## **MEMORANDUM**

Agenda Item No. 11(A)(11)

TO:

Honorable Chairwoman Audrey M. Edmonson

and Members, Board of County Commissioners

DATE:

July 23, 2019

FROM:

Abigail Price-Williams

County Attorney

**SUBJECT:** 

Resolution urging Governor

Ron DeSantis, the Florida Department of Environmental Protection and other applicable state agencies to issue a one-time extended permit for the removal of seaweed on beaches located

in Miami-Dade County

The accompanying resolution was prepared and placed on the agenda at the request of Prime Sponsor

Commissioner Eileen Higgins.

Abigail Plice-Williams

County Attorney

APW/smm



## MEMORANDUM

(Revised)

TO:	Honorable Chairwoman Audrey M. Edmonson and Members, Board of County Commissioners	DATE:	July 23, 2019		
FROM:	A figail Price-Williams County Attorney	SUBJECT:	Agenda Item No.	11(A)(11)	
PI	ease note any items checked.				
	"3-Day Rule" for committees applicable is	f raised			
	6 weeks required between first reading and public hearing				
	4 weeks notification to municipal officials hearing	required prior	to public		
<del></del>	Decreases revenues or increases expenditu	ures without bal	ancing budget		
<u>.</u>	Budget required				
	Statement of fiscal impact required				
	Statement of social equity required				
	Ordinance creating a new board requires report for public hearing	detailed County	Mayor's		
<u> </u>	No committee review				
<del></del>	Applicable legislation requires more than present, 2/3 membership, 3/5's 7 vote requirement per 2-116.1(3)(h) or (4 requirement per 2-116.1(3)(h) or (4)(c) requirement per 2-116.1(4)(c)(2)) to	, unanimou ()(c), CDM , or CDMP 9	S, CDMP P 2/3 vote		
	Current information regarding funding sobalance, and available capacity (if debt is				

Approved		Agenda Item No. 11(A)(11)
Veto		7-23-19
Override		
	RESOLUTION NO.	<del></del>
	DESCRIPTION LIDGING GO	VERNOR RON DESANTIS THE

RESOLUTION URGING GOVERNOR RON DESANTIS, THE FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AND OTHER APPLICABLE STATE AGENCIES TO ISSUE A ONE-TIME EXTENDED PERMIT FOR THE REMOVAL OF SEAWEED ON BEACHES LOCATED IN MIAMI-DADE COUNTY

WHEREAS, tourism is Miami-Dade County's largest industry; and

WHEREAS, the beaches in Miami-Dade County are the centerpiece of the County's tourist attractions; and

WHEREAS, sargassum seaweed, a type of floating algae has invaded some County beaches, including the popular tourist destinations on Miami Beach; and

WHEREAS, the presence of sargassum seaweed can have a deleterious effect on the tourist industry and impede resident's enjoyment of the natural beauty of our beaches; and

WHEREAS, the Parks, Recreation, and Open Spaces Department (PROS) is responsible for maintaining 17 miles of County beaches; and

WHEREAS, PROS works collaboratively with the Florida Department of Environmental Protection and the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission to follow all regulations and obtain required permits for beach cleaning; and

WHEREAS, the permits issued by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection to allow PROS to conduct environmental clean-up work such as the removal of seaweed are issued for only a two-week period; and

WHEREAS, an extended permit would allow PROS to maintain the current and approved practices for addressing the seaweed issue without the necessity of reapplying for a permit every two weeks,

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

Section 1. Urges Governor Ron DeSantis, the Florida Department of Environmental Protection, and other applicable state agencies to issue a one-time permit to PROS for the continuous use of heavy equipment in accordance with current approved practices for seaweed removal to run continuously through October 31, 2019.

Section 2. Directs the Clerk of the Board to send a certified copy of this Resolution to the Governor, the Secretary of the Florida Department of Environmental Regulation, and the Chair and Members of the Miami-Dade State Legislative Delegation.

Section 3. Directs the County's state lobbyists to advocate for the action described in section 1, and authorizes and directs the Office of Intergovernmental Affairs to amend the 2019 State Legislative Package to include this item in the 2019 State Legislative Package.

The Prime Sponsor of the foregoing resolution is Commissioner Eileen Higgins.

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:

Audrey M. Edmonson, Chairwoman Rebeca Sosa, Vice Chairwoman

Esteban L. Bovo, Jr.

Jose "Pepe" Diaz

Eileen Higgins

Joe A. Martinez

Dennis C. Moss

Daniella Levine Cava
Sally A. Heyman
Barbara J. Jordan
Jean Monestime
Sen. Javier D. Souto

Xavier L. Suarez

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The Chairperson thereupon declared the resolution duly passed and adopted this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of July, 2019. 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.

MJS

Melanie J. Spencer