ASC

MEMORANDUM Agenda Item No. 2(A)

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

DATE: September 16, 2010

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

SUBJECT: Resolution directing the County Mayor to conduct an analysis of the potential impact on cruise and cargo business at the Port of Miami caused by construction of the Port of Miami Tunnel and on increasing the competitiveness of the Port of Miami and to report to the Board of County Commissioners within 45 days

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/cp

MEMORANDUM

(Revised)

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

DATE: October 5, 2010

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

SUBJECT: Agenda Item No.

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.
10-5-10

RESOLUTION NO. _____

RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE COUNTY MAYOR OR MAYOR'S DESIGNEE TO CONDUCT AN ANALYSIS OF THE POTENTIAL IMPACT ON CRUISE AND CARGO BUSINESS AT THE PORT OF MIAMI CAUSED BY CONSTRUCTION OF THE PORT OF MIAMI TUNNEL AND ON INCREASING THE COMPETITIVENESS OF THE PORT OF MIAMI AND TO REPORT TO THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS WITHIN 45 DAYS

WHEREAS, the Florida Department of Transportation recently began construction of the Port of Miami Tunnel Project ("Tunnel Project"); and

WHEREAS, the Tunnel Project includes the construction of a tunnel connection between Watson Island and Dodge Island and the widening of the Macarthur Causeway bridge; and

WHEREAS, the Tunnel Project is intended to redirect cargo and cruise traffic from downtown Miami streets onto the MacArthur Causeway and potentially impact traffic to and from the Port of Miami ("Port"); and

WHEREAS, the cargo and cruise business generated by the Port is of paramount importance to the local economy; and

WHEREAS, the Port currently services more cruise passengers annually than any other port in the world; and

WHEREAS, the Port's cargo and cruise customers have publicly expressed their concerns about the impact the construction of the Tunnel Project may have on traffic to and from the Port; and

WHEREAS, the Port has recently lost cruise business to other Florida ports, including Port Everglades and Port Canaveral; and

WHEREAS, there have been articles in the local press regarding competition among Florida ports for cruise and cargo business; and

WHEREAS, providing efficient access to the Port for both cruise and cargo traffic is essential to maintaining the Port's status as an important regional economic engine and increasing cruise and cargo business at the Port; and

WHEREAS, this Board intends to mitigate potential impacts to cruise and cargo traffic from construction of the Tunnel Project by creating a plan that: (1) considers and includes the input of local stakeholders such as the Port's cruise lines and cargo lines, the hospitality industry, and others relying on tourism-related revenue; and, (2) protects to the greatest extent possible accessibility to the Port for cruise patrons and cargo-dependent businesses.

WHEREAS, this Board further intends to ensure that the Port maintains its competitiveness as a cargo and cruise destination, and not lose further market share to other Florida ports;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, that the County Mayor or designee is hereby:

Section 1: Directed to complete and provide to the Board within 45 days of the effective date of this resolution: (a) an analysis of the potential impacts on traffic and tourism in the Port, Miami Beach, and downtown Miami (including Bayside and PAC/Omni) areas, from the construction of the Tunnel Project both within the Port and on the MacArthur Causeway, including changes to the Port's ingress and egress and accessibility to the Port for cruise patrons and cargo-dependent businesses, and a mitigation plan to minimize any such potential impacts to tourism, hotel, hospitality, and related industries; and, (b) an analysis of current and future

competitiveness of the Port vis-à-vis other Florida ports and a plan for increasing the market share of the Port and recovering recently lost cargo and cruise business.

Section 2: To facilitate these directives, the Mayor or designee is further directed to meet with and incorporate into this analysis and mitigation plan the input received from: (1) the Florida Department of Transportation; (2) the Port's cruise lines and cargo lines, including but not limited to Azamara Cruise Lines, Carnival Cruise Lines, Celebrity Cruises, Crystal Cruises, Fred Olsen Cruise Lines, Norwegian Cruise Lines, Royal Caribbean International Cruise Lines, and Oceania Cruises; and, (3) any other tourism and hospitality industry representatives necessary to fully implement the intent of the Board.

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:

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 Chairman thereupon declared the resolution duly passed and adopted this 5th day of October, 2010. 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.

Jorge Martinez-Esteve