

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 13, 2012
Subject: June 2012 Monthly Report

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

Budget and Appropriations

We provided comprehensive analyses and monitored and reported on the status of the FY 2013 appropriations process.

During June we provided an analysis of the pending House and Senate versions of the FY 2013 Transportation and Housing and Urban Development (THUD) appropriations funding levels.

The House of Representatives passed the FY 2013 THUD bill on June 29th by a vote of 261-163. The bill provided a total of \$51.6 billion in discretionary spending, which is \$3.9 billion less than the FY 2012 spending levels. Several Congressmen introduced amendments to defund the Community Development Block Grant and HOME Investment programs, but all failed. Rep. Chaffetz (R-UT) introduced an amendment to reduce funding for the CDBG program to the FY 2012 level; Rep. McClintock (R-CA) introduced a proposal to defund the program entirely; Rep. Paul Broun (R-GA) introduced two amendments to cut salaries and expenses for the Office of Community Planning and Development and Rep. Flake (R-AZ) proposed an amendment to keep funding for the HOME program at FY 2012 levels. An amendment that the County supported, to transfer \$5 million to the Homeless Assistance Grants passed. In the end, the CDBG program remained intact at \$3.3 billion with the 20% administrative cap maintained and the HOME program still funded at \$1.2 billion.

We also provided updates on the House action on Energy and Water and Homeland Security appropriations bills.

It is unlikely that few, if any, of the FY 2013 appropriations bills will be passed before the election but will instead be completed in the expected lame duck session.

Surface Transportation Reauthorization/Transit

June was an exciting month with the enactment of the long awaited surface transportation legislation, MAP-21, into law – now Public Law 112-141. While the bill was signed into law in July, Congress completed action on June 29th with a 74-19 vote in the Senate and a 373-52 vote in the House. Patton Boggs provided, within 24 hours, an analysis of the 600 page legislation. Throughout the process, we monitored action and provided real time updates of issues of importance to the County, such as the fate of the transportation enhancements provisions which were added during Senate floor consideration by Senator Cardin (D-MD). We were successful in securing language that preserves the current eligibility of Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) not on dedicated Rights of Way for Small Starts funding. The Senate bill originally was going to exclude these types of BRT. The final language was meant to preserve eligibility and provide flexibility for Miami-Dade Transit enhanced bus projects.

Additionally in June, Patton Boggs worked with Miami-Dade Transit and the Office of Intergovernmental Affairs to arrange a meeting for MDT Director Ysela Llorca and other Miami-Dade Transit representatives with Federal Transit Administrator Peter Rogoff. Additionally we also arranged another meeting with Joyce Rose, House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee Majority Staff. We reviewed briefing and presentation documents prior to the meetings. We attended those meetings as well as a very successful briefing of Miami-Dade congressional delegation staff on the AirportLink project.

Housing

Patton Boggs continued work on following up on the County's Freedom of Information Act request submitted to the Department of Housing and Urban Development concerning the Housing Choice Voucher program. We kept the congressional delegation apprised of status and sought their assistance in encouraging the Agency to respond in a timely fashion.

General Federal Legislative and Regulatory Monitoring

Throughout June we provided timely updates on federal regulatory and legislative action and the status of legislation of relevance to local government interests including: HUD Strong Cities/Strong Communities (SC2) comment solicitation; EDA SC2 grant opportunity; mark up of the Digital Goods legislation; and new guide featuring best practices for support of hiring veterans.

Additionally, we provided an analysis of the Senate Defense authorization bill focusing on the Military Working Dog provision. At the request of the County, we provided background briefing material in anticipation of Hill meetings on the Senate Farm bill and likely scenario regarding House Farm bill action.

Finally, we provided same day analysis of the impact of the Supreme Court decision on the Affordable Care Act.