

# MEMORANDUM

Agenda Item No. 11(A)(3)

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

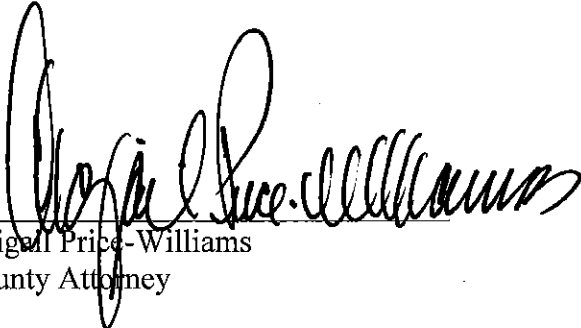
**DATE:** September 5, 2018

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

**SUBJECT:** Resolution directing the County Mayor to continue to use the resources of the Solsmart program to further improve solar energy permitting processes and to seek designation as a Solsmart Gold County; and directing the County Mayor to provide a report to the Board within 90 days

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The accompanying resolution was prepared and placed on the agenda at the request of Prime Sponsor Commissioner Daniella Levine Cava and Co-Sponsor Commissioner Xavier L. Suarez.

  
Abigail Price-Williams  
County Attorney


APW/lmp



**MEMORANDUM**  
(Revised)

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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)(3)

9-5-18

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

RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE COUNTY MAYOR OR COUNTY MAYOR'S DESIGNEE TO CONTINUE TO USE THE RESOURCES OF THE SOLSMART PROGRAM TO FURTHER IMPROVE SOLAR ENERGY PERMITTING PROCESSES AND TO SEEK DESIGNATION AS A SOLSMART GOLD COUNTY; AND DIRECTING THE COUNTY MAYOR OR COUNTY MAYOR'S DESIGNEE TO PROVIDE A REPORT TO THE BOARD WITHIN 90 DAYS

**WHEREAS**, solar photovoltaic energy is an alternative for producing electricity that is sustainable and safe; and

**WHEREAS**, solar photovoltaic energy offers many potential benefits, including lower electricity costs for homeowners, businesses and governments, local jobs and economic development, reduced dependence on imported fuels, pollution-free electricity generation, and a more resilient electric grid; and

**WHEREAS**, Miami-Dade County has been a leader and an advocate of making solar energy available and affordable to its residents; and

**WHEREAS**, Miami-Dade County was the lead organization under a U.S. Department of Energy grant award entitled Rooftop Solar Challenge Agreement Number DE-FOA-00078 ("Go SOLAR-Florida"); and

**WHEREAS**, in connection with the Go SOLAR-Florida grant, this Board passed Resolution No. R-927-14 approving an interlocal agreement between Miami-Dade County and Broward County to develop and implement an online permitting solution to improve the permitting process for the installation of solar energy systems for residents; and

**WHEREAS**, SolSmart is a national designation program designed to recognize cities and counties that have taken key steps to address local barriers to solar energy and otherwise foster the growth of strong local solar markets; and

**WHEREAS**, SolSmart is led by the Solar Foundation, the International City/County Management Association, and a team of national solar experts from partner organizations, including the National Association of Counties, and is funded by the U.S. Department of Energy Solar Energy Technologies Office; and

**WHEREAS**, the SolSmart program provides no-cost technical assistance to help local governments become “open for solar businesses” and recognizes local government efforts through designations of SolSmart Gold, Silver, and Bronze; and

**WHEREAS**, Miami-Dade County recently sought and achieved a SolSmart Bronze rating through the SolSmart program; and

**WHEREAS**, this Board desires that Miami-Dade County continue to be a local government leader in facilitating the use of solar energy and strive to be recognized as a SolSmart Gold County,

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

**Section 1.** Directs the County Mayor or County Mayor’s designee to continue to use the resources of the SolSmart program and further improve the permitting process for solar installations for residences and businesses and strive to become national leaders in the field by actively seeking designation as a SolSmart Gold County.

**Section 2.** Directs the County Mayor or County Mayor’s designee to submit a report to this Board within 90 days of the effective date of this resolution and place the completed report on an agenda of the Board pursuant to Ordinance No. 14-65. The report shall, at a minimum, include details describing the County’s current permitting process for the installation of rooftop solar photovoltaic energy systems and actions the County has taken and will take to become a certified SolSmart Gold County.

The Prime Sponsor of the foregoing resolution is Commissioner Daniella Levine Cava and Co-Sponsor Commissioner Xavier L. Suarez. 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 |                      |
| Daniella Levine Cava                | Jose "Pepe" Diaz     |
| Sally A. Heyman                     | Eileen Higgins       |
| Barbara J. Jordan                   | Joe A. Martinez      |
| Jean Monestime                      | Dennis C. Moss       |
| Rebeca Sosa                         | Sen. Javier D. Souto |
| Xavier L. Suarez                    |                      |

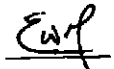
The Chairperson thereupon declared the resolution duly passed and adopted this 5<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2018. This resolution shall become effective upon the earlier of (1) 10 days after the date of its adoption unless vetoed by the County Mayor, and if vetoed, shall become effective only upon 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.



Eduardo W. Gonzalez