has made a direct, significant lifetime contribution to Miami-Dade County, pursuant to Rule 9.02(d) of the Board's Rules of Procedure, and having considered this matter at a public hearing, by a three-fifths vote of the Board members present, approves the naming of the portion of The Underline now known as "The Underline Play Forest," as depicted in Exhibit A as "The Nikki Spoelstra Play Forest" for an initial period of five years from the effective date, renewable through and including December 31, 2040.

Section 2. Authorizes the County Mayor or County Mayor's designee to notify The Underline Conservancy that it may take such actions as are consistent with the Management Agreement and applicable law to identify the named portion of The Underline as "The Nikki Spoelstra Play Forest."

Section 3. Directs the Clerk of the Board to send certified copies of this resolution to the United States Postal Service, the Traffic Signals and Signs Division of the Department of Transportation and Public Works, the Development Services Division of the Department of Regulatory and Economic Resources, the Division of Environmental and Resources Management of the Department of Regulatory and Economic Resources, the Miami-Dade Fire Rescue Department, the Miami-Dade Sheriff's Office, and the chief executive of any municipalities in the named portion of The Underline.

The Prime Sponsor of the foregoing resolution is Commissioner Raquel A. Regalado. It was offered by Commissioner , who moved its adoption. The motion was seconded by Commissioner and upon being put to a vote, the vote was as follows:

Anthony Rodriguez, Chairman	
Kionne L. McGhee, Vice Chairman	
Marleine Bastien	Juan Carlos Bermudez
Sen. René García	Oliver G. Gilbert, III
Roberto J. Gonzalez	Keon Hardemon
Danielle Cohen Higgins	Vicki L. Lopez
Natalie Milian Orbis	Raquel A. Regalado
Micky Steinberg	

The Chairperson thereupon declared this resolution duly passed and adopted this 21st day of January, 2026. This resolution shall become effective upon the earlier of (1) 10 days after the date of its adoption unless vetoed by the County Mayor, and if vetoed, shall become effective only upon an override by this Board, or (2) approval by the County Mayor of this resolution and the filing of this approval with the Clerk of the Board.

MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA
BY ITS BOARD OF
COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

JUAN FERNANDEZ-BARQUIN, CLERK

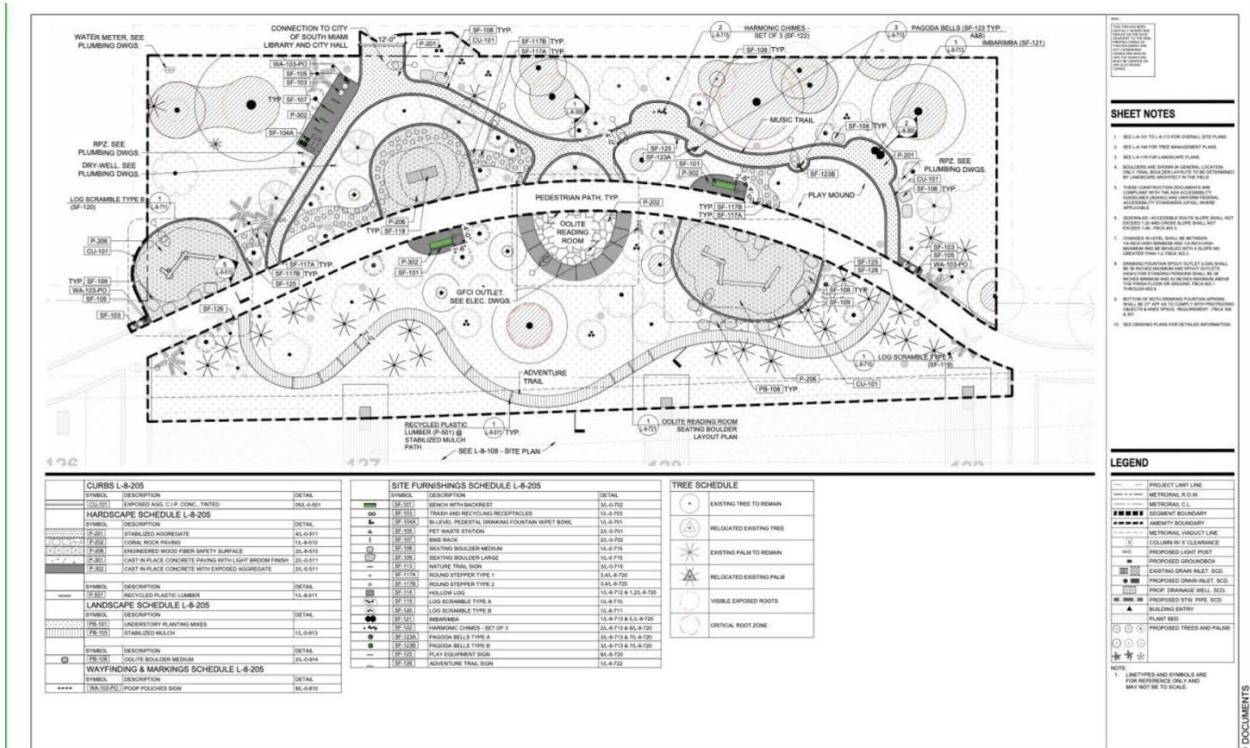
By: _____
Deputy Clerk

Approved by County Attorney as
to form and legal sufficiency.

MAG

Miguel A. Gonzalez

Exhibit A: Description of Sponsorship Area



The Play Forest is located on The Underline adjacent to the City of South Miami City Hall and Library. As sponsor of the Play Forest, the sponsor/donor will be The Underline Play Forest sponsor. The internal path(s) is/are not sponsored by the Donor. The Play Forest is 21,500 SF.