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

MEMORANDUM

Agenda Item No. 8(M)(3)

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

DATE: July 1, 2014

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

SUBJECT: Resolution authorizing the Mayor to apply for and execute environmental permits, including extensions thereto, from various regulatory agencies related to artificial reefs

Resolution No. R-615-14

The accompanying resolution was prepared by the Regulatory and Economic Resources Department and placed on the agenda at the request of Prime Sponsor Commissioner Jose "Pepe" Diaz.

R. A. Cuevas, Jr.
County Attorney

RAC/smm

Memorandum

MIAMI-DADE COUNTY

Date: July 1, 2014

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

From: Carlos A. Gimenez
Mayor

Subject: Resolution Authorizing the Mayor or Mayor's Designee to Apply for and Execute Environmental Permits Related to Artificial Reefs from Various Regulatory Agencies

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Recommendation

It is recommended that the Board of County Commissioners approve the attached resolution authorizing the Mayor or Mayor's Designee to apply for and execute environmental permits, including reauthorizations and extensions, as required by regulatory agencies for the deployment and maintenance of artificial reefs conducted by the Miami-Dade County Artificial Reef Program.

Scope

The Artificial Reef Program currently encompasses seven (7) artificial reef sites in Biscayne Bay and nine (9) offshore artificial reefs sites in or adjacent to Commission Districts 3 (Commissioner Edmonson), 4 (Commissioner Heyman), 5 (Commissioner Barreiro), and 7 (Commissioner Suarez).

Fiscal Impact/Funding Source

The cost of the regulatory permits for the Artificial Reef Program are estimated to be approximately $300 per year and these costs will be charged to the applicable trust fund or operational funds by the Department of Regulatory and Economic Resources, Division of Environmental Resources Management. Trust fund disbursements are approved by the Board in accordance with Chapter 24 of the Code of Miami-Dade County and the Artificial Reef Program is funded through the annual budget.

Track Record / Monitor

The Restoration and Enhancement Section Chief, Stephen Blair, within the Department of Regulatory and Economic Resources, Division of Environmental Resources Management, will supervise the permit applications and all permitted activities associated with artificial reef site permits.

Background

Documented artificial reef deployments offshore of Miami-Dade County were coordinated by local fishing captains and fishing clubs since at least the 1920s through the 1970s. Miami-Dade County's Artificial Reef Program has coordinated the placement of artificial reefs since 1981 and is currently managed by the Department of Regulatory and Economic Resources, Division of Environmental Resources Management.

Miami-Dade County's goals for artificial reef construction and management are to restore and/or enhance marine habitats, protect existing natural resources and increase recreational fishing and diving opportunities for both residents and tourists. The Artificial Reef Program has coordinated over 200 placements of varied artificial reef material that include many ships, prefabricated reef modules and limerock boulders, as well as unique materials such as military tanks, radio towers and bridge spans. These materials are placed on sandy sea bottom, creating habitat for marine life where none previously existed. The Artificial Reef Program obtains and maintains local, state and federal permits for

regulatory authorization to conduct artificial reef placement within the permitted sites shown on the attached diagram. Permitting agencies include the Army Corps of Engineers, the Florida Department of Environmental Protection and the Miami-Dade County Department of Regulatory and Economic Resources.

Artificial reefs in Miami-Dade County play a valuable role in the local economy. The *Socioeconomic Study of Reefs in Southeast Florida* from October 2001 reported that artificial reefs in Miami-Dade County were responsible for annually generating $323,887,645 in sales and $181,834,859 in local income through support of 5,266 full-time and part-time jobs.

Jack Osterholt, Deputy Mayor

MEMORANDUM

(Revised)

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

DATE: July 1, 2014

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

SUBJECT: Agenda Item No. 8(M)(3)

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(M)(3)
7-1-14

RESOLUTION NO. R-615-14

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR OR MAYOR'S DESIGNEE TO APPLY FOR AND EXECUTE ENVIRONMENTAL PERMITS, INCLUDING EXTENSIONS THERETO, FROM VARIOUS REGULATORY AGENCIES RELATED TO ARTIFICIAL REEFS

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

WHEREAS, Miami-Dade County, seeking to emphasize restoration and enhancement goals, maximize effectiveness of community resources, and protect existing natural resources, began coordinating artificial reef construction in 1981; and

WHEREAS, the Miami-Dade County Artificial Reef Program is managed by the Department of Regulatory and Economic Resources, Division of Environmental Resources Management, and prepares the artificial reef development permit applications, permit re-authorization requests and permit extension requests as well as adheres to specified permit conditions including artificial reef construction and associated biological monitoring; and

WHEREAS, the *Socioeconomic Study of Reefs in Southeast Florida* from October 2001 reported that artificial reefs in Miami-Dade County annually contribute significantly to our local economy with $323,887,645 in sales and $181,834,859 in local income through 5,266 full-time and part-time jobs,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, that this Board authorizes the Mayor or Mayor's designee to apply for and execute environmental permits, including

reauthorizations and extensions thereto, from various regulatory agencies for the deployment, maintenance and management of artificial reefs.

The foregoing resolution was offered by Commissioner **Sally A. Heyman**, who moved its adoption. The motion was seconded by Commissioner **Dennis C. Moss** 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.	**absent**
Jose "Pepe" Diaz	**aye**	Audrey M. Edmonson	**aye**
Sally A. Heyman	**aye**	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 1st day of July, 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

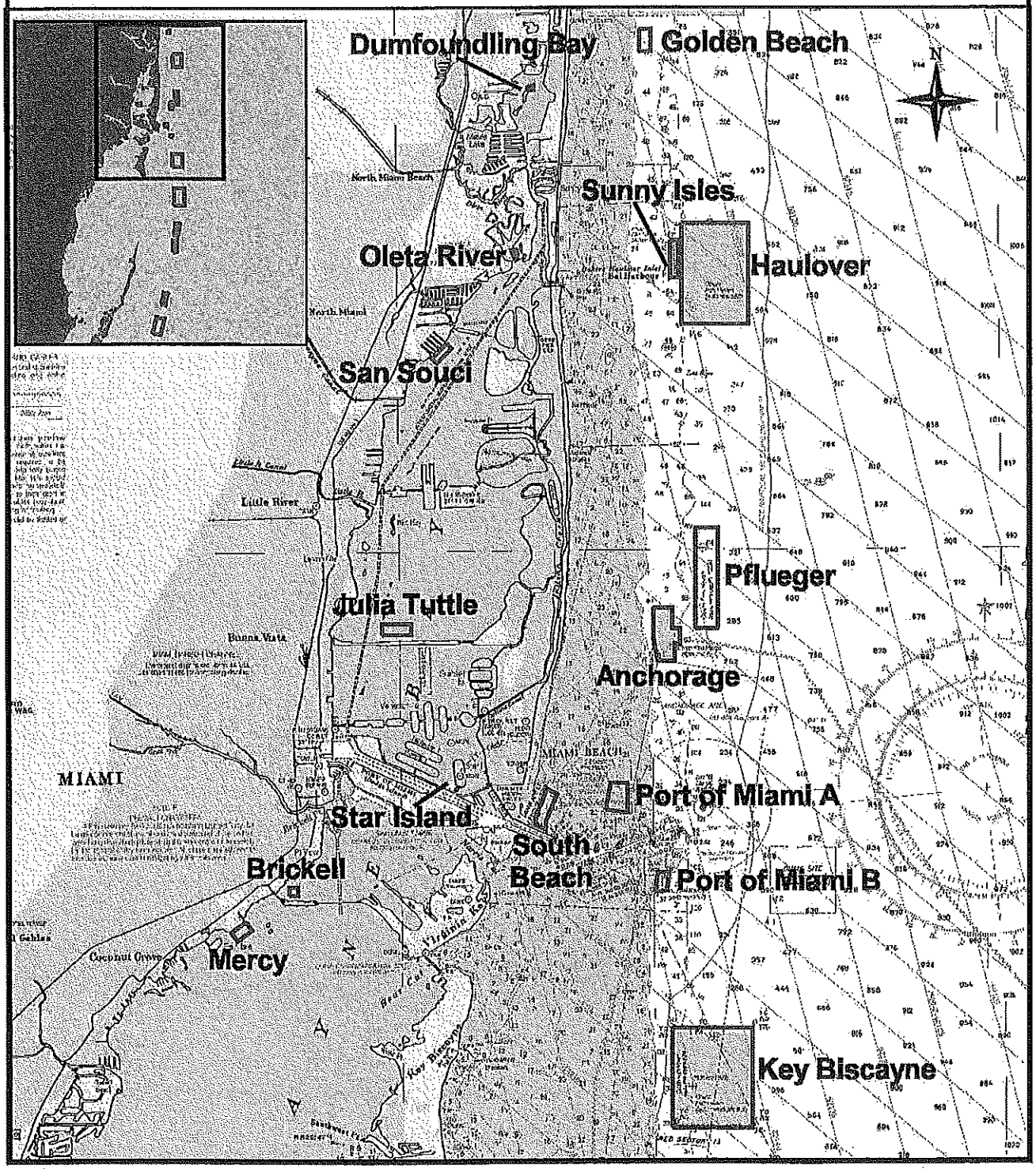
HARVEY RUVIN, CLERK

By: *Christopher Agrippa*
Deputy Clerk

Approved by County Attorney as
to form and legal sufficiency.

Abbie Schwaderer-Raurell

Miami-Dade County DERM

Artificial Reef Program

Inshore and Northern Offshore Reef Sites