## ADDITIONAL MATERIAL REGULAR MEETING

**APRIL 6, 2021** 

## SUBMITTED AT THE REQUEST OF

## COMMISSIONER DALE V.C. HOLNESS

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## Miami-Dade Police Department

**Director's Office** 



March 4, 2021

Honorable Chairman Jose "Pepe" Diaz and Members, Board of County Commissioners Stephen P. Clark Government Center 111 NW 1 Street, Suite 220 Miami, FL 33128

Re: Support for Local Community Identification (ID) Program

Dear Chairman Diaz and Members, Board of County Commissioners:

The Miami-Dade Police Department is in support of a Community ID Program for purposes of providing residents with access to Miami-Dade County services. Our Department will recognize a Community ID as a form of identification, but not for official police business involving arrests, traffic stops and other reasonable suspicion detentions (Terry stops).

A Community ID would provide cardholders with a reliable form of identification that can be used as a tool by law enforcement, County departments, health centers, schools, businesses, and cultural art organizations to better identify and serve its residents. Such programs have been successful in cities like Cincinnati, Ohio, and West Palm Beach, Florida.

A Community ID may help strengthen police and community relations. It is our hope that individuals with Community IDs will be more willing to come forward to report crimes and otherwise participate in the community in which they reside. A local ID would also help with access to COVID-19 testing and vaccinations.

The safety of the residents and visitors of Miami-Dade County is our priority, and the implementation of a Community ID Program will further that goal.

Sincerely,

Alfredo Ramirez III
Director