

Memorandum



Date: February 5, 2013

To: Honorable Chairwoman Rebeca Sosa
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

From: Carlos A. Gimenez 
Mayor

Subject: Agreement between the City of Miami Gardens and Miami-Dade County for the provision of stormwater billing charges by the Miami-Dade Water and Sewer Department

Agenda Item No. 8(O)(1)

Resolution No. R-92-13

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Board of County Commissioners (Board) approve and adopt the attached resolution authorizing the execution of an agreement between Miami-Dade County and the City of Miami Gardens providing for the billing of the City's stormwater charges by the Miami-Dade Water and Sewer Department (WASD).

SCOPE OF AGENDA ITEM

The agenda item is for billing services for the City of Miami Gardens in Commission District 1.

FISCAL IMPACT/FUNDING SOURCE

There is a positive fiscal impact to the County. WASD will receive \$.81 per bill from the City of Miami Gardens for the service; the revenue from the City for this service for Fiscal Year 2011-12 was \$52,777.86. The total revenue received by WASD in Fiscal Year 2011-12 for the provision of identical services to other participating municipalities was \$514,328.06. A funding source is not required as the County is the recipient of the revenue.

TRACK RECORD/MONITOR

WASD's Assistant Director of Finance will monitor this agreement.

BACKGROUND

On March 27, 2007, Miami-Dade County and the City of Miami Gardens entered into a five (5) year agreement providing for the billing of stormwater charges by WASD for the City. WASD has been billing a stormwater utility service charge simultaneously with the issuance of WASD's bills for water and sewer service. WASD also bills, collects and retains the City's pro-rata share of the debt service on the County's Series 1999 and Series 2004 Stormwater Utility Bonds, and remits the balance of the stormwater charges to the City in accordance with rates established and approved by the City. WASD and the City have negotiated the terms of the agreement which provide that WASD will bill, collect and remit the stormwater utility charges to the City, in accordance with rates established and approved by the City for a fee of \$.81 per bill.

WASD's water and sewer bills will identify the stormwater charges as those of the City of Miami Gardens and will provide a City telephone number for customers to call if they have questions. This new agreement has a ten (10) year term and may be extended by mutual consent of WASD and the City but cannot be terminated without a County approved alternate method of satisfaction of any outstanding balance of the City's pro-rata share of the debt service on the Series 1999 and Series 2004 Stormwater Utility Bonds.

Honorable Chairwoman Rebeca Sosa
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

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WASD currently performs similar billing services for the Cities of Aventura, Coral Gables, Doral, Miami, Miami Springs, South Miami, Sweetwater and Towns of Cutler Bay, Miami Lakes and Villages of El Portal, Key Biscayne and Palmetto Bay. The new agreement has been approved by the City of Miami Gardens.



Alina T. Hudak
Deputy Mayor



MEMORANDUM
(Revised)

TO: Honorable Chairwoman Rebeca Sosa
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

DATE: February 5, 2013

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

SUBJECT: Agenda Item No. 8(O)(1)

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 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. 8(O)(1)

2-5-13

RESOLUTION NO. R-92-13

RESOLUTION APPROVING A STORMWATER BILLING AGREEMENT WITH THE CITY OF MIAMI GARDENS FOR THE BILLING OF STORMWATER UTILITY CHARGES BY THE MIAMI-DADE WATER AND SEWER DEPARTMENT; AND AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY MAYOR OR MAYOR'S DESIGNEE TO EXECUTE SAME AND TO EXERCISE THE PROVISIONS CONTAINED THEREIN

WHEREAS, this Board desires to accomplish the purposes outlined in the accompanying memorandum, a copy of which is incorporated herein by reference,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, that this Board hereby approves a stormwater billing agreement with the City of Miami Gardens for the billing of stormwater utility charges by Miami-Dade Water and Sewer Department, in substantially the form attached hereto and made a part hereof; and authorizes the County Mayor or Mayor's designee to execute same for and on behalf of Miami-Dade County, Florida and to exercise the provisions contained therein.

The foregoing resolution was offered by Commissioner **José "Pepe" Diaz** who moved its adoption. The motion was seconded by Commissioner **Rebeca Sosa** and upon being put to a vote, the vote was as follows:

	Rebeca Sosa, Chairwoman	aye
	Lynda Bell, Vice Chair	aye
Bruno A. Barreiro	aye	Esteban L. Bovo, Jr. aye
Jose "Pepe" Diaz	aye	Audrey M. Edmonson aye
Sally A. Heyman	absent	Barbara J. Jordan aye
Jean Monestime	aye	Dennis C. Moss aye
Sen. Javier D. Souto	aye	Xavier L. Suarez aye
Juan C. Zapata	aye	

The Chairperson thereupon declared the resolution duly passed and adopted this 5th day of February, 2013. 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

Christopher Agrippa

By: _____
Deputy Clerk



Approved by County Attorney as
to form and legal sufficiency.

Henry N. Gillman

AGREEMENT FOR THE BILLING OF
STORMWATER CHARGES
BETWEEN
MIAMI-DADE COUNTY
AND
CITY OF MIAMI GARDENS

THIS AGREEMENT, entered into this _____ day of _____, 2012, by and between the CITY OF MIAMI GARDENS, FLORIDA, a municipal corporation of the State of Florida (the "CITY"), and MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, a political subdivision of the State of Florida (the "COUNTY").

WITNESSETH:

WHEREAS, the COUNTY, through its Miami-Dade Water and Sewer Department (the "Department"), operates the water and sewer utility systems within the CITY; and

WHEREAS, effective March 1, 2007, the CITY has been exclusively responsible for operating and maintaining the stormwater utility system within the CITY boundaries; and

WHEREAS, on March 27, 2007, the COUNTY and the CITY entered into an agreement providing for the billing of stormwater charges by the COUNTY on the CITY's behalf and has been administering, billing and collecting a stormwater utility service charge simultaneously with the issuance of the COUNTY's bills for water and/or sewer service; and

WHEREAS, the CITY desires the COUNTY to continue to administer, bill and collect the stormwater utility charge on behalf of the CITY; and

WHEREAS, the COUNTY has agreed to continue to administer, bill and collect the stormwater utility service charges on behalf of the CITY; and

WHEREAS, the COUNTY needs to retain, from the stormwater utility service charges it collects for the CITY, on a monthly basis, the CITY's pro-rata share of debt service on the Stormwater Utility Revenue Bonds, Series 1999 and Series 2004 (the "Stormwater Bonds") outstanding on the Exemption Date of the City from the Miami-Dade County Stormwater Utility;

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of mutual advantages, it is agreed:

Section 1. The CITY, jointly with the COUNTY, will designate and cause to be identified from time to time the water and/or sewer service accounts of the Department which thereafter, under the rules and regulations of the CITY, shall be billed for stormwater utility service charges. The CITY shall designate the rate classifications applicable thereto in writing in a format acceptable to the COUNTY. The COUNTY shall act thereon until such designations and classifications are changed in writing by the CITY. The CITY understands and accepts that the COUNTY shall consider the person or persons whose names appear on the COUNTY's water and/or sewer service account as the person or persons responsible for the stormwater utility service charges at the location involved.

Section 2. In the event the CITY revises its schedule of rates, the CITY shall deliver to the COUNTY, its revisions of such schedule of rates by furnishing to the Department's Assistant Director of Finance a certified copy of the ordinance or other action of the CITY promulgating said revised schedule of rates a minimum of thirty (30) calendar days in advance of the effective date of the revised rates. Until the COUNTY is so furnished with a revised schedule, the COUNTY shall act upon the prior delivered schedule. The stormwater utility service charge shall be prorated in accordance with the revised schedule of rates. No security deposits shall be collected by the COUNTY nor shall delinquent penalty charges be imposed by the COUNTY on the stormwater utility charge.

Section 3. The COUNTY agrees, through its regular and periodic billing procedures, to cause to be billed and collected from each water and sewer customer under said accounts, as an added and designated separate item on the bill, the stormwater utility service charge, according to the schedule of rates established by the CITY for such customer. During the term of this Agreement, this shall be the exclusive method for billing stormwater utility service charges by the County; no separate bills shall be issued, except for those bills that may be generated by the CITY. The CITY authorizes and empowers the COUNTY to render such billing for the CITY's account, and on the payment thereof, to give receipt and acquittance to the CITY, either by endorsement of payment upon such billings or by separate receipt. Upon the initial billing by the COUNTY to each user of stormwater utility service and, at any time during the term of this Agreement, as deemed necessary by the COUNTY or the CITY, the CITY shall, at its sole cost and expense, and independent of this Agreement, advise such stormwater utility user of the method and arrangement between the CITY and the COUNTY for the billing and collection of said charges by the COUNTY for and on behalf of the CITY as the CITY's agent. Furthermore, the CITY shall notify its stormwater utility users of future rate increases. The COUNTY shall not be responsible for notifying new owners, occupants or tenants that there is a stormwater utility service charge.

Section 4. The COUNTY agrees to observe the same diligence, policy and procedure in the billing and collection of stormwater utility service accounts as is used by the COUNTY in billing and collecting its water and/or sewer service accounts, except that the COUNTY shall not terminate water and/or sewer service for non-payment of stormwater utility service charges, except when account balances exceed an amount to be determined by the Department. Additionally, the COUNTY will not institute or maintain suits at law for collection of stormwater utility service charges. The COUNTY may provide water and/or sewer service to customers irrespective of said customer's failure to pay the applicable stormwater utility charge. The COUNTY will not be responsible for billing of accounts that are inactive. Upon the CITY's request, the COUNTY will provide the CITY with a report of inactive accounts to allow the CITY to bill the customer directly when the COUNTY is not collecting the fee. The COUNTY will not file any liens on property for the collection of the stormwater utility charges. Legal actions for non-payment of stormwater utility charges shall be the sole responsibility of the CITY.

Section 5. The COUNTY will keep correct and proper books of accounts, showing monthly gross billings of stormwater utility service charges, and shall provide to the CITY a monthly statement in writing, showing the net amount owed the CITY by the COUNTY for the month covered by such statement. The COUNTY shall provide this statement and the remittance due the CITY within sixty (60) days of the end of each monthly period. Based on such statement, the COUNTY shall make payment to the CITY of the amount due, less the COUNTY's compensation for the billing and collection of said charges and less any other payments or deductions as hereinafter specifically provided in Sections 6, 9 and 10 of this Agreement.

The CITY agrees that the COUNTY shall remit monthly payments based on the collection of stormwater utility service charges, when the COUNTY's billings system is capable of this method of remittance on all accounts.

Section 6. Adjustments for uncollected stormwater billings shall be made on a regular basis, at least annually or when write-offs occur, as a deduction provided in Section 5.

Section 7. Upon written request from the CITY, the COUNTY shall make available for inspection or audit by the CITY and its representatives at any reasonable time all of its records pertaining to the COUNTY's actions under this Agreement as agent for the CITY and shall also furnish to the CITY such information concerning the administration of this Agreement as the CITY may reasonably request, including information as to delinquent stormwater utility charges and accounts not currently being billed. Should the CITY, in any audit of the COUNTY's records, find a discrepancy between the amount of funds remitted to the CITY and the actual billing and collection by the COUNTY, the COUNTY shall within 30 days of receipt of written notification from the CITY, remit to the CITY the sums owed upon the COUNTY's agreement with the audit findings.

Section 8. Both the CITY and the COUNTY recognize that in the billing and collection of stormwater utility service charges involving thousands of customers, numerous situations arise that require discretion. The CITY agrees that the COUNTY may use its best judgment in such instances. The COUNTY's method or manner of handling such situations shall not be considered negligence under, or independent of, the terms and conditions of this Agreement nor shall it constitute a breach of this Agreement, and the COUNTY shall not be liable or responsible to the CITY for any loss in stormwater utility service charge revenues by reason of the COUNTY's discretionary handling of such situations. Specifically, the COUNTY shall have the right to remove or adjust the stormwater utility service charge from a customer's bill if the customer provides proof acceptable to the COUNTY that he or she was not the owner, occupant or tenant of the property on the date that the stormwater utility service charge was applied. However, the COUNTY shall advise the CITY of all adjustments to the CITY accounts as part of the monthly statements provided pursuant to Section 5. Except as otherwise specified in this Section, any adjustments to accounts assessed a stormwater utility service charge shall be initiated solely by the CITY and provided to the COUNTY in writing.

Section 9. The CITY agrees to pay to the COUNTY, and the COUNTY shall receive from the CITY, by means of deduction from payments for monthly billings, compensation determined as follows:

- A. For the period from the effective date of this Agreement, until the Agreement is modified pursuant to Section 11 hereinafter, a charge in the amount of eighty-one cents (\$0.81) per bill for all accounts to be charged the CITY's stormwater utility service charge; and
- B. For all costs and expenses incurred and paid by the COUNTY during the preceding month in defending legal actions brought against the COUNTY by any person, firm or corporation, excluding the CITY, involving billing or collection of stormwater utility service charges on behalf of the CITY, or involving the COUNTY's administration of the terms and conditions of this Agreement.

The COUNTY shall notify the CITY in writing of any legal claims filed against the COUNTY pertaining to the COUNTY's billing and collection of the CITY's stormwater fees within thirty (30) working days of receipt of any claim. The

CITY shall have the option to defend the COUNTY on any such claims and settle or compromise the same, unless such a claim involves employee dishonesty or theft, in which case, the COUNTY will defend said claim.

Section 10. The CITY agrees to pay to the COUNTY, and the COUNTY shall receive from the CITY, by means of deduction from payments for monthly billings of stormwater utility service charges collected by the COUNTY for the CITY, the CITY's pro-rata share of debt service on: (i) the Stormwater Bonds until they are paid in full or provision made for their payment pursuant to Article IX of Ordinance No. 98-187, enacted by the Board of County Commissions on December 15, 1998 in accordance with the debt service schedule set forth in Exhibit "A" to this Agreement, and (ii) any obligations associated with cost-sharing Stormwater Management Projects that may include, but not be limited to, canal dredging, canal maintenance and drainage projects that may be agreed to subsequent to the date of this Agreement for which payment will be based on a mutually agreed fraction. For any payments pursuant to (ii) above, the COUNTY, through its Department of Regulatory and Economic Resources (RER) with a copy to be sent to the Miami-Dade Water and Sewer Department, will inform the CITY thirty (30) calendar days prior to the beginning of each Fiscal Year, of the amount of stormwater utility service charges the County will retain each month in addition to those retained pursuant to Exhibit "A" to this Agreement. Upon written agreement by both the CITY and the COUNTY, this Agreement may be modified to include any additional CITY share of debt service due to future CITY annexations.

Section 11. The COUNTY reserves the right to review and revise the charges provided for in Section 9 (A) hereinabove, and the CITY agrees to be bound thereby, provided the COUNTY provides ninety (90) days notice to the CITY of said proposed revised charges.

Section 12. All telephone calls and correspondence from customers regarding the stormwater utility shall be the responsibility of the CITY. The COUNTY shall cause the telephone number for the CITY, as provided by the CITY, to be printed on the COUNTY's regular bill stock.

Section 13. The CITY agrees that the COUNTY shall not be held liable for any damage, delay or other loss that the CITY may experience as a result of the COUNTY's practices in administering this Agreement, unless such loss arises solely as a result of negligence by the COUNTY, its employees or agents.

Section 14. It is understood and agreed between the CITY and the COUNTY that the COUNTY's obligation is limited to billing and collection of stormwater utility service charges as specifically provided for in this Agreement.

Section 15. The CITY shall not allow or permit construction or installation of any connections of stormwater mains that allow stormwater to enter the COUNTY's sanitary sewer system. The CITY agrees to use its best efforts to detect and lawfully disconnect all stormwater connections to the COUNTY's sanitary sewer system within the CITY's jurisdiction and submit, within ninety (90) days of the execution of this Agreement, a timetable for the elimination of such stormwater connections, which is reasonably acceptable to the COUNTY.

Section 16. This Agreement shall be binding upon the respective successors and assigns of both the CITY and the COUNTY.

Section 17. All references to the CITY under this Agreement that require direction to the COUNTY shall mean the CITY Manager or his designee. Whenever written notice to the CITY is required, it shall be sent by Certified Mail, Return Receipt Requested, to:

CITY of Miami Gardens
1515 N.W. 167th Street
Miami Gardens, Florida, 200
(Attention: City Manager)

Whenever written notice to the COUNTY is required, it shall be sent by Certified Mail, Return Receipt Requested to:

Miami-Dade County
Miami-Dade Water and Sewer Department
3071 S. W. 38th Avenue
Miami, Florida 33146
(Attention: Assistant Director-Finance)

Section 18. This Agreement shall remain in full force and effect for a period of ten (10) years after its date of execution. This Agreement may be extended for an additional ten (10) year period by written request from the City Manager to the Department's Director and mutual agreement by the Department, without which it shall terminate. Notwithstanding the above provisions, this Agreement shall terminate and be cancelled without further writings between the CITY and the COUNTY upon either party providing six (6) months notice in writing to the other party so advising the other party.

Notwithstanding the provisions of this paragraph, should the COUNTY fail to timely bill the CITY'S customers in accordance with the agreed-upon billing cycles and rates or fail to remit payment to the CITY consistent with the timeframes specified in Section 5, the CITY may terminate this Agreement on thirty (30) days written notice to the COUNTY.

Notwithstanding the above, this Agreement may not be terminated at any time without a COUNTY-approved alternate method of payment by the CITY to the COUNTY of the CITY's outstanding debt service obligation for the Stormwater Bonds.

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IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have executed these presents as of the day and year first above written.

MIAMI-DADE COUNTY

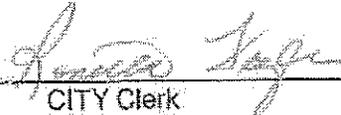
ATTEST:

BY: _____
Clerk

BY: _____
County Mayor

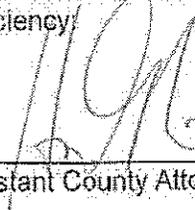
ATTEST:

CITY OF MIAMI GARDENS

BY: 
CITY Clerk

BY: 
Mayor

Approved as to form and legal
sufficiency:


Assistant County Attorney

Approved as to form and legal
sufficiency:


Attorney for City of Miami Gardens

EXHIBIT A
DEBT SERVICE SCHEDULE

City of Miami Gardens
Stormwater Utility Revenue Bonds, Series 1999 and 2004

	2006 ERU
SWU SvcArea only	726,430
MGdns	69,590
SWU SvcArea + MGdns.	796,020
MGdns. %	8.74%

Stormwater Utility Bond Debt Service

Fiscal Year Ending Sept	1999 BOND MDC P&I	1999 MGdns 8.74%	2004 BOND MDC P&I	2004 MGdns 8.74%	MGdns Annual Total	MGdns Monthly Debt
2004	\$2,899,313	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
2005	\$2,897,318	N/A	\$4,723,713	N/A	N/A	N/A
2006	\$2,897,668	N/A	\$4,719,055	N/A	N/A	N/A
2007	\$2,900,088	\$253,468	\$4,721,305	\$412,642	\$666,110	\$55,509
2008	\$2,899,288	\$253,398	\$4,722,205	\$412,721	\$666,118	\$55,510
2009	\$2,900,828	\$253,532	\$4,716,755	\$412,244	\$665,777	\$55,481
2010	\$2,898,765	\$253,352	\$4,720,105	\$412,537	\$665,889	\$55,491
2011	\$2,902,275	\$253,659	\$4,716,955	\$412,262	\$665,921	\$55,493
2012	\$2,901,495	\$253,591	\$4,719,155	\$412,454	\$666,045	\$55,504
2013	\$2,901,295	\$253,573	\$4,717,890	\$412,344	\$665,917	\$55,493
2014	\$2,901,315	\$253,575	\$4,721,290	\$412,641	\$666,216	\$55,518
2015	\$2,901,180	\$253,563	\$4,718,200	\$412,371	\$665,934	\$55,494
2016	\$2,900,500	\$253,504	\$4,716,450	\$412,218	\$665,721	\$55,477
2017	\$2,902,000	\$253,635	\$4,716,950	\$412,261	\$665,896	\$55,491
2018	\$2,898,750	\$253,351	\$4,722,450	\$412,742	\$666,093	\$55,508
2019	\$2,900,750	\$253,526	\$4,717,450	\$412,305	\$665,831	\$55,486
2020	\$2,897,500	\$253,242	\$4,722,200	\$412,720	\$665,962	\$55,497
2021	\$2,899,000	\$253,373	\$4,720,950	\$412,611	\$665,984	\$55,499
2022	\$2,899,750	\$253,438	\$4,718,700	\$412,414	\$665,853	\$55,488
2023	\$2,899,500	\$253,416	\$4,720,200	\$412,545	\$665,962	\$55,497
2024	\$2,898,000	\$253,285	\$4,719,950	\$412,524	\$665,809	\$55,484
2025			\$7,617,700	\$665,787	\$665,787	\$55,482
2026			\$7,618,200	\$665,831	\$665,831	\$55,486
2027			\$7,618,700	\$665,874	\$665,874	\$55,490
2028			\$7,618,450	\$665,853	\$665,853	\$55,488
2029			\$7,618,700	\$665,700	\$665,700	\$55,475