

MEMORANDUM

EPC
Agenda Item No. 2(F)

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

DATE: February 12, 2015

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

SUBJECT: Resolution designating as "West End Innovation District" Two Geographical Areas the first bounded on the North by SW120th Street, on the East by Florida's Turnpike, on the South by SW 136th Street, and on the West by SW 137th Avenue, and the second bounded on the north by SW 112th Street, on the East by SW 137th Avenue, on the South by CSX Rail Tracks, and on the West by SW 157th Avenue; and directing the County Mayor to work with the Beacon Council to market and promote the west end innovation district as an innovation hub

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/Imp



MEMORANDUM

(Revised)

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

DATE: March 3, 2015

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

SUBJECT: Agenda Item No.

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.

Veto _____

3-3-15

Override _____

RESOLUTION NO. _____

RESOLUTION DESIGNATING AS "WEST END INNOVATION DISTRICT" TWO GEOGRAPHICAL AREAS THE FIRST BOUNDED ON THE NORTH BY SW 120TH STREET, ON THE EAST BY FLORIDA'S TURNPIKE, ON THE SOUTH BY SW 136TH STREET, AND ON THE WEST BY SW 137TH AVENUE, AND THE SECOND BOUNDED ON THE NORTH BY SW 112TH STREET, ON THE EAST BY SW 137TH AVENUE, ON THE SOUTH BY CSX RAIL TRACKS, AND ON THE WEST BY SW 157TH AVENUE; AND DIRECTING THE COUNTY MAYOR OR THE COUNTY MAYOR'S DESIGNEE TO WORK WITH THE BEACON COUNCIL TO MARKET AND PROMOTE THE WEST END INNOVATION DISTRICT AS AN INNOVATION HUB, TO IDENTIFY, APPLY FOR, AND RECEIVE ADDITIONAL FUNDS, SUBJECT TO THE BOARD'S APPROVAL, TO BE UTILIZED IN THE WEST END INNOVATION DISTRICT, TO WORK WITH THE BEACON COUNCIL TO EXPLORE THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A DRONE AND ROBOTIC HUB AT MIAMI EXECUTIVE AIRPORT AND/OR THE WEST END INNOVATION DISTRICT, AND TO SUBMIT A REPORT ON ESTABLISHING A DRONE AND ROBOTIC HUB AT MIAMI EXECUTIVE AIRPORT AND/OR THE WEST END INNOVATION DISTRICT WITHIN SIXTY DAYS

WHEREAS, the Miami-Dade Board of County Commissioners (the "Board") desires to establish an innovation district to be located within Miami-Dade County; and

WHEREAS, according to the Brookings Institute innovation districts have the unique potential to spur productive, inclusive and sustainable economic development; and

WHEREAS, at a time of sluggish growth, such innovative districts provide a strong foundation for the creation and expansion of firms and jobs by helping companies, entrepreneurs, universities, researchers and investors—across sectors and disciplines—co-invent and co-produce new discoveries for the market; and

WHEREAS, at a time of inefficient land use, extensive sprawl and continued environmental degradation, innovation districts also present the potential for denser residential and employment patterns, the leveraging of mass transit, and the repopulation of urban cores; and

WHEREAS, innovation districts also further the ability of cities and metropolitan areas to grow jobs in ways that both align with disruptive forces in the economy and leverage their distinct economic position, and also enable companies, entrepreneurs, workers, researchers and investors to work across disparate sectors and institutions to commercialize ideas and co-invent and co-produce new discoveries for the market; and

WHEREAS, innovation districts can also (i) empower entrepreneurs as key vehicles for economic growth and job creation, (ii) grow better and be more accessible, (iii) reduce carbon emissions and drive denser residential and employment patterns at a time of growing concern with environmentally unsustainable development, and (iv) help cities and metropolitan areas raise revenues and repair their balance sheets at a time when federal resources are diminishing and many state governments are adrift; and

WHEREAS, the Board finds that the following two (2) geographical areas-- the first of which is bounded on the North by SW 120th Street, on the East by Florida's Turnpike, on the South by SW 136th Street, and on the West by SW 137th Avenue, and the second of which is bounded on the North by SW 112th Street, on the East by SW 137th Avenue, on the South by CSX rail tracks, and on the West by SW 157th Avenue-- would be ideal locations for an innovation district; and

WHEREAS, the Board desires to designate the before-mentioned areas as the "West End Innovation District;" and

WHEREAS, officially designating the above described area as “West End Innovation District” will help foster innovative enterprises in that area and will have a positive fiscal impact on Miami-Dade County’s economy; and

WHEREAS, the West End Innovation District has existing facilities to support innovative businesses, including but not limited to one building located at 14591 SW 120 Street, which is a state of the art 75,000 square feet technology facility with direct fiber optics connection to the nearest AT&T hub, which was built to withstand a Category 5 hurricane, is equipped with generators to be able to operate under adverse conditions, and has the capacity to house and employ up to 400 high tech jobs and is currently leased to Dell Corporation as the Alienware World Headquarters; and

WHEREAS, the Board wishes to promote the newly established West End Innovation District; and

WHEREAS, the Board has designated The Beacon Council as the economic development agency which is funded in part by County local business tax revenues and which provides economic development services to the County; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with applicable law, the local business tax revenues can only be used to oversee and implement a comprehensive economic development strategy through advertising and promotional activities and other sales and marketing techniques; and

WHEREAS, the Board wishes to direct the County Mayor or the County Mayor’s designee to work with The Beacon Council to market and promote the West End Innovation District as an innovation hub; and

WHEREAS, the Board also wishes to provide funding for public infrastructure costs for one or more economic development projects within the West End Innovation District; and

WHEREAS, Appendix A to Resolution No. R-914-04 (the “Public Infrastructure Resolution”), lists projects eligible for funding from the Building Better Communities General Obligation Bond Program (the “Bond Program”) by project number, municipal project location, commission district, project description, street address, and project funding allocation; and

WHEREAS, one of the projects listed in Appendix A to the Public Infrastructure Resolution and approved by the voters for funding is Project No. 124 – “Economic Development Fund” (“Project 124”) with a project description that states “Provide infrastructure improvements to spur economic development and attract new businesses to the community in order to create jobs”; and

WHEREAS, the goal of Project 124 is to encourage private sector development that will create jobs and cause economic development which will have long term benefits to the community; and

WHEREAS, in 2010, this Board approved, pursuant to Resolution No. R-668-10, amendments to the Bond Program’s Administrative Rules and adopted policies for the use of Project 124 economic development funds; and

WHEREAS, specifically, this Board approved a policy to utilize Project 124 funds “in ways that strengthen the economy’s capacity for innovation and commercialization of scientific advancements, expand leadership in local industry clusters such as Aviation and Aerospace, Financial and Professional Services, Homeland Security and Defense, Information Technology, Life Sciences, and International Trade and Global Commerce,…” as well as to encourage the further development of industry clusters within five strategic areas; and

WHEREAS, one of the five strategic areas identified by this Board was the Miami Executive Airport (“Miami Executive”) area; and

WHEREAS, the West End Innovation District falls largely within the Miami Executive area and its creation is meant to spur exactly the type of innovative development and industry clusters contemplated by this Board when it adopted the 2010 policy for the use of Project 124 economic development funds; and

WHEREAS, although the use of Project 124 funds in the West End Innovation District would be ideal and the Board may consider the use of these funds within the district at a future date, the Board desires at this time to direct the County Mayor or the County Mayor's designee to identify, apply for and receive funding, subject to the Board's approval, from federal and state sources to be utilized within the West End Innovation District; and

WHEREAS, the Board believes that the newly created West End Innovation District would benefit from a Drone and robotic hub established at Miami Executive and its surrounding areas, which are located within the West End Innovation District; and

WHEREAS, an unmanned aerial vehicle, commonly known as a Drone, is a form of aircraft without a human pilot aboard, which is controlled either autonomously by onboard computers or by the remote control of a pilot on the ground or in another vehicle ("Drone"); and

WHEREAS, robotics is the technology that is used to design, build and operate robots; and

WHEREAS, some experts suggest that America's airspace will host 30,000 Drones by 2020; and

WHEREAS, the Drone industry in the United States generates around \$6 billion annually and is anticipated to generate approximately \$82 billion by 2022; and

WHEREAS, experts, such as the Association for Unmanned Vehicle Systems International, suggest that the establishment of a domestic Drone program with the Federal

Aviation Administration's authorization, is expected to create approximately 23,000 new jobs by 2025; and

WHEREAS, experts suggest that a domestic Drone program located in Florida could serve as a catalyst to boost the State's economy; and

WHEREAS, in 2013, the Federal Aviation Administration announced the selection of six states, including Alaska, Nevada, New York, North Dakota, Texas and Virginia, to develop test sites for Drones; and

WHEREAS, although applicants who applied to have a test site located in Florida were not selected by the Federal Aviation Administration, the Board believes that there are still opportunities to develop a successful Drone and robotic program to be located in Miami-Dade County; and

WHEREAS, the Board believes a Drone and robotic hub at Miami Executive and/or its surrounding areas will promote economic, job and innovative growth in the West End Innovation District and will prove to be beneficial to the residents of Miami-Dade County; and

WHEREAS, indeed, Miami-Dade College has received funding in order to establish a Unmanned Vehicle Systems and Drone program at Miami Executive; and

WHEREAS, the Board believes that the County's comprehensive economic development strategy should include a Drone and robotic hub located within the West End Innovation District, but more specifically at Miami Executive and/or its surrounding areas; and

WHEREAS, the Board wishes to direct the County Mayor or the County Mayor's designee to work with The Beacon Council to advertise and promote activities associated with a Drone and robotic hub at Miami Executive and to use other sales and marketing techniques for such purposes,

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

Section 1. The foregoing recitals are incorporated in this resolution and are approved.

Section 2. The Board having conducted a public hearing, designates as “West End Innovation District” those areas of Miami-Dade County that are (1) bounded on the North by SW 120th Street, on the East by Florida’s Turnpike, on the South by SW 136th Street, and on the West by SW 137th Avenue, and (2) bounded on the North by SW 112th Street, on the East by SW 137th Avenue, on the South by CSX rail tracks, and on the West by SW 157th Avenue.

Section 3. The Board directs the County Mayor or the County Mayor’s designee to work with The Beacon Council to market and promote the West End Innovation District as an innovation hub.

Section 4. The Board directs the County Mayor or the County Mayor’s designee to identify, apply for and receive funding, subject to the Board’s approval, from federal and state sources to be utilized within the West End Innovation District.

Section 5. The Board hereby directs the County Mayor or the County Mayor’s designee to work with The Beacon Council, in close collaboration with the aviation industry and the Federal Aviation Administration, to explore the feasibility of establishing a Drone and robotic hub at Miami Executive and/or the West End Innovation District in a manner that results in a safe and an efficient use of the airport and is consistent with the Federal Aviation Administration’s policies or requirements.

Section 6. The Board directs the County Mayor or the County Mayor’s designee to submit a report on establishing a Drone and robotic hub at Miami Executive and/or the West End

Innovation District to this Board within sixty (60) 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 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:

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 3rd day of March, 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.



Terrence A. Smith