

MEMORANDUM

Agenda Item No. 14(A)(2)

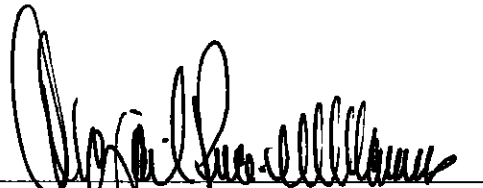
TO: Honorable Chairman Esteban L. Bovo, Jr.
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

DATE: February 7, 2017

FROM: Abigail Price-Williams
County Attorney

SUBJECT: Resolution directing the County Mayor to survey and identify sites relating to Brigade 2506 and to prepare a report making recommendations for appropriate recognition of such sites, including possible historical recognition

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



Abigail Price-Williams
County Attorney

APW/smm



MEMORANDUM

(Revised)

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and Members, Board of County Commissioners

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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. 14(A)(2)
2-7-17

RESOLUTION NO. _____

RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE COUNTY MAYOR OR COUNTY MAYOR'S DESIGNEE TO SURVEY AND IDENTIFY SITES RELATING TO BRIGADE 2506 AND TO PREPARE A REPORT MAKING RECOMMENDATIONS FOR APPROPRIATE RECOGNITION OF SUCH SITES, INCLUDING POSSIBLE HISTORICAL RECOGNITION

WHEREAS, Brigade 2506 was the name given to a CIA-sponsored group of Cuban exiles formed in 1960 at the direction of President Dwight D. Eisenhower to attempt the military overthrow of the Cuban government led by Fidel Castro; and

WHEREAS, the Brigade's name came about when one of the recruits, Carlos Rodriguez Santana, was killed in training and the members of the unit decided they would name the Brigade in his honor using his serial designation, 2506; and

WHEREAS, the soldiers of Brigade 2506 were Cuban exiles fighting to rid their land of Communist domination; and

WHEREAS, in April 1961, Brigade 2506 carried out the abortive Bay of Pigs Invasion landings in Cuba; and

WHEREAS, leading up to the Bay of Pigs, the CIA began to recruit anti-Castro Cuban exiles in the Miami area in 1960; and

WHEREAS, these recruits congregated at various locations and sites throughout South Florida in preparation for their mission; and

WHEREAS, the Brigade was taken to Useppa Island, a private island off the coast of Florida that was secretly leased by the CIA, to receive training in weapons, infantry tactics, land navigation, amphibious assault tactics, team guerrilla operations, and para-trooping; and

WHEREAS, after training in secret camps in the Florida Everglades as early as March 1960, the growing Brigade moved its base to the Sierra Madre in Guatemala; and

WHEREAS, prior to the invasion, the Brigade Air Force, made up of B-26, C-46, and C-54 aircrafts dropped supplies to support the anti-Communist guerrillas that were fighting in the Escambray Mountains in Cuba; and

WHEREAS, the Brigade Navy conducted numerous infiltrations by clandestine operation teams to bring weapons and supplies to the members who were fighting the communist regime there; and

WHEREAS, several weeks prior to the invasion, several Brigade 2506 infiltration teams were sent to different cities of Cuba to work with the underground movement; and

WHEREAS, at the start of the Bay of Pigs mission, about 1,334 men traveled as part of a seaborne force from Guatemala, of which about 1,297 actually landed in Cuba, plus an additional 177 airborne para-troops; and

WHEREAS, during the Bay of Pigs, an estimated 114 drowned or were killed in action, and estimated 1,183 were captured, tried, and imprisoned; and

WHEREAS, negotiations subsequently resulted in the exchange, release, and repatriation of Brigade 2506 prisoners to Miami starting in late December 1962; and

WHEREAS, on December 29, 1962, President John F. Kennedy hosted a ceremony for captured Brigade 2506 veterans who had returned home at the historic Orange Bowl Stadium in Miami, accepting their banner of battle and proclaiming, "This flag will be returned to this brigade in a free Havana"; and

WHEREAS, at the ceremony, Mrs. Kennedy also spoke in Spanish and called the brigade members "the bravest men in the world"; and

WHEREAS, in 1986, President Ronald Reagan further acknowledged and honored the sacrifice of Brigade 2506 in a letter commending the “freedom fighters of the Brigade 2506 for [their] great courage, love of country and devotion to the cause of liberty”; and

WHEREAS, in the years since, some of the original members of Brigade 2506 have gone on to fund the Brigade 2506 Veteran’s Association, which controls the Bay of Pigs Museum & Library in Miami; and

WHEREAS, to honor the sacrifice made by the members of Brigade 2506, and to acknowledge the important place the Brigade occupies in the history of South Florida and the history of the nation, this Board wishes for the local sites of significance to the movement to be surveyed and identified and given appropriate recognition,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, that this Board directs the County Mayor or County Mayor’s designee to survey and identify sites relating to Brigade 2506 and to prepare a report making recommendations for appropriate recognition of such sites, including possible historical recognition. The report shall be provided to this Board within 180 days of the effective date of this resolution, and shall be placed on an agenda of the Board pursuant to Ordinance No. 14-65.

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:

Esteban L. Bovo, Jr., Chairman	
Audrey M. Edmonson, Vice Chairwoman	
Bruno A. Barreiro	Daniella Levine Cava
Jose "Pepe" Diaz	Sally A. Heyman
Barbara J. Jordan	Joe A. Martinez
Jean Monestime	Dennis C. Moss
Rebeca Sosa	Sen. Javier D. Souto
Xavier L. Suarez	

The Chairperson thereupon declared the resolution duly passed and adopted this 7th day of February, 2017. 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, Jr.