MEMORANDUM Agenda Item No. 11(A)(11)

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

DATE: December 1, 2009

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

SUBJECT: Resolution directing Mayor or Mayor's designee to re-organize and re-constitute the County's Green Portal on County website

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

R. A. Cuevas, Jr.
County Attorney

RAC/cp

RESO\2078

MEMORANDUM

(Revised)

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

DATE: December 1, 2009

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

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Please note any items checked.

_____ **"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**

_____ **Ordinance creating a new board requires detailed County Manager's report for public hearing**

_____ **No committee review**

_____ **Applicable legislation requires more than a majority vote (i.e., 2/3's ____, 3/5's ____, unanimous_____) to approve**

_____ **Current information regarding funding source, index code and available balance, and available capacity (if debt is contemplated) required**

Approved _____ Mayor
Veto _____
Override _____

Agenda Item No. 11(A)(11)
12-1-09

RESOLUTION NO. _____

RESOLUTION DIRECTING MAYOR OR MAYOR'S DESIGNEE TO RE-ORGANIZE AND RE-CONSTITUTE THE COUNTY'S GREEN PORTAL ON COUNTY WEBSITE

WHEREAS, Miami-Dade County's web portal received more than eight million visitors in 2008; and

WHEREAS, Miami-Dade County is making great strides in providing information and resources to help the public become better stewards of their environment through sustainable practices such as recycling and buying recycled products, disposing of chemicals properly, becoming more energy efficient in their homes and businesses, planting trees and conserving water; and

WHEREAS, Miami-Dade County has created opportunities to "go green" by expediting qualifying "green building" permits, offering density bonuses for green projects in certain urban centers, and providing targeted jobs credits for sustainable building; and

WHEREAS, the Miami-Dade County Park and Recreation Department has developed an EcoAdventure program and has incorporated environmental themes into their summer programming as well as having developed an interactive greenway trail map on the Department's web page; and

WHEREAS, the Miami-Dade County Park and Recreation Department offers volunteer opportunities to help clean-up and plant publicly-owned natural areas and provides environmental education opportunities at many of the parks around the County; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Environmental Resources Management provides tips on ways to reduce residents' environmental impacts through useful tips for the home, provides opportunities to receive free trees to green and shade residents' homes, provides technical assistance to businesses seeking to reduce their environmental impact, and hosts environmental volunteer events throughout the year; and

WHEREAS, the Agricultural Manager's Office is providing rebates for replacing polluting irrigation pumps with more efficient ones and provides information about local farmers markets allowing consumers to find and buy locally grown farm products; and

WHEREAS, the Consumers Services Department offers a host of services for landscaping, horticulture, organic gardening, integrated pest management, as well as free water conservation equipment and training for landscape irrigation systems; and

WHEREAS, the Water and Sewer Department offers rebates for high efficiency, water conserving home appliances and also provides information on ways to save water inside and outside the home; and

WHEREAS, the Community Action Agency offers weatherization upgrades and solar water heaters to qualifying homeowners; and

WHEREAS, the Solid Waste Management Department offers information about the new curbside recycling program, business recycling program, safe home chemical disposal, used electronics, and fluorescent light bulb collection, as well as opportunities for Christmas tree recycling; and

WHEREAS, the Office of Sustainability has partnered with the South Florida Regional Planning Council to offer energy efficiency loans for small businesses and is spearheading the County's community-wide sustainability plan or "GreenPrint"; and

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners adopted R-928-09 which calls for an educational campaign to provide information about State and Federal rebates for energy efficiency; and

WHEREAS, much of this information is available throughout the County's website, but is not aggregated on the "green portal" on miamidade.gov,

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

Section 1. Re-organize and re-constitute the Green Portal on the County's website to aggregate the "green" information available on the County website and provide information targeted to specific user groups such as residents, businesses, visitors, seniors, employees, governments, etc., as provided on the main portal and sub-portals like buildit.miamidade.gov.

Section 2. Include information on the Green Portal about the County projects and programs provided by the energy conservation portion of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) and Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant allocation and State and Federal alternative energy and energy efficiency rebates.

Section 3. Pursue State, federal, and private grant funding to enhance the "green portal" experience and provide useful information to the public, including the development of additional web-based tools that would provide information about business and multifamily recycling, drop-off centers for fluorescent lights, used oil, rechargeable batteries, and the like.

Section 4. Develop partnerships with area businesses that also provide these environmental services as a way to provide comprehensive information to users.

Section 5. Adequately resource this effort to keep pace with rapid developments in sustainable initiatives and to ensure that the information provided remains accurate and useful to the public.

The Prime Sponsor of the foregoing resolution is Commissioner Katy Sorenson and the Co-Sponsor 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:

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 1st day of December, 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.

Peter S. Tell