



Miami-Dade County Board of County Commissioners

Office of the Commission Auditor

Board of County Commissioners Meeting

September 20, 2016
9:30 A.M.
Commission Chamber

Research Division

Office of the Commission Auditor
111 NW First Street, Suite 1030
Miami, Florida 33128
305-375-4354

**Board of County Commissioners
September 20, 2016 Meeting
Research Notes**

Item No.	Research Notes						
4A 161965	ORDINANCE RELATING TO RULES OF PROCEDURE OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS; AMENDING SECTION 2-1 OF THE CODE OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA; PROVIDING AN EXCEPTION FROM BOARD APPROVAL AND OTHER REQUIREMENTS FOR NAMING OR RENAMING OF CERTAIN COUNTY FACILITIES; AUTHORIZING THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH TRUST TO NAME OR RENAME ANY INTERIOR PORTION OF A PUBLIC HEALTH TRUST DESIGNATED FACILITY UNDER CERTAIN CIRCUMSTANCES; PROVIDING SEVERABILITY, INCLUSION IN THE CODE, AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE						
Notes	<p>The proposed ordinance amends Section 2-1 of the Miami-Dade County Code to provide an exception from BCC approval and other requirements for the naming or renaming of any interior portion of a Public Health Trust designated facility.</p> <p>Specifically:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Any Public Health Trust resolution to name or rename an interior portion of a designated facility will only be considered by the Board of Trustees of the Public Health Trust after a public hearing upon completion of a report by the Commission Auditor; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The Commission Auditor will complete background research, reviewing public records and other sources of information, in print, on the internet, or through other means of communication, that are publicly available, on any person, organization, place or thing that is the subject of a naming, renaming or codesignation; and ○ The Commission Auditor will prepare a report detailing findings. • Prior to issuance of a notice for such public hearing, the Chief Executive Officer of the Public Health Trust will notify the BCC by memorandum of the proposed naming or renaming; and • Upon passage of a resolution by the Board of Trustees of the Public Health Trust to name or rename an interior portion of a designated facility, the clerk of the Board of Trustees of the Public Health Trust will provide notice to the BCC along with a copy of the Public Health Trust resolution. 						
8D1 161770	RESOLUTION APPROVING EXTENSION OF 2016 REAL AND PERSONAL PROPERTY TAX ROLLS AND ISSUANCE OF TAX BILLS PRIOR TO COMPLETION OF THE VALUE ADJUSTMENT BOARD HEARINGS						
Notes	<p>The proposed resolution extends the 2016 certified tax roll for real and personal property for the purposes of mailing the 2016 tax notices prior to the completion of Value Adjustment Board (VAB) hearings.</p> <p><u>Fiscal Impact/Funding Source:</u> Approval of this resolution has no fiscal impact to the County. However, the failure to approve this resolution could lead to delays in the distribution of property taxes to the various taxing authorities, and could affect the discount period for payment of taxes by property owners.</p> <p><u>Background:</u> Due to the number of VAB appeals filed each year, it is expected that the completion of the VAB hearing process for the 2016 tax roll will not be completed until sometime in 2017. Because tax bills are mailed on or before November 1, 2016, those parcels whose owners request VAB hearings may require subsequent adjustments to their assessed value. Therefore, final certification of the tax roll cannot be made until all VAB hearings are completed.</p> <p>Section 197.323(1) of the Florida Statutes provides for the extension of the tax roll, by the BCC, prior to completion of the VAB hearings, if completion would otherwise be the only cause for delay in the issuance of tax notices beyond November 1. Section 197.323 further provides that, for any parcel for which tax liability is subsequently altered as a result of a VAB hearing, the Tax Collector will resolve the matter by following the procedures used for correction of errors.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="269 1717 1487 1873"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="2">Additional Information on Previous Extensions since 2011</th></tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>R-560-15 6/30/2015</td><td>Extended the 2015 certified tax roll for real and personal property for the purposes of mailing the 2015 tax notices prior to the completion of Value Adjustment Board (VAB) hearings.</td></tr> <tr> <td>R-803-14 9/16/2014</td><td>Extended the 2014 certified tax roll for real and personal property for the purposes of mailing the 2014 tax notices prior to the completion of Value Adjustment Board (VAB) hearings.</td></tr> </tbody> </table>	Additional Information on Previous Extensions since 2011		R-560-15 6/30/2015	Extended the 2015 certified tax roll for real and personal property for the purposes of mailing the 2015 tax notices prior to the completion of Value Adjustment Board (VAB) hearings.	R-803-14 9/16/2014	Extended the 2014 certified tax roll for real and personal property for the purposes of mailing the 2014 tax notices prior to the completion of Value Adjustment Board (VAB) hearings.
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11A1 162009	RESOLUTION URGING THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE TO ENACT LEGISLATION THAT WOULD REINSTATE THE ORIGINAL POLICY ON MOTOR VEHICLE WASTE TIRE FEE REVENUE TO RETURN SUCH REVENUE TO EACH COUNTY BASED ON WHERE SUCH FEES ARE GENERATED, FOR USE BY COUNTIES IN, FOR EXAMPLE, MOSQUITO CONTROL PROGRAMS TO FIGHT ZIKA AND OTHER MOSQUITO-BORNE ILLNESSES, AND FOR THE RECYCLING, COLLECTION, AND DISPOSAL OF WASTE TIRES						
Notes	<p>The proposed resolution:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Urges the Florida Legislature to enact legislation that would reinstate the original policy on motor vehicle waste tire fee revenue to return such revenue to each county based on where such fees are generated, for use by counties in, for example, mosquito control programs to fight Zika and other mosquito-borne illnesses, and for the recycling, collection, and disposal of waste tires; • Directs the Clerk of the Board to transmit a certified copy of this resolution to the Governor, Senate President, House Speaker, and Chair and Members of the Miami-Dade County State Legislative Delegation; and • Directs the County's state lobbyists to advocate for the passage of the legislation and directs the Office of Intergovernmental Affairs to include this item in the 2017 State Legislative Package when it is presented to the BCC. <p><u>Background:</u></p> <p>Florida law imposes a \$1.00 waste tire fee on each new tire sold at retail pursuant to Section 403.718, Florida Statutes, which is in addition to other fees that may be paid for disposal of old tires. When originally imposed, the waste tire fee funded recycling, collection and disposal of waste tires in a safe and environmentally beneficial way. Consumers who buy tires expect the waste tire fee listed on their bill to be used for recycling, collection and disposal of waste tires.</p> <p>Section 403.7095, Florida Statutes, previously provided that revenues from the waste tire fee were to be distributed to each county on the basis of population for waste tire programs after part of the funds were set-aside for small counties. Based on section 403.7095, Miami-Dade County expected to receive several million dollars each year in waste tire fee revenues, but Miami-Dade County has not received any revenues from the waste tire fee in many years.</p> <p>In recent years, as part of the appropriation implementing bill, the Florida Legislature diverted waste tire fee revenues away from county waste tire funding and to the state's general revenue fund by revising section 403.7095 to eliminate waste tire funding for all counties except those small counties with populations fewer than 100,000. Section 403.7095, Florida Statutes, was amended by the Florida Legislature in 2016, effective July 1, 2016, to eliminate the waste tire grant program for all counties, expand the allowable uses of funds from the small county consolidated grant program to include waste tire abatement programs, and amend the eligibility for the small county consolidated grant program to small counties with populations fewer than 110,000.</p> <p>Despite paying millions of dollars in waste tire fees to the state each year, Miami-Dade County residents have not seen waste tire fee revenues come back to Miami-Dade County.</p>						
11A2 161967	RESOLUTION URGING THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE TO CLARIFY STATE LAW REGULATING MOTOR VEHICLE LICENSE PLATES TO PERMIT LICENSE PLATE FRAMES THAT PARTIALLY COVER NON-ESSENTIAL FEATURES OF A PLATE, SO LONG AS THE FRAMES DO NOT OBSTRUCT OR OBSCURE THE ALPHANUMERIC DESIGNATION AND REGISTRATION DECAL						
Notes	The proposed resolution:						

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Urges the Florida Legislature to clarify state law regulating motor vehicle license plates to permit license plate frames that partially cover non-essential features of a plate, so long as the frames do not obstruct or obscure the alphanumeric designation and registration decal; • 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; and • Directs the County's state lobbyists to advocate for the legislation and authorizes and directs the Office of Intergovernmental Affairs to include this item in the 2017 State Legislative Package when it is presented to the BCC. <p><u>Background:</u></p> <p>State law regulates motor vehicle license plates, setting forth visibility and legibility requirements and establishing what can and cannot be placed upon, onto or around any license plate. Section 316.605(1), Florida Statutes, requires that "all letters, numerals, printing, writing, the registration decal, and the alphanumeric designation" on a plate be free from "obscuring matter" and Section 320.061, Florida Statutes, similarly prohibits anyone from attaching any material on a plate that interferes with the legibility of "any feature or detail on the license plate". A violation of these statutes constitutes a noncriminal traffic infraction.</p> <p>By law, a standard Florida license plate contains an alphanumeric designation, a registration decal on the upper right-hand corner, the letters "MYFLORIDA.COM" across the top of the face of the plate, and either "SUNSHINE STATE" or the name of the county issuing the plate on the bottom. The prohibitions against obstructing and obscuring license plate features in sections 316.605(1) and 320.061 primarily exist to facilitate identification of a vehicle, which in turns promotes public safety.</p> <p>Law enforcement officers, pursuant to Florida Statutes, have in fact stopped and cited motorists for driving vehicles with license plate frames partly covering the "MYFLORIDA.COM," "SUNSHINE STATE" and county-name portions of the plate.</p> <p><u>Additional Information - Driving with this car accessory could get you a \$163 ticket in Florida, April 14, 2015¹:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>In Florida, if anything obstructs a license plate, such as a reflective covering, the driver can be ticketed. But what some may not know is even if the plate number and registration are clearly visible but a trim covers another part of the plate, the driver can still receive a citation.</i> • <i>If the county name or the "Sunshine State" portion is covered, it can mean a ticket, Florida Highway Patrol Sergeant said. "It is technically illegal to have anything that can cover the plate," he said.</i> • <i>Under Statute 320.061, "a person may not alter the original appearance of a vehicle registration certificate, license plate," along with numerous other validations.</i> • <i>In 2014, 177 people were cited in Palm Beach County for the wide-ranging violation. The data are not broken down by type of individual violation, so those who altered their decals are also counted in that number. In 2013 there were 251 drivers cited and 185 in 2012.</i> • <i>"A person may not apply or attach a substance, reflective matter, illuminated device, spray, coating, covering, or other material onto or around any license plate which interferes with the legibility, angular visibility, or detectability of any feature or detail on the license plate," according to the statute.</i> • <i>So if a driver has a University of Florida alumni frame or a frame with his dealership's name on it, it can mean a ticket.</i> • <i>The Florida Highway Patrol Sergeant said one reason the law is in place is to make sure plates are easily read by officers when running tags or for toll-by-plate cameras with things like SunPass. He said another reason is it may be hard for local law enforcement to identify out-of-state plates.</i>
11A4 161968	RESOLUTION URGING THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE TO ENACT LEGISLATION BANNING THE SALE OF ARGENTINE BLACK AND WHITE TEGUS IN FLORIDA; URGING THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE AND THE FLORIDA FISH AND WILDLIFE CONSERVATION COMMISSION TO UNDERTAKE

¹ <http://www.mypalmbeachpost.com/news/news/crime-law/driving-with-this-car-accessory-could-get-you-a-16/nktBr/>

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	ADDITIONAL MEASURES TO CONTAIN THE SPREAD OF THESE LIZARDS IN THE EVERGLADES AND SOUTH FLORIDA
Notes	<p>The proposed resolution:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Urges the Florida Legislature to enact legislation banning the sale of Argentine black and white tegus in Florida; • Urges the Florida Legislature and the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission to undertake additional measures to contain the rapid spread of Argentine black and white tegus in the Everglades and South Florida; • Directs the Clerk of the Board to transmit a certified copy of this resolution to the Governor, Senate President, House Speaker, the Chair and Members of the Miami-Dade State Legislative Delegation, and the Executive Director of the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission; and • Directs the County's state lobbyists to advocate for the legislation and for action, and authorizes and directs the Office of Intergovernmental Affairs to include this item in the 2017 State Legislative Package when it is presented to the BCC. <p><u>Background:</u></p> <p>As part of an increasingly popular international pet trade market, many exotic animals have been removed from their native habitats and placed in areas where they may disrupt the surrounding ecological environment. The most recent of these invasive species to affect Florida is the Argentine black and white tegu, a large omnivorous species of lizard native to South America which was first spotted in the wild near a Florida City trailer park in 2008.</p> <p>In 2009, when biologists first began trapping the lizards in South Florida, they captured just 13 tegus, whereas in 2014 they caught 410 tegus, and in 2015 they captured almost 650. Unlike Burmese pythons, however, Argentine black and white tegus can survive in colder weather than South Florida's tropical climate, making them capable of extending their territory to more temperate regions and in the last several years Argentine black and white tegus have spread into the Florida Everglades, west to Collier County and then north to Hillsborough County.</p> <p><u>Additional Information - Biologists Remove Invasive Tegu Lizard, Threatening Florida's Wildlife, WLRN, October 5, 2015²:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>The Argentine black and white tegu is one of the newest, biggest threats to Florida's natural wildlife. The large, invasive lizard was first noticed in the wild roughly 10 years ago. Now, it has two main breeding populations and biologists are trying to contain them. They want to stop tegus from becoming established throughout the state.</i> • <i>University of Florida wildlife biologists walked down a small path on state conservation land just south of Florida City in early September.</i> • <i>Tegus come from South America. They're popular in the pet trade, which is how biologists think they ended up in the wild. They can get pretty big, up to five feet long - and they're not picky eaters.</i> • <i>Biologists have captured more than 600 tegus this year and are part of a federal, state and local effort to control the tegu populations. One is in Miami-Dade County and the other is in Hillsborough County.</i> • <i>Last year, state and federal partners caught 410 tegus. They will catch more than 600 tegus by the end of September. They stop trapping in October.</i> • <i>University of Florida biologists are also tracking female tegus. They attached backpacks with transmitters to the lizards. It's called "telemetry." It helps researchers learn more about the animal's nesting habits.</i> • <i>Tegus can lay anywhere from 20 to 40 eggs when nesting. This year's telemetry study helped them find and excavate two tegu nests. Each nest had 22 eggs.</i> • <i>Scientists want to avoid what's happened with Florida's most famous invasive species: The Burmese python.</i> • <i>Tegus especially worry biologists because they do something pythons don't. Tegus can do the reptilian version of hibernation, and that means they can survive in colder places.</i> • <i>Tegus are all over the state. There have been reported sightings as far North as Nassau County and as far west as Bay County. They have also been seen across south Florida from the east to west coasts.</i>

² <http://wlrn.org/post/biologists-remove-invasive-tegu-lizard-threatening-floridas-wildlife>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Biologists worry about native Florida wildlife like the threatened American crocodile that nests at the Turkey Point nuclear power plant to the east. That's because tegus love to eat eggs.</i>
11A5 162050	RESOLUTION URGING THE GOVERNOR AND THE FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH TO EXPEDITIOUSLY PROVIDE THE \$5 MILLION IN ADDITIONAL ZIKA PREPAREDNESS FUNDING PREVIOUSLY COMMITTED TO MIAMI-DADE COUNTY
Notes	<p>The proposed resolution:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Urges the Governor and the Florida Department of Health to expeditiously provide the \$5 million in additional Zika preparedness funding previously committed to Miami-Dade County; • Directs the Clerk of this Board to send a certified copy of this resolution to the Governor, the Commissioner of Agriculture and Consumer Services, the Chair and Members of the Miami-Dade State Legislative Delegation, and the Surgeon General and Secretary of the Florida Department of Health; and • Directs the County's state lobbyists to advocate for actions and authorizes and directs the Office of Intergovernmental Affairs to amend the 2016 State Legislative Package to include this item. <p><u>Background:</u></p> <p>On February 17, 2016, the BCC adopted Resolution No. R-170-16, which urged the United States Congress and the Florida Legislature to allocate funding to combat the spread of the Zika virus in Miami-Dade County. On September 7, 2016, the BCC adopted Resolution No. R-817-16, which urged the United States Congress and the Florida Legislature to allocate funding for economic recovery packages to help the Wynwood business sector recover from the effects of Zika, as well as to reimburse Miami-Dade County for the funds expended and expected to be expended on mosquito control and outreach and education efforts.</p> <p>Governor Rick Scott announced on August 22, 2016 that he directed the Florida Department of Health (DOH) to allocate \$5 million in additional state funding to Miami-Dade County for Zika preparedness and mosquito control efforts.</p> <p><u>Additional Information - Florida Allocates Extra \$10 Million in State Funding to Fight Zika, September 16, 2016³:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Florida will be throwing an extra \$10 million into the fight against Zika.</i> • <i>The Governor announced the supplemental funding Friday following a trip to Washington, D.C. where federal Zika funding is still at a standstill.</i> • <i>The funding will cover mosquito surveillance and abatement, training for mosquito control technicians, enhanced laboratory capacity and the purchase of CDC Zika prevention kits.</i> • <i>Earlier this summer, the Governor allocated over \$26 million in state funding to help combat the Zika virus, which has infected nearly 800 people across the state.</i> • <i>The virus has continued to spread across Florida, but is primarily concentrated in the Miami-Dade area, where mosquitoes have transmitted the virus. Parts of Downtown Miami, including Wynwood and Miami Beach, have been designated as areas where local transmission is occurring.</i> • <i>Zika has become one of the most controversial issues facing federal lawmakers. Since February, Republicans and Democrats have disagreed over Zika funding packages, rejecting various proposals along the way.</i> • <i>In July, Congress recessed before passing a measure on Zika.</i> • <i>Congressmen returned to Washington this month to hammer out a budget and a Zika package, but have made little progress.</i> • <i>Around 80 percent of those infected with the Zika virus are asymptomatic, but the virus can pose significant problems for pregnant women, as Zika increases the risks for birth defects and microcephaly. Eighty women in various stages of pregnancy have tested positive for the virus, but its uncertain how many of those women's fetuses are suffering birth defects as a result.</i> • <i>Congress has less than three weeks to figure out a solution for Zika funding, a time crunch which has amplified distress over the matter.</i> • <i>The CDC's funding to fight the virus will run out Sept. 30.</i>

³ <http://www.sunshinestatenews.com/story/florida-allocates-extra-10-million-state-funding-fight-zika>

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	<p><u>Additional Information - Miami-Dade County Faces A \$10 Million Tab For Mosquito Control, September 7, 2016⁴:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>The total cost of mosquito control in Miami-Dade County became a bit clearer Tuesday, as officials released a preliminary look at the county's 2016-2017 budget.</i> • <i>A memo from the Miami-Dade County Mayor says the county will likely spend about \$10 million dollars on mosquito control in the current fiscal year, which ends Sept. 30. That's about five times the \$1.5 million the county had allocated for mosquito control in its 2015-2016 budget.</i> • <i>The county could also spend \$10 million on mosquito control next year too, the director of communications for Miami-Dade County.</i> • <i>So far, the Governor has promised Miami-Dade County \$5 million to help cover mosquito control costs. And Congress came back into session Tuesday, with Zika funding a top priority following calls from lawmakers throughout Florida and across the country.</i> • <i>But late in the day Tuesday, the Senate failed again to pass an initial \$1.1 billion Zika prevention package, largely because it included partisan provisions. This failure means that both parties have to go back to the drawing board to figure out a compromise formula that will open the way for extra funding to fight Zika.</i> <p><u>Additional Information - Wynwood business owners push back against Zika fears, August 8, 2016⁵:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>"Money is coming out of our savings, our banks, our lenders, just to keep the business open right now," said owner of The Lost and Found Saloon, who was forced to take out a \$15,000 loan after customers stopped showing up at his Northwest First Avenue bar. "How do we finish this summer?"</i> • <i>In the 11 days since state officials announced four people infected with Zika had likely contracted the virus from mosquitoes in Wynwood, business in the popular entertainment district has plummeted. An unprecedented travel advisory from the Centers for Disease Control warning pregnant women to avoid the area and a steady trickle of new cases has only exacerbated the situation and kept the problem in the news.</i> • <i>And so on Monday, with dozens of business and property owners seeking a way out of the "Zika zone," the board of the tax-funded Wynwood Business Improvement District held an emergency meeting and called on local, state and federal governments to quicken efforts to clear their neighborhood of active infections.</i> • <i>The booster agency also urged authorities to make a recovery fund available for the hundreds of retailers, gallerists and restaurateurs who've lost business as authorities try to confine the country's lone confirmed Zika outbreak to a one-square-mile area north of downtown.</i> • <i>A few hours later, the Miami Parking Authority announced it would give visitors two hours of free parking in Wynwood Wednesday through Aug. 31, and a \$3 flat rate to parkers who attend the Wynwood Art Walk this weekend.</i> • <i>Meanwhile, as the Governor's office announced a 17th locally contracted Zika infection Monday out of Palm Beach County, executives with the Greater Miami Convention and Visitors Bureau said they're pushing an international "open for business" campaign to keep the issue from dampening tourism business as a whole. That concern was highlighted by a new Moody's report warning that a prolonged outbreak could hurt the stream of hotel and sales taxes that underpin large portions of debt for Miami-Dade County and the city of Miami.</i> • <i>"We're not seeing any decline in overall tourism business but of course you're seeing decline in your business," the bureau's senior vice president of marketing and tourism, told the group of business owners, promising to promote any special deals and events they might be hosting. Wynwood "is a relatively small geographic part of our community but an immensely important part of our tourism business."</i> • <i>That was little consolation to Wynwood business owners, who feel like they've been unfairly singled out by health authorities and the media. A board member warned that other neighborhoods could easily be in for the same fate given the ease with which Zika is spread, and wondered ominously if fighting Zika fears might be South Florida's "new normal."</i> • <i>At R House, a restaurant and lounge on Northwest Second Avenue, Wynwood's main drag, executives said business Saturday was down by 90 percent compared to the average Saturday, a hugely important business</i>

⁴ <http://wlrn.org/post/miami-dade-county-faces-10-million-tab-mosquito-control>

⁵ <http://www.miamiherald.com/news/local/community/miami-dade/article94483712.html>

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	<p>day. Another business owner, who after savaging media coverage of Wynwood's Zika crisis left without giving his name, said his business was down 60 percent.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Many Wynwood business owners in attendance Monday, criticized the CDC, which acknowledges the active area for Zika infections is only about 500 square feet surrounded by a wide buffer zone. Owners are also frustrated by the lack of answers about how each of the confirmed local Zika patients was infected, given the fact that the virus can be sexually transmitted and that none of the mosquitoes found in traps in Wynwood has been infected. County workers have sprayed pesticide in the neighborhood for more than a week. • But mostly, business owners feel burned by the media, which they blame for making Zika synonymous with Wynwood when Miami-Dade has more than 100 travel-related cases and Brazil, which is hosting the Olympics, has been battling Zika infections for more than a year. <p><u>Additional Information on Relevant Legislation:</u></p> <p>On June 7, 2016, the BCC, through Resolution No. R-521-16, urged the United States House and Senate to reach a compromise that provides sufficient funding to combat the spread of the Zika virus.</p> <p>On July 6, 2016, the BCC, through Resolution No. R-599-16, authorized the Miami-Dade County (County) Mayor or County Mayor's designee to retroactively apply for, receive, and expend approximately \$211,200.00 (\$105,600.00 for the months of June and July 2016) in funds from the Florida Department of Health (DOH), Statement of Work (SOW), to provide domestic mosquito control services in response to the public health emergency declared by Florida Governor Rick Scott, Executive Order Number 16-29, to mitigate the spread of the Zika virus in the County.</p> <p>Additionally, the BCC authorized the County Mayor or County Mayor's designee to apply for, receive, and expend additional funds, should they become available from the State of Florida during Fiscal Years 2015-16 and 2016-17.</p> <p>On July 19, 2016, the BCC, through Resolution No. R-599-16, urged the United States Congress, the United States Department of Health and Human Services, the Florida Legislature, and the Florida Department of Health to implement Zika virus testing for pregnant women as standard protocol during prenatal care and to provide funding so that the testing is free of cost for the patient.</p> <p><u>Additional Information on the Miami-Dade Mosquito Control Program:</u></p> <p>On February 4, 2016, the Mayor issued a memo regarding the Miami-Dade Mosquito Control Program of the Department of Solid Waste Management (DSWM) Mosquito Control Section. According to the memo, the Mosquito Control Program is designed to be proactive in terms of surveillance and monitoring activities in order to control mosquito larvae and eliminate adult mosquito populations as much as possible. While mosquito control efforts take place year-round, the traditional mosquito season occurs during the period from May to October. This year's unusually rainy winter has created some of the conditions necessary for increased mosquito activity; however, the number of service requests for inspections to address mosquitoes as a nuisance has not been significant.</p> <p>Over the last three (3) weeks, DSWM has followed its standard mosquito control protocol in response to notifications from the Florida Department of Health in Miami-Dade (FDOH Miami-Dade) that there are suspected cases of the Zika virus. When the DSWM is notified of a suspected or confirmed case of a mosquito-borne illness, the Mosquito Control Section carries out the following steps to reduce the possibility that the illness will be spread locally:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conducts property inspections to eliminate mosquito breeding; • Treats storm drains in the area; • Initiates local and area-wide insecticide applications; • Collects mosquito surveillance data to assess the mosquito population before and after the mosquito control measures are implemented; and • Collects mosquitos for laboratory screening to determine if they carry the mosquito-borne viruses.

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	<p>Spray activities are conducted to distribute safe, EPA-approved insecticide to areas of the County that have documented high concentrations of mosquitoes. All insecticides used in the operations are applied in strict accordance with label instructions and Florida Statutes as detailed in Chapter 388.</p> <p>In addition to the Mosquito Control operations, DSWM will continue to utilize the existing “Drain and Cover” public education campaign to increase public awareness of mosquito control efforts in partnership with the FDOH Miami-Dade. The educational materials associated with this campaign communicates simple measures that can be undertaken by residents to prevent mosquito breeding and to protect themselves from mosquito bites and transmission of mosquito-borne illnesses.</p> <p><u>Additional Information on the Zika Virus⁶:</u></p> <p>According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Zika virus is spread to people through mosquito bites. The most common symptoms of Zika virus disease are fever, rash, joint pain, and conjunctivitis (red eyes). The illness is usually mild with symptoms lasting from several days to a week. Severe disease requiring hospitalization is uncommon.</p> <p>In May 2015, the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) issued an alert regarding the first confirmed Zika virus infection in Brazil. The outbreak in Brazil led to reports of Guillain-Barré syndrome and pregnant women giving birth to babies with birth defects and poor pregnancy outcomes.</p> <p>In response, CDC has issued travel notices for people traveling to regions and certain countries where Zika virus transmission is ongoing.</p> <p>Zika in the United States and its territories:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No locally transmitted Zika cases have been reported in the continental United States, but cases have been reported in returning travelers. • Locally transmitted Zika virus has been reported in the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and American Samoa. • With the recent outbreaks, the number of Zika cases among travelers visiting or returning to the United States will likely increase. • These imported cases could result in local spread of the virus in some areas of the United States.

⁶ <http://www.cdc.gov/zika/index.html>