

March 18, 2008

Agenda Item No. 2B1

Memorandum



Date: March 11, 2008

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

From: 
Carlos Alvarez, Mayor
Miami-Dade County

Subject: Appointment of Program Manager, Office of Sustainability

CLERK OF THE BOARD
2008 MAR 11 PM 12:19
CLERK, CIRCUIT & COUNTY COURTS
MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLA.
MI

Pursuant to the authority vested in me under the provisions of Section 2.2 C and D of the Miami-Dade County Home Rule Charter, I hereby appoint Mr. Devesh Nirmul to the position of Program Manager, Office of Sustainability.

Given the critical importance for the County to create and implement an adaptation strategy to address climate change and ensure County's long-term viability, staff conducted a national search which yielded nearly 50 applicants, three of whom were extremely qualified. The County Manager and I interviewed the finalists and selected Mr. Nirmul due to his extensive experience with sustainability in both the public and private sectors.

Mr. Nirmul was most recently responsible for managing sustainability efforts for Pinellas County. As an employee of their Cooperative Extension office, he represented both the County and the University of Florida on these issues. The relationships he forged during his tenure there will enable him to identify best practices for implementation in Miami-Dade and will allow him to remain abreast of the latest developments within the ever-evolving industry.

His familiarity with the LEED standards and involvement with the Florida Green Building Coalition Board will ensure the successful implementation of the County's Green Building Ordinance. Mr. Nirmul possesses the skills and experience necessary to educate County employees and members of the design and construction industries about the benefits of the program and dispel misconceptions about obstacles to implementation.

Mr. Nirmul has a Bachelor of Arts/Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Florida and dual Masters Degrees in Public Affairs and Environmental Science from Indiana University. His resume is attached for your reference.

Please join me in congratulating Mr. Nirmul and welcoming him to the Miami-Dade County family.

Attachment

- c: Honorable Bennett Brummer, Public Defender
- Honorable Joseph P. Farina, Chief Judge, Eleventh Judicial Circuit
- Honorable Kathy Fernandez-Rundle, State Attorney
- Honorable Harvey Ruvin, Clerk, Circuit and County Courts
- Robert A. Cuevas, County Attorney
- Denis Morales, Chief of Staff, Office of the Mayor
- George M. Burgess, County Manager
- Marvin O'Quinn, President, Public Health Trust
- Assistant County Managers
- Christopher Mazzella, Inspector General
- Robert Meyers, Executive Director, Commission on Ethics and Public Trust
- Charles Anderson, Commission Auditor
- Department Directors

DEVESH NIRMUL

154 Barrington Dr. Brandon, FL 33511 Tel: 813.230.7704 E-mail: devesh_sustain@yahoo.com

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

- 2006 – Pres **UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA / PINELLAS COUNTY GOVERNMENT, FL** Pinellas County+, FL
Endowed Principal, Bushnell Center for Urban Sustainability / Regional Sustainability Agent
- Manage sustainability efforts for Florida's most dense urban County and statewide University Extension Program: Change management, sustainable built environment, social marketing to Community / County employees, research and funding partnerships, climate change and energy
 - Manage progress monitoring and strategic planning for sustainable municipal transformation
 - Facilitate partnerships for sustainability: manage and implement inter-departmental dialogue / teams and public-private partnerships (local, university, regional, state, national, and international)
 - Leadership: Represent County and University at state, national and international levels
 - Supervise technical, communication and development staff
 - Develop sustainability education models for urban audiences: individuals, businesses, etc.
 - Coordinating a public-private partnership for the creation of a green sustainability center
- 2006 **CITY OF TAMPA GOVERNMENT, FLORIDA** Tampa, FL
Urban Planner II
- Policy Analysis: environmental / sustainable development amendments of zoning code
 - Assess urban community's (re)development proposals for zoning code compliance according to current and evolving land development and zoning criteria
 - Propose development plans that balance the needs of economic development, community preferences, and environmental quality to city council for approval
- 2004 – 2006 **MAYOR'S BEAUTIFICATION PROGRAM (non-profit)** Tampa, FL
Environmental Services Coordinator
- Galvanizing community recognition of and investment into the untapped value of conservation efforts including coastal ecosystems for adaptation to climate change
 - Manage community-based environmental initiatives including the Tampa Shoreline Restoration Initiative and Hillsborough River Watershed Education Program
 - Implementing sustainable stakeholder based ownership of environmental restoration through strategic alignment with corporate, educational, conservation, and community partners: Starbucks, Citigroup, Davis Island Waterfront Property Association, USGS, National Fish and Wildlife Foundation
 - Operational and programmatic based fundraising: Managing budget of over \$200,000
- 2000 – 2004. **AECOM-PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT COLLABORATIVE INTERNATIONAL, INC.** Washington, DC
Manager of Climate Change Solutions; PADCO Corporate Social Responsibility Co-director
- Climate Change Technical Assistance for USAID and PADCO Env Finance Business Development
 - Provide management consulting and technical support to the USAID's Climate Change Team efforts to assist developing countries in mitigating GHG emissions in land use, energy, urban, and industrial sectors as well as addressing vulnerability and adaptation (V&A)
 - Synthesized climate change Vulnerability & Adaptation matrices and Adaptation strategies for USAID / UNDP working groups for effective donor project placement
 - Project finance using USAID's Development Credit Authority loan guarantee program
 - Formulated Caribbean (Re)insurance & Housing Finance Industry Climate Change / Disaster Risk Management Public-Private Alliance
 - Co-authored and coordinated US government, NGO and private sector contributions to Ch. 7 (Financial Resources / Technology Transfer) of the 3rd U.S. National Communication to the UNFCCC
 - Designed successful proposal for GHG baseline inventory for Chhattisgarh, India
 - Corporate Social Responsibility
 - Instituted company green 401(k) options, sourcing of fair trade coffee
 - Spearheaded and generated stakeholder buy-in for Sustainable Business Network of DC
- 1999 – 2000 **AMERICAN COUNCIL OF LIFE INSURERS (ACLI)** Washington, DC
Research Associate
- Conduct statistical and economic analyses relevant to the life insurance industry in US and world
 - Prepare ACLI's annual *Life Insurance State Fact Sheet*, *Annual Fact Book* and other publications
 - Communicated efforts by Insurance Industry to invest in and support sustainable development

DEVESH NIRMUL

154 Barrington Dr. Brandon, FL 33511 Tel: 813.230.7704 E-mail: devesh_sustain@yahoo.com

- 1999 **INVESTOR RESPONSIBILITY RESEARCH CENTER (IRRC)** Washington, DC
Data & Policy Analyst Intern, Environmental Information Services
➤ Updated Fortune 500 companies' environmental performance & regulatory compliance profiles
➤ Researched environmental policy of significance to corporate environmental management
➤ Published article analyzing the Early Action Program to Reduce Greenhouse Gas
- 1998 **NATIONAL WILDLIFE FEDERATION (NWF)** Washington, DC
Finance & Environment Group Intern
➤ Analyzed the environmental screening processes of mainstream socially responsible mutual funds
➤ Assessed role of the insurance industry, brokers, and mutual funds in mitigating climate change
➤ Developed environmental criteria for NWF's 401(k) plan; recommended appropriate mutual funds
➤ Initiated design and provided substance for on-line based green finance guide for NWF members
- 1997 **OVERSEAS PRIVATE INVESTMENT CORPORATION (OPIC)** Washington DC
Environmental Impact Analysis Intern
➤ Assessed Environmental, Worker, Health, and Safety Impacts of private enterprise seeking US Gov't backed financing and/or political risk insurance for investments in developing economies
➤ Assisted in development of fund divestment policies for the environment/worker rights department
- 1995 - 1997 **INDIANA UNIVERSITY** Bloomington, IN
Associate Instructor
➤ Introduction to Public Affairs, Operations Management, and Management Science
- 1993 **SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT POLICY INSTITUTE (SDPI)** Islamabad, Pakistan
Research Assistant, Sustainable Agriculture Program
➤ Assessed economic, social, and ecosystem impacts of 20 years of high-input crop practices
➤ Completed Energy Input-Output analysis of the cotton crop in Pakistan over 20 year period
➤ Coordinated joint efforts between SDPI and Nat'l and Int'l agricultural/conservation groups

EDUCATION

- 1995 - 1998 **MASTERS IN PUBLIC AFFAIRS (MPA) / MASTERS IN ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE (MSES)**
School of Public and Environmental Affairs, Indiana University
Concentrations: Environmental Policy / International Finance and Development
- 1990 - 1995 **B.A., ECONOMICS / B.S, ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE**
College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, University of Florida

PROFESSIONAL HONORS / ACTIVITIES

- 2007 Certified Sustainable Development Professional Certification (CSDP)
2007 Trained in LEED NC 2.2 / Pursuing LEED AP Certification
2007 Council for a Sustainable Florida 2007 Government Category Award Recipient
2007 Member, National Association of Environmental Professionals
2006 William P. and Janet F. Bushnell Professorship in Urban Environmental Sustainability (Univ. of Florida)
2006 Planning Commission's Community Design Award of Excellence for Environment: Shoreline Restoration
2005 Co-founder of Built Environment for a Sustainable Tampa (BEST)
2003 - 2004 Co-founder of Sustainable Business Network of Washington DC
1997 Member of Pi Alpha Alpha, Public Affairs and Administration Honor Society
1993 Dickinson Award for Research in Tropical Agriculture and Ecology

INFORMATION MANAGEMENT / LANGUAGE SKILLS and TRAVEL

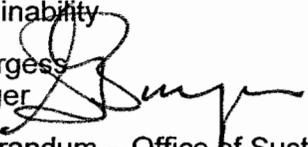
Database, Spreadsheet, & Word Processing
Conversational Hindi-Urdu & Spanish; Basic Zulu
Travel and work experience in Europe, South Africa (birthplace), and South Asia

Memorandum

MIAMI-DADE
COUNTY

Date: March 11, 2008

To: Devesh Nirmul, Program Manager
Office of Sustainability

From: George M. Burgess
County Manager 

Subject: Charge Memorandum – Office of Sustainability

CLERK OF THE BOARD
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Welcome to Miami-Dade County! As you begin your tenure as the Sustainability Program Manager, it is critical that you immediately assess the County's current "green" initiatives and formulate a long-term adaptation strategy that will guide the County well into the future. The County's commitment to sustainability is evident; what began as one position within a department last year is now funded as an independent office in the current fiscal year. As the first director of this office, you will be creating the foundation for an organization that must begin routinely considering the impact of County actions upon our natural resources as part of any analysis. I am confident that you will provide the leadership necessary to galvanize County departments to ensure the long-term viability of our community. To that end, it is my expectation that you will focus on the following priorities:

- Work with the Office of Capital Improvements and all departments engaged in construction to fully implement the green building ordinance adopted by the County Commission. This must include a process for requesting exemptions, which will be submitted to the County Commission for review and approval.
- Identify and implement best practices from entities with well-established sustainability programs.
- Cooperate with the Chicago Climate Exchange (CCX) to finalize the audit of our base line numbers and work with departments to identify opportunities to reduce fuel consumption or submit offset projects that can assist the County in reaching its goal.
- In conjunction with the General Services Administration and Miami-Dade Transit, continue evaluating the viability of alternative fuels as new products are introduced and become more widely available.
- Review the Climate Change Advisory Task Force's draft recommendations, focusing first on those directly related to County operations and develop an implementation plan including a timeline.
- Provide support to the Climate Change Advisory Task Force (CCATF) in its activities.
- Pursue grant opportunities to support sustainability initiatives.

Congratulations on your appointment. On behalf of Mayor Carlos Alvarez and the Senior Management Team, I welcome you to the County family. We look forward to working with you.

c: Honorable Carlos Alvarez, Mayor
Honorable Harvey Ruvlin, Clerk, Circuit and County Courts
Denis Morales, Chief of Staff
Wendi J. Norris, Director, General Services Administration