

MEMORANDUM

Amended
Agenda Item No. 11(A)(1)

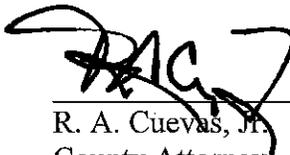
TO: Honorable Chairwoman Rebeca Sosa
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

DATE: September 16, 2014

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

SUBJECT: Resolution directing the Mayor
to conduct a study on the
economic impact of Miami-Dade
County's agricultural industry,
with particular focus on
innovative farming technology
entrepreneurs
Resolution No. R-815-14

The accompanying resolution was prepared and placed on the agenda at the request of Prime Sponsor Vice Chair Lynda Bell and Co-Sponsor Commissioner Bruno A. Barreiro.



R. A. Cuevas, Jr.
County Attorney

RAC/smm



MEMORANDUM

(Revised)

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

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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 Amended
Veto _____ Agenda Item No. 11(A)(1)
Override _____ 9-16-14

RESOLUTION NO. R-815-14

RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE MAYOR OR MAYOR'S DESIGNEE TO CONDUCT A STUDY ON THE ECONOMIC IMPACT OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY'S AGRICULTURAL INDUSTRY, WITH PARTICULAR FOCUS ON INNOVATIVE FARMING TECHNOLOGY ENTREPRENEURS, AND TO PREPARE A REPORT FOR THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS WITHIN 120 DAYS

WHEREAS, Miami-Dade County's agricultural industry is of great significance to the county, employing more than 20,000 people and producing more than \$2.7 billion in economic impact annually; and

WHEREAS, Miami-Dade County's agricultural industry produces the most tropical fruits, tropical vegetables, and ornamental nurseries in the State of Florida; and

WHEREAS, in 2005 Cornell University opened the Cornell Agriculture and Food Technology Park, referred to as the Technology Farm, in Geneva, New York with the purpose of providing a campus for research and development in the areas of food, agriculture, and medicine; and

WHEREAS, other similar agricultural technology incubators have been created nationwide to provide farmers creative research and products in the areas of farm management, land acquisition, irrigation, biofuels, plant nutrients, and web-based resource centers, with the purpose of reaching underserved communities; and

WHEREAS, Miami-Dade County is a gateway between North America and Latin America with regard to agricultural innovation and may develop stronger bridges through agricultural technology training facilities; and

WHEREAS, the United States Department of Agriculture, National Institute of Food and Agriculture has provided funding and resources in support of the creation of farm incubators; and

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners wishes to encourage and facilitate the development of entrepreneurial farm incubators in Miami-Dade County with strong relationships between local land grant universities and the private sector, both locally and internationally,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, directs the Mayor or Mayor's designee to conduct a study on the economic impact of the agricultural industry within Miami-Dade County. Within the study, the Mayor or Mayor's designee is further directed to include a particular emphasis on:

(1) the effect of innovative entrepreneurs and agricultural incubators around the country and within the County;

(2) an analysis of the impact of agricultural incubators on jobs, output, and tourism around the country and within the County;

(3) a summary of the present relationships and potential future relationships between local land grant universities and the private sector within the County to foster entrepreneurial opportunities by research and value-added commercialization of farmlands.

(4) the opinions of environmentalists to insure that agriculture technology innovations will benefit the environment as well as farmers to encourage their coexistence.

The Prime Sponsor of the foregoing resolution is Vice Chair Lynda Bell. It was offered by Commissioner **Sally A. Heyman**, 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	absent
Bruno A. Barreiro	aye	Esteban L. Bovo, Jr. aye
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 absent
Juan C. Zapata	aye	

The Chairperson thereupon declared the resolution duly passed and adopted this 16th day of September, 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.

Lauren E. Morse