

MEMORANDUM

To: Chairman Joe A. Martinez, Board of County Commissioners
cc: Joe Rasco, Phillip Drujak, Bill Couch, Tiffany Machado
From: Patton Boggs LLP
Date: July 18, 2012
Subject: April 2012 Monthly Report

Below please find an update of the Patton Boggs team's activities on behalf of Miami Dade County for the month of April:

Budget and Appropriations

We provided comprehensive analyses, monitored and reported on the status of the FY 2013 appropriations process. During April, the Senate moved to mark up the Commerce, Justice and Science appropriations bill as well as the Transportation/HUD bill. The Senate THUD Subcommittee funded the TIGER program at \$500 million, the Community Development Block Grant program at \$3.1 billion, the HOME program at \$1 billion, Sustainable Communities at \$50 million. In addition the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Energy and Water marked up their FY 2013 bill. We had advocated for funding for many of the programs included in those bills, in particular the Community Development Block Grant.

Surface Transportation Reauthorization

We continued to monitor and provide updates and analyses of Congressional action with regard to the transportation reauthorization. In particular, as the House of Representatives moved to floor action on a 90 day extension of the transportation authorization, we worked closely with the Florida delegation as the House Rules Committee approved the bill. On April 17th, Patton Boggs provided the County with the proposed floor amendments, and the Administration's veto threat over the addition of the Keystone XL pipeline to the bill. The surface transportation extension passed the House on April 18th. Patton Boggs continued to provide up to date information as the conferees for both the Senate and the House were named to the conference committee.

Meeting with Commissioner Pepe Diaz

The Patton Boggs team met with Commissioner Diaz and the County's government relations team during the Commissioner's trip to Washington D.C. Topics discussed included briefings and status updates regarding efforts on the surface transportation reauthorization, Fleet Week, the Miami International Aerospace Show, the Urban Area Security Initiative, the Base Realignment and Closure process, the National Export Initiative and the implications of a potential sequestration on the defense and domestic discretionary budgets.

Violence Against Women Act Amendment

When the Senate began consideration of the Violence Against Women Act, S 1925, Senator Coburn filed amendment that sought to eliminate, consolidate and streamline Department of Justice grant programs and then cut them by 20 percent. This amendment would have cut funding for important programs such as Community Oriented Policing, the Byrne Grant program and juvenile justice programs on which the County relies for funding. We alerted the County to this development and weighed in against the amendment. Ultimately the amendment was not ruled in order on the floor of the Senate.

Urban Area Security Initiative and FEMA Funding

Patton Boggs continued to work closely with the Department of Homeland Security, the state and local advocacy organizations like the US Conference of Mayors, National League of Cities and National Association of Counties and other local government representatives to further flesh out the details of the proposed FY 2013 National Preparedness Grant Program (NPGP).

In April, FEMA released the FY 2012 Threat and Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment (THIRA) Guidance to be used in conjunction with the proposed NPGP consolidation of first responder programs, including UASI. The guidance outlined a 5 step process to identify natural, technological and human caused threats; examine capabilities, identify gaps and propose capability targets and outcomes by applying results. We provided feedback to the County on the THIRA guidance.

Miami International Aerospace Show

Patton Boggs provided feed back for the letter Mayor Gimenez sent to Department of Commerce Secretary Bryson concerning the Miami International Aerospace Show seeking the Commerce Department's support in urging the White House and Department of Defense to revisit the Air Force's decision to decline to support the MIAS.

We provided additional intelligence/strategy on further steps concerning the MIAS during conference calls with County staff and in a meeting with Commissioner Diaz during his Washington D.C. trip. In addition, we provided background on the Base Realignment and Closure process and prognosis concerning Homestead Air Reserve Base.

Taxes and Tax Reform

As Congress begins to lay the ground work to address tax reform, Patton Boggs provided in depth analysis of a Senate Finance Committee hearing on State and Local Government Finance and Tax Reform. In addition, we provided research to the County on tax credit provisions for hiring veterans.

Community Development Block Grant

Patton Boggs provided a memo on the history of the Community Development Block Grant program, historic funding levels for the CDBG program and the implications to the County's funding levels based on the recent 2010 Census data. It also outlined the County's advocacy for funding for the CDBG program and provided up to date information on Senate funding for the program.

US Conference of Mayors Resolutions

In anticipation of the May 14th deadline for submission of proposed resolutions to the US Conference Mayors for consideration during their Orlando meeting in June, we began to circulate a number of proposed resolutions seeking cosponsors. Among those resolutions were some addressing technology and innovation, human trafficking, nuclear waste transportation, and super fund tax reinstatement. The resolutions, if passed during the annual meeting, will form the basis for the USCM advocacy agenda.

General Federal Legislative and Regulatory Monitoring

Throughout April, we provided timely updates on federal regulatory and legislative action and the status of legislation of relevance to local government interests. This included a 27 page memo updating the County on all issues of local government importance before Congress and agencies.

Grant Report

Patton Boggs continued to provide timely notifications of federal grant solicitations.