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CLERK OF THE BOARD
OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA

MEMORANDUM

Amended
Agenda Item No. 11(A)(30)

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

DATE: March 4, 2014

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

SUBJECT: Resolution approving 2014 federal legislative guiding principles, "urging" resolutions adopted by the Board to date and departmental legislative requests
Resolution No. R-258-14

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

R. A. Cuevas, Jr.
County Attorney

RAC/cp

MEMORANDUM
(Revised)

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

DATE: March 4, 2014

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

SUBJECT: Amended Agenda Item No. 11(A)(30)

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 _____

Amended
Agenda Item No. 11(A)(30)
3-4-14

RESOLUTION NO. _____

RESOLUTION APPROVING 2014 FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE GUIDING PRINCIPLES, "URGING" RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED BY THE BOARD TO DATE AND DEPARTMENTAL LEGISLATIVE REQUESTS

WHEREAS, the second session of the 113th United States Congress was convened on January 3, 2014; and

WHEREAS, on January 24, 2012, this Board approved Resolution No. R-59-12, which directed the Office of Intergovernmental Affairs, when it presents the proposed federal legislative agenda to the Board, to include all "urging" resolutions and other resolutions related to federal legislation passed by the Board of County Commissioners to date for the current Congress or session; and

WHEREAS, on September 17, 2013, this Board approved Resolution No. R-764-13, which directed that the federal and state legislative packages each be presented to the Board in two separate companion items, one consisting of no more than ten (10) priorities for distribution to the Miami-Dade Legislative Delegation and the other to include guiding principles, Board "urging" resolutions enacted to date and departmental items for approval by the Board; and

WHEREAS, the proposed 2014 federal legislative guiding principles, Board "urging" resolutions enacted to date and departmental items are attached to this resolution and incorporated by reference,

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

Section 1. Approves the 2014 federal legislative guiding principles, "urging" resolutions adopted by the Board to date and departmental legislative requests as set forth in the attached.

Section 2. Directs the County's federal lobbyists to advocate for the 2014 guiding principles, "urging" resolutions adopted by the Board to date and departmental legislative requests.

The Prime Sponsor of the foregoing resolution is Chairwoman Rebeca Sosa. It was offered by Commissioner **Dennis C. Moss**, who moved its adoption. The motion was seconded by Commissioner **José "Pepe" Diaz** and upon being put to a vote, the vote was as follows:

	Rebeca Sosa, Chairwoman		**aye**
	Lynda Bell, Vice Chair		**absent**
Bruno A. Barreiro	**aye**	Esteban L. Bovo, Jr.	**aye**
Jose "Pepe" Diaz	**aye**	Audrey M. Edmonson	**absent**
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	**absent**		

The Chairperson thereupon declared the resolution duly passed and adopted this 4th day of March, 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. MJM for

Jess M. McCarty

MIAMI-DADE COUNTY
2014 FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

MIAMI-DADE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS FEDERAL RESOLUTIONS

R-253-14: RESOLUTION CONDEMNING THE VENEZUELAN GOVERNMENT FOR USING VIOLENCE AND INTIMIDATION AGAINST ITS POLITICAL OPPOSITION; EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR THOSE VENEZUELANS WHO ARE VALIANTLY FIGHTING TO RESTORE THEIR NATION TO A PEACEFUL AND DEMOCRATIC STATE; URGING THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT TO TAKE IMMEDIATE DIPLOMATIC ACTION

R-180-14: RESOLUTION URGING CONGRESS TO PASS THE VETERANS CARE FINANCIAL PROTECTION ACT OF 2014, S. 1993, OR SIMILAR LEGISLATION THAT WOULD PROTECT ELDERLY VETERANS FROM FINANCIAL SCAMS AND PREDATORY FINANCIAL ADVISERS

R-177-14: RESOLUTION URGING THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS TO ENACT "THE STRENGTHENING THE CHILD WELFARE RESPONSE TO HUMAN TRAFFICKING ACT OF 2013" OR SIMILAR LEGISLATION

R-70-14: RESOLUTION URGING CONGRESS TO ENACT LEGISLATION KNOWN AS FAMILY AND MEDICAL INSURANCE LEAVE ACT OR SIMILAR LEGISLATION TO PROVIDE PAID FAMILY AND MEDICAL LEAVE

R-869-13: RESOLUTION URGING CONGRESS TO ENACT LEGISLATION TO PREVENT FLOOD INSURANCE PREMIUM RATE INCREASES ON HOMEOWNERS MANDATED BY THE BIGGERT-WATERS FLOOD INSURANCE REFORM ACT OF 2012; URGING CONGRESS TO ENACT THE FLOOD INSURANCE IMPLEMENTATION REFORM ACT OF 2013, H.R. 2199 OR SIMILAR LEGISLATION DELAYING THE PENDING PREMIUM RATE INCREASES ON HOMEOWNERS UNDER THE BIGGERT-WATERS FLOOD INSURANCE REFORM ACT OF 2012

R-861-13: RESOLUTION SUPPORTING MAYORS AGAINST ILLEGAL GUNS IN URGING THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS TO EXTEND COMPREHENSIVE AND

ENFORCEABLE BACKGROUND CHECKS TO COVER PRIVATE FIREARMS SALES, INCLUDING GUN SHOWS AND OVER THE INTERNET

R-819-13: RESOLUTION URGING CONGRESS AND THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE TO ENACT LEGISLATION REQUIRING ONLINE RETAILERS TO COLLECT SALES TAX ON INTERNET SALES TRANSACTIONS

R-818-13: RESOLUTION URGING THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS TO ENACT LEGISLATION RAISING THE FEDERAL MINIMUM WAGE FOR TIPPED EMPLOYEES

R-817-13: RESOLUTION URGING CONGRESS TO ENACT LEGISLATION MAKING IT ILLEGAL TO PROFILE AN INDIVIDUAL BASED ON RACE OR GENDER; URGING CONGRESS TO ENACT THE END RACIAL PROFILING ACT, S. 1038, H.R. 2851 OR SIMILAR LEGISLATION PROHIBITING LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES FROM ENGAGING IN RACIAL PROFILING AND MANDATING TRAINING FOR FEDERAL LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICIALS ON RACIAL PROFILING ISSUES

R-772-13: RESOLUTION URGING CONGRESS, THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE, THE FLORIDA SECRETARY OF STATE AND OTHER APPLICABLE FEDERAL AND STATE AGENCIES TO PROVIDE FUNDING FOR THE RESTORATION OF NAVAL AIR STATION RICHMOND BUILDING NO. 25 AS THE MIAMI MILITARY MUSEUM

R-756-13: RESOLUTION URGING THE UNITED STATES COAST GUARD TO REVISE THE REGULATIONS PERTAINING TO THE VENETIAN CAUSEWAY DRAWBRIDGES SO AS TO RESTRICT THE ON SIGNAL OPENINGS OF SAID DRAWBRIDGES; DIRECTING THE MAYOR OR DESIGNEE TO FILE A REQUEST WITH THE UNITED STATES COAST GUARD DISTRICT COMMANDER FOR A PERMANENT CHANGE TO THE VENETIAN CAUSEWAY DRAWBRIDGES OPERATING REQUIREMENTS CONSISTENT WITH THIS RESOLUTION

R-714-13: RESOLUTION OPPOSING LEGISLATION BEFORE CONGRESS THAT REDUCES OR ELIMINATES THE TAX-EXEMPTION ON INTEREST FOR STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT BONDS

R-713-13: RESOLUTION URGING PRESIDENT BARACK OBAMA AND THE UNITED STATES SECRETARY OF HOMELAND SECURITY TO IMMEDIATELY ESTABLISH A HAITIAN FAMILY REUNIFICATION PAROLE PROGRAM, SIMILAR TO THE CUBAN FAMILY REUNIFICATION PAROLE PROGRAM

R-637-13: RESOLUTION URGING THE U.S. CONGRESS AND THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO REFORM THE CURRENT STUDENT LOAN SYSTEM; URGING THE U.S. CONGRESS TO RESTORE THE 3.4 PERCENT INTEREST RATE ON SUBSIDIZED FEDERAL STUDENT LOANS

R-479-13: RESOLUTION URGING THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS TO ENACT LEGISLATION TO ALLOW MIAMI-DADE COUNTY TO USE FISCAL YEAR 2013-14

HEAD START GRANT FUNDS FOR PROGRAM OPERATIONS RATHER THAN FOR HEAD START TRAINING AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

R-466-13: RESOLUTION URGING PRESIDENT BARACK OBAMA, WHO IS SCHEDULED TO VISIT THE REPUBLIC OF SENEGAL IN THE NEAR FUTURE, TO HAVE HIS ADMINISTRATION WORK WITH MIAMI-DADE COUNTY AND THE REPUBLIC OF SENEGAL TO FACILITATE AND ESTABLISH AN AVIATION GATEWAY BETWEEN MIAMI INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT AND AIRPORTS IN THE REPUBLIC OF SENEGAL, SO AS TO LINK THESE AIRPORTS TO PROMOTE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND INCREASE PASSENGER AND CARGO TRAFFIC

R-462-13: RESOLUTION URGING CONGRESS TO PASS THE WATER INFRASTRUCTURE FINANCE AND INNOVATION ACT OF 2013, S. 601 OR SIMILAR LEGISLATION; URGING CONGRESS TO ENACT LEGISLATION TO MAKE THE WATER INFRASTRUCTURE FINANCE AND INNOVATION ACT PERMANENT; URGING CONGRESS TO ENACT LEGISLATION TO PROTECT WATER INFRASTRUCTURE BONDS

R-380-13: RESOLUTION URGING THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS TO ENACT H.R. 1318, THE YOUTH PROMISE ACT, OR SIMILAR LEGISLATION

R-259-13: RESOLUTION URGING THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS TO ENACT HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES BILL 974, THE MOVE FREIGHT ACT OF 2013, ENACTING AMENDMENTS TO EXISTING LAW TO LEGISLATE THE FURTHER PROMOTION OF INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS AND REQUIRE STATE PLANNING TO ENABLE FLORIDA AND THE UNITED STATES AND TO REMAIN, AND BECOME MORE, COMPETITIVE IN THE MOVEMENT OF FREIGHT IN THE WORLD MARKET

R-184-13: RESOLUTION ADDING TO AND EXPANDING ON THE ELEMENTS OF COMPREHENSIVE IMMIGRATION REFORM THAT THIS BOARD SUPPORTED IN R-1084-12; URGING THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS TO ENACT LEGISLATION MODERNIZING THE IMMIGRATION SYSTEM DURING THE 113TH CONGRESS BASED ON SPECIFIED PRINCIPLES; SUPPORTING THE AGREEMENT ON A FRAMEWORK FOR COMPREHENSIVE IMMIGRATION REFORM RECENTLY PROPOSED BY A BIPARTISAN GROUP OF UNITED STATES SENATORS

R-1084-12: RESOLUTION URGING PRESIDENT BARACK OBAMA AND THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS TO SUPPORT AND ENACT COMPREHENSIVE IMMIGRATION REFORM DURING THE 113TH CONGRESS

MIAMI-DADE COUNTY
2014 FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

DEPARTMENTAL REQUESTS

Aviation

- **U.S. CBP and CBP-Ag Staffing at MIA** – ***ADVOCATE*** for adequate CBP and CBP-Ag staffing at MIA. CBP passenger and cargo perishables inspections for international arrivals are a critical component of operations at MIA. As the federal government continues to increase security measures and inspections of inbound international passengers and cargo, maintaining sufficient CBP and CBP-Ag staffing at MIA is critical for operational efficiency.

- **MIA Airport Operations and Communications Center (AOCC)** – ***ADVOCATE*** for funding for the AOCC that integrates all existing Operations Control Center, security and command and control functions to greatly improve efficiencies in these areas, particularly Threat Detection and Crisis Incident Management. The estimated project cost is $1.2 million for design and $9 million for construction.

- **Miami International Airport K-9 Police Housing and Training Substation** – ***ADVOCATE*** to obtain funding for a K-9 facility as the use of police K-9 teams has increased security screening efficiency and accuracy in the screening of cargo and passenger baggage, greatly assisting the federal agencies operating at MIA.

- **MIA Biometric Access Control System Upgrades** – ***ADVOCATE*** for funding to require a common infrastructure utilizing biometrics for issuing secure identity credentials and access control at U.S. airports.

- **Increase of Passenger Facility Charge (PFC)** – ***ADVOCATE.*** Airports are increasingly funding more infrastructures, including those traditionally funded by airlines and the federal government, such as baggage systems, gates, expansion of security checkpoints and international arrival facilities. Much of this funding comes from local airport user fees known as Passenger Facility Charges (PFCs). MIA needs to continue to grow in order to meet the needs of the expected 25% growth in

service that the Federal Aviation Administration predicts our industry will face over the next eight to ten years when it is estimated that I billion passengers will use the U.S. aviation system. Although the ceiling on the PFC has remained at $4.50 for the past fourteen years, it has not been indexed to inflation. If the PFC had been indexed to the construction cost of inflation it would be worth over $8.00 today. Given federal budget constraints and the demonstrable infrastructure needs that exist at airports, we support authorizing an increase in the Passenger Facilities Charge up to $10.00 for large airports that agree to forgo Airport Improvement Grant funding, making those funds more available to small airports and indexing the Passenger Facilities Charge to inflation rates in the future.

- **OPPOSE efforts by the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) to shift responsibility and costs for exit line staffing from the agency to airport operators - a responsibility that airports have never held.** - The proposed staffing change raises serious operational issues and will costs Miami International Airport approximately $3,500,000 per year. The Aviation and Transportation Security Act (P.L. 107-71) gave TSA authority to regulate virtually all areas of aviation security, including all aspects of passenger and baggage screening.

- **Continue to MONITOR Contract Tower Program for Budget Cuts Resulting from Sequestration** – On May 10, 2013, USDOT determined that the recently enacted Reducing Flight Delays Act of 2013 allowed the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) to transfer sufficient funds to prevent 47,000 FAA employee furloughs and keep the 149 contract towers originally slated for closure in June open for the remainder of fiscal year 2013. Opa-Locka Executive Airport (OPF), Miami-Dade County's only contract tower facility was granted an earlier exception from closure by the FAA.

- **Food and Drug Administration (FDA) Inspector Staffing at MIA and legislation that would restrict the importation of commodities that require FDA inspection, including medicine, cosmetics, dog food and eyeglasses, to ports of entry with an FDA testing facility – *OPPOSE.*** FDA performs routine cargo inspections of pharmaceuticals and certain commodities. Staffing levels must be monitored in order to maintain timely inspections for operators using MIA's cargo facilities. Additionally, MIA opposes any efforts to introduce legislation that would restrict the importation of commodities that require FDA inspection, including medicine, cosmetics, dog food and eyeglasses to ports of entry with an FDA testing facility. Since there is no facility in Miami, restricting the importation to only those Ports of Entry with an FDA testing facility would jeopardize the operations of tenants importing these types of products at MIA. Miami Dade Aviation Department (MDAD) urges the County to ***ADVOCATE*** for a testing facility in Miami on a permanent basis or through the use of one of the agency's mobile testing lounges, which could be sent to Miami.

- **Additional Funding for Homeland Security, Environmental Remediation, Technology Initiatives – *SUPPORT*** MDAD's efforts to seek additional funding

opportunities through grants and/or pilot programs for perimeter security and other homeland security efforts, environmental remediation and technology upgrades impacting airport infrastructure.

- **Issues Impacting Visitor Entry into the United States – *MONITOR*** any issues, federal programs or procedures that could impact visitor entry into the United States. Since MIA is a major point of entry for foreign nationals, and since MIA handles more international freight than any other U.S. airport, the County and MDAD must work to ensure that policymakers understand how these measures impact the region's top economic engine.

- **Programs and Procedures that Facilitate International Travel to the United States - Trusted Traveler Programs; *MONITOR* and *SUPPORT***: MDAD strongly supports the continued development and promotion of trusted traveler programs like Global Entry and supports negotiating reciprocity agreements with foreign countries. Such reciprocity agreements would improve the experience for foreign visitors entering the United States, free up additional CBP officers and reduce CBP clearance wait times for arriving US and foreign passengers at our gateway airports. MDAD also supports CBP's Seamless Travel Initiative aimed at enhancing the international arrival process by minimizing redundancies while allowing CBP officers to concentrate on critical mission needs, and maximizing the use of pre-travel information in order to create a seamless experience for the traveler and other stakeholders. MDAD will continue to monitor federal policies that impact the flow of people and commerce through County airports.

  Improve Visa Procedures: US visa procedures can be barriers which decrease travel to the United States and thus reduce associated economic benefits. Since MIA is a major point of entry for foreign nationals, these policies have a profound impact on MIA's operations. As the federal government continues to implement new homeland security measures, the County and MDAD must work to ensure that policymakers understand how these measures impact the region's top economic engine. MDAD supports increasing the number of consular staff, opening additional consulates or targeted visa centers, lengthening the validity of visas, piloting video conferencing for interviews and developing procedures to allow private firms to handle administrative task.

Community Action and Human Services

- **In-Home Service Support – SUPPORT** the Reauthorization of the Older Americans Act as it is important to continue improving the livelihood of the county's elderly community. Sequestration resulted in the loss of Federal funds to provide services to individuals 60 years of age and older. This fund would allow 100-125 elders to remain at home and in the community while participating in improving their own independence.

- **Regional Food Bank Project** - Sequestration resulted in the loss of Federal dollars to provide services to individuals 60 years of age and older. The area most greatly affected by the cuts was the provisions of meals to the elderly. Cuts were established to balance the Federal budget; however the cuts have resulted in the reduction of services available to the elderly. The establishment of three regional food banks would allow those seniors affected by the sequestration funding cuts to continue to receive food assistance. In addition, those seniors currently on waiting lists for the same type of assistance would benefit from the availability of additional food distribution services. This would allow their family members the assurance of knowing that their elder relative is being provided with daily nutritious meals.

- **The Impact of Sequestration** - The reduction in funding to the department's programs as a result of sequestration hampers the County in being able to provide essential services to this population.

- **Meals for the Elderly** - The Community Action and Human Services Department proposes to provide training and apprentice programs for food service management and child care providers. The department also proposes to provide part-time employment for seniors. Students will be recruited from the NRSAs.

- **Workforce Investment Act (Youth Corps Act)** - **SUPPORT** amendment to the Workforce Investment Act to enable states, local communities, colleges, existing Corps and non-profit entities to replicate and expand one of the most successful models for reconnecting "opportunity youth" to education, the workforce and their communities. Under the Youth Corps model, adult leaders serve as mentors and trainers for the crews of Corps members as they gain work experience, receive educational programming and learn the skills necessary to succeed in the workplace through service projects in their communities.

- **Food Management Certification Program** - The Community Action and Human Services Department proposes to provide training and apprentice programs for food service management and child care providers. The department also proposes to provide part-time employment for seniors. Students will be recruited from the NRSAs.

- **Child Care Provider Program** - The Child Care Program will receive I 400 hours of classroom instruction by the Head Start/Early Head Start staff to prepare the student in completion of the Child Development Associate (CDA). The students will attend Miami-Dade College to obtain Children's and Family Department 40 hours requirement for child care. The department will pay for the students to take the 40 hours exam and submit CDA package. The department will establish agreements with the Head Start Delegate Agencies for students to gain work experience. These students will serve as substitute teachers in the Head Start/Early Head classrooms.

- **Weatherization Assistance Program** - Increase the allowable amount to be expensed on each home that is weatherized from a cap $5,000.00 to $10,000.00.

Corrections and Rehabilitation Department

- **State Criminal Alien Assistance Program (SCAAP)** – ***SUPPORT*** full funding for the SCAAP. If SCAAP funding is substantially reduced or eliminated, local taxpayers will unfairly bear the full cost of incarcerating criminal aliens, although immigration policy is solely a federal responsibility.

Fire Rescue

- **USDA Property Acquisition – SUPPORT** legislation to purchase property, or authorize conveyance of federal property in exchange for county property of equal value, from USDA to build a new fire station to serve Pinecrest, Palmetto Bay, Cutler Bay and surrounding communities.

- **Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response Grants (SAFER) – ADVOCATE** for the Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response Grants (SAFER) to provide funding directly to Miami-Dade Fire Rescue to help increase or maintain the number of trained, "front line" firefighters available as well as to enhance the departments' abilities to comply with staffing, response and operational standards established by the National Fire Protection Association.

Grants Coordination

- **Ryan White Program – SUPPORT and *ADVOCATE*** for an increase in funding for The HIV/AIDS Treatment Extension Act. The act is the nation's largest HIV-specific federal grant program and a critical source of health care and treatment for people living with HIV/AIDS. The program has been in existence since 1990 and has been re-authorized six times.

Homeless Trust

- ***ADVOCATE*** for the final appropriations bill for the Departments of Transportation and Housing and Urban Development (THUD), include, at a minimum, level funding for **HUD's McKinney Vento Homeless Assistance Grants**.

Internal Services Department
Procurement Management Services Division

- **Access to all Federal GSA schedules by other governmental jurisdictions** - Federal regulations/legislation be proposed to allow local jurisdictions access to United States General Services Administration (GSA) federal contracts.

Juvenile services

- ***ADVOCATE*** for funding for Miami-Dade **Juvenile Services Department National Demonstration Project** Continuation Miami-Dade Juvenile Services Department, a department of Miami-Dade County. The National Demonstration Project has been in existence since 2000 and has allowed this community to partner practitioners and researchers in the reform of an active juvenile justice system.

Parks, Recreation, and Open Spaces

- **Land and Water Conservation Authorization and Funding Act of 2011 - *SUPPORT*** current S. 1265 to provide full funding for the Land and Water Conservation Authorization and Funding. The bill amends the LWCF Act of 1965 to stop the diversion of LWCF revenues for unrelated purposed by ensuring that full authorized funding for LWCF-- $900 million per year-is dedicated expressly for land conservation and is no longer subject to reductions in the annual appropriations process.

- **Community Park Revitalization Act - *SUPPORT*** the Authorization and the passage of the Community Park Revitalization Act to make urban areas healthier, more livable, and economically competitive through the revitalization and development of parks, green space, and recreation opportunities.

- **Miami-Dade County Red Fields to Green Fields Initiative - *SUPPORT*** any potential federal funding and raise awareness among federal partners of this important program to revitalize the community and make Miami-Dade County greener, healthier and more vibrant. Can reduce the oversupply of non-performing real estate, jump start economic development, and recalibrate local property values. The Miami-Dade Red Fields to Green Fields initiative will be implemented through a partnership of public and private interests dedicated to rescuing underused properties and restoring land as parks.

- **Fit2Play: Health, Wellness and Obesity Prevention - *SUPPORT*** legislation to authorize federal financial assistance to eligible entities for development plans and programs that will help Americans effectively connect with active, outdoor experiences. This will help the development of programming at 17 economically disadvantaged areas providing 450 children with After-School services. The funding will be allocated to personnel and non-personnel expenses such as program supplies and administrative costs.

- **Exotic Wildlife Control - *ADVOCATE*** for funding to manage and control invasive exotic animals through the increase in enforcement assistance to coordinate removal, control, and monitoring of wildlife. Miami-Dade County manages more than 20,000 acres of native ecosystems spread across more than 80 different properties.

- **Camp Matecumbe General Plan Improvements** - ***SUPPORT*** funding ($1M) to improve the camping facilities and preserved a piece of local history. Camp Matecumbe is a place that celebrates the Pedro Pan Program's rich cultural and historical significant, a place that restores the Pine Rockland environment and serves the local and regional communities.

Police Department

- **Justice Assistance Grants funding** – ***ADVOCATE*** for full funding of the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant ("Byrne JAG") program by the U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Assistance. There are proposed cuts to this vital federal law enforcement program that would be detrimental to the county.

- **Forensic Science Grant Programs at U.S. Department of Justice, National Institute of Justice (NIJ)** – ***ADVOCATE*** for full funding of vital federal initiatives facing serious reductions in the proposed Congressional budget. The grant programs, in priority order, include:

  - Paul Coverdell Forensic Science Improvement Grant Program (Formula and Competitive grants);
  - DNA Backlog Reduction Program;
  - Solving Cold Cases with DNA Program;
  - NIJ Research Grants.

PortMiami

- **Federal Funding of the Deep Dredge** – The Seaport Department recommends the federal government allocate a nominal amount, between $50,000 to $75,000, for the -50ft Deep Dredge Project in the President's FY2015 Budget for reimbursement of the federal share of the project advanced by the State of Florida. The Deep Dredge has been designated a project of Regional and National Significance and is one of the most important infrastructure projects on the drawing board in the U.S. The Deep Dredge will create over 30,000 new, high paying jobs and double cargo throughput.

- **Water Resources Development Legislation for PortMiami** - The proposed legislation will enable Miami-Dade County to benefit from solving 902 issues, expanding federal maintenance in Dodge Island and expanding industry-supported initiatives to increase federal cost-sharing and reduce liabilities.

- **Freight and Intermodal Transportation** – ***SUPPORT*** US DOT in the development of a comprehensive national freight policy to ensure that the flow of goods and commerce through our international portals of commerce and via our interstate rail and highway effectively flows both intra and interstate.

- **Additional CBP and USDA Resources** – Without the addition of resources, container shipments may be delayed; causing the region to lose millions in revenue and cruise debarkations similarly may be delayed, causing issues for incoming passengers. PortMiami requests additional resources for CBP and USDA in order to accommodate the increased cargo and cruise passengers.

- **Cold Treatment** – ***ADVOCATE*** for PortMiami to be added as a port of entry specifically authorized by USDA to import fruits requiring cold treatment.

- **Seaport Security Funding** - ***ADVOCATE*** for additional funding sources, which need to be identified, to assist PortMiami with additional costs it has incurred due to federal mandates imposed by the Maritime Transportation Security Act and subsequent federal laws. Last year, PortMiami requested $2,244,871 in security needs and received only $842,000 in grant funds. This year, PortMiami has requested $2,949,000 for security needs. Funding changes could positively affect PortMiami finances.

- **Amending the Passenger Vessel Services Act (CLIA)** – ***SUPPORT*** legislation that would supersede certain sections of the Passenger Vessel Services Act of 1886, which restricts foreign built cruise ships from traveling between U.S. ports. U.S. port calls on international itineraries are heavily concentrated in Florida and Alaska due to their proximity to neighboring countries. A similar long-standing act exists for cargo vessels traveling between U.S. ports (the Jones Act).

- **Closed Loop - A "Closed Loop"(CLIA)** – ***ADVOCATE*** for the expansion of the number of countries included in the "Closed Loop" system, to enhance the ability of CBP agents to securely expedite a larger volume of cruise passengers upon debarkation at the Port of Miami.

- **Harbor Maintenance Tax** - PortMiami has minimal O & M needs, requiring infrequent maintenance dredging, (about once every 10 year). However, a tax on every import container at PortMiami is collected but remains in a national trust fund. Making funding held in trust available for construction dredging (such as reimbursing the state's investment in the Deep Dredge) would free up critical funds for needed port projects. The Harbor Maintenance Tax could also be used to help U.S. ports to invest in landside infrastructure projects. Such investment would create jobs and spur economic growth as well as create the necessary improvements to keep ports competitive in the global economy.

Public Housing and Community Development

- **Public Housing & Section 8 Housing** – ***ADVOCATE*** for increased federal funding from HUD for public housing and Section 8 programs. Funding for these programs will ensure the preservation of existing housing stock and improvement of federally-funded programs that provide crucial affordable housing and rental subsidies to low-income families.

- **HOME Investment Partnership (HOME) Program – SUPPORT** continued funding for the HUD HOME program.

  - The HOME program is authorized under Title II of the Cranston-Gonzalez National Affordable Housing Act, as amended. It is the largest Federal block grant to State and local governments, and it is designed to create affordable housing for low-income households. This program, administered by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), includes but is not limited to providing rental housing, rental housing assistance, home purchase or rehabilitation financing assistance to eligible homeowners and new homebuyers.

  - HUD has classified Miami-Dade County as a "high-cost area." By implication, the high housing cost also results in high rental costs. It is important that the County support housing programs which benefit the low- to moderate-income residents in the community who typically will require rental housing. The HOME program is one of the many funding sources that the County relies upon to address housing needs of its low-to moderate-income residents. Therefore, any further reduction or elimination of HOME program funding will have a devastating impact on the County's ability to continue to house its most needy residents.

- **Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) – SUPPORT** for increased federal funding for the HUD CDBG program.

  - The CDBG entitlement program provides grants on a formula basis to general units of local governments and states to address a variety of community development needs in very-low to-moderate income areas.

  - The CDBG program's primary objective is to assist in the development of viable urban communities by supporting projects that:

    - benefit very-low to moderate-income persons
    - are integrated in a long range community strategy
    - leverage further private and public partnerships
    - enhance deteriorated residential and business districts

  The projects are classified in four categories: Public Facilities and Capital Improvement; Economic Development; Public Services; and Affordable Housing. CDBG program funds can be used to build community facilities,

roads, and parks; to repair or rehabilitate housing, to provide new or increased public services to local residents or to fund initiatives that generate or retain new jobs.

Over the last three years Miami-Dade County has adopted a strategic focus on development within the Neighborhood Revitalization Areas in an effort to have the greatest impact among the most needy communities and households. The reduction of funding for the CDBG program has a significant impact on the County's ability to continue to implement programs designed to address the needs of its very-low to moderate-income communities which this program serve. The CDBG program funding has declined each year over the last ten years and given the current economic conditions this financial support is critically needed to continue serving and addressing the needs of very-low and moderate-income residents.

Public Works and Waste Management

- **Municipal Waste Combustor (MWC) MACT Standards** – ***OPPOSE*** any Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) issued MWC MACT rule that imposes standards using the "pollutant-by-pollutant" methodology. The EPA should set standards by selecting facilities that have the best overall pollutant levels, in addition to considering waste content and emissions variability. Setting standards by the best individual pollutant levels would result in unrealistic and unachievable emission standards, some of which may not be met by the PWWM's Waste-to-Energy facility. Imposing a MWC MACT standard measurement using a "pollutant-by-pollutant" approach could result in increased operational and capital costs as well as costly fines and the potential closing of the facility.

- **Market Incentives for Electricity Produced from Renewable Resources** – ***SUPPORT*** market incentives to encourage development and operation of alternative, renewable energy production. Support legislation designating biomass as a qualified energy resource, eligible for any and all market incentives.

- **Flow Control/Interstate Waste Transport** – ***OPPOSE*** any efforts seeking to amend legislation in response to the April, 2007 Supreme Court decision "United Haulers Assn. v. Oreida-Herkimer Solid Waste Authority (No. 05-1345)" which held that flow control to publicly owned facilities is a legislative use of flow control authority. Flow control improves the DSWM's financial position and creates a more stable environment.

- **Waste-to-Energy Ash Study** – ***SUPPORT*** a funding request for a study on development of new construction opportunities for the beneficial use of Waste-to-Energy Ash through the Ash Demonstrator Project. A portion of the funding request will be allocated for a "bench" test; and the remainder will be utilized for a pilot test for what has been determined to be the most beneficial use of the ash.

Regulatory and Economic Resources

Agriculture

- **Agriculture: Invasive Pests and Disease** – ***ADVOCATE*** for funding, programs legislation and assistance to increase viability of our local agricultural industry and mitigate any effects of invasive pests, diseases, freezes, flooding, windstorm and other potential damages to our said industry.

- **Mitigation and eradication of the Redbay Ambrosia Beetle and prevention and treatment of Laurel Wilt Disease.** – ***ADVOCATE*** for funding to provide continued funding to the University of Florida for research into effective methods of mitigating and eradicating the red bay ambrosia beetle, preventing the spread of laurel wilt disease into avocados, and treating those avocados crops already affected.

Environmental Protection

- **Beach Renourishment** - ***SUPPORT*** efforts to provide federal funding for beach renourishment on an as-needed basis.

- **16 County Ecosystem Summit Legislative Priorities** – ***SUPPORT*** and ***ADVOCATE*** for the federal legislative priorities associated with the health and welfare of the lakes, estuaries, and riverine systems consisting of Lake Okeechobee, the St. Lucie and Caloosahatchee Estuaries, and Lake Worth Lagoon, and all of the bodies of water connected thereto including the Everglades as determined by the 16 member counties.

Sustainability

- **PACE** - ***ADVOCATE*** for legislation that guarantees local government the right to establish clean energy programs, known as Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) and urge the Department of Energy and Housing Finance Authority to agree to program elements.

- **Green Economy/Green Jobs** - ***SUPPORT*** job creation legislation that promotes energy efficiency and renewable energy, green infrastructure and environmental protection. Investing in clean energy and the greening of existing industries will help put our economy on a stable, long-term path to sustainable growth and job creation.

- **Electric Vehicles** - ***SUPPORT*** the allocation of funding to implement the US-1 Clean Transportation Corridor Demonstration Project, developed through a U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Clean Cities Community Readiness and Planning for Electric Vehicles and Charging Infrastructure Grant (DE-EE0005561). Funding is needed to establish the charging infrastructure detailed in the demonstration project, to support establishment of a car-sharing program along the US-1 mass transit

corridor, providing low-cost commuter access to electric vehicles and charging infrastructure.

Southeast Florida Regional Climate Change Compact Counties 2014 Federal Energy and Climate Legislative Program

- **Southeast Florida Climate Change Compact – *SUPPORT*** the compact's federal legislative program which includes the following:

Infrastructure Investments

- ***SUPPORT*** – the Water Resources Reform and Development Act of 2013 (WRRDA) and specific support for provisions:

  - Authorizing Everglades restoration projects, either by name or by reference to those projects for which Chief's Reports have been completed.

  - Creating a procedure for later authorization of projects under review at the time of passage of the Act, such as the Central Everglades Planning Project.

  - Allowing non-federal sponsors to receive reimbursement or in-kind credit for project expenditures incurred before the execution of a Project Partnership Agreement with the Army Corps of Engineers.

  - Creating an evaluation procedure for federal shore protection projects nearing the end of their 50-year federal authorization and allowing the Assistant Secretary of the Army to extend the authorization for an additional 15 years.

  - Supporting the potential use of nonstructural alternatives, such as dunes, wetlands, marshes, reefs, mangroves, and other natural features.

  - Creating a Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Authority (WIFIA).

- ***SUPPORT*** – federal legislation that would create and fund a national infrastructure bank or other new infrastructure funding source to finance projects needed by state and local governments to adapt to climate impacts and address aging infrastructure. Emphasis should be placed on investments in water management, water supply, transportation, and other projects that make urban infrastructure more resilient to extreme weather events and rising sea levels.

- ***SUPPORT*** – legislation that creates incentives for the consideration of climate impacts, including sea level rise, in federal aid for transportation, water, and other infrastructure projects.

- ***SUPPORT*** – the use of emissions reduction and climate adaptation performance measures and standards to evaluate infrastructure investments, including transportation and water projects.

- ***SUPPORT*** – federal programs that shift priorities toward public transit and non-motorized travel, including reinvestment in existing infrastructure and communities, support for public transportation and transit-oriented development, and congestion management strategies other than new road building.

Adaptation and Resilience

- ***SUPPORT*** – Congressional recognition of adaptation as a critical climate change issue in the development of all legislation and appropriations priorities.

- ***SUPPORT*** – specific recognition in federal legislation of land use designations made by local governments for the purposes of building community resilience, such as the Adaptation Action Areas (AAAs) defined in Chapter 163, Florida Statutes, and the development of regulations that give priority consideration to local land use designations for climate-resilient investments.

- ***SUPPORT*** – federal grants, technical support, and other services to aid community planning that incorporates sustainability and climate adaptation practices.

- ***SUPPORT*** – reform of the Stafford Act to allow greater flexibility in disaster reconstruction efforts to ensure that properties and infrastructure are not merely rebuilt to their previous condition, but to higher, more resilient standards (where appropriate).

- ***SUPPORT*** – funding for weatherization programs provided by the U.S. Department of Energy to harden buildings against windstorm impacts.

- ***SUPPORT*** – continued funding for the Federal Emergency Management Administration's (FEMA) natural hazard mitigation programs to include mitigation for hazards associated with climate change impacts.

- ***SUPPORT*** – the continued eligibility of funding for activities to adapt to climate change and extreme weather events under the Federal-Aid and Federal Lands Highway programs, including vulnerability/risk assessments, highway project development, environmental review and design, construction of projects or features to protect existing assets, and evaluation of life cycle costs.

Program Cuts and Restrictions

- ***OPPOSE*** – reduction in funding for critically important conservation, public health, and environmental protection efforts that reduce carbon emissions,

support climate preparedness, build resilience to extreme weather, and protect the nation's natural resources.

Climate and Energy Research

- ***SUPPORT*** – creation of a National Climate Service within the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) as a means of providing climate-related science and technical products needed by state and local governments to prepare for the potential impacts of global climate change.

- ***SUPPORT*** – continued funding for the US Global Climate Change Research Program and the completion of its National Climate Assessment process currently underway under the auspices of the US Global Change Research Act of 1990.

- ***SUPPORT*** – funding to ensure that the Joint Polar Satellite System (JPSS) is launched as quickly as possible.

- ***SUPPORT*** – funding for a "gap-filling" weather satellite to provide critical data between the end of the current polar satellite's lifetime and the launch of the next-generation Joint Polar Satellite System.

- ***SUPPORT*** – funding for advanced energy research programs.

Energy and Emissions

- ***SUPPORT*** – reauthorization of and renewed funding for the Department of Energy's Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant (EECBG) Program.

- ***SUPPORT*** – continued funding for the U.S. Department of Energy to support the Southeast Florida Clean Cities Coalition and funding for implementation of projects developed under the Clean Cities Community Readiness and Planning for Plug-in Electric Vehicles and Charging Infrastructure, Funding Opportunity Number, DE-FOA-0000451 (Drive Electric Florida & US-1 Corridor Pilot Project).

- ***SUPPORT*** – continued funding for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to support the Southeast Diesel Collaborative and the National Clean Diesel Funding Assistance Program.

Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE)

- ***SUPPORT*** – federal legislation that supports local Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) programs, specifically by removing barriers to PACE and similar programs for residential properties.

Oil Exploration and Drilling

- ***OPPOSE*** – oil exploration and drilling in federal waters on Florida's Outer Continental Shelf.

Everglades Restoration

- ***SUPPORT*** – the Everglades for the Next Generation Act, which would expedite implementation of projects related to the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan.

- ***SUPPORT*** – continued focus on Everglades restoration as an essential component of protecting regional water supply and building regional climate resilience.

Tax Policy

- ***SUPPORT*** – renewal of tax incentives for renewable energy production.

- ***SUPPORT*** – the elimination of federal subsidies for oil and gas production.

- ***SUPPORT*** – renewal of the recently-expired Section 179D of the Internal Revenue Code, which allows deductions for energy efficiency improvements in commercial buildings, and an increase in the per-square-foot value of the deduction from the previous value of $1.80.

- ***SUPPORT*** – legislation that affirms equal treatment of pretax spending programs for transit and parking and makes future increases in the transit program maximums automatic (as the parking maximum increases already are).

Other

- ***SUPPORT*** – amending the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) to allow multi-peril coverage from a national catastrophic insurance fund.

Transit

- **MAP-21** - Miami-Dade Transit is requesting continued ***SUPPORT*** for bus and rail rehabilitation improvements under the MAP-21 transportation bill.

- **Beach Corridor Transit Connection – *ADVOCATE*** for Federal funding through the Department of Transportation that would allow the development of a Beach Corridor Transit Connection (formally known as Bay Link). The Beach Corridor Transit Connection could provide a rapid-transit connection between the cities of Miami and Miami Beach, and also serve as an essential transportation link to important upcoming economic-engine projects.

- **Discretionary Transit Grants** - Miami-Dade Transit (MDT) is requesting the ***SUPPORT*** of Department of Transportation grant funds that would allow MDT to establish and operate Bus Rapid Transit corridors along some of Miami-Dade County's busy corridors.

Water & Sewer

- **Tax-Exempt Municipal Bond Financing** – ***OPPOSE*** Altering Tax-Exempt Municipal Bond Financing on Public Drinking Water & Wastewater Systems, reviews options being discussed at the federal level to cap or eliminate the 100-year old tax exempt status of municipal bonds, a move that would cost the sector billions of dollars in infrastructure projects at a time when federal investment in water and wastewater infrastructure is waning. The Administration's 2014 budget proposal would impose a 28 percent benefit cap on tax-exempt municipal bond interest for high-income taxpayers. For more than a century, tax-exempt municipal bonds have been the most important source of funding for water and wastewater infrastructure projects in the United States.

- **Water Infrastructure Finance Innovations Authority (WIFIA)** - ***SUPPORT*** creation of a new water infrastructure support mechanism (WIFIA) to provide low cost capital to water utilities needing to invest in water and sewer infrastructure. Water Infrastructure Financing and Innovation Authority (WIFIA) pilot program is part of the recently passed Senate version of the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) which includes this innovative new program that will help the nation's communities finance much-needed water and wastewater infrastructure improvements. WIFIA would offer competitive low-interest loan assistance to cities and towns to aid in the construction of major water and wastewater infrastructure projects. This assistance would be available to communities of all sizes, but loans would be limited to projects expected to cost at least $20 million - focusing the program on the largest projects that are underserved by existing water infrastructure financing programs.

- **Water Resources Reform Development Act (WRRDA)** – ***SUPPORT*** the full passage and implementation of the Water Resources Reform and Development Act of 2013 (WRRDA), which would improve and streamline the nation's water infrastructure project delivery process.

- **State Revolving Loan (SRF) program**: - ***SUPPORT*** any Congressional action to amend the manner in which State Revolving Funds are allocated to the States, to the extent that the legislation would provide greater amounts of funding to the State of Florida. Support legislation to reauthorize and expand the Drinking Water State Revolving Loan (SRF) program. That legislation should do the following: Expand and modernize the drinking water State Revolving Loan Fund (SRF) program and increase the authorization of appropriations for the fund.

- **"Water Infrastructure Resiliency and Sustainability Act" H.R. 765**, - ***SUPPORT*** a competitive funding assistance program to help the nation's drinking water, wastewater, and stormwater systems plan and implement projects to adapt their infrastructure to these changing hydrological conditions. Eligible projects will include those that conserve water and increase efficiency, rebuild or relocate threatened treatment facilities, accelerate the adoption of advanced water treatment technologies like water reuse and recycling, or incorporate green infrastructure techniques.

- **The Water Efficiency, Conservation and Adaptation Programs** - ***MONITOR*** bills designed to reduce water consumption and provide funding supporting activities. ***SUPPORT*** legislation to provide tax credits and other incentives to encourage water conservation as a way to reward families and businesses for water conservation efforts. ***SUPPORT*** legislation that authorizes a grant program to finance a variety of measures to improve drinking water, wastewater, irrigation and other water systems in order to help communities adapt to the impacts of climate change. A broad range of water recycling, desalination, irrigation, groundwater and wastewater projects are eligible for assistance. ***SUPPORT*** legislation that funds EPA's Water Sense program to provide customer incentives for water-efficient products, buildings, landscapes, processes or services.