

MEMORANDUM

Agenda Item No. 11(A)(19)

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

DATE: January 22, 2014

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

SUBJECT: Resolution urging the Florida
Legislature, the Florida
Secretary of State and other
applicable state agencies to
provide funding for Camp
Matecumbe

The accompanying resolution was prepared and placed on the agenda at the request of Prime Sponsor Commissioner Juan C. Zapata.



R. A. Cuevas, Jr.
County Attorney

RAC/jls



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(Revised)

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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
Veto _____
Override _____

Agenda Item No. 11(A)(19)

1-22-14

RESOLUTION NO. _____

RESOLUTION URGING THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE, THE
FLORIDA SECRETARY OF STATE AND OTHER
APPLICABLE STATE AGENCIES TO PROVIDE FUNDING
FOR CAMP MATECUMBE

WHEREAS, in 1955, the Archdiocese of Miami purchased a large tract of land in southwest Miami-Dade County at S.W. 120 Street and S.W. 137 Avenue in what is now West Kendall, and established a summer youth camp; and

WHEREAS, it was called Camp Matecumbe in memory of the Matecumbe Indians; and

WHEREAS, in July, 1961, Catholic Welfare Bureau used Camp Matecumbe as a temporary shelter for unaccompanied Cuban refugee children as part of the Operation Pedro Pan exodus; and

WHEREAS, during the next three years, more than 4,000 children passed through Camp Matecumbe on their way to new lives in the United States; and

WHEREAS, Camp Matecumbe is a site with substantial historical significance that is likely to draw tourists; and

WHEREAS, it holds particular significance to many members of this community, particularly in the Cuban American community; and

WHEREAS, in 2003, Miami-Dade County purchased Camp Matecumbe at a cost of \$2.4 million with the help of a Florida Communities Trust grant, Environmentally Endangered Land grant, impact fees, and funding from Operation Pedro Pan Group, Inc.; and

WHEREAS, Camp Matecumbe is both a historic preservation project, as well as a recreational park project; and

WHEREAS, given its historical significance, Camp Matecumbe can also serve as a tourist destination; and

WHEREAS, plans include preserving and restoring the original gymnasium at Camp Matecumbe, where hundreds of children slept in triple bunkbeds during Operation Pedro Pan, as an activity center for educational and historic exhibitions open to the public; and

WHEREAS, plans also include the preservation and restoration of the chapel and cafeteria at Camp Matecumbe; and

WHEREAS, Camp Matecumbe also will serve as a sanctuary for families seeking a natural retreat, including an outdoor recreational camp for both overnight and daytime campers, overnight cabins and tent-style camping, picnic areas, trails, learning center, school-age playground, greenhouse, native pine rockland and restoration gardens/native seedling center, pineland restoration area, naturalistic pool and historical/interpretive markers; and

WHEREAS, activities will include environmental educational and ecotourism programs, and weekend and summer camps for youths; and

WHEREAS, this Board would like to urge the Florida Legislature to provide state funding for Camp Matecumbe,

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, the Division of Historical Resources of the Florida Secretary of State's Office and other applicable state agencies to provide state funding for Camp Matecumbe, including, but not limited, to:

1. Funding for the preservation and restoration of historically significant buildings such as the gymnasium, cafeteria and chapel;
2. Funding for parks, recreational and educational programs and facilities; and

3. Any other funding that may be made available that may be applicable to Camp Matecumbe.

Section 2. Directs the Clerk of this Board to send a certified copy of this resolution to the Governor, Senate President, House Speaker, the Chair and Members of the Miami-Dade State Legislative Delegation and the Florida Secretary of State.

Section 3. Directs the County's state lobbyists to advocate for the appropriation set forth in Section 1 above, and authorizes and directs the Office of Intergovernmental Affairs to include this item in the 2014 state legislative package when it is presented to the Board.

The Prime Sponsor of the foregoing resolution is Commissioner Juan C. Zapata. 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 22nd day of January, 2014. 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

