

MEMORANDUM

Agenda Item No. 11(A)(8)

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

DATE: July 15, 2014

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

SUBJECT: Resolution urging Congress to
pass the GROW AMERICA Act,
or similar legislation that would
provide increased and stable
funding for the Highway Trust
Fund and other transportation
and transit-related infrastructure
projects

Resolution No. R-679-14

The accompanying resolution was prepared and placed on the agenda at the request of Prime Sponsor Vice Chair Lynda Bell.



R. A. Cuevas, Jr.
County Attorney

RAC/smm



MEMORANDUM

(Revised)

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

DATE: July 15, 2014

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

SUBJECT: Agenda Item No. 11(A)(8).

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)(8)
7-15-14

RESOLUTION NO. R-679-14

RESOLUTION URGING CONGRESS TO PASS THE GROW AMERICA ACT, OR SIMILAR LEGISLATION THAT WOULD PROVIDE INCREASED AND STABLE FUNDING FOR THE HIGHWAY TRUST FUND AND OTHER TRANSPORTATION AND TRANSIT-RELATED INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS

WHEREAS, transportation contributes immensely to the nation's economy, and investments made to the national transportation network have helped the United States build the world's largest economy and most mobile society; and

WHEREAS, the Highway Trust Fund, which supports a significant portion of the nation's construction and repair of our surface transportation system, will be insolvent before the fall of 2014, and just a few weeks later, the authorities that establish our surface transportation programs will expire; and

WHEREAS, without action, many states and local governments may be forced to slow or stop work on critical transportation projects that move people, energy, and freight every day, putting jobs at risk and slowing investment in our future; and

WHEREAS, the United States Department of Transportation has introduced a bill for consideration entitled the Generating Renewal, Opportunity, and Work with Accelerated Mobility, Efficiency, and Rebuilding of Infrastructure and Communities throughout America Act, or GROW AMERICA Act; and

WHEREAS, the GROW AMERICA Act would, among other things:

- (1) provide a four-year authorization of federal highway, transit and rail programs at an increased funding level of \$302 billion;
- (2) establish an Infrastructure Permitting Improvement Center designed to reduce project delivery time;

- (3) prevent new Metropolitan Planning Organizations from being designated within metropolitan statistical areas already served by an existing Metropolitan Planning Organization and require coordinated planning and performance target-setting in those areas already served by multiple Metropolitan Planning Organizations;
- (4) authorize the U.S. Secretary of Transportation to identify a subset of Metropolitan Planning Organizations serving areas of 200,000 and above as “higher performing MPOs” based on a set of established criteria;
- (5) establish a Critical Immediate Investments Program to reduce the number of structurally deficient bridges on the interstate system, target safety investments on non-state-owned roads, and support a state of good repair on the National Highway System; and

WHEREAS, the State of Florida, Miami-Dade County, and various other political subdivisions of the State rely on continued federal support to ensure that residents have access to well-maintained and safe roads, highways, bridges, and rail systems; and

WHEREAS, this Board would like to express its support for the GROW AMERICA Act, or similar legislation,

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

Section 1. Urges Congress to pass the GROW AMERICA Act, or similar legislation that would provide increased and stable funding for the Highway Trust Fund and other transportation and transit-related infrastructure projects.

Section 2. Directs the Clerk of the Board to transmit a certified copy of this resolution to the members of the Florida Congressional Delegation and the United States Secretary of Transportation.

Section 3. Directs the County's federal lobbyists to advocate for the passage of the legislation set forth in Section 1 above, and authorizes and directs the Office of Intergovernmental Affairs to amend the 2014 Federal Legislative Package to include this item.

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

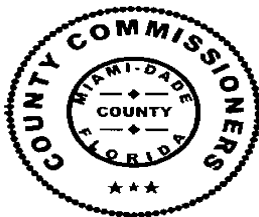
	Rebeca Sosa, Chairwoman	aye
	Lynda Bell, Vice Chair	aye
Bruno A. Barreiro	aye	Esteban L. Bovo, Jr. aye
Jose "Pepe" Diaz	absent	Audrey M. Edmonson aye
Sally A. Heyman	absent	Barbara J. Jordan aye
Jean Monestime	aye	Dennis C. Moss aye
Sen. Javier D. Souto	aye	Xavier L. Suarez absent
Juan C. Zapata	aye	

The Chairperson thereupon declared the resolution duly passed and adopted this 15th 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.

MJM

Michael J. Mastrucci