



MIAMI-DADE COUNTY 2019 FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE PACKAGE

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

- **Home Rule and Preemption:** ***SUPPORT*** preservation of local home rule; ***OPPOSE*** any effort to preempt local authority.
- **Federal Funding, Cost Shifts and Unfunded Mandates:** ***SUPPORT*** preservation of existing federal funding for County programs; and ***OPPOSE*** any additional cost shifts or unfunded mandates from the federal government to the County, and any reductions in County revenue or formula funding from the federal government. ***OPPOSE*** any measure that would adversely affect County revenues.
- **Protect Previous Federal Funding:** ***SUPPORT*** efforts to secure the same level of federal funding for County programs as last year.
- **Promote Partnerships:** ***SUPPORT*** partnerships with other counties, municipalities, national associations, and any other entity that would help to create favorable outcomes for the County.



MIAMI-DADE COUNTY 2019 FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

MIAMI-DADE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS FEDERAL RESOLUTIONS

As of December 4, 2018 and in chronological order by passage

R-728-18: RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE COUNTY MAYOR OR COUNTY MAYOR'S DESIGNEE TO IDENTIFY COUNTY RESOURCES AND COLLABORATE WITH THE CITY OF MIAMI TO IDENTIFY RESOURCES TO MAINTAIN SUPPORT AND FUNDING FOR OPERATION BLUE AND BROWN AND TO PROVIDE A REPORT; AND URGING THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS AND FLORIDA LEGISLATURE TO PROVIDE FUNDING TO SUPPORT OPERATION BLUE AND BROWN AND OTHER MIAMI-DADE COUNTY CRIME REDUCTION INITIATIVES

R-1194-18: RESOLUTION URGING FEDERAL AND STATE REGULATORS TO INCREASE THEIR EFFORTS TO INVESTIGATE AND SOLVE THE DISEASE OUTBREAK THAT HAS BEEN KILLING CORAL IN THE FLORIDA REEF TRACT; AND URGING THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS AND THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE TO PROVIDE INCREASED AND RELIABLE FUNDING

R-1196-18: RESOLUTION URGING THE UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY TO KEEP ITS 2016 REGULATIONS GOVERNING THE USE AND DISPOSAL OF SUBSTITUTE REFRIGERANTS; URGING THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS TO EXPRESSLY REQUIRE THE UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY TO MANAGE, THROUGH APPROPRIATE RULES, THE DISCHARGE OF SUBSTITUTE REFRIGERANTS TO THE ATMOSPHERE; AND URGING THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS TO REQUIRE THAT THE REFRIGERANTS FOR AIR CONDITIONERS OF MOTOR VEHICLES SOLD IN THE UNITED STATES MEET THE SAME GREENHOUSE-GAS STANDARDS ADOPTED BY THE EUROPEAN UNION

R-1199-18: RESOLUTION URGING THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS TO SUPPORT THE RESTORATION OF TYNDALL AIR FORCE BASE IN THE WAKE OF HURRICANE MICHAEL

R-1261-18: RESOLUTION URGING THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS TO ENACT S. 3510 AND H.R. 7015, THE "AGRICULTURAL TRADE IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 2018," OR SIMILAR LEGISLATION THAT WOULD PROTECT SOUTH FLORIDA FARMERS FROM UNFAIR TRADE PRACTICES AND ENABLE THEM TO SELL SPECIALTY CROPS AT FAIR AND COMPETITIVE PRICES IN THE DOMESTIC MARKET

R-1298-18: RESOLUTION URGING THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS AND THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE TO PROVIDE MORE FUNDING FOR FEDERAL AND STATE REGULATORS' EFFORTS TO CAPTURE INVASIVE SNAKES IN SOUTH FLORIDA

R-1305-18: RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE COUNTY MAYOR OR COUNTY MAYOR'S DESIGNEE, IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE OFFICE OF INTERGOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS, TO WORK WITH THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY CUSTOMS AND BORDER PROTECTION, TO DETERMINE COSTS TO PROVIDE ENHANCED CUSTOMS AND IMMIGRATION SERVICES AT MIAMI EXECUTIVE AIRPORT; DIRECTING THE COUNTY MAYOR OR COUNTY MAYOR'S DESIGNEE TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY CUSTOMS AND BORDER PROTECTION TO EFFECTUATE A ONE YEAR PILOT PROGRAM FOR SUCH SERVICES AT MIAMI-DADE COUNTY'S EXPENSE IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$450,000.00 PROVIDED THAT FUNDS ARE AVAILABLE FOR THIS PURPOSE IN THE FISCAL YEAR 2018-2019 BUDGET, OR ALTERNATIVELY TO PROVIDE A REPORT TO THE BOARD; URGING THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY CUSTOMS AND BORDER PROTECTION TO CONSIDER THE RESULTS OF THE PILOT PROGRAM IN SETTING FUTURE FUNDING AND STAFFING LEVELS



MIAMI-DADE COUNTY 2019 FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

DEPARTMENTAL REQUESTS

In alphabetical order and prioritized within department

AVIATION

Federal Legislative Requests

- **ADVOCATE for Adequate U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) and CBP Agriculture (CBP-Ag) Staffing at Miami International Airport (MIA)** - CBP staffing for arriving international passengers and cargo is a critical component of operations at MIA. As the federal government continues to increase security measures and inspections of arriving international passengers and cargo, maintaining sufficient CBP and CBP-Ag staffing at MIA in the face of rising volumes in travel and trade is of vital importance. Excessive wait times and costly inspection delays occur without the necessary CBP staffing to efficiently process arriving international passengers and time-sensitive cargo, particularly perishables. These delays severely impact tourism, impede international business and commerce, and cost South Florida jobs. The negative economic impacts ripple through the region's economy and reduce our economic competitiveness. More than one million jobs in Florida depend on international trade and investment.

Despite MIA's strong partnership with CBP and significant staffing and technology improvements in the last year, this issue continues to be MIA's top priority to address forecast increased traffic. MIA continues to participate in the reimbursement program, which allows local governments to voluntarily reimburse CBP overtime to increase staffing to process arriving international passengers and cargo. While this program is a great opportunity to leverage valuable local and federal resources to mitigate delays; it is not intended to be a long-term solution. While the current focus continues on the Southern Border, MIA urges our Congressional Delegation to support a combination of solutions, including best practice, alternative and traditional mechanisms to fund staffing and technology to process international passengers and cargo.

- **ADVOCATE for increased funding for U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) Technology and Infrastructure** - With international travel to the U.S. reaching record levels and forecast to increase in years ahead, including a national goal to welcome 100 million visitors by 2021, new resources are critical to improving the ability of CBP officers to process passengers more efficiently while meeting security requirements. Long delays and wait times for visitors at customs and entry points can

discourage international travel to the U.S., which limits economic growth and job creation.

Widespread outages of CBP's Primary and Secondary Processing System at Port of Entry airports around the country once again underscore the fact that CBP's technology infrastructure is outdated and overworked to cope with existing travel volume, let alone the increased traffic we hope and expect to see at MIA in the near future.

CBP officers are hardworking public servants who are the first line of defense to ensure security. They need support through greater accountability, additional hires, adequate resources and greater transparency to address problems with the current process.

- ***ADVOCATE for an Infrastructure Spending Plan that addresses the critical needs of airports*** - U.S. airports serve more than two million passengers every day. The aviation industry is marked by technologically advanced and economically efficient aircraft; however, the associated infrastructure of airports and air traffic control systems is not keeping up. Congestion at airports is growing and it is expected that 24 of the top 30 major airports may soon experience "Thanksgiving-peak traffic volume" at least one day every week. Because the federally mandated cap on how much airports can charge passengers for facility expansion and renovation was not addressed in the 2018 FAA Reauthorization, airports will continue to struggle to keep up with investment needs.
- ***ADVOCATE for the continued and timely implementation of the Next Generation Air Traffic Control System (NextGen) in South Florida*** - NextGen is the FAA-led modernization of our nation's air transportation system. Its goal is to increase the safety, efficiency and capacity of the National Airspace System. The overhaul brings together innovative technologies, capabilities, and procedures that improve how we fly from departure to arrival. Metroplex, a vital component of NextGen, is currently in design and testing in the South Florida region. When implemented in 2021, the new system will increase efficiency and flexibility while offering environmental benefits by using better technology and procedures to plot and guide flight paths.

COMMUNITY ACTION AND HUMAN SERVICES

- **Older Americans Act (OAA)** - ***SUPPORT*** an increase in Older Americans Act Title III B, C & E Supported Services which fund personal care, homemaker services, transportation, meals and in-home/facility respite as well as other vital services that help maintain older adults in their own homes.
- **Community Services Block Grant Act (CSBG)** - ***ADVOCATE*** for legislative action that will support the reauthorization and amendment of the CSBG Act to adopt performance requirements and performance benchmarks to be included as part of the performance measurement system under this Act.

- **Access to Opioid Treatment (residential and outpatient) - *ADVOCATE* and *SUPPORT*** for a dedicated and increase in funding for residential and out-patient treatment to serve Opioid Use Disorder residents with a dual emphasis of diversion and rehabilitation.

CULTURAL AFFAIRS

- **The National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) - *SUPPORT*** continued increases in funding for the NEA. The Fiscal Year 2019 Interior Appropriations Bill increased the NEA's budget by \$2.2 million to \$155 million. This represents a 1.42% increase. Arts advocacy groups like Americans for the Arts estimate that the NEA's budget is only 0.0004 percent of all federal spending.
- **Mary Anne Carter Nominated to Serve as NEA Chair - *SUPPORT*** the nomination of Mary Anne Carter to serve as chairman of the NEA. On November 1, 2018, Mary Anne Carter, former policy advisor to Governor Rick Scott, was officially nominated to a four-year term as chairman of the NEA. Ms. Carter has been unofficially in charge of the NEA as the senior deputy chairman since Mr. Trump's transition and acting chairman when the former chair Jane Chu resigned in June 2018. Her nomination next moves to the Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

FIRE RESCUE

- **FEMA Urban Search and Rescue Task Force Teams - *ADVOCATE* and *SUPPORT*** the Federal government to properly fund the 28 US&R Task Force's which comprise the National Urban Search and Rescue Response System under DHS/FEMA. This 6,000 member ready reserve, maintained by local fire rescue agencies across the country, provides our nation with a search and rescue capability which is unmatched. Funding for these task forces at the required level would ensure that teams are properly equipped and ready to respond when needed. Currently, FL-TF1, sponsored by the Miami-Dade County Fire Rescue Department has a funding shortfall of approximately \$1 Million annually. In other words, funding provided through a Cooperative Agreement with FEMA for the annual sustainment of each task force, is on average short \$1 to \$1.2 million dollars per task force. This requires the local agency to absorb this shortfall. It is a very labor intensive undertaking for each US&R Task Force to remain in a constant state of readiness while simultaneously maintaining individual team member training requirements, and fulfilling the rigorous daily tool and apparatus maintenance needs. The US&R personnel are responsible for more than 70 tons of specialized equipment needed to fulfill the mission of every US&R team throughout the country. Additionally, the vehicles needed to move the equipment and personnel as well as life safety items such as respiratory protection and radio's, are more than 10 years old and in desperate need of replacement. There is no funding for any of these capital items in the annual appropriation through FEMA. In the last 10 years, FL-TF1 has deployed to every major disaster this nation has

experienced including Hurricane's Katrina, Rita, Harvey, Irma, and Maria as well as the earthquake in Haiti.

GRANTS COORDINATION

- **Ryan White Program - *SUPPORT* and *ADVOCATE*** for an increase in funding for The HIV/AIDS Treatment Extension Act. The act is the nation's largest HIV-specific federal grant program and a critical source of health care and treatment for people living with HIV/AIDS. The program has been in existence since 1990 and has been re-authorized four times.

HOMELESS TRUST

- **Funding for Homeless Programs - *ADVOCATE* and *SUPPORT*** expanding HUD's McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Grants programs, including the competitive Continuum of Care (CoC) program and the Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) formula grant program. Modest congressional investments in McKinney-Vento coupled with congressional support for HUD's work to strategically allocate these resources for maximum impact has resulted in decreases in the number of people experiencing homelessness. CoC grants provide supportive housing for our community's most vulnerable homeless persons, while ESG provides rapid rehousing (short- to medium-term rental assistance for homeless households). Support of FY 2019 funding in the amount of \$2.8 billion in McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Grants will allow us to continue our work toward ending homelessness in Miami-Dade County, with a particular emphasis on chronic, family, youth (18-24) and Veteran homelessness. In the last year, the Homeless Trust received more than \$30 million in funding under CoC program, and together with communities including Miami, Hialeah, Miami-Dade and the State of Florida leveraged more than \$5 million in ESG to serve homeless and at-risk households.
- **Funding for Federal Housing Vouchers - *ADVOATE* and *SUPPORT*** increased federal funding through HUD for Housing Choice Vouchers to assist vulnerable populations including low-income seniors, people with disabilities, veterans and families with children with affordable housing. Funding is need to continue to support existing households, and restore vouchers lost to shortfalls. Subsidies must keep pace with rental costs in order for vouchers to be effective in making rental housing affordable. Voucher holders contribute 30 percent of their income towards rent and utility costs. South Florida has been ranked as the hardest place for low-income renters to find housing. Nearly 300,000 low income renters in Miami-Dade pay more than 50-percent of their income toward rent, and the disparity between wages and housing costs are nowhere greater. In Miami-Dade, the Homeless Trust has partnered with all four Public Housing Authorities -- Miami-Dade, Miami Beach, Hialeah and Homestead -- to provide vouchers to homeless or formerly homeless households. These vouchers are an integral part of our Community Plan to End Homelessness: Priority Home.

PARKS, RECREATION, AND OPEN SPACES

- **BISCAYNE-EVERGLADES GREENWAY - *URGING*** Congress to provide funding and/or authorize programs to assist in the Design and Construction of the 43-mile world class Biscayne-Everglades Greenway that will traverse and serve both incorporated and unincorporated portions of Miami-Dade County connecting Biscayne National Park to Everglades National Park providing a safe and scenic route to the parks without concern for vehicular traffic. The greenway will connect to a variety of other trails in the South Dade Greenways Network and will incorporate South Florida Water Management District, Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) and County owned rights-of-ways. The project will provide for both recreation and alternative transportation. The funding will be used to complete portions of the northern segment from SW 137 Av. to US 1 along the Mowry (C-103) Canal and Mowry Dr. (SW 320 St.)
- **ZOO MIAMI - *URGING*** Congress to provide funding and/or authorize programs to assist in the expansion/renovation of the Animal Hospital and Rehab Facilities to also serve the need for treatment, recovery, and rehabilitation of numerous endangered species in South Florida. This would dramatically enhance the ability in the South Florida region to be able to treat, rehabilitate, recover, and release endangered species in collaboration with our partners at the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission and regional NGOs. Zoo Miami's geographic location, extensive staff with expertise in multiple scientific fields, and ongoing collaborative in situ and ex situ species recovery programs with imperiled Florida species make it the most desirable and effective location for such enhanced facilities within the state.
- **SAFER PEOPLE, SAFER STREETS - *URGING*** Congress to advance Miami-Dade's Participation in the USDOT's Mayors Challenge for Safer People, Safer Streets by growing funding for bicycle and pedestrian improvements. While the FAST Act increased the Surface Transportation Block Grant Set Asides, funding is not being targeted in high crash areas. Legislation like the Safe Streets Act of 2015 would require FDOT and the MPO to implement guidelines and evaluation to ensure a comprehensive transportation planning. As the fourth most dangerous metropolitan area in the country for bicyclists and pedestrians, Miami Dade needs more financial support to implement Complete Streets and enhance enforcement of bike and pedestrian safety laws.
- **CAMP MATECUMBE/PEDRO PAN - *URGING*** Congress to provide funding and/or authorize programs to assist in the restoration of the gymnasium at Camp Matecumbe. Camp Matecumbe is a place that celebrates the Pedro Pan Program's rich cultural and historical significance that commemorates the exodus of Cuban children, a place that restores the Pine Rockland environment and serves the local and regional communities as well as tourist. The vision for Camp Matecumbe, assisted with federal funding, is to serve as a regional ecological destination with programs for the local neighboring residents.
- **HATTIE BAUER - *URGING*** Congress to provide funding and/or authorize programs to assist in the Restoration work on one of the historic and most significant structures

at Hattie Bauer Hammock Park, the oolitic rock cottage. This property was designated historic by the County's Historic Preservation Board in 1999, due to its former life as The Orchid Jungle. The buildings have been subjected to the harsh elements of the South Florida climate, as well as vandalism, including arson. There is an imminent need to begin repair and restoration of the buildings.

POLICE

- **Justice Assistance Grants funding - *ADVOCATE*** for full funding of the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant ("Byrne JAG") program by the U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Assistance. There are proposed cuts to this vital federal law enforcement program that would be detrimental to the county.
- **Forensic Science Grant Programs at U.S. Department of Justice, National Institute of Justice (NIJ) - *ADVOCATE*** for full funding of the Forensic Science grant programs by the United States Department of Justice, National Institute of Justice. The grant programs, in priority order, include:
 - Paul Coverdell Forensic Science Improvement Grant Program (Formula and Competitive)
 - DNA Capacity Enhancement and Backlog Reduction Program
 - Forensic DNA Laboratory Efficiency Improvement and Capacity Enhancement Program
 - National Institute of Justice Research Grants
 - Solving Cold Cases with DNA Program
- **Firearms Violence Policy¹ adopted by Major Cities Chiefs Association² – *SUPPORT*** this landmark policy which calls on Congress to Adopt Universal Background Checks for all gun sales and transfers and close both gun show and internet loopholes; Expand screening for prohibited buyers to include persons with violent mental health history; Seek "Red Flag" measures to prevent guns from reaching persons who threaten violence and murder; Urge legislation that permits court orders barring gun purchases in domestic violence cases with strict judicial procedures for appeal and reinstatement; Ban "bump stock" devices that replicate fully automatic weapons fire; Reinstate the assault weapons ban and encourage stiffer penalties for illegal guns; Ban high capacity magazines (10+ rounds); Ban internet ammo sales, require in-person transactions, records of sales and licensing ammo vendors; Oppose legislation that would require States to recognize any and all concealed carry permits; Oppose Legislation that further erodes ATF authority; and prevent known terrorists from purchasing firearms and/or ammunition.

¹ See full Policy statement in Appendix 1.

² Major Cities Chiefs is a professional association of Chiefs and Sheriffs representing the largest cities in the United States and Canada. Membership is comprised of Chiefs and Sheriffs of the sixty-nine largest law enforcement agencies in the United States and ten largest in Canada. The Chiefs serve more than 82 million people.

- **Project Safe Neighborhoods – *SUPPORT*** full funding for Project Safe Neighborhoods, Miami-Dade, where a demonstration program will be implemented for national replication which incorporates the Project Safe Neighborhoods priorities and other significant components including best practices to prevent gun violence, community participation, technology enhancements, multi-level (federal, state and local) and multi-agency partnerships, and evaluation to document the program outcomes. Funding will support this strategic intervention to reduce violence and improve public safety, minimize arrest and incarceration, and strengthen relationships between police and communities.
- **Victims of Crime funding at the U.S. Department of Justice, Office for Victims of Crime - *ADVOCATE*** to support victim services programs and funding.

PORTMIAMI

- **Miami Harbor Navigation Improvements - *ADVOCATE*** for continued funding for the Army Corps feasibility study into Miami Harbor safety and navigation improvements to the South Shipping Channel and the Government Cut's outer channel.

Port Miami is the world's top cruise port and business is continuing to grow. To accommodate the economic growth and customer requests as a Home port with three new cruise berths, the Biscayne Bay Pilots requires navigational harbor improvements to the South Shipping Channel. The improvements are necessary for safe passage of both cargo and cruise vessels and to accommodate the cruise industry growth and to keep the home port status in the United States.

Improvements to the outer channel will accommodate larger cargo vessels, up to 14,000 TEU vessels, and therefore enable the full potential of the completed phase III Miami Harbor improvement project (which was designed for 8,500 TEU vessels). These improvements are necessary to accommodate requests from cargo lines to come to the Seaport, instead of non-US transshipment ports, and to continue economic cargo growth in the United States.

- **Agriculture Quarantine Inspection (AQI) Treatment Fee Elimination - *ADVOCATE*** for the elimination of the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) treatment fee, or freeze it at current levels, until such time as an equitable modification of the fee is designed and implemented. The fee imposes an unreasonable, unnecessary and perhaps illegal discriminatory burden on imports into Florida ports. Today, for the same amount of imported product, a Florida importer would pay fees of \$17,040 and an importer using Northeast ports could pay as little as \$142.

The disparity is as a result of the fact that one treatment in Florida typically involves one trailer-load of goods: one treatment in the Northeast typically involves a stack or warehouse-full of containers. The AQI Treatment Fee is increasing year-over-year and

jeopardizing Florida's commerce, economy and trade. Florida jobs and international market share is at stake.

- **Additional CBP and USDA Resources** - With \$2 billion invested in port improvements, Port Miami is expected to double cargo in the next 5-10 years. Along with the increase in cargo, a new intermodal yard will create the need for additional inspectors and inspection stations. In 2018, Port Miami will increase cruise passenger traffic from 5.3 to 6 million passengers, and continue to increase our cargo numbers currently over 1 million TEUs (Twenty-Foot Equivalent Unit), requiring additional CBP agents to safely and efficiently process these additional embarkations, debarkations and cargo. Without the addition of resources, container shipments may be delayed; causing the region to lose millions in revenue and cruise debarkations similarly may be delayed, causing issues for incoming passengers. Port Miami **SUPPORTS** additional resources for CBP and USDA in order to accommodate the increased cargo and cruise passengers.
- **Donor and Energy Transfer Port Program – ADVOCATE** for \$50 million in the FY 2019 Energy and Water development appropriations bill for the Donor and Energy Transfer Ports Program. PortMiami, one of the nation's six donor ports, receives only a nominal amount of Harbor Maintenance Tax funds because our harbor requires little, if any annual maintenance dredging. As a donor Port, PortMiami receives funds back, on an annual basis, to be used for Expanded Uses. These donor port funds are dependent upon annual appropriations being provided to the Donor and Energy Transfer Port Program.
- **LOCAL ENFORCEMENT AUTHORITY OF UNAUTHORIZED DRONES - ADVOCATE** for the amending of H.R. 302, the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Reauthorization Act of 2018. Currently, federal, state, and local agencies are prohibited from engaging with drones to prevent criminal or accidental incidents from happening. Under Title 18 of the United States Code, it is illegal to willfully damage or destroy an aircraft, and drones are considered as such. Title 18 also prevents law enforcement from using tailored jamming or protocol manipulation to interdict drones because it is considered intruding on a "protected computer." The National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Years 2017 and 2018 provided the Department of Defense with relief from Title 18 restrictions in order to protect certain military installations and assets however local and state law enforcement did not receive the same relief.

PUBLIC HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

- **Public Housing & Section 8 Housing - ADVOCATE** for increased federal funding from HUD for public housing and Section 8 programs. Funding for these programs will ensure the preservation of existing housing stock and improvement of federally-funded programs that provide crucial affordable housing and rental subsidies to low-income families.

- **Rental Assistance Demonstration program (RAD) - *SUPPORT*** HUD using the Rental Assistance Demonstration program (RAD) to be utilized by Public Housing Authorities (PHAs) that have Capital Fund Financial program debt. (CFFP)
- **Public Housing Authorities (PHAs) - *SUPPORT*** allowing HUD to permit Public Housing Authorities (PHAs) rated “standard” to qualify for Moving to Work (MTW) status with justification to HUD. ***SUPPORT*** Public Housing Authorities (PHAs) to appeal their operating subsidy per unit month (PUM) if there is a wide variance between the existing per unit month (PUM) and Contract Rents under (RAD).
- **Prevent Refederalizing of Central Office Cost Center (COCC) Fees and Funds - *ADVOCATE*** against HUD from refederalizing of the Central Office Cost Center (COCC). HUD regulations permit COCC funds to be defederalized, permitting flexibility in use of these funds for affordable housing. Lacking County funds, PHCD is dependent on COCC funds to address shortfalls in many operational areas, and limits PHCD’s ability to leverage funds with the private sector.
- **Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) - *SUPPORT*** for increased federal funding for the HUD CDBG program.
 - The CDBG entitlement program provides grants on a formula basis to general units of local governments and states to address a variety of community development needs in very-low to-moderate income areas.
 - The CDBG program’s primary objective is to assist in the development of viable urban communities by supporting projects that:
 - benefit very-low to moderate-income persons
 - are integrated in a long range community strategy
 - leverage further private and public partnerships
 - enhance deteriorated residential and business districts

The projects are classified in four categories: Public Facilities and Capital Improvement; Economic Development; Public Services; and Affordable Housing. CDBG program funds can be used to build community facilities, roads, and parks; to repair or rehabilitate housing, to provide new or increased public services to local residents or to fund initiatives that generate or retain new jobs.

Over the last five years Miami-Dade County has adopted a strategic focus on development within the Neighborhood Revitalization Areas in an effort to have the greatest impact among the most needy communities and households. The reduction of funding for the CDBG program has a significant impact on the County’s ability to continue to implement programs designed to address the needs of its very-low to moderate-income communities which this program serve. The CDBG program funding has declined each year over the last ten years and given the current economic conditions this financial support is critically needed to

continue serving and addressing the needs of very-low and moderate-income residents.

- **Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) - *SUPPORT*** the preservation or increase of ESG funding for Miami-Dade County and ***SUPPORT*** the \$3.3 billion national funding recommendations for the CDBG program as advocated by the National Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials (NAHRO). The ESG Program supports homelessness prevention, emergency shelter, and related services. ESG is authorized under the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act.
- **HOME Investment Partnership (HOME) Program - *SUPPORT*** continued funding for the HUD HOME program.
 - The HOME program is authorized under Title II of the Cranston-Gonzalez National Affordable Housing Act, as amended. It is the largest Federal block grant to State and local governments, and it is designed to create affordable housing for low-income households. This program, administered by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), includes but is not limited to providing rental housing, rental housing assistance, home purchase or rehabilitation financing assistance to eligible homeowners and new homebuyers.
 - HUD has classified Miami-Dade County as a “high-cost area.” By implication, the high housing cost also results in high rental costs. It is important that the County support housing programs which benefit the low- to moderate-income residents in the community who typically will require rental housing. The HOME program is one of the many funding sources that the County relies upon to address housing needs of its low-to moderate-income residents. Therefore, any further reduction or elimination of HOME program funding will have a devastating impact on the County’s ability to continue to house its most needy residents.
- **Capital Fund Emergency Safety and Security Program - *ADVOCATE*** for increased funding for the grant program beyond the \$5 million appropriated by Congress. The current amount is significantly inadequate to accommodate all potential emergency and security needs for public housing authorities across the country.

PUBLIC LIBRARY SYSTEM

- **Institute of Museum and Library Science and Department of Education Federal Library Funding - *SUPPORT*** increased appropriations to the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) and to the Department of Education, both of which provide significant funding for programs such as the Library Services and Technology Act and Innovative Approaches to Literacy Programs.

REGULATORY AND ECONOMIC RESOURCES

Agriculture

- **United States Mexico-Canada Agreement a.k.a. North American Free Trade Agreement - *ADVOCATE*** for increased inspections for food safety compliance, pesticide residue and phytosanitary standards; Create a mechanism to account for the true disparity in labor costs between the US and Mexico which enables them to be a low cost producer; Establish and promptly enforce reasonable floor prices which account for true cost of production; Import quotas in order to limit the amount of product available to avoid flooding the market; Only allow loads that have a true buyer at a set price. No “open” loads, which flood the markets; There also needs to be further investigation and action on the illegal drug trade’s influence in and use of produce shipments to mask illegal drug shipments; and Rescind the allowance of Mexican trucks to move into the US without inspection for phytosanitary standards, illegal drugs, food safety and issues of national security at the point of entry.
- **Farm Bill - *ADVOCATE*** for a future bill that seeks continued funding for the Agricultural Conservation Easement Program - Agricultural Land Easements (ACEP-ALE) but also includes minor changes to the conservation program that are to its detriment. The requested changes to any future Farm Bill would be the removal of the Adjusted Gross Income (AGI) limitation applicability for the ACEP-ALE program; removal of the ALE plan requirement from the minimum deed terms; revision of the requirement for ALE plans; and increased funding for the program. Funding from the ACEP-ALE is vital to the success of Miami-Dade County’s Purchase of Development Rights farmland preservation program.
- **Laurel Wilt Disease - *ADVOCATE*** for continued funding for the mitigation and eradication, prevention and treatment of Laurel Wilt Disease.
- **Agriculture Relief - *ADVOCATE*** for funding, programs, legislation and assistance to increase viability of our local agricultural industry and mitigate any effects of invasive pests, diseases, freezes, flooding, windstorm and other potential damages to our said industry.

Development Services/Zoning

- **US Postal Service curbside delivery to residential subdivisions - *ENCOURAGE*** the US Postal Service (USPS) to continue curbside postal delivery to infill and existing platted residential subdivisions. Since 2012, USPS adopted a policy to move away from curbside mail delivery to cluster box units shared by the residents of a particular development. These cluster boxes are not conducive to small infill type residential developments as well as existing platted lots as they may not have a homeowner’s association or adequate land to place and maintain these cluster boxes.

Environmental Protection

- **16 County Ecosystem Summit Legislative Priorities - SUPPORT and ADVOCATE** for the federal legislative priorities associated with the health and welfare of the lakes, estuaries and riverine systems consisting of Lake Okeechobee, the St. Lucie and Caloosahatchee Estuaries, the Lake Worth Lagoon, and all bodies of water connected thereto.
- **Beach Erosion Control Sand Sources - SUPPORT** efforts to exempt Southeast Florida, specifically Miami-Dade County, from federal prohibition of cost-sharing non-domestic sources of beach sand for beach erosion control/sea level rise mitigation.

Resilience

- **Southeast Florida Climate Change Compact - SUPPORT** the Compact's federal legislative program:
 - Protect funding for science, data, outreach and training related to flooding hazards (maintained by NOAA, NASA, and the USGS).
 - Protect and increasing funding for flood risk mitigation (through FEMA's Hazard Mitigation grants).
 - Protect and increasing funding to support restoration and preservation of key natural systems such as the Everglades, Biscayne Bay, and coral reefs that protect South Florida from natural hazards.
 - Support federal policies that ensure that federal, local and private infrastructure is built to withstand future hazards and that disaster recovery policies encourage building back better.
- **Whole Building Data - SUPPORT** federal requirement for all utilities to collect aggregated whole-building data from local government jurisdiction's largest buildings (20,000 square feet and above for government-owned buildings and private sector buildings) and provide this data to building owners or managers and local government representatives for benchmarking and to help identify opportunities to reduce water and energy usage.
- **Solar Photovoltaic (PV) Systems - SUPPORT** the expansion of existing net metering policies to allow for off-site or "virtual" net metering and prohibit the weakening of net metering and associated rates. Support tax deductions for energy efficiency or renewable energy projects for property owners. Support legislation allowing Solar PV Power Purchase Agreements and promote green economy/green jobs in energy efficiency, renewable energy, and green infrastructure.
- **Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) - SUPPORT** federal legislation or administrative action that removes federal restrictions on PACE programs and expands the list of eligible improvements to include weatherization measures and water efficiency/conservation measures.

- **Clean Cities** - **SUPPORT** continued funding for the US Department of Energy to support the Southeast Florida Clean Cities Coalition and funding for implementation of projects developed under Drive Electric Florida plan and the US 1 Corridor Pilot Project.
- **Microgrids** - **URGE** the Public Service commission to develop recommendations for establishing microgrids, including critical buildings and the geographic areas for prioritizing microgrids. Microgrids or self-contained electric grids, capable of operating both in grid-connected or in island mode offer opportunities to increase resilience, reduce greenhouse emissions, save money, and achieve other policy goals such as smart city implementation.
- **Grid Resilience and Security** - **SUPPORT** cybersecurity measures and distributed solar energy systems with storage backup to enhance electric grid security and disaster preparation and recovery. Distributed solar photovoltaic (PV) systems with energy storage have the potential to provide localized power during grid outages and prevent or limit power disruption after a weather or security-related outage affecting the main power grid, particularly at critical facilities.
- **Electric Vehicles (EV)** - **SUPPORT** policies that require all autonomous vehicles to be electric vehicles, preferably charged through renewable energy, or fueled by hydrogen fuel cell from solar processes, in order to prevent projected carbon pollution increases.

SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT

- **Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act of 1978 (PURPA)** - **SUPPORT** expansion of the rebuttable presumption of a mandatory purchase obligation under PURPA, minimum term duration standards for power purchase agreements, including WTE micro-grids where government owned WTE facilities will be able to provide power to other local government infrastructure (i.e. airports, wastewater treatment plants, etc.).
- **Flow Control/Interstate Waste Transport** - **OPPOSE** any efforts seeking to amend legislation in response to the April, 2007 Supreme Court decision "United Haulers Assn. v. Oreida-Herkimer Solid Waste Authority (No. 05-1345)" which held that flow control to publicly owned facilities is a legislative use of flow control authority. Flow control improves the DSWM's financial position and creates a more stable environment.
- **Market Incentives for Electricity Produced from Renewable Resources** - **SUPPORT** market incentives to encourage development and operation of alternative, renewable energy production. Support legislation designating biomass as a qualified energy resource, eligible for any and all market incentives.
- **Mosquito Control Technologies** - **ADVOCATE** and **SUPPORT** dedicated funding be provided to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control (CDC) or to state or local

governments for new and emerging technologies that reduce the risk of mosquito-transmitted diseases. Miami-Dade County is the gateway to the Americas. Miami International Airport (MIA) is among the busiest airports in the world. Many flights carrying passengers from Latin and Central America and the Caribbean deplane at MIA on a daily basis. These passengers are coming from areas where there are reported cases of Yellow Fever, Denge, Zika, and Chickungunya -- all viruses carried by mosquitoes. In 2018, Miami-Dade County Mosquito Control continues to receive daily referrals from the local Department of Health for all of these viruses. The county wants to be at the forefront of all innovative technologies for mosquito control.

- **Wolbachia Program (Mosquito control) - *SUPPORT*** the U.S. Centers for Disease Control (CDC) to review new and emerging technologies to reduce the Aedes aegypti female mosquito population, the primary vector for disease. This review has included genetically-modified mosquitoes, irradiated sterile male mosquitoes, and Wolbachia-infected male mosquitoes. The Department of Solid Waste Management (DSWM), through the Mosquito Control Division, has partnered with the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (FDACS) and Florida Department of Health (FDOH).

The Wolbachia program was implemented in a controlled area of South Miami. The program ended on July 31, 2018. The DSWM is seeking additional funding through the Department of Health and Human Services to implement the program in other areas of the County where conventional control methods are not sufficiently effective.

TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC WORKS

- **South Corridor Rapid Transit Project Funding - *SUPPORT*** Miami-Dade County's Small Starts Application to the Federal Transit Administration for the South Corridor Rapid Transit Project, one of the six corridors in Miami-Dade County's Strategic Miami Area Rapid Transit (SMART) Plan.
- **SMART Plan Funding - *SUPPORT*** funding for all corridors in the Strategic Miami Area Rapid Transit (SMART) Plan.
- **State of Good Repair (SGR) grants - *SUPPORT*** funding for Miami-Dade Transit (MDT) for several critical, but not fully-funded improvements projects, which could qualify for State of Good Repair (SGR) grants. MDT is requesting continuing support for SGR grants that can fund projects for improvement or modernization of Metrorail and Metromover guideways, replacement of escalators and overhaul of elevators at Metromover stations, the acquisition of Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) buses and retrofitting of garages to service GNG buses.
- **Transportation and Infrastructure Projects Funding - *SUPPORT*** legislation that provides opportunities for increased and alternative revenue sources for transportation and infrastructure projects.

- **Discretionary Transit Grants** - Miami-Dade Transit (MDT) is requesting the **SUPPORT** of Department of Transportation grant funds that would allow MDT to establish and operate Bus Rapid Transit corridors along some of Miami-Dade County's busy corridors.
- **Public Works Funding** - **SUPPORT** policies that would result in increased funding to Public Works Projects. Unfunded projects are a public safety issue. Counties play a critical role in the nation's transportation system, owning 45 percent of all public roads (compared to the 32 percent of public roads owned by cities and townships, 19 percent by states, and 3 percent by the federal government) and 39 percent of the nation's bridge inventory. The county has public works needs including road and bridge maintenance and/or replacement; traffic management systems; ADA projects; intersection improvements; complete streets and improved bicycle and pedestrian connectivity.
- **Funding for Hazard Mitigation and Infrastructure Strengthening** - **SUPPORT** policies that would allow for increased funding of Hazard Mitigation Projects. Hazard mitigation measures are any sustainable action taken to reduce or eliminate long-term risk to people and property from future disasters. Studies have shown that every \$1 spent equals \$4 of future damages mitigated. The county would like funding for traffic signal infrastructure strengthening; battery and/or solar power units for critical traffic signals in case of prolonged power outages; water-proofing electrical and CCTV equipment to avoid wind-driven rain damage; flood-proofing elevator and escalator equipment rooms to avoid damage from flooding; and elevating transit power stations to avoid damage from flooding.
- **Alternative Fuel Excise Tax Credit** - **SUPPORT** the extension or making permanent the federal \$0.50/gallon alternative fuel excise tax credit, which covers compressed natural gas (CNG), liquefied natural gas (LNG), propane autogas and other alternative transportation fuels. Protecting Americans from Tax Hikes Act of 2015, extended dozens of federal tax credits that expired at the end of 2014 and make some subsidies permanent. The legislation includes a two-year extension through Dec. 31, 2016, for various alternative fuel incentives.
- **Program of Interrelated Projects** - **ADVOCATE** for all corridors in the SMART plan to qualify within the program, and use non-federal projects within the program as a local match contribution toward federal funds. This would also assist in helping the project advance while different portions of the project are being worked on simultaneously.
- **Simplify the Capital Investment Grant Program (CIG)** - **SUPPORT** T policies that simplify the funding decision so that communities will know the amount of funding that is available to them before investing years and millions of dollars on studies. Suggest a formula funding structure so that large cities can plan their transit systems effectively.

- **Streamline National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)** - **SUPPORT** policies that would streamline the NEPA process to allow for expedited studies and review times. NEPA has been an onerous obstacle to project development. Interagency review lacks coordination, and reviewing agencies often struggle with the level of review required. NEPA federal review authority for transit projects should be delegated to state departments of transportation so that new studies can proceed more quickly. Federal regulations should be changed to allow for Records of Decision to remain valid for longer periods of time, given the amount of time it takes to implement a major transit project, and the amount of money spent to complete a project study.
- **Flexible Route Applications** - **ADVOCATE** for legislation that assists in solving the first-mile/last-mile challenge that many transit agencies face today. This includes legislation that allows for the development and implementation of flexible route applications.
- **Autonomous vehicles** - **SUPPORT** funding for the acquisition of autonomous vehicles, and the participation in demonstration programs. Also, support the removal of potential roadblocks to the integration of this innovative, transformational automotive technology that can significantly improve safety, mobility, and sustainability.

WATER & SEWER

- **Infrastructure Finance and Programs** - **SUPPORT** the implementation of Water Infrastructure Financing and Innovation Authority (WIFIA), adequate funding of State Revolving Loan Funds, and federal policy on affordability, climate change, Clean Water Act mandates, and Safe Drinking Water Act mandates, which are all significant factors for WASD capital and operating requirements. The Department has been selected in each of the first two funding cycles for WIFIA projects, in addition to maximizing utilization of the State Revolving Loan Fund program, demonstrating the importance of these federal initiatives to produce results on the ground. A reliable utility system meeting all state and federal requirements is essential for the operation of other departments as well as the continued economic well-being of the County. Miami-Dade County has a \$11.4 Billion water and sewer capital needs program resulting from aging infrastructure, federal and state regulatory mandates, and changing conditions associated with documented sea level rise. This represents the largest capital burden of any comparably sized utility in the nation.
- **Tax-Exempt Municipal Bond Financing** - **OPPOSE** *Altering Tax-Exempt Municipal Bond Financing on Public Drinking Water & Wastewater Systems*, reviews options being discussed at the federal level to cap or eliminate the 100-year old tax exempt status of municipal bonds, a move that would cost the sector billions of dollars in infrastructure projects at a time when federal investment in water and wastewater infrastructure is waning. For more than a century, tax-exempt municipal bonds have been the most important source of funding for water and wastewater infrastructure projects in the United States. Congress should retain the current federal tax exemption for municipal bonds.

APPENDIX 1



NEWS FROM THE MAJOR CITIES CHIEFS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: Rick Myers
Executive Director
Major Cities Chiefs Association
719-325-6665

Major Cities Chiefs Release Firearms Violence Policy

WASHINGTON, June 6, 2018 – On behalf of the largest law enforcement agencies in the Nation, Major Cities Chiefs Association President and Montgomery County Police Chief J. Thomas Manger issued a statement today announcing the release of an updated and expanded Firearms Violence Policy. Chiefs of Police gathered in Nashville, TN, and considered measures to prevent gun violence seen in recent cases in Florida, Texas, and throughout the Nation.

Adopted by a vote of Chiefs at their meeting, the new policy statement includes calling on Congress to:

- Adopt a Universal Background Check for all gun sales and transfers;
- Expand screening for prohibited buyers to include persons with violent mental health history;
- Seek "Red Flag" measures to prevent guns from reaching persons who threaten violence and murder; and
- Urge legislation that permits court orders barring gun purchases in domestic violence cases.

The new policy reflects lessons learned from recent tragic gun murders and pleas of both parents and youth from Marjory Stoneman High School, in Parkland, Florida, who attended the Chiefs' conference.

Chief Manger said: "As first responders, we have seen the toll that firearms violence takes on our communities and it is time that we as a Nation take the necessary steps to reduce the risk of such tragic events. Reform to this system is overdue and we must all play a role in keeping firearms off our streets and out of our schools."

Houston Police Chief Art Acevedo said: "The Major Cities Chiefs Association joins with those we are sworn to protect in our commitment to reform that will reduce the threat of gun violence in America, and we will use the strength of our nationwide membership to move these important proposals forward."

Miami-Dade Police Director Juan Perez said: "As representatives of the largest urban areas in the Nation, where gun violence takes the highest toll, we have seen first-hand the dangers that firearms pose to our cities and urge Congress to do everything it can to eliminate the incalculable risk that these firearms pose to our entire society."

###



Firearms Violence Policy

Adopted by Membership Vote on May 30, 2018

The Major Cities Chiefs Association has been a strong advocate for sensible gun policy for many years and has taken these positions on key issues.

Legislative Positions

- Adopt Universal Background Checks for all gun sales and close both gun show and internet loopholes
- Strengthen NICS definitions of prohibited purchasers to cover all appropriate domestic violence cases, with strict judicial procedures for appeal and reinstatement
- Support "Red Flag" legislation and regulations to preclude gun purchases by mentally disturbed persons with histories of violent behavior
- Ban "bump-stock" devices that replicate fully automatic weapons fire
- Maintain ATF regulations and restrictions regarding silencers
- Reinstate the assault weapons ban and encourage stiffer penalties for illegal guns
- Ban high capacity magazines (10+ rounds)
- Ban internet ammo sales, require in-person transactions, records of sales and licensing of ammo vendors
- Oppose legislation that would require States to recognize any and all concealed carry permits
- Oppose legislation that further erodes ATF authority
- Prevent known terrorists from purchasing firearms and/or ammunition

Policy Statements

- Establish a strong system for universal background checks to cover all firearms purchases, with no exceptions.
- Strengthen the national criminal instant background check system. The background check system does not have complete data and measures should be undertaken to ensure comprehensive reporting. Mental health information, for example, is inadequate, inconsistent and incomplete. The NICS system must be improved.
- Encourage aggressive federal prosecution of violent offenders using guns. Conviction in Federal Court generally results in stronger sanctions, removes the offenders from the streets and serves as a deterrent.
- Encourage mandatory reporting of all purchases, transfers and stolen firearms. This measure would assist law enforcement agencies with identification, criminal investigations and recovery of stolen firearms.
- Establish harsher penalties and aggressively prosecute straw purchasers, who are responsible for putting a substantial number of guns used in criminal acts. More aggressive prosecution with strong penalties would hold them accountable and act as a deterrent.
- Court orders can and should be used to prevent purchase of firearms by persons who pose a threat to public safety.
- Support and strengthen the authorities of ATF, rather than to restrict and handicap enforcement of gun laws.

Major Cities Chiefs is a professional association of Chiefs and Sheriffs representing the largest cities in the United States and Canada. Membership is comprised of Chiefs and Sheriffs of the sixty-nine largest law enforcement agencies in the United States and ten largest in Canada. The Chiefs serve more than 82 million people.