

MEMORANDUM

Agenda Item No. 11(A)(18)

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**TO:** Honorable Chairman Joe A. Martinez  
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

**DATE:** April 4, 2010

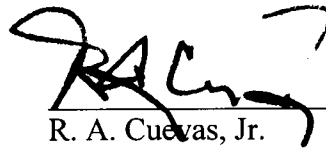
**FROM:** R. A. Cuevas, Jr.  
County Attorney

**SUBJECT:** Resolution urging the Florida  
Legislature to approve additional  
funding for the Port of Miami  
Deep Dredge Project; identifying  
the Deep Dredge Project as a  
critical priority for the 2011 State  
Legislative Session

Resolution No. R-268-11

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The accompanying resolution was prepared and placed on the agenda at the request of Prime Sponsor Commissioner Rebeca Sosa.



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R. A. Cuevas, Jr.  
County Attorney

RAC/jls



# MEMORANDUM

(Revised)

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and Members, Board of County Commissioners

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**SUBJECT:** Agenda Item No. 11(A)(18)

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
- Ordinance creating a new board requires detailed County Manager'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

Agenda Item No. 11(A)(18)

Veto \_\_\_\_\_

4-4-11

Override \_\_\_\_\_

RESOLUTION NO. R-268-11

RESOLUTION URGING THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE TO APPROVE ADDITIONAL FUNDING FOR THE PORT OF MIAMI DEEP DREDGE PROJECT; IDENTIFYING THE DEEP DREDGE PROJECT AS A CRITICAL PRIORITY FOR THE 2011 STATE LEGISLATIVE SESSION

**WHEREAS**, the Deep Dredge Project at the Port of Miami is one of the most important infrastructure projects in Florida and has nationwide significance in support of international trade, commerce and job creation; and

**WHEREAS**, the Deep Dredge Project, now in the planning, engineering and design stage, entails dredging the Port of Miami channel to minus 50 feet from its current depth of minus 42 feet; and

**WHEREAS**, the Army Corp of Engineers is scheduled to complete the design work in 2011 and with construction dollars appropriated, bids would be let in 2012 with a projected completion date in 2014; and

**WHEREAS**, this timetable would coincide with the scheduled opening of the expanded Panama Canal in 2014; and

**WHEREAS**, beginning in 2014, large numbers of Super Post-Panamax megaships that previously offloaded cargo on the West Coast of the U.S. will instead be able to traverse the expanded Panama Canal, presenting an unprecedented, one-time opportunity for the Port of Miami to significantly expand its cargo business; and

**WHEREAS**, three East Coast ports, New York, Baltimore and Norfolk, already have deepened their waters to meet the necessary 50-foot depth; and

**WHEREAS**, the Port of Miami has received authorization to dredge to the minus 50-foot level and has the ability to complete the project by 2014; and

**WHEREAS**, without additional East Coast deep draft capacity in place by 2014, the U.S. is at risk of losing jobs to other seaports overseas, as the larger Super Post-Panamax ships have the option of calling at nearby foreign ports such as Freeport, Bahamas; and

**WHEREAS**, the Port of Miami has approximately 6,200 lineal feet of berth space, supported by Super Post-Panamax cranes capable of serving the largest ships in the world; and

**WHEREAS**, the first and third largest cargo lines in the world currently make the Port of Miami their southernmost point of operation in the U.S., and have joined with the Port of Miami in an aggressive landside infrastructure program to improve and expand facilities to accommodate additional cargo business; and

**WHEREAS**, the Deep Dredge Project provides a high return on the investment, with the scope of the dredge at the Port of Miami being only 2.5 nautical miles, a relatively short distance compared to other potential ports, and the Port of Miami's harbor only requiring maintenance dredging every 10 years rather than river ports that require annual maintenance; and

**WHEREAS**, it is estimated that the Deep Dredge Project would enable the Port of Miami to double its cargo business over the next 10 years and create more than 30,000 new, high paying, permanent jobs; and

**WHEREAS**, the Deep Dredge Project will pay dividends not only for Miami-Dade County, but throughout the state and nation for decades to come; and

**WHEREAS**, on February 15, 2011, this Board adopted Resolution No. 121-11 urging the President and U.S. Congress to budget and appropriate \$75 million in federal construction funding for the Deep Dredge Project at the Port of Miami; and further urging the Governor and

Florida Legislature to identify State funding sources to assist in the timely completion of the Deep Dredge Project; and

**WHEREAS**, when President Barack Obama released his proposed federal budget in February, it did not include funding for the Port of Miami Deep Dredge Project despite the fact that the Deep Dredge Project had received Congressional authorization; and

**WHEREAS**, on March 4, 2011, Florida Governor Rick Scott announced that he would pledge an additional \$77 million in Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) Strategic Intermodal System (SIS) funds for the Deep Dredge Project; and

**WHEREAS**, this additional \$77 million in funding would be in addition to the \$17.5 million in SIS funds for the Deep Dredge Project which already had been proposed in the state fiscal year 2011-12 FDOT Tentative Five-Year Work Program; and

**WHEREAS**, the Florida Legislature still needs to approve the additional \$77 million in funding for the Deep Dredge Project as part of the state fiscal year 2011-12 appropriations process and in approving the 2011-12 FDOT Tentative Five-Year Work Program; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board expresses its strong support for this additional state funding for the Deep Dredge Project, urges the Legislature to approve additional state funding for the Deep Dredge Project and desires to set additional state funding for the Deep Dredge Project as one of Miami-Dade County's critical priorities for the 2011 session,

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

**Section 1.** Urges the Florida Legislature to approve additional funding for the Deep Dredge Project at the Port of Miami as part of the state fiscal year 2011-12 appropriations process and in approving the 2011-12 FDOT Tentative Five-Year Work Program.

**Section 2.** Identifies the Deep Dredge Project as a Critical Priority for the 2011 state legislative session.

**Section 3.** Directs the Clerk of the Board to transmit a certified copy of this resolution to Governor, Senate President, House Speaker and the Chair and Members of the Miami-Dade State Legislative Delegation.

**Section 4.** Directs the County's state lobbyists to advocate for the passage of the legislation as set forth in Section 1 above, and authorizes and directs the Office of Intergovernmental Affairs to include this item in the 2011 State Legislative Package.

The Prime Sponsor of the foregoing resolution is Commissioner Rebeca Sosa. It was offered by Commissioner **Audrey Edmonson**, who moved its adoption. The motion was seconded by Commissioner **Rebeca Sosa** and upon being put to a vote, the vote was as follows:

	Joe A. Martinez, Chairman	aye
	Audrey M. Edmonson, Vice Chairwoman	aye
Bruno A. Barreiro	Lynda Bell	aye
Jose "Pepe" Diaz	Carlos A. Gimenez	aye
Sally A. Heyman	Barbara J. Jordan	aye
Jean Monestime	Dennis C. Moss	aye
Rebeca Sosa	Sen. Javier D. Souto	aye



The Chairperson thereupon declared the resolution duly passed and adopted this 4<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2011. This resolution shall become effective ten (10) days after the date of its adoption unless vetoed by the Mayor, and if vetoed, shall become effective only upon an override by this Board.



MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA  
BY ITS BOARD OF  
COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

HARVEY RUVIN, CLERK

**DIANE COLLINS**

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Deputy Clerk

Approved by County Attorney as  
to form and legal sufficiency.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "DCC for Jmm".

Jess M. McCarty

A handwritten mark or signature at the bottom center of the page, resembling a stylized number 7 or a similar symbol.