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

MEMORANDUM

Agenda Item No. 11(A)(21)

TO: Honorable Chairman Jean Monestime
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

DATE: September 7, 2016

FROM: Abigail Price-Williams
County Attorney

SUBJECT: Resolution supporting Governor Rick Scott's proposal to provide funding to assist local communities with converting from septic tanks to sewer systems; and urging the Florida Legislature to provide state funding to assist local communities with eliminating septic systems and converting to sewer system connections, as proposed by the Governor

Resolution No. R-823-16

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

Abigail Price-Williams
County Attorney

APW/smm

MEMORANDUM

(Revised)

TO: Honorable Chairman Jean Monestime
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

DATE: September 7, 2016

FROM: Abigail Price-Williams
County Attorney

SUBJECT: Agenda Item No. 11(A)(21)

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**

_____ **Statement of social equity 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)(21)
9-7-16

RESOLUTION NO. R-823-16

RESOLUTION SUPPORTING GOVERNOR RICK SCOTT'S PROPOSAL TO PROVIDE FUNDING TO ASSIST LOCAL COMMUNITIES WITH CONVERTING FROM SEPTIC TANKS TO SEWER SYSTEMS; AND URGING THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE TO PROVIDE STATE FUNDING TO ASSIST LOCAL COMMUNITIES WITH ELIMINATING SEPTIC SYSTEMS AND CONVERTING TO SEWER SYSTEM CONNECTIONS, AS PROPOSED BY THE GOVERNOR

WHEREAS, on July 6, 2016, Governor Rick Scott announced that he will propose additional funding in his State Fiscal Year 2017-2018 recommended budget to help clean up the Indian River Lagoon and Caloosahatchee River into which the polluted waters of Lake Okeechobee are discharged; and

WHEREAS, this proposal is expected to include new funding for a voluntary 50/50 matching grant program with local communities surrounding the water bodies affected by algae blooms resulting from the frequent discharges of water from the Lake; and

WHEREAS, if approved by the Legislature, this voluntary program would provide funding to encourage residents to convert from septic tanks to sewer systems to help curb pollution that is currently entering into these water bodies; and

WHEREAS, Governor Rick Scott stated in a press release that "[s]eptic tank runoff is a major contributor to the pollution in these water bodies and I look forward to working with the Legislature to fund efforts to curb it."; and

WHEREAS, the Governor's proposal would also provide financial support to local communities to help them build wastewater systems to meet the increased demand for wastewater services; and

WHEREAS, as the Governor explained, "[i]t is up to all of us – the state, Florida's local communities and the federal government – to work together on long term solutions to improve the quality of our water. That is why I am going to commit state funding and match it with local contributions so we can work together on efforts to clean up our waters."; and

WHEREAS, the problem of pollution due to septic systems extends beyond the communities surrounding the Indian River Lagoon and Caloosahatchee River; and

WHEREAS, wherever they are located, septic systems may present environmental concerns and are potentially vulnerable to the effects of sea level rise; and

WHEREAS, some portions of Miami-Dade County, particularly rural and suburban areas, lack public sanitary sewer systems and therefore rely on septic systems to treat and dispose of wastewater from toilets, showers, sinks, and dishwashers; and

WHEREAS, Miami-Dade County could benefit from funding to, at a minimum, help eliminate septic systems and install sewer system connections in areas where no such systems currently exist; and

WHEREAS, accordingly, this Board supports the Governor's proposal and urges the Legislature to allocate funding for the abovementioned purposes in the State Fiscal Year 2017-2018 budget,

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

Section 1. Supports Governor Rick Scott's proposal to provide funding to assist local communities with converting from septic tanks to sewer systems.

Section 2. Urges the Florida Legislature to appropriate state funds in the State Fiscal Year 2016-2017 budget to assist local communities in eliminating septic systems and converting to sewer system connections, as proposed by the Governor.

Section 3. Directs the Clerk of the Board to transmit certified copies of this resolution to the Governor, the Senate President, the House Speaker, and the Chair and Members of the Miami-Dade State Legislative Delegation.

Section 4. Directs the County's state lobbyists to advocate for the funding set forth in Sections 1 and 2 above, and authorizes and directs the Office of Intergovernmental Affairs to include this item in the 2017 State Legislative Package when it is presented the Board.

The Prime Sponsor of the foregoing resolution is Commissioner Rebeca Sosa. It was offered by Commissioner **Sally A. Heyman**, 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:

Jean Monestime, Chairman **aye**
Esteban L. Bovo, Jr., Vice Chairman **aye**

Bruno A. Barreiro	**aye**	Daniella Levine Cava	**aye**
Jose "Pepe" Diaz	**aye**	Audrey M. Edmonson	**aye**
Sally A. Heyman	**aye**	Barbara J. Jordan	**aye**
Dennis C. Moss	**aye**	Rebeca Sosa	**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 7th day of September, 2016. This resolution shall become effective upon the earlier of (1) 10 days after the date of its adoption unless vetoed by the County Mayor, and if vetoed, shall become effective only upon an override by this Board, or (2) approval by the County Mayor of this Resolution and the filing of this approval with the Clerk of the 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.

James Eddie Kirtley