MEMORANDUM

Agenda Item No. 11(A)(14)

TO:	Honorable Chairman Jean Monestime and Members, Board of County Commissioners	**DATE:**	July 6, 2016
FROM:	Abigail Price-Williams County Attorney	**SUBJECT:**	Resolution directing the County Mayor to coordinate with various animal-related agencies (a group to be known collectively as the Miami-Dade County Community Action Team or "CAT") to develop new and innovative ways to address nuisances caused by free-roaming cats and the hoarding of cats; and to provide a report on same

The accompanying resolution was prepared and placed on the agenda at the request of Prime Sponsor Commissioner Sally A. Heyman.

Abigail Price-Williams
County Attorney

APW/smm

MEMORANDUM

(Revised)

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

DATE: July 6, 2016

FROM: Abigail Price-Williams
County Attorney

SUBJECT: Agenda Item No. 11(A)(14)

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)(14)
7-6-16

RESOLUTION NO. _____

RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE COUNTY MAYOR OR THE COUNTY MAYOR'S DESIGNEE TO COORDINATE WITH VARIOUS ANIMAL-RELATED AGENCIES (A GROUP TO BE KNOWN COLLECTIVELY AS THE MIAMI-DADE COUNTY COMMUNITY ACTION TEAM OR "CAT") TO DEVELOP NEW AND INNOVATIVE WAYS TO ADDRESS NUISANCES CAUSED BY FREE-ROAMING CATS AND THE HOARDING OF CATS; AND TO PROVIDE A REPORT ON SAME

WHEREAS, on July 3, 2012 the Board of County Commissioners adopted Resolution No. R-583-12 with the goal of becoming a No Kill shelter; and

WHEREAS, the sterilization and return of free-roaming community cats and the reduction of cat hoarding are aligned with the plan to achieve a no-kill shelter; and

WHEREAS, the population of free-roaming cats in Miami-Dade County is estimated to be between 300,000 and 400,000; and

WHEREAS, the housing or keeping of cats in excess of that which can be maintained in a safe, humane and sanitary manner, commonly referred to as cat hoarding, has resulted in community concerns related to human and animal health and welfare; and

WHEREAS, free-roaming cats may exhibit nuisance behaviors resulting in community concerns, including spreading disease and causing potential damage to native wildlife populations; and

WHEREAS, the County encourages responsible pet ownership and strives to decrease incidents of cat hoarding, wherein large numbers of cats are kept in private homes in unsanitary and deplorable conditions; and

WHEREAS, the practice of cat hoarding creates a cruel and neglectful environment for the animals and creates a nuisance to the surrounding neighborhoods; and

WHEREAS, this Board desires to minimize community health and welfare concerns related to free-roaming cats and cat hoarding; and

WHEREAS, this Board desires to explore alternative methods of addressing concerns related to the nuisance behaviors of free-roaming cats and cat hoarding; and

WHEREAS, this Board desires to establish a coordinated effort between the County's representatives in the fields of animal services, law enforcement and regulatory compliance, along with outside animal-related agencies to address issues related to free-roaming cats and cat hoarding,

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

Section 1. The County Mayor or the County Mayor's designee is hereby directed to identify and instruct County officials and employees in the fields of animal services, law enforcement, and regulatory compliance to consult with the following outside agencies (a group which will be collectively known as the Community Action Team or "CAT"), in order to develop new and innovative ways to address issues related to free-roaming cats and cat hoarding:

a. American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals;

b. Cat Network, Inc.;

c. Florida Department of Health in Miami-Dade County;

d. The South Florida Veterinary Foundation; and

e. Local governments

This coordinated effort shall be organized and led by the Director of the County's Department of Animal Services, or such other County employee, as designated by the County Mayor or the County Mayor's designee.

Section 2. All meetings of CAT shall be conducted in accordance with the Government in the Sunshine law (Sec. 286.011, Fla. Stat.) and the Citizens Bill of Rights of the Miami-Dade County Home Rule Charter. The Public Records Law shall apply to CAT.

Section 3. The County Mayor or the County Mayor's designee is hereby directed to provide sufficient resources to support the coordinated effort by CAT.

Section 4. The County Mayor or the County Mayor's designee is hereby directed to provide a report on all strategies developed to address issues related to the overpopulation of free-roaming cats and cat hoarding and on all actions taken by CAT within 120 days of the effective date of this resolution and to 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 Sally A. Heyman. 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 6th day of July, 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.

Sabrina Levin