

# MEMORANDUM

Agenda Item No. 11(A)(12)

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

**DATE:** March 16, 2021

**FROM:** Geri Bonzon-Keenan  
County Attorney

**SUBJECT:** Resolution declaring April  
5th through April 12th, 2021  
as Dark Sky Week; approving  
educational displays in  
recognition of Dark Sky Week  
in the Stephen P. Clark Center  
secured lobby area pursuant to  
Resolution No. R-240-16, and  
other County owned or operated  
buildings and facilities

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The accompanying resolution was prepared and placed on the agenda at the request of Prime Sponsor Commissioner Sally A. Heyman.



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Geri Bonzon-Keenan  
County Attorney

GBK/smm




# MEMORANDUM

(Revised)

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

**DATE:** March 16, 2021

**FROM:**   
Gen Bonzon-Keenan  
County Attorney

**SUBJECT:** Agenda Item No. 11(A)(12)

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)(12)  
3-16-21

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

RESOLUTION DECLARING APRIL 5TH THROUGH APRIL 12TH, 2021 AS DARK SKY WEEK; APPROVING EDUCATIONAL DISPLAYS IN RECOGNITION OF DARK SKY WEEK IN THE STEPHEN P. CLARK CENTER SECURED LOBBY AREA PURSUANT TO RESOLUTION NO. R-240-16, AND OTHER COUNTY OWNED OR OPERATED BUILDINGS AND FACILITIES

**WHEREAS**, the aesthetic beauty and wonder of a natural night sky is a shared heritage of all humankind; and

**WHEREAS**, the experience of standing beneath a starry night sky inspires feelings of wonder and awe, and encourages a growing interest in science and nature, especially among young people within the Miami-Dade County community; and

**WHEREAS**, the opportunity to view star-filled skies attracts tourists to this region and therefore, economic benefit to Miami-Dade County; and

**WHEREAS**, as such, this board acknowledges the importance of preserving Miami-Dade County's historic heritage and starry night skies; and

**WHEREAS**, excessive "artificial lighting" at night, including light directed upward into the sky, causes "light pollution" of the nighttime environment; and

**WHEREAS**, "artificial lighting" is defined as light ranging in wavelength from the ultraviolet to the near-infrared, that is caused, directed, or used by humans for any purpose; and

**WHEREAS**, "light pollution" is defined as any adverse effect or impact attributable to artificial light at night, and represents a waste of natural resources amounting to at least \$2 billion per year and contributes to diminished energy security; and

**WHEREAS**, light pollution has scientifically-established economic and environmental consequences, which result in significant impacts to the ecology and human health of all communities, including Miami-Dade County; and

**WHEREAS**, light pollution within the United States and Miami-Dade County continues to grow at an average annual rate of 3 to 5 percent per year; and

**WHEREAS**, protecting the night sky helps the Miami-Dade County community improve and maintain its unique sense of place, neighborhood livability, safety, and quality of life; and

**WHEREAS**, solving the problem of light pollution requires educating governments, communities, and citizens on neighbor and ecological friendly lighting practices, as well as responsible decision-making regarding outdoor lighting that directs light down to where it is needed instead of upward into the sky; and

**WHEREAS**, the International Dark Sky Association is the recognized authority on light pollution and the leading organization combating light pollution worldwide, with a mission to protect the night from light pollution; and

**WHEREAS**, the International Dark Sky Association has designated April 5 through April 12, 2021 as “International Dark Sky Week 2021” to help draw awareness to light pollution and its far-reaching effects on all communities by promoting simple solutions to mitigate it,

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

**Section 1.** Incorporates and approves the foregoing recitals as if fully set forth herein.

**Section 2.** Declares April 5th through April 12th, 2021 as Dark Sky Week.

**Section 3.** As part of the educational Dark Sky Week activities, approves, in accordance with Resolution No. R-240-16, exhibits for display in the secured area of the Stephen P. Clark Center lobby, and authorizes the use of cultural, historic and/or artistic exhibits, demonstrations or displays located in or at County owned or operated buildings and facilities in observance of Dark Sky Week.

The Prime Sponsor of the foregoing resolution is Commissioner Sally A. Heyman. 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 16<sup>th</sup> day of March, 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.

NRB

Nicole Ramos-Barreau