

MEMORANDUM

Agenda Item No. 11(A)(18)

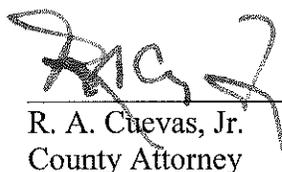
TO: Honorable Chairwoman Rebeca Sosa
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

DATE: January 22, 2014

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

SUBJECT: Resolution urging the Florida
Legislature to authorize
additional funding for
transportation improvements,
including roads and transit, by
allowing local governments to
increase the rental car surcharge
and Convention Development,
Tourist Development and Food
and Beverage Taxes
Resolution No. R-76-14

The accompanying resolution was prepared and placed on the agenda at the request of Prime Sponsor Senator Javier D. Souto.



R. A. Cuevas, Jr.
County Attorney

RAC/cp



MEMORANDUM
(Revised)

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

DATE: January 22, 2014

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County Attorney

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 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. 11(A)(18)
1-22-14

RESOLUTION NO. R-76-14

RESOLUTION URGING THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE TO
AUTHORIZE ADDITIONAL FUNDING FOR
TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENTS, INCLUDING ROADS
AND TRANSIT, BY ALLOWING LOCAL GOVERNMENTS
TO INCREASE THE RENTAL CAR SURCHARGE AND
CONVENTION DEVELOPMENT, TOURIST DEVELOPMENT
AND FOOD AND BEVERAGE TAXES

WHEREAS, tourism plays a significant role in Miami-Dade County's local economy;
and

WHEREAS, in 2012, more than 13.9 million overnight visitors came to Miami-Dade
County, infusing \$21.8 billion in direct spending into the local economy through spending on
hotel rooms, restaurants, shopping, transportation and attractions; and

WHEREAS, the hospitality industry in Miami-Dade County employs more than 100,000
residents and generates nearly \$112 million in tourist-related taxes and more than \$2.4 billion in
sales tax that supports local government services in South Florida; and

WHEREAS, while the 13.9 million overnight visitors greatly assist our local economy,
tourists add to already existing transportation challenges in Miami-Dade County; and

WHEREAS, the 2012 Urban Mobility Report by the Texas A&M Transportation
Institute, ranks Southeast Florida, consisting of Miami-Dade, Broward and Palm Beach Counties
as having the 11th worst traffic congestion in the United States; and

WHEREAS, South Florida traffic congestion has fluctuated in recent decades, but has remained among the most congested areas, according to the Urban Mobility Report; and

WHEREAS, in 2000, South Florida ranked 12th for traffic congestion and in 2008, ranked 15th; and

WHEREAS, additional funding is needed for transportation in Miami-Dade County, including improvements to road, trains and buses; and

WHEREAS, Florida law currently authorizes a number of tourism-related local option taxes which are imposed in Miami-Dade County:

1. A Convention Development Tax of up to 3 percent;
2. A Tourist Development Tax of up to 3 percent, except in the cities of Bal Harbour, Miami Beach and Surfside, where a Municipal Resort Tax is imposed;
3. A Food and Beverage tax in hotels at a rate of 2 percent; and
4. A Food and Beverage tax in other, non-hotel establishments at a rate of 1 percent; and

WHEREAS, Florida law also currently imposes a rental car surcharge at the rate of \$2 per day for the first 30 days of the rental of a car; and

WHEREAS, 80 percent of the revenue from the rental car surcharge goes to the State Transportation Trust Fund, with the remaining 20 percent split between the State Tourism Promotional Trust Fund and the Florida International Trade and Promotion Trust Fund; and

WHEREAS, Florida law requires proceeds from the rental car surcharge that are distributed to the State Transportation Trust Fund to be spent in the transportation district from which they were collected; and

WHEREAS, the Florida Legislature has not increased the \$2 per day rental car surcharge in almost 24 years since 1990; and

WHEREAS, additional funding can be generated for much-needed transportation improvements by authorizing local governments to increase the rental car surcharge, Convention Development, Tourist Development and Food and Beverage Taxes; and

WHEREAS, this Board would like to urge the Florida Legislature to authorize local governments to increase the rental car surcharge, Convention Development, Tourist Development and Food and Beverage Taxes for the express purpose of providing additional funding for transportation improvements, including both roads and transit,

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 provide additional funding for transportation improvements, including roads and transit, by authorizing local governments to increase the rental car surcharge, Convention Development, Tourist Development and Food and Beverage Taxes for the express purpose of funding transportation improvements.

Section 2. Directs the Clerk of the Board to transmit certified copies of the resolution to the Governor, Senate President, House Speaker, and the Chair and Members of the Miami-Dade State Legislative Delegation.

Section 3. Directs the County's state lobbyists to advocate for the issues identified in Section 1 above, and authorizes and directs the Office of Intergovernmental Affairs to include this item in the 2014 State Legislative Package when it is presented to the Board.

The Prime Sponsor of the foregoing resolution is Senator Javier D. Souto. It was offered by Commissioner **Xavier L. Suarez**, who moved its adoption. The motion was seconded by Commissioner **Lynda Bell** and upon being put to a vote, the vote was as follows:

	Rebeca Sosa, Chairwoman	aye
	Lynda Bell, Vice Chair	aye
Bruno A. Barreiro	absent	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 22nd day of January, 2014. 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



By: **Christopher Agrippa**
Deputy Clerk

Approved by County Attorney as
to form and legal sufficiency.

Jess M. McCarty