MEMORANDUM

Agenda Item No. 11(A)(20)

TO:	Honorable Chairman Jean Monestime and Members, Board of County Commissioners	**DATE:**	September 7, 2016
FROM:	Abigail Price-Williams County Attorney	**SUBJECT:**	Resolution urging municipalities within Miami-Dade County to partner with the County to secure state and federal funding to assist with eliminating septic systems and converting to sewer system connections

The accompanying resolution was prepared and placed on the agenda at the request of Prime Sponsor Commissioner Rebeca Sosa.

Abigail Price-Williams
County Attorney

APW/smm

MEMORANDUM

(Revised)

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

DATE: September 7, 2016

FROM: Abigail Price-Williams
County Attorney

SUBJECT: Agenda Item No. 11(A)(20)

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)(20)
9-7-16

RESOLUTION NO. _____

RESOLUTION URGING MUNICIPALITIES WITHIN MIAMI-DADE COUNTY TO PARTNER WITH THE COUNTY TO SECURE STATE AND FEDERAL FUNDING TO ASSIST WITH ELIMINATING SEPTIC SYSTEMS AND CONVERTING TO SEWER SYSTEM CONNECTIONS

WHEREAS, onsite sewage treatment and disposal systems, commonly referred to as septic systems, are a type of onsite sewage facility; and

WHEREAS, a key component of a septic system is the significant treatment of wastewater in an underground drainfield; and

WHEREAS, some portions of the County, particularly rural and suburban areas, lack public sanitary sewer systems and therefore rely on septic systems to treat and dispose of wastewater from toilets, showers, sinks, and dishwashers; and

WHEREAS, within some municipalities in Miami-Dade County, residents also rely on septic systems; and

WHEREAS, wherever located, septic systems may present environmental concerns and are potentially vulnerable to the effects of sea level rise; and

WHEREAS, on July 6, 2016, Governor Rick Scott announced that he will propose additional funding in his State Fiscal Year 2017-2018 recommended budget for a voluntary matching program to encourage residents to convert from septic tanks to sewer systems to help curb pollution that is currently entering into the Indian River Lagoon and Caloosahatchee River; and

WHEREAS, Governor Rick Scott stated in a press release that "[s]eptic tank runoff is a major contributor to the pollution in these water bodies and I look forward to working with the Legislature to fund efforts to curb it"; and

WHEREAS, the Governor's proposal would also provide financial support to local communities to help them build wastewater systems to meet the increased demand for wastewater services; and

WHEREAS, as the Governor explained, "[i]t is up to all of us – the state, Florida's local communities and the federal government – to work together on long term solutions to improve the quality of our water," and "[t]hat is why I am going to commit state funding and match it with local contributions so we can work together on efforts to clean up our waters"; and

WHEREAS, in a companion item, this Board is urging the Florida Legislature to provide state funding to assist local communities in eliminating septic systems and converting to sewer system connections, as proposed by the Governor; and

WHEREAS, the importance of eliminating septic systems and converting to sewer system connections extends beyond the local and state level, with the federal government playing an active role in water quality issues; and

WHEREAS, this Board would like to partner with municipalities within Miami-Dade County to eliminate septic systems for the betterment of our environment and water quality, and to seek funding from the state and federal levels to assist with such endeavors,

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

Section 1. Urges municipalities within Miami-Dade County to partner with the County to secure state and federal funding to assist with eliminating septic systems and converting to sewer system connections.

Section 2. Directs the Clerk of the Board to transmit certified copies of this resolution to the Mayor or Manager of each municipality in Miami-Dade County, the Council or Commission of each municipality in Miami-Dade County, and the Executive Director of the Miami-Dade County League of Cities.

The Prime Sponsor of the foregoing resolution is Commissioner Rebeca Sosa. 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 7th day of September, 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.

James Eddie Kirtley