MEMORANDUM

Agenda Item No. 11(A)(23)

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

DATE: April 21, 2015

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

SUBJECT: Resolution directing the Mayor to: (1) take appropriate action to obtain any and all historic recognition available for Tropical Park through the Florida Department of State, Division of Historical Resources, and (2) explore whether Tropical Park may qualify for designation as a Heritage Park in Miami-Dade County and, if so, to take appropriate action to designate it as such

The accompanying resolution was prepared and placed on the agenda at the request of Prime Sponsor Senator Javier D. Souto.

R. A. Cuevas, Jr.
County Attorney

RAC/smm

MEMORANDUM

(Revised)

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

DATE: April 21, 2015

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

SUBJECT: Agenda Item No. 11(A)(23)

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)(23)
4-21-15

RESOLUTION NO. _____

RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE MAYOR OR DESIGNEE TO: (1) TAKE APPROPRIATE ACTION TO OBTAIN ANY AND ALL HISTORIC RECOGNITION AVAILABLE FOR TROPICAL PARK THROUGH THE FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF STATE, DIVISION OF HISTORICAL RESOURCES, AND (2) EXPLORE WHETHER TROPICAL PARK MAY QUALIFY FOR DESIGNATION AS A HERITAGE PARK IN MIAMI-DADE COUNTY AND, IF SO, TO TAKE APPROPRIATE ACTION TO DESIGNATE IT AS SUCH

WHEREAS, since 1979, Tropical Park has been a county-operated urban park located in Miami-Dade County, southwest of the intersection of the State Road 826-Palmetto Expressway and Bird Road; and

WHEREAS, Tropical Park attracts approximately 1.5 million visitors annually, offering many activities to park-goers, including, among others, bicycling, walking, running, basketball, and racquet sports; and

WHEREAS, Tropical Park is located upon the grounds of the former Tropical Park Race Track, one of Florida's early horse tracks which hosted horse races on the site from 1931 until the early 1970s; and

WHEREAS, in recognition of its historical tie to horses, Tropical Park today has an Equestrian Center that hosts over thirty horse shows annually, including international shows, as well as the renowned Miami International Agriculture, Horse and Cattle Show; and

WHEREAS, to acknowledge the history and cultural significance of Tropical Park as an early Florida horse track and park, the Florida Legislature is being asked to designate, or recognize, Tropical Park as a site of statewide historical significance; and

WHEREAS, the Florida Department of State, Division of Historical Resources also should be called upon to provide any and all further recognition available to Tropical Park; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Resolution No. R-238-04, this Board declared that certain parks in Miami-Dade County should be designated as "Heritage Parks," in recognition of their unique significance to the County and its citizens; and

WHEREAS, the "Heritage Parks" designation is designed to encourage sustained stewardship of exceptional parks, to call attention to their unique characteristics, and to instill in residents a greater sense of pride in Miami-Dade County's great parks; and

WHEREAS, to determine if a particular park qualifies for designation as a "Heritage Park," the following criteria may be considered: whether the park has exceptional historic or archaeological countywide significance, either natural or cultural; whether the park has exceptional natural resource value; or whether the park has exceptional design and material characteristics; and

WHEREAS, the parks that this Board has recognized as "Heritage Parks" include Crandon Park, the Deering Estate at Cutler, Greynolds Park, Haulover Beach Park, Homestead Bayfront Park, Matheson Hammock Park, and Redland Fruit and Spice Park; and

WHEREAS, Tropical Park also should be considered for designation as a "Heritage Park," in recognition of its exceptional cultural and historic significance to Miami-Dade County,

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

Section 1. Directs the Mayor or designee to obtain any and all historic recognition available for Tropical Park through the Florida Department of State, Division of Historical Resources, and provide a report regarding same to this Board within 90 days of the effective date

of this resolution and place the completed report on an agenda of the Board pursuant to Ordinance No. 14-65.

Section 2. Directs the Mayor or designee to explore whether Tropical Park may qualify for designation as a "Heritage Park" in Miami-Dade County and, if so, to take appropriate action to designate it as such, and provide a report regarding same to this Board within 90 days of the effective date of this resolution and place the completed report on an agenda of the Board pursuant to Ordinance No. 14-65.

Section 3. Directs the Clerk of the Board to transmit certified copies of this resolution to the Florida Secretary of State, the Florida Department of State Division of Historical Resources, and its Director.

The Prime Sponsor of the foregoing resolution is Senator Javier D. Souto. 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 April, 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.

James Eddie Kirtley