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

MEMORANDUM

Agenda Item No. 5(A)

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

DATE: September 20, 2016

FROM: Abigail Price-Williams
County Attorney

SUBJECT: Resolution naming, by a three-fifths vote of the Board members present, a baseball field to be identified by the County Mayor within Tropical Park, located at 7900 SW 40th Street in Miami-Dade County, as the "Rafael 'Felo' Ramirez Baseball Field"

Resolution No. R-840-16

The accompanying resolution was prepared and placed on the agenda at the request of Prime Sponsor Senator Javier D. Souto.

Abigail Price-Williams
County Attorney

APW/cp

MEMORANDUM

(Revised)

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

DATE: September 20, 2016

FROM: Abigail Price-Williams
County Attorney

SUBJECT: Agenda Item No. 5(A)

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. 5(A)
9-20-16

RESOLUTION NO. R-840-16

RESOLUTION NAMING, BY A THREE-FIFTHS VOTE OF THE BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT, A BASEBALL FIELD TO BE IDENTIFIED BY THE COUNTY MAYOR OR DESIGNEE WITHIN TROPICAL PARK, LOCATED AT 7900 SW 40TH STREET IN MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, AS THE "RAFAEL 'FELO' RAMIREZ BASEBALL FIELD"

WHEREAS, Rafael "Felo" Ramirez is the Cuban-American Spanish language radio voice for the Miami Marlins, and it is said that hearing him on the radio is the equivalent of being at the game; and

WHEREAS, Ramirez was born in Bayamo, Cuba, and is commonly known as "El Orgullo de Bayamo" ("The Pride of Bayamo") by many fans and colleagues; and

WHEREAS, the career of "El Orgullo de Bayamo" in Cuba was narrating amateur baseball games and the Winter Series, a group of baseball games in Cuba where players from the American Continent, including the United States, would play; and

WHEREAS, Ramirez has been a baseball broadcaster since 1945 when he started with Radio Salas in La Habana, Cuba; and

WHEREAS, his career as a baseball announcer took him to Puerto Rico and Venezuela, where he announced games for illustrious teams such as the Cagua Natives, Santurce Crabs, San Juan Senators, and the Magallanes Navigators; and

WHEREAS, Ramirez is also famous as the voice of over 40 Caribbean World Series Games since 1949, as well as the Spanish language voice for the World Series and All Star Games broadcast throughout Latin America; and

WHEREAS, among other milestone broadcasts, Ramirez worked the broadcast of Hank Aaron's 715th home run, Roberto Clemente's 3,000th career hit, and the perfect World Series Game of Don Larsen; and

WHEREAS, in 1950, when the Gillette Cavalcade of Sports broadcast many of the United States' biggest sporting events to more than 200 stations in Latin America, the show's directors approached Ramirez, and soon he found himself calling Major League Baseball games and championship boxing matches with the man he called his idol, Hall of Fame broadcaster Buck Canel; and

WHEREAS, since 1993, Ramirez has been one of the principal announcers for the Marlins in its Spanish language broadcasts to Latin America and the Latin community within North America; and

WHEREAS, Ramirez called the Marlins' inaugural game against the Los Angeles Dodgers in 1993, the no-hitters by Marlins' pitchers Al Leiter in 1996, Kevin Brown in 1997, and A.J. Burnett in 2001, and the team's World Series championship run in 1997; and

WHEREAS, in 2001, Ramirez received the Ford C. Frick Award of the Baseball Hall of Fame for his long time contribution to the sport, including his work for the Marlins; and

WHEREAS, Ramirez is a member of the Laredo Latin American International Sports Hall of Fame, as well as the Puerto Rican Baseball Hall of Fame, and has been honored by the Puerto Rican Legislature; and

WHEREAS, throughout South Florida, Ramirez is beloved by baseball fans who have listened to his many broadcasts for the Marlins; and

WHEREAS, Rule 9.02 of this Board's Rules of Procedure provides that the Board may, by a three-fifths vote of Board members present, name a County road, facility, or property after a living individual who "has made a direct, significant lifetime contribution to this community"; and

WHEREAS, in recognition of his direct, significant lifetime contribution to this community as the Spanish language broadcast voice for the Marlins, this Board wishes to honor Ramirez by naming a baseball field at Tropical Park in his honor; and

WHEREAS, this proposed naming is located in County Commission District 10,

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

Section 1. The foregoing recitals are hereby incorporated into this resolution and the Board finds that Rafael "Felo" Ramirez has made a direct, significant lifetime contribution to this community pursuant to Rule 9.02(d) of this Board's Rules of Procedure.

Section 2. Having considered this matter at public hearing and by a three-fifths vote of Board members present, this Board names a baseball field to be identified by the County Mayor or designee within Tropical Park, located at 7900 SW 40th Street in Miami-Dade County, as the "Rafael 'Felo' Ramirez Baseball Field."

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

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

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 20th 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