



**MEMORANDUM**

Agenda Item No. 11(A)(31)

---

**TO:** Honorable Chairman Joe A. Martinez  
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

**DATE:** July 7, 2011

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

**SUBJECT:** Resolution urging the Florida  
Legislature to codesignate SW  
87<sup>th</sup> Avenue from 8<sup>th</sup> Street to  
SW 24<sup>th</sup> Street as "Rev. Jorge  
Comesañas Way"

---

The accompanying resolution was prepared and placed on the agenda at the request of Prime Sponsor Senator Javier D. Souto.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R. A. Cuevas, Jr.", is written over a horizontal line.

R. A. Cuevas, Jr.  
County Attorney

RAC/up



# MEMORANDUM

(Revised)

**TO:** Honorable Chairman Joe A. Martinez  
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

**DATE:** July 7, 2011

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

**SUBJECT:** Agenda Item No. 11(A) (31)

**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)(31)  
7-7-11

RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_

RESOLUTION URGING THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE TO  
CODESIGNATE SW 87TH AVENUE FROM SW 8TH STREET  
TO SW 24TH STREET AS "REV. JORGE COMESAÑAS WAY"

**WHEREAS**, Reverend Jorge Comesañas was born on April 18, 1940 in San Miguel del Padrón, Habana, Cuba; and

**WHEREAS**, in 1959, Reverend Comesañas entered the seminary at "Seminario Bautista de Cuba Occidental" and thereafter began a mission in the town of Buenavista, Habana, Cuba; and

**WHEREAS**, on November 25, 1963, Reverend Comesañas was ordained as a pastor, and on December 16, 1963, Reverend Comesañas married Carmen Figueroa; and

**WHEREAS**, on December 13, 1965, Reverend Comesañas sent his wife and son to the U.S. to live with family in Sarasota, Florida, while he stayed in Cuba, having been prohibited by the Cuban government from leaving; and

**WHEREAS**, from December 1965 to 1968, Reverend Comesañas was the interim pastor at four different churches at the same time because the Castro regime incarcerated the pastors of these churches; and

**WHEREAS**, in January 1968, Reverend Comesañas arrived in the U.S. to join his family, and began serving as a missionary from Naples to Sarasota for the Home Mission Board, Baptist Convention; and

**WHEREAS**, in June 1970, Reverend Comesañas moved to Decatur, Georgia, and became pastor to a Spanish mission that later established a church in Atlanta, Georgia called “Primera Iglesia Bautista Hispana”; and

**WHEREAS**, from 1976 to 1979, Reverend Comesañas served as pastor to “Iglesia Bautista Resurrección” in Bergenfield, New Jersey; and

**WHEREAS**, from 1979 to 1982, Reverend Comesañas served as pastor to a Spanish mission that later established a church in Jacksonville, Florida; and

**WHEREAS**, on July 11, 1982, Reverend Comesañas returned to Miami and became pastor at “Primera Iglesia Bautista de Coral Park”; and

**WHEREAS**, under the leadership of Reverend Comesañas, the First Baptist Church of Coral Park grew over the following three decades such that by 2009, it had eight (8) pastors, three (3) locations and a budget close to \$2 million; helped with missions in many countries including Nicaragua, Paraguay, Cuba, Mexico and Guatemala, as well as countries in the Middle East, and provided a Christian Learning Center that included a daycare and an elementary school with 30 teachers and 210 students; and

**WHEREAS**, on August 20, 2009, Reverend Comesañas retired, but then shortly thereafter, a church in Hialeah Gardens, “Nuevo Amanecer”, was in need of a pastor and Reverend Comesañas agreed to become that church’s interim pastor; and

**WHEREAS**, in January 2010, “Nuevo Amanecer” united with First Baptist Church of Hialeah Gardens and moved to 13090 NW 107th Avenue with Reverend Comesañas as its pastor; and

**WHEREAS**, in April 2010, Reverend Comesañas was diagnosed with a brain tumor, and underwent surgery, with radiation and chemotherapy thereafter, but Reverend Comesañas nonetheless continues his life's work; and

**WHEREAS**, SW 87th Avenue from SW 8th Street to SW 24th Street is a state road located in unincorporated Miami-Dade County; and

**WHEREAS**, on July 20, 2010, this Board enacted Resolution No. 817-10, which urged the Florida Legislature to codesignate SW 87th Avenue from SW 8th Street to SW 24th Street as "Rev. Jorge Comesañas Way"; and

**WHEREAS**, language codesignating SW 87th Avenue from SW 8th Street to SW 24th Street as "Rev. Jorge Comesañas Way" was included in four bills during the 2011 state legislative session, SB 274, HB 1363, SB 1150 and HB 7213, but none of these bills passed; and

**WHEREAS**, this Board would like to recognize the contributions Reverend Comesañas has made to this community by renewing its request that the Florida Legislature codesignate SW 87th Avenue from SW 8th Street to SW 24th Street as "Rev. Jorge Comesañas Way"; and

**WHEREAS**, this proposed codesignation is located in County Commission District 10,

**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 codesignate SW 87th Avenue from SW 8th Street to SW 24th Street as "Rev. Jorge Comesañas Way".

Section 2. Directs the Clerk of the Board to transmit certified copies of the resolution to the Governor, the Senate President, the House Speaker, and the Chair and Members of the Miami-Dade State Legislative Delegation.

Section 3. Directs the County's state lobbyists to advocate for the issue identified in Section 1 above, and authorizes and directs the Office of Intergovernmental Affairs to include this item in the 2012 and 2013 state legislative packages.

The Prime Sponsor of the foregoing resolution is Senator Javier D. Souto. 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:

- |                                     |                      |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------|
| Joe A. Martinez, Chairman           |                      |
| Audrey M. Edmonson, Vice Chairwoman |                      |
| Bruno A. Barreiro                   | Lynda Bell           |
| Esteban L. Bovo, Jr.                | Jose "Pepe" Diaz     |
| Sally A. Heyman                     | Barbara J. Jordan    |
| Jean Monestime                      | Dennis C. Moss       |
| Rebeca Sosa                         | Sen. Javier D. Souto |
| Xavier L. Suarez                    |                      |

The Chairperson thereupon declared the resolution duly passed and adopted this 7<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2011. 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