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

MEMORANDUM

Agenda Item No. 11(A)(6)

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

DATE: September 20, 2016

FROM: Abigail Price-Williams
County Attorney

SUBJECT: Resolution urging the South Florida Water Management District to fully implement its Plan for Florida Bay and urging the United States Army Corps to expedite and complete the Herbert Hoover Dike Rehabilitation Project

Resolution No. R-852-16

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

Abigail Price-Williams
County Attorney

APW/cp

MEMORANDUM

(Revised)

TO: Honorable Chairman Jean Monestime
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**

_____ **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)(6)
9-20-16

RESOLUTION NO. R-852-16

RESOLUTION URGING THE SOUTH FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT TO FULLY IMPLEMENT ITS PLAN FOR FLORIDA BAY AND URGING THE UNITED STATES ARMY CORPS TO EXPEDITE AND COMPLETE THE HERBERT HOOVER DIKE REHABILITATION PROJECT

WHEREAS, Everglades National Park is located in Miami-Dade County, and the Everglades is of great importance both economically and ecologically; and

WHEREAS, this Board has consistently supported Everglades restoration, as demonstrated most recently by Resolution No. R-821-16; and

WHEREAS, historically, the Everglades covered approximately 2.5 million acres of land from the south shore of Lake Okeechobee to the mangrove estuaries of Florida Bay, and issues related to this vast area are often interconnected; and

WHEREAS, the South Florida Water Management District's ("SFWMD") Plan for Florida Bay consists of certain planned improvements that are independent of the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Project (CERP); and

WHEREAS, this Plan for Florida Bay includes, but is not limited to: (1) connecting two canals to directly deposit water through the L-31 West Canal into Taylor Slough; (2) sending additional water through the S-328 structure into the L-31 West Canal directly to the headwaters of Taylor Slough; (3) rebuilding a levee and weir and adding plugs along the L-31 West Canal to encourage the flow of more water towards Taylor Slough and keep more water in Everglades National Park; and (4) removing flapgates at the S-332i Pump Station to promote more flow of water; and

WHEREAS, according to SFWMD's website, which is available at http://www.sfwmd.gov/portal/page/portal/xweb%20protecting%20and%20restoring/florida%20bay, this Plan for Florida Bay was approved by SFWMD's Governing Board in 2016 and would "help reduce salinity levels in the bay and promote the recovery of seagrasses killed during a severe drought in 2015, providing critical relief now while larger Everglades projects are built and completed"; and

WHEREAS, this Board wishes to urge SFWMD to fully implement this Plan for Florida Bay; and

WHEREAS, another project with great significance for the region is the rehabilitation of the Herbert Hoover Dike, which is being undertaken by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (the "U.S. Army Corps"); and

WHEREAS, the Herbert Hoover Dike system surrounds Lake Okeechobee and consists of 143 miles of levees, hurricane gates, and other water control structures, and since 2007, the U.S. Army Corps has spent over 500 million dollars on various projects that are designed to reduce the risk of catastrophic failure of the Herbert Hoover Dike; and

WHEREAS, this work for the Herbert Hoover Dike system is of the upmost importance, and this Board wishes to urge the U.S. Army Corps to expedite and complete the Herbert Hoover Dike Rehabilitation Project,

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

Section 1. Urges the South Florida Water Management District to fully implement its Plan for Florida Bay.

Section 2. Urges the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to expedite and complete the Herbert Hoover Dike Rehabilitation Project.

Section 3. Directs the Clerk of the Board to transmit certified copies of this resolution to the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works, the Governor, the Florida Commissioner of Agriculture, and the Governing Board and Executive Director of the South Florida Water Management District.

Section 4. Directs the County's Federal and State lobbyists to advocate for administrative action and legislation that would accomplish the goals set forth herein and as described in Sections 1 and 2 above, and authorizes and directs the Office of Intergovernmental Affairs to include this item in the 2017 State and Federal Legislative Packages when they are presented to this Board.

The Prime Sponsor of the foregoing resolution is Commissioner Jose "Pepe" Diaz. It was offered by Commissioner **José "Pepe" Diaz**, 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	**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 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.

Abbie Schwaderer-Raurell