

Memorandum



Date: August 20, 2015

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

From: Carlos A. Gimenez
Mayor 

Agenda Item No. 2B11
October 6, 2015

Subject: First Quarterly Status Report for Resolution No. R-49-15 Directing the Mayor or Mayor's Designee, in Conjunction with the Office of Intergovernmental Affairs, to Initiate Discussions Related to Climate Change with Private Insurance and Reinsurance Professional Organizations, Member Local Governments in the Southeast Florida Climate Change Compact, the Florida Office of Insurance Regulation's Department of Finance Services, and Other Key Stakeholders to Develop Long-Term Risk Management Solutions

On January 21, 2015, the Board of County Commissioners (Board) passed seven resolutions, each supporting the implementation of one of the seven recommendations included in the "Miami-Dade Sea Level Rise Task Force Report and Recommendations." Resolution No. R-49-15, which requires quarterly status reports and a final report within one year of adoption, directs the Mayor or Mayor's designee, in conjunction with the Office of Intergovernmental Affairs (OIA), to initiate discussions related to climate change with private insurance and reinsurance professional organizations, member local governments in the Southeast Florida Regional Climate Change Compact (Compact), the Florida Office of Insurance Regulation's Department of Finance Services, and other key stakeholders to develop long-term risk management solutions. Pursuant to R-49-15, this status report is submitted for your review.

Background

In July 2013, the Board created the Miami-Dade Sea Level Rise Task Force (Task Force) for the purpose of reviewing current and relevant data, science and reports, and to assess the likely and potential impacts of sea level rise and storm surge on Miami-Dade County over time. On July 1, 2014, the Task Force presented a report to the Board entitled, "Miami-Dade Sea Level Rise Task Force Report and Recommendations," providing the requested assessment along with recommendations on how Miami-Dade County can begin planning and preparing for projected sea level rise impacts. In addition, Resolution R-451-14 and Ordinance 14-79 were adopted in 2014, requiring that planning, design and construction of County infrastructure consider potential sea level rise impacts.

On September 29, 2014, the Mayor and the Beacon Council co-hosted a meeting with the UK Ambassador, the UK Consul General, and key leaders in the business and insurance sectors of Miami-Dade to discuss issues and opportunities associated with climate change and sea level rise in Southeast Florida. In addition, the Mayor announced in his opening remarks at the Sixth Annual Southeast Florida Regional Climate Leadership Summit on October 1, 2014, that he will convene a group of business, financial and insurance leaders to begin a dialogue around these critical business and financial issues.

Quarter 1 Progress (January 31, 2015 – April 30, 2015)

The following steps have been taken during the first quarter towards implementation of Resolution R-49-15:

- The Nature Conservancy contacted Miami-Dade County in March 2015, with information regarding their collaborative work with Swiss Re to demonstrate the cost effectiveness of coastal ecosystems in adaptation and risk reduction. They have developed “a set of tools and approaches for quantifying risks from coastal hazards and climate change.” Staff from the Regulatory and Economic Resources Department (RER) and Internal Services Department’s Risk Management Division are currently evaluating the information provided for applicability and use by Miami-Dade County.
- In addition, RER staff are working with the OIA to identify appropriate stakeholders and candidates to include in an initial meeting to discuss insurance and long term risk management solutions, which is expected to occur during the summer of 2015.

In accordance with Ordinance 14-65, this memorandum and report will be placed on the next available Board of County Commissioners meeting agenda.

If you have questions concerning the above, please contact Mark R. Woerner, AICP, Assistant Director for Planning, Department of Regulatory and Economic Resources, at (305) 375-2835 or mwoerner@miamidade.gov.

cc: Honorable Harvey Ruvlin, Clerk of Courts, Eleventh Judicial Circuit
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