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1 **R2020-12: RESOLUTION CLOSING 12 AVE., NORTH BETWEEN NORTH**  
2 **OCEAN BLVD., AND WITHERS ALLEY.**

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3 **Applicant/Purpose:** Staff / to close 12 Ave., North b/w N. Ocean Blvd., and Withers  
4 Alley.

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6 **Brief:**

- 7 • This Resolution does three things:
    - 8 ○ Closes 12<sup>th</sup> Ave., North b/w N. Ocean Blvd & Withers Alley
    - 9 ○ Directs City staff to install collapsible bollards to allow for continued  
10 access for public utility vehicles/equipment as well as for  
11 vehicles/equipment to maintain the amusement rides
    - 12 ○ Permits enhanced streetscape improvements by private entities that elect  
13 to submit a commercial encroachment permit
- 14

15 **Issues:**

- 16 • Every year millions of visitors descend onto Ocean Blvd., causing heavy  
17 congestion along the sidewalks.
  - 18 • The pedestrian congestion in front of Free Fall Park (i.e., the slingshot) is of  
19 particular concern due to the number of people who are standing in line to ride  
20 the amusement and those who stop on the sidewalk to watch the ride.
  - 21 • The line queuing and stopping to watch the rides is causing pedestrians who are  
22 trying to travel through the area on the sidewalks to change their path and walk  
23 onto N. Ocean Blvd.,
  - 24 • This creates public safety issues because people have to step off the sidewalk  
25 and into the bike lane and vehicle traffic along North Ocean Blvd.,
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27 **Public Notification:** Normal meeting notification.

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29 **Alternatives:** Amend proposed resolution; deny proposed resolution.

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31 **Financial Impact:**

- 32 • Minimal financial impact with the installation of the bollards
  - 33 • There will be additional costs in the future if/when the city streetscapes this  
34 section.
- 35

36 **Manager's Recommendation:** I support this resolution.

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38 **Attachment(s):** Proposed resolution

**RESOLUTION R2021-12**

**CITY OF MYRTLE BEACH  
COUNTY OF HORRY  
STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA**

**A RESOLUTION CLOSING 12 AVE.,  
NORTH BETWEEN NORTH OCEAN BLVD.,  
AND WITHERS ALLEY**

WHEREAS, with millions of visitors a year coming to the City of Myrtle Beach and Ocean Blvd., the sidewalks along North Ocean Blvd., become very congested with pedestrian activity; and

WHEREAS, this congestion in front of the Free Fall Park (i.e., slingshot) is particularly crowded with bystanders that stop along the sidewalk and watch the rides which in turn impedes pedestrian foot traffic trying to walk through the area; and

WHEREAS, these congested conditions cause traveling pedestrians trying to walk through this area to sometimes walk onto N. Ocean Blvd., into moving vehicle traffic, to avoid the bystanders standing on the sidewalk causing a safety issue; and

WHEREAS, N. Ocean Blvd., 12 Ave., North, and Withers Alley are all owned by the City; and

WHEREAS, by closing this short section to vehicles will allow a safe place for bystanders to stand while not impeding pedestrian foot traffic along N. Ocean Blvd., and

WHEREAS, no business activity will be adversely impacted by this closure;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

- 12<sup>th</sup> Ave., North at the intersection of North Ocean Blvd., and Withers Alley shall be closed to vehicle traffic until further action of the City Council.
- City staff is directed to make public improvements with the installation of collapsible bollards to allow continued access for public utility and private amusement ride maintenance activities associated with the adjacent property.
- Installation of enhanced streetscape elements may be considered by private entities electing to submit a commercial encroachment permit application, which will be reviewed by city departments prior to further action of City Council.

Passed and adopted by the City Council for the City this 13<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2021.

CITY OF MYRTLE BEACH, SOUTH CAROLINA

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Brenda Bethune, Mayor

ATTEST:

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Jennifer Adkins, City Clerk