

MEMORANDUM

Agenda Item No. 11(A)(7)

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

DATE: December 15, 2009

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

SUBJECT: Resolution urging the U.S.
Congress and the Florida
Legislature to fully fund
Comprehensive Everglades
Restoration Project (CERP)
projects in Miami-Dade County

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



R. A. Cuevas, Jr.
County Attorney

RAC/jls



MEMORANDUM

(Revised)

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

DATE: December 15, 2009

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

SUBJECT: Agenda Item No. 11(A)(7)

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)(7)
12-15-09

RESOLUTION NO. _____

RESOLUTION URGING THE U.S. CONGRESS AND THE
FLORIDA LEGISLATURE TO FULLY FUND
COMPREHENSIVE EVERGLADES RESTORATION
PROJECT (CERP) PROJECTS IN MIAMI-DADE COUNTY

WHEREAS, the Greater Everglades Ecosystem is a globally imperiled habitat and the primary source of drinking water for Miami-Dade County; and

WHEREAS, the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Project (CERP) is the largest ecosystem restoration effort in the United States; and

WHEREAS, the CERP is intended to restore fresh water sheet flows to Everglades National Park and Biscayne National Park; and

WHEREAS, Everglades Restoration is critical to Miami-Dade County's efforts to adapt to the projected impact of sea level rise since the additional fresh water will help protect drinking water supplies from additional saltwater intrusion which has already been documented migrating several miles inland; and

WHEREAS, without restoration of freshwater flows, the western well-fields serving metropolitan Miami-Dade, could be compromised by salt water migrating from the low-lying Everglades ecosystem; and

WHEREAS, the C-111 spreader canal and the Biscayne Bay Coastal Wetlands rehydration projects are the only projects within CERP that will rehydrate wetlands and restore the estuaries within Biscayne National Park; and

WHEREAS, full funding for all phases of both of these projects are critical to the restoration of Biscayne National Park; and

WHEREAS, restoration of freshwater flow feeding into southern Biscayne Bay will help hold back saltwater intrusion already migrating farther inland; and

WHEREAS, CERP projects are not only important to the protection of our region's environment and drinking water supply, but will provide much needed jobs and strengthen the local economy,

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 to fully fund Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Project (CERP) projects, in particular, projects designed to return fresh water to Biscayne Bay and Biscayne National Park and protect drinking water supplies for Miami-Dade and Monroe Counties.

Section 2. Urges the U.S. Congress to include Biscayne Bay Coastal Wetlands and C-111 spreader canal projects in the 2010 Water Resources Development Act.

Section 3. Directs the Clerk of the Board to transmit a certified copy of this resolution to the members of the Florida Congressional Delegation, the Governor of Florida, the President of the Florida Senate, the Speaker of the Florida House of Representatives, and the Chair and Members of the Miami-Dade State Legislative Delegation.

Section 4. Directs the County's federal and state lobbyists to advocate for the passage of the legislation set forth in Sections 1 and 2 above, and directs the Office of Intergovernmental Affairs to include this item in the 2010 Federal and State Legislative Packages.

The Prime Sponsor of the foregoing resolution is 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 |
| Dorin D. Rolle | Natacha Seijas |
| Katy Sorenson | Rebeca Sosa |
| Sen. Javier D. Souto | |

The Chairperson thereupon declared the resolution duly passed and adopted this 15th 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.



Jess M. McCarty