

MEMORANDUM

Agenda Item No. 11(A)(28)

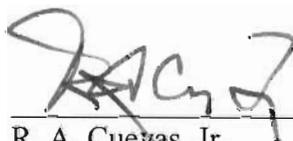
TO: Honorable Chairman Bruno A. Barreiro
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

DATE: February 5, 2008

FROM: R. A. Cuevas, Jr.
County Attorney

SUBJECT: Resolution directing a plan to
address the significant
increases in foreclosures,
personal bankruptcies,
unemployment, homelessness
and related public safety issues

The accompanying resolution was prepared and placed on the agenda at the request of Commissioner Carlos A. Gimenez, Commissioner Jose "Pepe" Diaz, Commissioner Joe A. Martinez, Commissioner Katy Sorenson and Commissioner Rebeca Sosa.



R. A. Cuevas, Jr.
County Attorney

RAC/jls



MEMORANDUM

(Revised)

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

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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)(28)
2-5-08

RESOLUTION NO. _____

RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE MAYOR OR DESIGNEE TO
DEVELOP A PLAN TO ADDRESS THE IMPACTS OF THE
SIGNIFICANT INCREASES IN FORECLOSURES, PERSONAL
BANKRUPTCIES, UNEMPLOYMENT, HOMELESSNESS
AND RELATED PUBLIC SAFETY ISSUES

WHEREAS, mortgage foreclosures have tripled in Miami-Dade County over the last year, with lenders taking over nearly 9,000 properties; and

WHEREAS, approximately three percent (3%) of all residential mortgages in Miami-Dade County currently are in foreclosure; and

WHEREAS, mortgage foreclosures have increased due to subprime loans with variable interest rates that have resulted in substantially higher mortgage payments as interest rates have increased, as well as other factors; and

WHEREAS, approximately 23 percent of mortgage loans in Miami-Dade County are subprime with some areas of the County having higher percentages of subprime loans; and

WHEREAS, significant increases in foreclosures may be attributed to higher rates of unemployment resulting in homelessness as the economy slows; and

WHEREAS, during the housing boom, many people could avoid personal bankruptcy cases by refinancing mortgages and getting home equity loans; and

WHEREAS, now that the housing boom has ended and credit has tightened, personal bankruptcy cases are on the rise; and

WHEREAS, the County should have a plan in place to address the impacts of increased foreclosures, personal bankruptcies, higher unemployment, increased homelessness and resulting public safety issues; and

WHEREAS, given the urgency of the mortgage foreclosure situation, increases in personal bankruptcies and the downward trend of the economy, the County should have a plan in place quickly to address these issues,

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

Section 1. The Mayor or his designee is directed to develop a plan to address the significant increase in foreclosures and the potential for increased unemployment and homelessness. The plan should at a minimum:

1. Address how the County will deal with different levels of possible unemployment, including 1, 3 and 5 percentage point increases in the unemployment rate at the time this resolution becomes effective.

2. Take into account the current level of foreclosures and analyze the potential number of people who are at risk should the real estate and financial markets continue their current downward cycle over the next 24 months.

3. Identify the federal, state, county, and municipal services and programs available to impacted residents and the availability of funding for the programs currently in place.

4. Research and consider any new programs that could be created to address the impacts of foreclosures, personal bankruptcies, unemployment, homelessness and related public safety issues.

5. Estimate the ad valorem revenue impact from foreclosures on local governments in Miami-Dade County.

6. Develop a reporting system that would inform the Board of the status of foreclosures, personal bankruptcies,

unemployment, homelessness and related public safety issues, and make recommendations to the Board for actions necessary to address these issues.

7. Identify means by which County capital improvement projects can be accelerated for 2008 to help offset the impacts of an economic downturn.

8. Include an analysis of the impact an economic downturn could have on the healthcare industry, including in particular Jackson Health System.

9. Prepare a Countywide informational program on mortgage foreclosures based on the seminars conducted by Commissioner Martinez.

10. Research and identify federal and state programs, including funding and grant programs, that might be available to assist those impacted by the economic downturn.

Section 2. The Mayor or his designee is directed to provide the completed plan to the Board within sixty (60) days of the effective date of this resolution.

The foregoing resolution was sponsored by Commissioner Carlos A. Gimenez, Commissioner Jose "Pepe" Diaz, Commissioner Joe A. Martinez, Commissioner Katy Sorenson and Commissioner Rebeca Sosa 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 5th day of February, 2008. 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