

# MEMORANDUM

Agenda Item No. 11(A)(22)

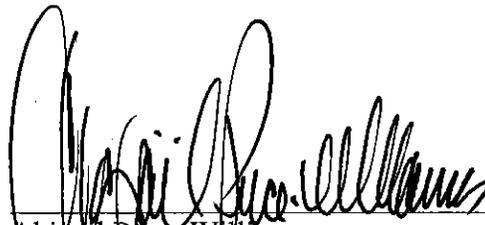
**TO:** Honorable Chairman Jean Monestime  
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

**DATE:** March 8, 2016

**FROM:** Abigail Price-Williams  
County Attorney

**SUBJECT:** Resolution designating the Miami-Dade County park known as Camp Matecumbe, located at 13842 SW 120th Street, as Miami-Dade County's official exhibition site for Operation Pedro Pan; directing the County Mayor to identify and report back to the Board within 60 days as to the funding source and amount necessary to house a permanent Pedro Pan exhibit within the existing facilities at the park and to fund the development and preservation of the park, and to include in the report the timeframe necessary to accomplish same

The accompanying resolution was prepared and placed on the agenda at the request of Prime Sponsor Commissioner Juan C. Zapata.



Abigail Price-Williams  
County Attorney

APW/smm

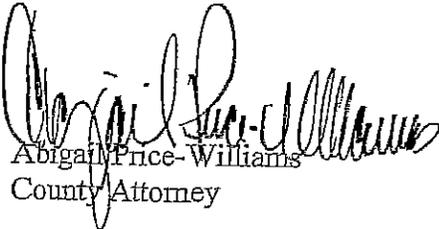


# MEMORANDUM

(Revised)

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and Members, Board of County Commissioners

**DATE:** March 8, 2016

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Abigail Price-Williams  
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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
- Statement of social equity 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)  
3-8-16

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

RESOLUTION DESIGNATING THE MIAMI-DADE COUNTY PARK KNOWN AS CAMP MATECUMBE, LOCATED AT 13842 SW 120TH STREET, AS MIAMI-DADE COUNTY'S OFFICIAL EXHIBITION SITE FOR OPERATION PEDRO PAN; DIRECTING THE COUNTY MAYOR OR MAYOR'S DESIGNEE TO IDENTIFY AND REPORT BACK TO THE BOARD WITHIN 60 DAYS AS TO THE FUNDING SOURCE AND AMOUNT NECESSARY TO HOUSE A PERMANENT PEDRO PAN EXHIBIT WITHIN THE EXISTING FACILITIES AT THE PARK AND TO FUND THE DEVELOPMENT AND PRESERVATION OF THE PARK, AND TO INCLUDE IN THE REPORT THE TIMEFRAME NECESSARY TO ACCOMPLISH SAME; FURTHER DIRECTING COUNTY MAYOR OR MAYOR'S DESIGNEE TO ESTABLISH APPROPRIATE SIGNAGE OR PLAQUE AT THE PARK IN ORDER TO ACKNOWLEDGE ITS DESIGNATION AS THE OFFICIAL SITE FOR OPERATION PEDRO PAN

**WHEREAS**, in December of 1960, the Roman Catholic Church, through the Catholic Welfare Bureau (Catholic Charities) under the leadership of Father Bryan O. Walsh, in conjunction with Havana's Ruston Academy's Headmaster James D. Baker and the subsequent participation of the United States government, established what became known as Operation Pedro Pan; and

**WHEREAS**, Operation Pedro Pan was a program that enabled Cuban parents to send their minor children to the United States unaccompanied in order to escape the communist regime that had taken control in Cuba and thus prevent their forced indoctrination by means of educational and work and military training programs for minors; and

**WHEREAS**, in the course of 22 months, between December 26, 1960 and October 22, 1962, over 14,000 Cuban children traveled to the United States without their parents through Operation Pedro Pan; and

**WHEREAS**, Operation Pedro Pan represented the largest exodus in history of minors traveling alone in the Western Hemisphere; and

**WHEREAS**, upon arrival in Miami, the unaccompanied minors were temporarily placed in church-sponsored camps, shelters, institutions, foster homes, or with relatives and family friends throughout the United States; and

**WHEREAS**, one of the Catholic Church-sponsored camps that housed Operation Pedro Pan minors was Camp Matecumbe located at 13842 SW 120<sup>th</sup> Street, Miami, Florida; and

**WHEREAS**, indeed, before Camp Matecumbe was closed in October of 1964, close to 4,000 young, Cuban boys from the ages of 12 to 18 were housed at the camp; and

**WHEREAS**, the Cuban boys housed at Camp Matecumbe slept, ate, played, and were schooled and cared for at the camp by the Catholic Church while they waited to be reunited with their families; and

**WHEREAS**, in 2003, Miami-Dade County purchased Camp Matecumbe from the Archdiocese of Miami in order to preserve the camp and to use it for open space, park and recreation purposes; and

**WHEREAS**, since that time, there has been insufficient funding allocated to the park to develop and preserve it in a manner that would allow County residents and tourists to appreciate its historical significance, enjoy recreation and nature activities and become educated on Operation Pedro Pan; and

**WHEREAS**, this Board desires to designate Camp Matecumbe as the County's official exhibition site for Operation Pedro Pan and desires to have appropriate signage or a plaque placed in the park acknowledging same, the placement of a permanent exhibition at the park to commemorate Operation Pedro Pan, and to allocate sufficient funding to Camp Matecumbe so as to develop it for use and enjoyment and also to adequately preserve the park; and

**WHEREAS**, accordingly, this Board desires to direct the County Mayor or Mayor's designee to identify a funding source in a sufficient amount for the development and preservation of Camp Matecumbe and for the hosting, development and/or acquisition of a permanent, Pedro Pan exhibit within the existing facilities at Camp Matecumbe, and to report to the Board on such funding source, amount necessary, and the timeframe to accomplish same; and

**WHEREAS**, in compiling such report, the County Mayor or Mayor's designee shall collaborate and consult with HistoryMiami and Operation Pedro Pan Group, Inc.; and

**WHEREAS**, further, this Board desires to direct the County Mayor or Mayor's designee to erect appropriate signage or a plaque recognizing Camp Matecumbe as the County's official exhibition site for Operation Pedro Pan and to fund same from the Park, Recreation and Open Spaces Departmental ("PROS") budget for FY 2015-16 or, if PROS has insufficient funds in its FY 2015-16 budget to fund same, to report back to this Board with an alternate funding source,

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

**Section 1.** The foregoing recitals are incorporated herein by reference and are approved.

**Section 2.** This Board hereby designates the Miami-Dade County park known as Camp Matecumbe, located at 13842 SW 120<sup>th</sup> Street, as Miami-Dade County's official exhibition site for Operation Pedro Pan.

**Section 3.** This Board directs the County Mayor or Mayor's designee to: (a) identify and report back to this Board within 60 days of the effective date of this resolution as to the funding source and amount necessary to house a permanent, Pedro Pan exhibit within existing facilities at Camp Matecumbe and to fund the development and preservation of Camp Matecumbe; and (b) establish appropriate signage or a plaque at Camp Matecumbe in order to

acknowledge its designation as Miami-Dade County's official exhibition site for Operation Pedro Pan and to fund same from the PROS budget for FY 2015-16 or, if PROS has insufficient funds in its FY 2015-16 budget to fund same, to report back to this Board with an alternate funding source. The County Mayor or Mayor's designee is further directed to include in his report the timeframe necessary to accomplish the foregoing and to collaborate and consult with HistoryMiami and Operation Pedro Pan Group, Inc. in compiling such report.

**Section 4.** Pursuant to Ordinance No. 14-65, the County Mayor or Mayor's designee shall place the completed Report on an agenda of the Board.

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	

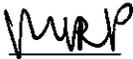
The Chairperson thereupon declared the resolution duly passed and adopted this 8<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2016. This resolution shall become effective upon the earlier of (1) 10 days after the date of its adoption unless vetoed by the County Mayor, and if vetoed, shall become effective only upon an 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.



Monica Rizo Perez