

# MEMORANDUM

Agenda Item No. 11(A) (29)

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**TO:** Honorable Chairman Jean Monestime  
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

**DATE:** February 3, 2015

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

**SUBJECT:** Resolution directing County  
Mayor to negotiate agreements  
with all necessary parties for the  
use of FIU Stadium as the  
temporary home stadium for a  
new Major League Soccer  
franchise based in Miami-Dade  
County

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The accompanying resolution was prepared and placed on the agenda at the request of Co-Prime Sponsors Commissioner Juan C. Zapata, Chairman Jean Monestime and Commissioner Jose "Pepe" Diaz and Co-Sponsor Commissioner Barbara J. Jordan.



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R. A. Cuevas, Jr.  
County Attorney

RAC/smm



**MEMORANDUM**  
(Revised)

**TO:** Honorable Chairman Jean Monestime  
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)(29)

Veto \_\_\_\_\_

2-3-15

Override \_\_\_\_\_

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

RESOLUTION DIRECTING COUNTY MAYOR OR MAYOR'S  
DESIGNEE TO NEGOTIATE AGREEMENTS WITH ALL  
NECESSARY PARTIES FOR THE USE OF FIU STADIUM AS  
THE TEMPORARY HOME STADIUM FOR A NEW MAJOR  
LEAGUE SOCCER FRANCHISE BASED IN MIAMI-DADE  
COUNTY

**WHEREAS**, the sport of soccer, the "World's Game," has over 265 million participants worldwide; and

**WHEREAS**, soccer has over 24 million participants in the United States and continues to increase in popularity; and

**WHEREAS**, Major League Soccer, the highest level of professional soccer in the United States and Canada, is third in average attendance among professional sports league in the United States; and

**WHEREAS**, due to the growth of soccer's popularity, Major League Soccer has announced a strong interest in expanding its league; and

**WHEREAS**, Miami-Dade County has demonstrated its support of soccer by strong attendance at local international matches and high television viewership as evidenced by Nielsen ratings of soccer matches, both due in large part to the County's demographics; and

**WHEREAS**, Major League Soccer Commissioner Don Garber announced last year that David Beckham had exercised his option to purchase a Major League Soccer expansion franchise to be located in Miami; and

**WHEREAS**, this Board in Resolution No. R-1062-13 has already directed the Mayor to identify viable locations in or near Downtown Miami for development of a soccer stadium

facility for a new Major League Soccer franchise and analyze the feasibility of the development of a stadium at such locations; and

**WHEREAS**, the search for possible sites for a permanent soccer stadium facility remains ongoing; and

**WHEREAS**, while that search continues, this Board wishes to express to Major League Soccer and David Beckham's ownership group that Miami-Dade County's interest in having a professional soccer franchise remains ever-present; and

**WHEREAS**, this Board believes that it would assist the efforts to identify and develop a permanent location for a soccer stadium facility if a Major League Soccer franchise based in Miami-Dade County began playing professional matches as soon as possible because it would likely increase public support for the franchise and begin building a committed local fan base; and

**WHEREAS**, any such matches would have to be played at a temporary site until a permanent stadium can be identified and developed; and

**WHEREAS**, other Major League Soccer franchises, including the Houston Dynamo, have played their first season(s) at a temporary home stadium while an agreement for the development of a permanent soccer stadium was being negotiated; and

**WHEREAS**, David Beckham and his ownership group have already visited numerous sites that could serve as a possible temporary home for a Miami Major League Soccer franchise while a permanent soccer stadium was under construction; and

**WHEREAS**, FIU Stadium was one of the sites visited by officials from Major League Soccer and David Beckham's ownership group; and

WHEREAS, FIU Stadium has already served as the home field for Miami FC, a professional soccer team in the former United Soccer Leagues, from 2007 to 2009, and also hosted matches during the 2009 and 2011 Confederation of North, Central American, and Caribbean Association Football (CONCACAF) Gold Cup,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA,** that this Board directs the County Mayor or Mayor's designee to negotiate agreements with all necessary parties for the use of FIU Stadium as the temporary home stadium for a new Major League Soccer franchise based in Miami-Dade County as part of the on-going efforts to identify viable locations in or near Downtown Miami for development of a soccer stadium facility for a new Major League Soccer franchise and present all necessary agreement(s) to the Board for its consideration and approval within 90 days from the effective date of this resolution. However, if the County Mayor or Mayor's designee is unable to successfully negotiate the terms of an agreement as to the use of FIU Stadium as the temporary home stadium within the requisite time period, a report detailing the status of the negotiations shall be presented to this Board instead. The County Mayor or Mayor's designee shall provide the report to this Board within 120 days of the effective date of this resolution and shall place the completed report on an agenda of the Board pursuant to Ordinance No. 14-65.

The Co-Prime Sponsors of the foregoing resolution are Commissioner Juan C. Zapata, Chairman Jean Monestime and Commissioner Jose "Pepe" Diaz and the Co-Sponsor is Commissioner Barbara J. Jordan. 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:

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|-------------------------------------|----------------------|
| Jean Monestime, Chairman            |                      |
| Esteban L. Bovo, Jr., Vice Chairman |                      |
| Bruno A. Barreiro                   | Daniella Levine Cava |
| Jose "Pepe" Diaz                    | Audrey M. Edmonson   |
| Sally A. Heyman                     | Barbara J. Jordan    |
| Dennis C. Moss                      | Rebeca Sosa          |
| Sen. Javier D. Souto                | Xavier L. Suarez     |
| Juan C. Zapata                      |                      |

The Chairperson thereupon declared the resolution duly passed and adopted this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of February, 2015. This resolution shall become effective upon the earlier of (1) 10 days after the date of its adoption unless vetoed by the County Mayor, and if vetoed, shall become effective only upon an override by this Board, or (2) approval by the County Mayor of this Resolution and the filing of this approval with the Clerk of the 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.

MBV

Michael B. Valdes

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