

## MEMORANDUM

Agenda Item No. 11(A)(5)

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**TO:** Honorable Chairman Bruno A. Barreiro  
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

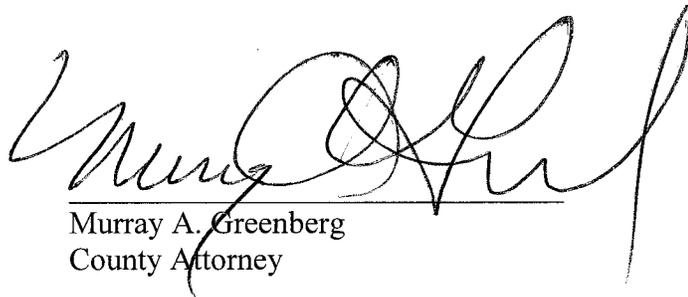
**DATE:** March 20, 2007

**FROM:** Murray A. Greenberg  
County Attorney

**SUBJECT:** Resolution urging the Florida  
Legislature to designate  
Biscayne Boulevard from  
NE 54<sup>th</sup> Street to NE 95<sup>th</sup>  
Street as "M. Athalie Range  
Boulevard"

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The accompanying resolution was prepared and placed on the agenda at the request of Commissioner Audrey M. Edmonson, Commissioner Jose "Pepe" Diaz, Commissioner Carlos A. Gimenez, Commissioner Sally A. Heyman, Commissioner Joe A. Martinez, Commissioner Rebeca Sosa and Senator Javier D. Souto.



Murray A. Greenberg  
County Attorney

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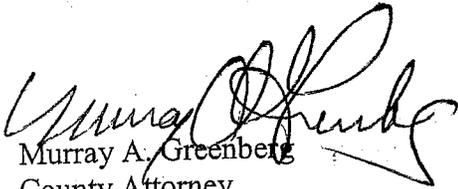


# MEMORANDUM

(Revised)

**TO:** Honorable Chairman Bruno A. Barreiro  
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

**DATE:** March 20, 2007

**FROM:**   
Murray A. Greenberg  
County Attorney

**SUBJECT:** Agenda Item No. 11(A)(5)

Please note any items checked.

- "4-Day Rule" ("3-Day Rule" for committees) applicable if raised
- 6 weeks required between first reading and public hearing
- 4 weeks notification to municipal officials required prior to public hearing
- Decreases revenues or increases expenditures without balancing budget
- Budget required
- Statement of fiscal impact required
- Bid waiver requiring County Manager's written recommendation
- Ordinance creating a new board requires detailed County Manager's report for public hearing
- Housekeeping item (no policy decision required)
- No committee review

Approved \_\_\_\_\_ Mayor  
Veto \_\_\_\_\_  
Override \_\_\_\_\_

Agenda Item No. 11(A)(5)

3-20-07

RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_

RESOLUTION URGING THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE TO  
DESIGNATE BISCAYNE BOULEVARD FROM N.E. 54<sup>TH</sup>  
STREET TO N.E. 95<sup>TH</sup> STREET AS "M. ATHALIE RANGE  
BOULEVARD"

**WHEREAS**, M. Athalie Range, a pioneer in Florida and Miami politics and a legend in Miami's black community, died on November 14, 2006, just one week after her 91<sup>st</sup> birthday; and

**WHEREAS**, M. Athalie Range was born Mary Athalie Wilkinson in Key West in 1915, and graduated from Booker T. Washington High School during the Great Depression; and

**WHEREAS**, in 1937, she married Oscar Range and Oscar and M. Athalie Range had four children; and

**WHEREAS**, in 1953, two years before Martin Luther King Jr. began his civil rights campaign in Montgomery, Alabama, M. Athalie Range was fighting for improvements to schools that were substandard, overcrowded and segregated for Miami's black children; and

**WHEREAS**, at one school board meeting, she filled the audience of an all-white school board meeting with 150 black parents and demanded immediate improvements to schools in the black community; and

**WHEREAS**, her actions led to improvements to existing schools in the black community, plus the construction of a new Liberty City elementary school, which was the first such school built in Miami's predominantly black neighborhoods in decades; and

**WHEREAS**, in the latter half of the 1950s, she fought to desegregate all-white schools in Miami, and on the first day of school in 1959, she walked her youngest son Gary to previously all-white Orchard Villa Elementary School to attend school there; and

**WHEREAS**, in the 1960s, M. Athalie Range became the first black City of Miami Commissioner, having first been appointed to the post, then later easily winning reelection by garnering the support of black and white Miamians alike; and

**WHEREAS**, in 1971, Range became both the first black cabinet director and the first woman cabinet director in Florida history, when Governor Reuben Askew appointed her director of the Florida Department of Community Affairs; and

**WHEREAS**, as the 1970s ended, M. Athalie Range had gone from cleaning rail cars nearly four decades earlier to serving on the board of the National Railroad Passenger Corporation, the entity that operates Amtrak, having been appointed to the post by President Jimmy Carter; and

**WHEREAS**, in the decades since, Range started a cultural arts foundation that bears her name, headed the Virginia Key Beach Trust, and mentored many of Miami-Dade County's political leaders, including former U.S. Representative Carrie Meek and former Board of County Commissioners Chair Barbara Carey-Shuler; and

**WHEREAS**, M. Athalie Range remained active in politics up to her death this past fall; and

**WHEREAS**, Senator Frederica Wilson has filed SB 2296, which would designate Biscayne Boulevard between N.E. 54<sup>th</sup> Street and N.E. 95<sup>th</sup> Street as "M. Athalie Range Boulevard" and this Board finds this designation to be a fitting tribute to such a significant figure in Miami-Dade County's history,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA,** that this Board:

**Section 1.** Urges the Florida Legislature to designate Biscayne Boulevard from N.E. 54<sup>th</sup> Street to N.E. 95<sup>th</sup> Street as "M. Athalie Range Boulevard."

**Section 2.** Urges the Florida Legislature to pass SB 2296 sponsored by Senator Frederica Wilson or similar legislation.

**Section 3.** Directs the Clerk of the Board to transmit certified copies of the resolution to the Governor, the Senate President, the House Speaker, and the chair and members of the Miami-Dade State Legislative Delegation.

**Section 4.** Directs the County's state lobbyists to advocate for the issues identified in sections 1 and 2 above, and directs the Office of Intergovernmental Affairs to include this item in the 2007 state legislative package.

The foregoing resolution was sponsored by Commissioner Audrey M. Edmonson, Commissioner Jose "Pepe" Diaz, Commissioner Carlos A. Gimenez, Commissioner Sally A. Heyman, Commissioner Joe A. Martinez, Commissioner Rebeca Sosa and Senator Javier D. Souto and offered by Commissioner \_\_\_\_\_, who moved its adoption. The motion was seconded by Commissioner \_\_\_\_\_ and upon being put to a vote, the vote was as follows:

	Bruno A. Barreiro, Chairman
	Barbara J. Jordan, Vice-Chairwoman
Jose "Pepe" Diaz	Audrey M. Edmonson
Carlos A. Gimenez	Sally A. Heyman
Joe A. Martinez	Dennis C. Moss
Dorrin D. Rolle	Natacha Seijas
Katy Sorenson	Rebeca Sosa
Sen. Javier D. Souto	

The Chairman thereupon declared the resolution duly passed and adopted this 20<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2007. This resolution shall become effective ten (10) days after the date of its adoption unless vetoed by the Mayor, and if vetoed, shall become effective only upon an override by this Board.

MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA  
BY ITS BOARD OF  
COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

HARVEY RUVIN, CLERK

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Deputy Clerk

Approved by County Attorney as  
to form and legal sufficiency.



Jess M. McCarty