

MEMORANDUM

Agenda Item No. 11(A)(16)

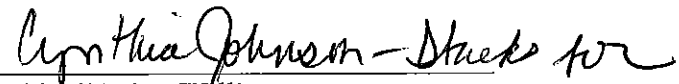
TO: Honorable Chairman Esteban L. Bovo, Jr.
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

DATE: November 7, 2017

FROM: Abigail Price-Williams
County Attorney

SUBJECT: Resolution supporting the establishment of a Sister Cities affiliation between Miami-Dade County and the city of Retalhuleu, Guatemala; and authorizing the County Mayor to execute an affiliation agreement between Miami-Dade County and the City of Retalhuleu, Guatemala

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/lmp



MEMORANDUM

(Revised)

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

DATE: November 7, 2017

FROM: Abigail Price-Williams
County Attorney

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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)(16)

11-7-17

RESOLUTION NO. _____

RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A SISTER CITIES AFFILIATION BETWEEN MIAMI-DADE COUNTY AND THE CITY OF RETALHULEU, GUATEMALA; AND AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY MAYOR OR MAYOR'S DESIGNEE TO EXECUTE AN AFFILIATION AGREEMENT BETWEEN MIAMI-DADE COUNTY AND THE CITY OF RETALHULEU, GUATEMALA

WHEREAS, representatives of Miami-Dade County, Florida, and representatives of the City of Retalhuleu, Guatemala have expressed a desire to establish a Sister City affiliation between the two communities; and

WHEREAS, a Sister Cities relationship is a long-term cooperative relationship between two cities in different countries through which cultural, educational, business, and technical exchanges take place; and

WHEREAS, Sister Cities International, an international non-profit organization, recommends formalizing a Sister Cities relationship through execution of a memorandum of understanding between the two communities; and

WHEREAS, the Miami-Dade County Sister Cities Program was founded in 1981 and has established Sister Cities relationships with 27 cities in South America, Central America, the Caribbean, Europe, Africa, and Asia; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Resolution No. R-416-95, this Board established the guidelines for the "Sister City" Program and such guidelines state that at least one of the following three criteria must be established prior to a foreign community becoming a sister city with Miami-Dade County: (1) the proposed city is the capital of its country; or (2) the proposed city has the

approximate population of Miami-Dade County; or (3) the city has some quality in common with Miami-Dade County such as having a major international seaport or a community heavily involved in international trade or its economy based significantly on tourism; and

WHEREAS, here, the City of Retalhuleu and Miami-Dade County have a significant and historical connection: Retalhuleu was the city where the United States Central Intelligence Agency (“CIA”) sent soldiers and pilots of the Brigade 2506 to train for the Bay of Pigs invasion of Cuba; and

WHEREAS, the City of Retalhuleu was considered an ideal training ground for the Brigade 2506’s soldiers and pilots because it had a tropical environment similar to that of Cuba, it had a government friendly to the United States who was willing to allow the CIA to establish two secret bases- one for training the Brigade’s soldiers and the other for a small air base to train the pilots, and it was accompanied by the full support of the Guatemalan Army; and

WHEREAS, Miami-Dade County is home to hundreds of members of and families of members of the Brigade 2506; and

WHEREAS, the affiliation of both communities meets the guidelines established by Miami-Dade County and Sister Cities International; and

WHEREAS, both Miami-Dade County and Retalhuleu, Guatemala wish to cooperate in order to further expand trade, tourism, cultural and educational opportunities; and

WHEREAS, the Miami-Dade County Sister Cities, Consular Corps and Protocol Committee of the International Trade Consortium met on July 18, 2017, and the Committee voted to recommend a Sister Cities affiliation between Miami-Dade County and Retalhuleu, Guatemala,

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

Section 1. Supports the establishment of a Sister City affiliation with the City of Retalhuleu, Guatemala.

Section 2. Authorizes the County Mayor to execute a Sister Cities affiliation agreement between Miami-Dade County and the City of Retalhuleu, Guatemala, a copy of which is attached hereto.

Section 3. Upon the execution of an affiliation agreement by the Mayor and the City of Retalhuleu, Guatemala, the Miami-Dade County Sister Cities Committee shall coordinate projects to increase and promote trade, culture, tourism, and educational opportunities between these two communities.

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 November, 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.



Monica Rizo Perez



**SISTER CITIES AGREEMENT BETWEEN
MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA
AND
RETALHULEU, GUATEMALA**

WHEREAS, THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA ON OCTOBER , 2017, PASSED A RESOLUTION EXPRESSING A DESIRE TO ESTABLISH A SISTER CITIES RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN MIAMI-DADE COUNTY AND RETALHULEU, GUATEMALA; AND

WHEREAS, BOTH COMMUNITIES ARE INEXTRICABLY TIED BY THE CONTRIBUTIONS BY CUBAN-AMERICAN EXILES TO THOSE COMMUNITIES AND THEIR HISTORICAL INVOLVEMENT IN THE BAY OF PIGS INVASION, AND THIS AFFILIATION MEETS THE GUIDELINES ESTABLISHED BY MIAMI-DADE COUNTY TO ENTER INTO A SISTER CITIES RELATIONSHIP.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE MAYOR OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA AND

THE MAYOR OF RETALHULEU, GUATEMALA, HEREBY MUTUALLY AGREE TO:

- A) ESTABLISH A SISTER CITIES RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA AND RETALHULEU, GUATEMALA
- B) UNDERTAKE PROGRAMS OF MUTUAL CULTURAL EXCHANGE
- C) UNDERATAKE CULTURAL AND TRADE MISSIONS TO EACH COMMUNITY

IN WITNESS THEREOF WE HAVE AFFIXED OUR SIGNATURES TO THIS SISTER CITIES AGREEMENT ON THIS DATE OF _____ A.D.

CARLOS A. GIMENEZ
MAYOR
MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA

MAYOR
RETALHULEU, GUATEMALA

JAVIER SOUTO
COMMISSIONER
MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA