

MEMORANDUM

Agenda Item No. 11(A) (21)

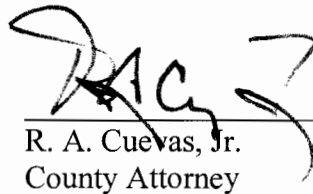
TO: Honorable Chairman Bruno A. Barreiro
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

DATE: March 3, 2009

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

SUBJECT: Resolution urging the Florida
Legislature not to make
further cuts to Sadowski Act
and other State affordable
housing funding

The accompanying resolution was prepared and placed on the agenda at the request of Prime Sponsor Commissioner Dorrin D. Rolle, and Co-Sponsors Commissioner Audrey M. Edmonson, Commissioner Barbara J. Jordan, and Commissioner Katy Sorenson.



R. A. Cuevas, Jr.
County Attorney

RAC/up




MEMORANDUM

(Revised)

TO: Honorable Chairman Dennis C. Moss
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

DATE: March 3, 2009

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

SUBJECT: Agenda Item No. 11(A) (21)

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 Mayor'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)(21)
3-3-09

RESOLUTION NO. _____

RESOLUTION URGING THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE NOT
TO MAKE FURTHER CUTS TO SADOWSKI ACT FUNDING
AND OTHER STATE AFFORDABLE HOUSING FUNDING

WHEREAS, finding affordable housing continues to be difficult for low and moderate-income families in Miami-Dade County and across the State of Florida; and

WHEREAS, federal housing programs, especially those that typically serve individuals with the lowest incomes, have experienced significant budget reductions in recent years, placing increasing pressure on state and local governments to provide affordable housing assistance; and

WHEREAS, the State of Florida receives documentary stamp tax revenues on deeds and mortgages, a portion of which are deposited into the State Housing Trust Fund and the Local Government Housing Trust Fund for the purpose of funding affordable housing; and

WHEREAS, during the recently-concluded 2009 Special Session A, the Florida Legislature diverted \$190 million from affordable housing funds administered by the Florida Housing Finance Corporation (FHFC) to the state's general revenue fund to help close a \$2.3 billion budget gap; and

WHEREAS, housing expenditures are heavily leveraged with private sector equity, bank loans, and federal funds, bond allocation, and tax credits; and

WHEREAS, FHFC estimates that, on average, each \$1 million of state funding creates over \$6 million of housing, over \$10 million in total economic activity, and hundreds of jobs; and

WHEREAS, it is estimated that the diversion of \$190 million in affordable housing funds from affordable housing programs to the state's general revenue fund cost Florida's economy \$1.3 billion in total economic activity, 13,000 jobs, and will reduce significantly the number of affordable rental units so badly needed by Floridian's who have lost their homes in the foreclosure crisis; and

WHEREAS, FHFC has indicated that it cannot meet the \$190 million fund reduction without taking funds from the State Apartment Incentive Loan (SAIL) program, the Community Workforce Housing Innovation Pilot (CWHIP) program, and other affordable housing funds; and

WHEREAS, FHFC estimates that approximately 36 developments with a combined total of 4,000 affordable rental units in 17 counties could be impacted by the \$190 million cut; and

WHEREAS, the Florida Legislature will return in March for the 2009 regular session, and current projections indicate that the Legislature will need to close another budget gap as high as \$4 billion; and

WHEREAS, there is still over \$100 million left in Florida's affordable housing trust funds after the recent \$190 million fund diversion, all or part of which is highly susceptible to being diverted by the Legislature during 2009 regular session; and

WHEREAS, it is imperative that no further affordable housing funds be taken to close the state's general revenue budget gap at a time when the need is great not only for affordable housing, but also for economic stimulus derived from the construction of affordable housing,

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 not to make any further cuts to Sadowski Act funding and other affordable housing state funding.

Section 2. Directs the Clerk of the Board to transmit a certified copy of this resolution to the Governor, the Senate President, the House Speaker, the Chair and Members of the Miami-Dade County State Legislative Delegation and the Executive Director of the Florida Housing Finance Corporation.

Section 3. Directs the County's state lobbyists to work against any further cuts to Sadowski Act funding and other affordable housing state funding as set forth in Section 1 above, and directs that the 2009 State Legislative Package be amended to include this item.

The Prime Sponsor of the foregoing resolution is Commissioner Dorrin D. Rolle, and the Co-Sponsors are Commissioner Audrey M. Edmonson, Commissioner Barbara J. Jordan, and Commissioner Katy Sorenson. 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:

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

The Chairperson thereupon declared the resolution duly passed and adopted this 3rd day of March, 2009. 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.

JMM

Jess M. McCarty