

# MEMORANDUM

Agenda Item No. 11(A)(6)

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**TO:** Honorable Chairwoman Audrey M. Edmonson  
and Members, Board of County Commissioners



**DATE:** February 19, 2020

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

**SUBJECT:** Resolution urging the United States Congress and the Florida Legislature to provide funding to assist Miami-Dade County with the costs of the treatment necessary for disposal of effluent into deep injection wells at the North and Central District Wastewater Treatment Plants; waiving requirements of Resolution No. R-764-13 limiting number of federal and state legislative priorities and amending Resolution Nos. R-159-20 and R-1157-19 to include this item as an additional federal and state legislative priority for 2020

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

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Abigail Price-Williams  
County Attorney 

APW/uw



**MEMORANDUM**  
(Revised)

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and Members, Board of County Commissioners

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Please note any items checked.

- "3-Day Rule" for committees applicable if raised
- 6 weeks required between first reading and public hearing
- 4 weeks notification to municipal officials required prior to public hearing
- Decreases revenues or increases expenditures without balancing budget
- Budget required
- Statement of fiscal impact required
- Statement of social equity required
- Ordinance creating a new board requires detailed County Mayor's report for public hearing
- No committee review
- Applicable legislation requires more than a majority vote (i.e., 2/3's present \_\_\_\_, 2/3 membership \_\_\_\_, 3/5's \_\_\_\_, unanimous \_\_\_\_, CDMP 7 vote requirement per 2-116.1(3)(h) or (4)(c) \_\_\_\_, CDMP 2/3 vote requirement per 2-116.1(3)(h) or (4)(c) \_\_\_\_, or CDMP 9 vote requirement per 2-116.1(4)(c)(2) \_\_\_\_) to approve
- Current information regarding funding source, index code and available balance, and available capacity (if debt is contemplated) required

Approved \_\_\_\_\_ Mayor  
Veto \_\_\_\_\_  
Override \_\_\_\_\_

Agenda Item No. 11(A)(6)  
2-19-20

RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_

RESOLUTION URGING THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS AND THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE TO PROVIDE FUNDING TO ASSIST MIAMI-DADE COUNTY WITH THE COSTS OF THE TREATMENT NECESSARY FOR DISPOSAL OF EFFLUENT INTO DEEP INJECTION WELLS AT THE NORTH AND CENTRAL DISTRICT WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANTS; WAIVING REQUIREMENTS OF RESOLUTION NO. R-764-13 LIMITING NUMBER OF FEDERAL AND STATE LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES AND AMENDING RESOLUTION NOS. R-159-20 AND R-1157-19 TO INCLUDE THIS ITEM AS AN ADDITIONAL FEDERAL AND STATE LEGISLATIVE PRIORITY FOR 2020

**WHEREAS**, Miami-Dade County, through the Miami-Dade Water and Sewer Department (“WASD”), discharges treated effluent via two ocean outfalls located at the County’s North and Central District Wastewater Treatment Plants; and

**WHEREAS**, since the South District Wastewater Treatment Plant was commissioned in the 1980s, WASD has been using a deep injection well successfully to discharge treated effluent; and

**WHEREAS**, in 2012, WASD implemented high level disinfection treatment at the South District Wastewater Treatment Plant as required by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to section 403.086(9), Florida Statutes, the Florida Legislature has imposed a requirement on Southeast Florida utilities to eliminate the normal use of ocean outfalls for wastewater disposal by December 31, 2025; and

**WHEREAS**, part of WASD's plan to meet this legislative requirement is to utilize deep injection wells at the North and Central District Wastewater Treatment Plants to discharge the effluent into the Boulder Zone in lieu of the continued use of the ocean outfalls for daily discharge; and

**WHEREAS**, WASD obtained loans from the State of Florida and from the federal government to assist with the construction of the deep injection wells at the North and Central District Wastewater Treatment Plants and has submitted a Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act ("WIFIA") loan application to the federal government for the electrical distribution buildings at North and Central District Wastewater Plants needed to run the deep injection wells; and

**WHEREAS**, in order to utilize the deep injection wells at the plants to dispose of effluent and eliminate the normal use of the ocean outfalls, additional infrastructure projects and tertiary treatment of the effluent is needed; and

**WHEREAS**, the additional infrastructure projects and treatment for the effluent that are required include municipal wells, pump stations and associated piping, high level disinfection facilities, site preparations and stormwater systems, oxygenation trains, secondary clarifiers, and electrical distribution buildings; and

**WHEREAS**, beyond the cost of the deep injection wells and electrical buildings, the investment costs for the additional infrastructure projects and added treatment for the effluent required in order to comply with the legislation is estimated to be approximately \$1.4 billion; and

**WHEREAS**, the County has not yet applied for any additional loans or sought any funding from the State of Florida or the United States Congress to finance the costs of the additional treatment needed; and

**WHEREAS**, the importance of proper disposal of treated effluent is a local, state and federal government concern; and

**WHEREAS**, this Board would, therefore, like to urge the United States Congress as well as the Florida Legislature to provide funding to assist Miami-Dade County with the costs for designing and constructing the facilities and processes needed to treat the effluent to the levels necessary for disposal through the deep injection wells at the North and Central District Wastewater Treatment Plants,

**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 and the Florida Legislature to provide funding to assist the County with the costs of designing and constructing the facilities and processes needed to treat the effluent to the levels necessary for disposal through the deep injection wells at the North and Central District Wastewater Treatment Plants.

**Section 2.** Waives requirements of Resolution No. R-764-13 and (a): amends Resolution No. R-1157-19 to include this item as an additional state legislative priority for the 2020 session, and (b) amends Resolution No. R-159-20 to include this item as an additional federal legislative priority for 2020.

**Section 3.** Directs the Clerk of the Board to transmit a certified copy of this resolution to the President of the United States, the members of the Florida Congressional Delegation, the Governor, Senate President, and House Speaker of the State of Florida, and the Chair and members of the Miami-Dade County State Legislative Delegation.

**Section 4.** Directs the County’s federal and state lobbyists to advocate for the action set forth in section 1 above, and authorizes and directs the Office of Intergovernmental Affairs to amend the 2020 Federal and State Legislative Packages to include this item as a priority.

The Prime Sponsor of the foregoing resolution is Vice Chairwoman Rebeca Sosa. It was offered by Commissioner \_\_\_\_\_, who moved its adoption. The motion was seconded by Commissioner \_\_\_\_\_ and upon being put to a vote, the vote was as follows:

Audrey M. Edmonson, Chairwoman

Rebeca Sosa, Vice Chairwoman

Esteban L. Bovo, Jr.

Jose “Pepe” Diaz

Eileen Higgins

Joe A. Martinez

Dennis C. Moss

Xavier L. Suarez

Daniella Levine Cava

Sally A. Heyman

Barbara J. Jordan

Jean Monestime

Sen. Javier D. Souto

The Chairperson thereupon declared the resolution duly passed and adopted this 19<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2020. 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: \_\_\_\_\_  
Deputy Clerk

Approved by County Attorney as  
to form and legal sufficiency.

SED

Sarah E. Davis