MEMORANDUM

Agenda Item No. 11(A)(14)

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

DATE: November 20, 2008

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

SUBJECT: Resolution urging the U.S. Secretary of Transportation to designate the Overseas Highway/U.S. 1 in the Florida Keys as one of "America's Byways"

The accompanying resolution was prepared and placed on the agenda at the request of Prime Sponsor Commissioner Rebeca Sosa.

R. A. Cuevas, Jr.
County Attorney

RAC/bw

MEMORANDUM

(Revised)

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

DATE: November 20, 2008

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

SUBJECT: Agenda Item No. 11(A)(14)

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)(14)
11-20-08

RESOLUTION NO. _____

RESOLUTION URGING THE U.S. SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION TO DESIGNATE THE OVERSEAS HIGHWAY/U.S. 1 IN THE FLORIDA KEYS AS ONE OF "AMERICA'S BYWAYS"

WHEREAS, the National Scenic Byways Program (NSBP) was established within the federal highway administration in the U.S. Department of Transportation under the intermodal surface transportation efficiency act of 1991, and reauthorized in 1998 under the transportation equity act for the 21st century; and

WHEREAS, under the NSBP, the U.S. Secretary of Transportation recognizes certain roads as either "National Scenic Byways" or "All-American Roads" based on their archaeological, cultural, historic, natural, recreational, and scenic qualities; and

WHEREAS, there are 125 such designated routes in 44 states, and the Federal Highway Administration refers to "National Scenic Byways" or "All-American Roads" collectively as "America's Byways"; and

WHEREAS, among the routes designated as "America's Byways" are well-known roads, such as Route 66, the Las Vegas Strip, and California's Route 1, as well as some lesser known yet equally significant routes, such as the Nebo Loop Scenic Byway in Utah and Kentucky's Wilderness Road Heritage Highway; and

WHEREAS, one route that is noticeably absent from the list of "America's Byways" is the Overseas Highway/U.S. 1 in the Florida Keys; and

WHEREAS, the Overseas Highway is a 126-mile road that connects some 100 islands that make up the archipelago of subtropical islands that comprise the Florida Keys; and

WHEREAS, leaving from South Miami-Dade County to Key West, the Overseas Highway includes some 42 bridges, and provides scenic vistas of the Atlantic Ocean, the aquamarine waters of the Gulf of Mexico, and countless offshore islands; and

WHEREAS, much of the Overseas Highway is built on the railroad bed of Henry Flagler's famous Overseas Railroad, and many of Flagler's original bridges remain; and

WHEREAS, as the Key West Citizen newspaper recently observed, "the Overseas Highway retains its grandeur even for those who have traversed it for a lifetime"; and

WHEREAS, in 2001, the State of Florida designated the Overseas Highway as "scenic"; and

WHEREAS, the list of National Historic Sites includes three bridges that are part of the Overseas Highway: Long Key, Bahia Honda and the old Seven Mile; and

WHEREAS, the Florida Keys Scenic Corridor Alliance, a non-profit organization, is working to have the Overseas Highway named one of America's Byways; and

WHEREAS, designation as one of America's Byways not only makes a route eligible for federal transportation grants that are not otherwise available, but also promotes tourism and the local economy, as many travelers make it a point to visit each of the National Scenic Byways,

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

Section 1. Supports the designation of the Overseas Highway/U.S. 1 in the Florida Keys as one of America's Byways.

Section 2. Urges the U.S. Secretary of Transportation to designate the Overseas Highway as one of America's Byways.

Section 3. Urges the Florida Secretary of Transportation to support the designation of the Overseas Highway as one of America's Byways.

Section 4. Urges Florida's Congressional Delegation to support the designation of the Overseas Highway/U.S. 1 in the Florida Keys as one of America's Byways.

Section 5. Directs the Clerk of the Board to transmit a certified copy of this resolution to the Members of Florida's Congressional Delegation, the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Transportation, the Director of the Federal Highway Administration, the Chair and Members of the Miami-Dade State Legislative Delegation, the Florida Secretary of Transportation, the Mayor and Members of the Monroe County Board of County Commissioners, and the President of the Florida Keys Scenic Corridor Alliance.

The Prime Sponsor of the foregoing resolution is Commissioner Rebeca Sosa. It was 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 20th day of November, 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