

MEMORANDUM

Agenda Item No. 11(A)(22)


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

DATE: January 21, 2015

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

SUBJECT: Resolution urging the Florida
Legislature to continue to
support and provide a
dedicated state funding source
for beach renourishment
projects; urging the Florida
Legislature to increase the
amount of state funding
available to support
beach renourishment

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



R. A. Cuevas, Jr.
County Attorney

RAC/lmp




MEMORANDUM

(Revised)

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

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SUBJECT: Agenda Item No. 11(A) (22)

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) (22)
1-21-15

RESOLUTION NO. _____

RESOLUTION URGING THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE TO CONTINUE TO SUPPORT AND PROVIDE A DEDICATED STATE FUNDING SOURCE FOR BEACH RENOURISHMENT PROJECTS; URGING THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE TO INCREASE THE AMOUNT OF STATE FUNDING AVAILABLE TO SUPPORT THE GROWING NUMBER OF STATEWIDE BEACH RENOURISHMENT PROJECTS IN ORDER TO PROTECT FLORIDA'S SHORELINES, BEACH TOURISM INDUSTRY, AND EROSION CONTROL CAPABILITIES

WHEREAS, 93.7 million out-of-state and international travelers visited Florida in 2013 infusing \$76.1 billion into Florida's economy; and

WHEREAS, Florida's beaches are a critical component of the tourism industry in communities across the state, providing revenue, recreational benefits, and aesthetic appeal; and

WHEREAS, the Florida Shore & Beach Preservation Association ("FSBPA") reports that the 2012 economic benefits of beach tourism in Florida totaled \$55.2 billion in sales and an additional \$900 million in sales tax paid by beach tourists; and

WHEREAS, more tourists visit Florida beaches than all U.S. theme parks and national parks combined; and

WHEREAS, Florida's beaches also provide critical erosion control and storm protection for billions of dollars of coastal development and infrastructure investment; and

WHEREAS, restored beaches as designed by the Army Corps of Engineers are intended to reduce property damages by 80% during a 100-year storm event; and

WHEREAS, 399 of Florida's 825 miles of sandy beaches are critically-eroded; and

WHEREAS, the Florida Legislature appropriated \$47.3 million for Florida's Beach Management Program for state fiscal year 2014-2015; and

WHEREAS, this amount funds just 44.6 percent of the total number of project requests submitted to the Florida Legislature; and

WHEREAS, the FSBPA reports that every dollar spent on beach preservation projects generates nearly \$48 in sales tax revenues; and

WHEREAS, Section 161.101, Florida Statutes, recognizes that beach erosion is a statewide problem addressed most efficiently by a state-initiated program of beach restoration and beach nourishment; and

WHEREAS, Section 161.101 directs the Florida Department of Environmental Protection to identify critically eroded beaches and authorizes state appropriations to pay up to 75 percent of the actual costs for projects dedicated to restoring and nourishing a critically eroded beach; and

WHEREAS, on November 4, 2014, Florida voters overwhelmingly approved Florida Constitutional Amendment 1, the Florida Water and Land Conservation Initiative, which authorizes no less than 33 percent of net revenues collected from the existing excise tax on real estate documents to be used to acquire, restore, and improve land and water areas throughout Florida; and

WHEREAS, the revenues collected pursuant to this amendment may be used to supplement Section 161.01 and to help finance the improvement and restoration of Florida's beaches and shorelines; and

WHEREAS, beaches provide significant economic benefits directly to Miami-Dade County by attracting tourists to our community; and

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WHEREAS, beaches must be maintained, preserved, and updated in order to continue to provide an economic impact, erosion control, and storm protection; and

WHEREAS, this Board has historically demonstrated a significant commitment to the preservation, nourishment, and upkeep of Miami-Dade County's beaches and shorelines,

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 continue to support and provide a dedicated source of state funding for beach nourishment projects.

Section 2. Urges the Florida Legislature to increase the amount of state funding available to support the growing number of statewide beach nourishment projects in order to protect Florida's shorelines, beach tourism industry, and erosion control capabilities.

Section 3. Directs the Clerk of the Board to transmit a certified copy of this resolution to the Governor, Senate President, House Speaker, the Chair and Members of the Miami-Dade State Legislative Delegation, the Secretary of the Florida Department of Environmental Protection, the Executive Director of the Florida Association of Counties, and the President of the Florida Shore & Beach Preservation Association.

Section 4. Directs the County's state lobbyists to advocate for the issues identified in sections 1 and 2 above, and authorizes and directs the Office of Intergovernmental Affairs to amend the 2015 State Legislative Package to include this item.

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:

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------|
| 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 21st day of January, 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.



Javier Zapata