

## MEMORANDUM

Agenda Item No. 11(A)(24)

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

**DATE:** October 5, 2016

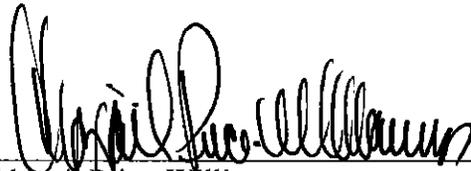
**FROM:** Abigail Price-Williams  
County Attorney

**SUBJECT:** Resolution urging the United States Congress to authorize and appropriate federal funding to local governments such as Miami-Dade County for infrastructure projects related to sea level rise

Resolution No. R-915-16

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

  
Abigail Price-Williams  
County Attorney

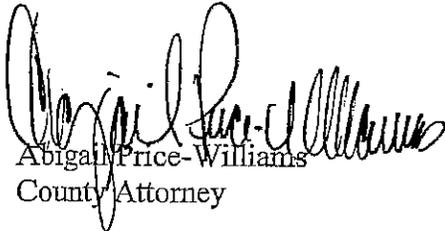
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**MEMORANDUM**  
(Revised)

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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)(24)  
10-5-16

RESOLUTION NO. R-915-16

RESOLUTION URGING THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS  
TO AUTHORIZE AND APPROPRIATE FEDERAL FUNDING  
TO LOCAL GOVERNMENTS SUCH AS MIAMI-DADE  
COUNTY FOR INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS RELATED  
TO SEA LEVEL RISE

**WHEREAS**, Miami-Dade County, like the rest of South Florida, is understood to be particularly vulnerable to sea level rise due to its low elevation and proximity to the coast; and

**WHEREAS**, Florida has approximately 1,350 miles of coastline, which is more coastline than any other state besides Alaska; and

**WHEREAS**, because of this vast coastline and Florida's geographical location, state and local governments in Florida should be leaders in developing solutions to sea level rise and meeting the demands that sea level rise places on our communities, particularly as impacts of sea level rise are expected to increase in the coming decades; and

**WHEREAS**, in 2013, this Board adopted Resolution No. R-599-13 creating the Miami-Dade County Sea Level Rise Task Force; and

**WHEREAS**, subsequently in 2014, the Miami-Dade County Sea Level Rise Task Force presented its recommendations, which are available online at <http://www.miamidade.gov/govaction/legistarfiles/Matters/Y2014/141493.pdf>; and

**WHEREAS**, in response, this Board has adopted multiple resolutions to implement the recommendations of the Sea Level Rise Task Force, including but not limited to Resolution No. R-48-15, which directed the County Mayor to study and develop adaptation strategies to address flooding and salt water intrusion associated with sea level rise; and Resolution No. R-49-15,

which directed the County Mayor to initiate discussions with private insurance and reinsurance groups, along with other local governments and state agencies, in order to develop long term risk management solutions; and

**WHEREAS**, earlier this year, this Board also adopted Resolution No. R-168-16 urging the United States Congress to establish a fund that would be used to partner with local governments, such as Miami-Dade County, to provide financial assistance and support for initiatives and projects related to sea level rise; and

**WHEREAS**, going forward, local governments such as Miami-Dade County will particularly need financial assistance from federal and state counterparts to ensure that all aspects of our infrastructure, including our roadways, bridges, seawalls, drainage mechanisms, and water supply and waste water facilities, are fully equipped to meet the challenges presented by sea level rise; and

**WHEREAS**, in addition, certain aspects of our infrastructure that use energy, such as pumps, motors, and air conditioners, will need to be made energy-efficient in order to stabilize, and possibly reduce over time, the carbon concentrations in our atmosphere, and this may require additional funding; and

**WHEREAS**, funding may also be needed to grow and maintain so-called natural infrastructure, including features such as sand dunes, barrier islands, and maritime forests that help lessen storm surge and flooding while also providing habitat, water filtration, and beautiful places we can all enjoy; and

**WHEREAS**, although building new, and retrofitting existing, infrastructure with sea-level rise in mind may require additional funding in the short-term, doing so is expected to save taxpayers money going forward, because it could significantly reduce the emergency and recovery costs that may otherwise be needed in the years to come; and

**WHEREAS**, if the federal government provides financial assistance to local governments such as Miami-Dade County for purposes of building new, and retrofitting existing, infrastructure with sea-level rise in mind, the result would be a tremendous, value-added investment; and

**WHEREAS**, such federal assistance would accelerate the development of success models that could be copied and used by scores of similarly situated communities elsewhere, thus multiplying the utility and effect of federal dollars; and

**WHEREAS**, such federal assistance could spur a much needed modernization of deteriorating urban and rural infrastructure, which are already in desperate need of updated re-engineering, even putting aside the impacts of sea level rise; and

**WHEREAS**, such federal assistance and the resulting Miami-Dade County projects and solutions would create new jobs and potentially attract new companies and industry, all of which would substantially enhance our economy at all levels; and

**WHEREAS**, accordingly, this Board now wishes to request that the United States Congress provide federal funding for such purposes,

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

**Section 1.** Urges the United States Congress to authorize and allocate federal funding to local governments such as Miami-Dade County to be used for infrastructure projects related to sea level rise.

**Section 2.** Directs the Clerk of the Board to transmit certified copies of this resolution to the Florida Congressional Delegation.

**Section 3.** Directs the County's federal lobbyists to advocate for the funding described in Section 1 above, and authorizes and directs the Office of Intergovernmental Affairs to amend the 2016 Federal Legislative Package to include this item, as well as to include this item in the 2017 Federal Legislature Package when it is presented to the Board.

The Prime Sponsor of the foregoing resolution is Commissioner Rebeca Sosa. It was offered by Commissioner **Xavier L. Suarez**, 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	aye		

The Chairperson thereupon declared the resolution duly passed and adopted this 5<sup>th</sup> day of October, 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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "James Eddie Kirtley", written over a horizontal line.