

MEMORANDUM

Agenda Item No. 11(A)(8)

TO: Honorable Chairman Jose "Pepe" Diaz
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

DATE: January 20, 2021

FROM: Geri Bonzon-Keenan
Successor County Attorney

SUBJECT: Resolution directing the County Mayor to develop recommendations for economic development measures on both the local and state levels to attract technology companies, entrepreneurs, and investors to relocate their headquarters to Miami-Dade County, to encourage and foster technology start-ups to launch and remain in the County, and to retain and promote the development of technology companies currently existing in the County; and to provide report

The accompanying resolution was prepared and placed on the agenda at the request of Prime Sponsor Commissioner Danielle Cohen Higgins.



Geri Bonzon-Keenan
Successor County Attorney

GBK/smm




MEMORANDUM

(Revised)

TO: Honorable Chairman Jose "Pepe" Diaz
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

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Successor 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 present ____, 2/3 membership ____, 3/5's ____, unanimous ____, CDMP 7 vote requirement per 2-116.1(3)(h) or (4)(c) ____, CDMP 2/3 vote requirement per 2-116.1(3)(h) or (4)(c) ____, or CDMP 9 vote requirement per 2-116.1(4)(c)(2) ____ 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)(8)
1-20-21

RESOLUTION NO. _____

RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE COUNTY MAYOR OR COUNTY MAYOR'S DESIGNEE TO DEVELOP RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT MEASURES ON BOTH THE LOCAL AND STATE LEVELS TO ATTRACT TECHNOLOGY COMPANIES, ENTREPRENEURS, AND INVESTORS TO RELOCATE THEIR HEADQUARTERS TO MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, TO ENCOURAGE AND FOSTER TECHNOLOGY START-UPS TO LAUNCH AND REMAIN IN THE COUNTY, AND TO RETAIN AND PROMOTE THE DEVELOPMENT OF TECHNOLOGY COMPANIES CURRENTLY EXISTING IN THE COUNTY; AND TO PROVIDE REPORT

WHEREAS, for years, Silicon Valley in California has been at the center of the technology industry; and

WHEREAS, in recent years, the technology community in Miami-Dade County has been growing, including the creation of local start-up technology companies, coworking spaces, and technology incubators, and the migration of venture capitalists and entrepreneurs; and

WHEREAS, Miami-Dade County is home to the Latin American headquarters of major technology companies, and its geography as well as diverse population make it an ideal location for technology companies and executives seeking to launch or expand their international presence; and

WHEREAS, recently, technology investors and executives as well as technology companies and venture capital firms have relocated, or announced plans to relocate, from Silicon Valley and elsewhere to Miami-Dade County; and

WHEREAS, the attraction of the technology industry and the creation of a technology hub in Miami-Dade County will create higher paying jobs, opportunities for employment for graduates, and an increase in economic prosperity for all of Florida; and

WHEREAS, indeed, the technology industry employs approximately 12.1 million workers throughout the United States, has grown by 2.3 million workers over the past decade and is anticipated to continue to steadily grow as technology fuels and supports almost all other industries; and

WHEREAS, the technology sector has a high productivity output: while technology workers make up approximately 7.7 percent of the overall United States workforce, they account for an estimated 10 percent of the total United States economy; and

WHEREAS, many of the jobs in the technology industry are high-paying jobs; and

WHEREAS, the estimated median wage in the United States for technology jobs is \$84,284 compared to the median wage for the United States labor force for all jobs at \$44,432; and

WHEREAS, the City of Miami has initiated a campaign, spearheaded by Mayor Francis Suarez, to attract technology companies to Miami; and

WHEREAS, it is in the best interests of Miami-Dade County to promote the relocation of the technology industry, professionals, companies, and investors to Miami-Dade County and the launch of new technology start-ups in Miami-Dade County in order to create new jobs and strengthen the County's economy; and

WHEREAS, in section 125.045, Florida Statutes, the Florida Legislature recognized that this state faces increasing competition from other states for the location of private enterprises, and that there is a need to enhance and expand economic activity by attracting business enterprises to this state; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to section 125.045, the County may employ measures to attract business enterprises, including but not limited to developing local infrastructure, and leasing or conveying real property directly to individuals and entities to attract such business enterprises; and

WHEREAS, this Board seeks to create an economic development plan in order to attract the technology industry from Silicon Valley and elsewhere to Miami-Dade County—specifically, for technology companies to relocate their headquarters to Miami-Dade County, to foster and encourage technology start-ups to launch their business and remain in Miami-Dade County, to retain and promote the development of technology companies currently existing in Miami-Dade County, and to promote the creation of a technology hub; and

WHEREAS, this Board desires to direct the County Mayor or County Mayor’s designee to develop recommendations for economic development measures on both the state and local levels, in collaboration with the Beacon Council, Inc. (“Beacon Council”), as the official economic development agency for Miami-Dade County, to attract technology companies to relocate their headquarters, to launch start-ups in Miami-Dade County, and to promote the development of existing technology companies; and

WHEREAS, this Board further desires to direct the County Mayor or County Mayor’s designee to present a report including such recommendations to this Board for its consideration and approval,

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

Section 1. Approves the foregoing recitals and incorporates them herein by reference.

Section 2. Directs the County Mayor or County Mayor’s designee to develop recommendations for economic development measures on both the state and local levels to: (1) attract technology companies, entrepreneurs, and investors to relocate, and to relocate their

headquarters, to Miami-Dade County; (2) encourage and foster technology start-ups to launch and remain in the County; and (3) retain and promote the development of technology companies currently existing in the County. Such recommendations may be developed in collaboration with the Beacon Council.

Section 3. Directs the County Mayor or County Mayor’s designee to prepare a written report relating to such recommendations. The report should include, but not be limited to, an identification of proposed economic development measures on both the state and local levels, real property which could be made available to serve as a large-scale campus for headquarters and offices for technology companies and start-ups, advertising and promotional strategies to market Miami-Dade County as a technology hub, and an implementation schedule.

Section 4. Directs the County Mayor or County Mayor’s designee to present the report to this Board for its consideration no later than 60 days from the effective date of this resolution, and to place the report on an agenda of this Board pursuant to Ordinance No. 14-65.

The Prime Sponsor of the foregoing resolution is Commissioner Danielle Cohen 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:

Jose “Pepe” Diaz, Chairman	
Oliver G. Gilbert, III, Vice-Chairman	
Sen. René García	Keon Hardemon
Sally A. Heyman	Danielle Cohen Higgins
Eileen Higgins	Joe A. Martinez
Kionne L. McGhee	Jean Monestime
Raquel A. Regalado	Rebeca Sosa
Sen. Javier D. Souto	

The Chairperson thereupon declared this resolution duly passed and adopted this 20th day of January, 2021. 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.



Debra Herman
Monica Rizo Perez