

# MEMORANDUM

Agenda Item No. 11(A)(6)

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**TO:** Honorable Chairwoman Rebeca Sosa  
and Members, Board of County Commissioners


**DATE:** May 7, 2013

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

**SUBJECT:** Resolution directing County  
Mayor to perform a feasibility  
analysis concerning the use of  
security devices and other  
preventative measures to reduce  
the incidences of copper wire and  
scrap metal theft

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The accompanying resolution was prepared and placed on the agenda at the request of Prime Sponsor Commissioner Audrey M. Edmonson.

  
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R. A. Cuevas, Jr.  
County Attorney

RAC/smm



# MEMORANDUM

(Revised)

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and Members, Board of County Commissioners

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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 Mayor'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

Agenda Item No. 11(A)(6)

Veto \_\_\_\_\_

5-7-13

Override \_\_\_\_\_

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

RESOLUTION DIRECTING COUNTY MAYOR OR COUNTY MAYOR'S DESIGNEE TO PERFORM A FEASIBILITY ANALYSIS CONCERNING THE USE OF SECURITY DEVICES AND OTHER PREVENTATIVE MEASURES TO REDUCE THE INCIDENCES OF COPPER WIRE AND SCRAP METAL THEFT AND PROVIDE A REPORT WITHIN 60 DAYS WHICH INCLUDES A CALCULATION OF COUNTY EXPENDITURES TO DATE RELATED TO COPPER WIRE AND SCRAP METAL THEFT AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR IMPLEMENTING SECURITY DEVICES FOR COPPER WIRE AND SCRAP METAL THEFT PREVENTION

**WHEREAS**, skyrocketing prices for metals, especially copper, has resulted in a significant increase in the theft of copper, aluminum and other ferrous and nonferrous metals material in Miami-Dade County; and

**WHEREAS**, such thefts include metals material from light poles, which create power outages and endanger the health, safety and welfare of the public, particularly the elderly and children; and

**WHEREAS**, such thefts are economically burdensome on the County since the County is required to expend funds to replace or repair stolen or vandalized street signs and street lights owned by the County; and

**WHEREAS**, this Board has taken steps to prevent copper wire and scrap metal theft by enacting Ordinance No. 11-17 which created Sections 8A-9 through 8A-9.6 of the Code of Miami-Dade County. This legislation makes it more difficult for thieves to sell stolen items by

prohibiting scrap metal dealers from purchasing items commonly obtained through theft, prohibiting scrap metal dealers from engaging in cash transactions for certain items, and requiring scrap metal dealers to keep sale records, including a copy of the seller's identification; and

**WHEREAS**, this Board has encouraged an ongoing dialogue on the issue of preventing scrap metal and copper wire theft by creating the Scrap Metal and Copper Wire Theft Task Force, which issues recommendations to the Board on the enforcement of existing laws preventing scrap metal and copper wire theft, ways to educate businesses and the community on complying with the law, and other means of preventing the illegal sale of scrap metal and copper wire; and

**WHEREAS**, scrap metal and copper wire theft remains a serious issue and more can be done to keep our community safe; and

**WHEREAS**, the use of security devices and other preventative measures may reduce the incidences of scrap metal and copper wire theft; and

**WHEREAS**, Miami-Dade County presently has contracts with Horsepower Electric, Inc. and Prime Electrical Contractors, Inc. for the proactive maintenance and repair of the roadway lighting under the County's jurisdiction; and

**WHEREAS**, the installation of security devices on light poles or other preventative measures may be incorporated into the scope of work for Miami-Dade County's Proactive Street Light Maintenance contracts, or into the scope of work for another existing Miami-Dade County contract; and

**WHEREAS**, a feasibility study on the use of security devices and other preventative measures is necessary to determine the best course of action to prevent future scrap metal and copper wire theft; and

**WHEREAS**, it is essential for Miami-Dade County to have a full understanding of the amount of funds expended on the prevention of scrap metal and copper wire theft in order to offer its citizens the most protection with the least economic impact,

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

Section 1. Directs the County Mayor or the County Mayor's designee to perform a feasibility analysis on the use of security devices and other preventative measures to reduce the incidents of scrap metal and copper wire theft.

Section 2. Directs the County Mayor or the County Mayor's designee to submit a report to this Board with the results of the analysis within 60 days of the effective date of this Resolution. Such report shall include: 1) a calculation of County expenditures to date related to scrap metal and copper wire theft; 2) recommendations for implementing security devices and/or other preventative measures countywide; 3) the expected cost for the recommended course of action; and 4) an explanation of whether the installation of security devices on light poles or other preventative measures may be incorporated into the scope of work for Miami-Dade County's contracts with Horsepower Electric, Inc. and Prime Electrical Contractors, Inc., or into the scope of work for another existing Miami-Dade County contract.

The Prime Sponsor of the foregoing resolution is Commissioner Audrey M. Edmonson. 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:

Rebeca Sosa, Chairwoman  
Lynda Bell, Vice Chair

Bruno A. Barreiro  
Jose "Pepe" Diaz  
Sally A. Heyman  
Jean Monestime  
Sen. Javier D. Souto  
Juan C. Zapata

Esteban L. Bovo, Jr.  
Audrey M. Edmonson  
Barbara J. Jordan  
Dennis C. Moss  
Xavier L. Suarez

The Chairperson thereupon declared the resolution duly passed and adopted this 7<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2013. 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.

Joni A. Mosely

