

FROM PAGE 17A

PROTESTS

at the intersection of Southwest 107th Avenue and Southwest Eighth Street. Many more Miami-Dade police officers in riot gear lined up and cornered the remaining demonstrators, demanding they remain on the sidewalk.

“It’s not y’all, it’s the system,” hollered Brice Perry, a 20-year-old FIU student. “We don’t want to hurt you. You’re supposed to protect us.”

In Broward County, Ross showed support for local protesters marching in Miramar. He was one of hundreds gathered at Ansin Sports Complex.

Ross, whose debut album was titled “Port of Miami,” said he showed up Saturday to serve as an example for his young fans.

“That’s moving like a boss, making sure you’re seen [and] making sure you’re heard,” he said in an interview. “I’m waking up to it every day. That’s how a black man moves. You’ve got to wake up to it every day.”

“Justice for George,” he added.

One of the organizers of the Miramar demonstration, Josh Michel, said he couldn’t believe the turnout of about 1,000, but “I didn’t care if there was 10 people out here, if there was 20 people out here, as long as everybody’s coming out for the same cause — Black Lives Matter — and everybody knows that, that’s what I cared about. I’d have come out and protested by myself.”

Michel said Miramar Chief of Police Dexter Williams reached out to him and he made clear to Williams he wanted a protest like the “mad peaceful” one in Sunrise instead of last Saturday’s Miami protest that ended not so



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On day eight of protests in downtown Miami in response to the police killing of George Floyd in Minneapolis, protesters walk north on Biscayne Boulevard to NE 36th Street on Saturday.

peacefully.

“We’re not violent,” Michel said. “We’re just trying to get our point across in a safe way. Because the police are here to protect and serve and we are not being protected and served the right way.”

Before the crowd marched from Ansin Park’s football stadium to City Hall at Miramar Town Center, they heard from Tracy Martin, father of Trayvon Martin.

Martin noted it was 3,023 days since his 17-year-old son was shot to death by George Zimmerman in Sanford.

“When will it stop?” Martin asked.

“We know all lives matter, but in our case, we have to write the script for how to go outside, how to walk down the street, how to put our hands up when the police pulls us over,” Martin said.

“There shouldn’t be a blueprint on how to come out of our houses and go to the grocery store,” he continued. “We should be able to get back home and be safe like everybody else. Of course, everybody’s life matters. But black lives are challenged every day on a constant basis.”

In downtown Miami, a prayer march filled the

streets on Saturday morning.

“The idea of justice is all over scripture,” said Che Scott, an organizer of Saturday’s prayer march. “The scripture often questions our faith when we don’t seek justice.”

The hourlong march, from Bayfront Park to the Miami-Dade Courthouse and back, was not impeded by police even as the group walked up the courthouse steps to pray.

The group raised their voices to sing as they marched along Northeast Second Street.

“May his favor be upon you and a thousand generations,” they sang. “And your family, and your children — and their children and their children.”

At Bayfront Park, one of four stops the group made to pray, protesters knelt together.

“God is not intimidated by all of us praying at the same time,” said Adrian Molina, of Vous Church, who led the group in prayer. “He’s big enough to listen to each and everyone of our voices at the same time.”

In downtown Miami on Saturday evening, the crowd of anti-police violence protesters was so big that chant responses from the back of the crowd to calls from the front appeared to

come with a one-second delay — like band members trying to play music via Zoom. Or the chants at the back differed completely from those at the front.

“No justice, no peace!,” the protesters yelled. Most responded with: “No racist police!”

But those at the back, who couldn’t hear the chant, screamed instead, “I can’t breathe!”

Saturday’s protest started before 4 p.m. at downtown’s Torch of Friendship near Bayfront. The crowd pushed north, overtaking north and southbound lanes of Biscayne Boulevard.

Instead of heading east toward the Julia Tuttle Causeway, they headed to Midtown and then marched through Wynwood, singing and calling for justice and an end to police brutality.

The protesters were peaceful. They reminded each other not to even litter, let alone deface property.

Some drivers who couldn’t pass the road on Biscayne Boulevard joined in the protest.

University of Miami English professor Nick Pici, 45, followed the march to Midtown but did not have a sign. Then he found a stack of cardboard boxes on 36th Street and ripped himself a square. He used a black marker to scrawl a message of solidarity.

“It feels like something momentous,” he said of the protest.

Saturday’s march was so seamless that many didn’t realize they had walked five miles. The soothing voice of 27-year-old Nucleus Shelton helped breathe new life into the protesters as they passed Wynwood and headed back to downtown.

“Mama, mama tell me why. Why did Floyd have to die?” he sang. “They keep trying to kick us down, so we’re marching into town.”

Here’s what else went on Saturday as of the early

evening:

- Under Saturday’s overcast sky, several dozen people gathered in west Miami-Dade to protest police brutality and President Donald Trump on the corner across from president’s golf resort in Doral.

Clutching a sign that read, “Take your foot off our necks,” local business owner Simona Simmonds said she was overwhelmed with the support she saw from Hispanic protesters.

“As you can see, I’m one of the few black people that’s out here,” she said. “And so to see the support from the Hispanic community, it really warms my heart and let’s me know that hope is not lost and we are not in this fight alone. We are together.”

The protest was organized as an expression of support from Latinos for Black Lives Matter.

“An injustice in the black community is an injustice in our community,” protesters shouted.

- Dozens of tactical po-

lice officers in riot gear surrounded the Miami Springs Circle on Saturday afternoon along with a handful of Black Lives Matters protesters who called for the city’s police department to be defunded.

“Miami Springs needs some diversity,” said Liberty City activist Renita Holmes, who, for years, has demanded that police in Miami stop targeting blacks.

Holmes questioned the city’s hiring practices and pointed to the force’s 50 or so police officers — none of whom are black.

“Show us, don’t tell us,” said Holmes, 59, who was hailed a hero in 2016 by Miami leaders after saving an Overtown teen’s life as 12 bullets ripped into her car.

Miami Herald staff writers Howard Cohen, Joey Flechas, David J. Neal and Martin Vassolo contributed to this report.



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TOWN OF CUTLER BAY NOTICE OF ADOPTION OF AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE TOWN COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Town Council of the Town of Cutler Bay, Florida, sitting in its capacity as the Local Planning Agency (LPA), will hold a public hearing on **Wednesday, June 17, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.**, or as soon as thereafter as possible. Pursuant to Governor DeSantis’ Executive Orders 20-51 and 20-52, in which the Governor declared a public health emergency and a state of emergency, there is a recommendation to limit public gatherings. On March 20, 2020, Governor DeSantis issued Executive Order 20-69, “Emergency Management - COVID-19 Local Government Public Meetings.” Pursuant to Executive Order 20-69, “any Florida Statute that requires a quorum to be present in person or requires a local government body to meet at a specific public place” is suspended, and the Town is authorized to hold public meetings through the use of communications media technology, subject to the adoption of rules pursuant to Section 120.54(5)(b)2, Florida Statutes. On April 14, 2020, Town Manager Casals issued Emergency Order No. 20-03, providing rules of procedure for Public Meetings utilizing communications media technology, including instructions on how to access the public meeting either via telephone, video conference, or other communications media technology utilized by the Town.

**AN LPA AND REGULAR TOWN OF CUTLER BAY COUNCIL MEETING WILL BE HELD
USING COMMUNICATIONS MEDIA TECHNOLOGY ON:**

WEDNESDAY, June 17, 2020 AT 7:00 PM

PLEASE NOTE that immediately following the meeting of the LPA the Town Council will hold a public hearing and First Reading of the Ordinance described below:

AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF CUTLER BAY, FLORIDA UPDATING THE TOWN WATER SUPPLY PLAN AND ADOPTING WATER SUPPLY PLAN RELATED AMENDMENTS TO THE TOWN GROWTH MANAGEMENT PLAN; PROVIDING FOR TRANSMITTAL; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICTS; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

The Town Council may continue or defer the hearing to a new date and time certain without further notice provided the date and time of the continuance or deferral is announced at the hearing. The Ordinance in its entirety may be requested through the Office of the Town Clerk during regular business hours.

Persons wishing to appeal any decision made by the Town Council with respect to any matter considered at such hearing will need a record of the proceedings and for such purpose may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based (F.S. 286.0105).

Any and all interested parties may appear at the above meeting and be heard with respect to the proposed items.

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), persons needing special accommodations to participate in these proceedings should contact the Town Clerk’s Office for assistance at (305) 234-4262, no later than four (4) business days prior to such proceeding.

Debra E. Eastman, MMC
Town Clerk