

# MEMORANDUM

Agenda Item No. 11(A)(22)

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**TO:** Honorable Chairman Jose "Pepe" Diaz  
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

**DATE:** October 5, 2021

**FROM:** Geri Bonzon-Keenan  
County Attorney

**SUBJECT:** Resolution directing the County Mayor to study the potential impacts of sea level rise, such as increases in flooding, with respect to existing underground and lower-level parking garages and make recommendations to this Board as to mitigation measures and practices; and urging municipalities within Miami-Dade County to take action to address and minimize potential impacts of sea level rise, such as increases in flooding, with respect to such parking garages within their jurisdictions

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The accompanying resolution was prepared and placed on the agenda at the request of Prime Sponsor Commissioner Rebeca Sosa and Co-Sponsor Commissioner Sally A. Heyman.



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Geri Bonzon-Keenan  
County Attorney

GBK/jp



**MEMORANDUM**  
(Revised)

**TO:** Honorable Chairman Jose "Pepe" Diaz  
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

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Gen Bonzon-Keenan  
County Attorney

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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)(22)  
10-5-21

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

RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE COUNTY MAYOR OR COUNTY MAYOR'S DESIGNEE TO STUDY THE POTENTIAL IMPACTS OF SEA LEVEL RISE, SUCH AS INCREASES IN FLOODING, WITH RESPECT TO EXISTING UNDERGROUND AND LOWER-LEVEL PARKING GARAGES AND MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS TO THIS BOARD AS TO MITIGATION MEASURES AND PRACTICES; AND URGING MUNICIPALITIES WITHIN MIAMI-DADE COUNTY TO TAKE ACTION TO ADDRESS AND MINIMIZE POTENTIAL IMPACTS OF SEA LEVEL RISE, SUCH AS INCREASES IN FLOODING, WITH RESPECT TO SUCH PARKING GARAGES WITHIN THEIR JURISDICTIONS

**WHEREAS**, sea level rise is a matter of significant concern in Miami-Dade County, and beginning with the creation in 2013 of the Miami-Dade County Sea Level Rise Task Force, this Board has taken numerous actions to study and address the potential impacts of sea level rise and also incorporate the consideration of sea level rise into the County's decision-making processes; and

**WHEREAS**, underground and lower-level parking garages may be particularly vulnerable to potential impacts from sea level rise, such as increases in flooding over time; and

**WHEREAS**, it is of the utmost importance to assess these issues and to determine what types of mitigation measures and practices, including, but not limited to, more effective pumps or barriers, can best protect existing underground and lower-level garages against such impacts of sea level rise; and

**WHEREAS**, in the early morning hours of June 24, 2021, a residential condominium building known as Champlain Towers South located at 8777 Collins Avenue in Surfside, Florida experienced a major structural collapse; and

**WHEREAS**, the structural collapse of the building tragically resulted in many fatalities among the building's residents and visitors; and

**WHEREAS**, the cause of the collapse at Champlain Towers South is still under active investigation; and

**WHEREAS**, it has been reported in the media that the building's lower-level parking garage experienced regular flooding and that there was significant flooding in the parking garage immediately before the collapse; and

**WHEREAS**, although it may be currently unclear whether there is a link between the collapse at Champlain Towers South and flooding in its parking garage, it is nevertheless important to study the impact of sea level rise on such flooding issues, with the goal of mitigating the risk of future damage to existing structures; and

**WHEREAS**, as such, this Board wishes to direct the County Mayor or County Mayor's designee to study potential sea level rise impacts, such as increases in flooding, with respect to existing underground or lower-level garages, and to make recommendations to this Board as to measures and practices that may mitigate flooding occurrences in such existing garages; and

**WHEREAS**, in addition, this Board wishes to urge municipalities to take action to address and minimize potential impacts of sea level rise, such as increases in flooding, with respect to existing underground or lower-level parking garages within their municipal boundaries,

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

**Section 1.** Directs the County Mayor or County Mayor’s designee to study potential sea level rise impacts, such as increases in flooding, with respect to existing underground or lower-level garages, and to make recommendations to this Board as to measures and practices that may mitigate flooding occurrences in such existing garages.

**Section 2.** Directs the County Mayor or County Mayor’s designee to prepare a written report to this Board as to Section 1 of this resolution. The completed report shall be placed on an agenda of this Board pursuant to Ordinance No. 14-65 within 180 days of the effective date of this resolution.

**Section 3.** Urges municipalities in Miami-Dade County to take action to address and minimize the impacts of sea level rise, such as increases in flooding, with respect to existing underground or lower-level parking garages within their municipal boundaries.

**Section 4.** Directs the Clerk of the Board to transmit certified copies of this resolution to the Mayors and City Councils or City Commissions of the all municipalities within Miami-Dade County.

The Prime Sponsor of the foregoing resolution is Commissioner Rebeca Sosa and the Co-Sponsor is Commissioner Sally A. Heyman. 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:

- |                      |                                       |
|----------------------|---------------------------------------|
|                      | Jose “Pepe” Diaz, Chairman            |
|                      | Oliver G. Gilbert, III, Vice-Chairman |
| Sen. René García     | Keon Hardemon                         |
| Sally A. Heyman      | Danielle Cohen Higgins                |
| Eileen Higgins       | Joe A. Martinez                       |
| Kionne L. McGhee     | Jean Monestime                        |
| Raquel A. Regalado   | Rebeca Sosa                           |
| Sen. Javier D. Souto |                                       |

The Chairperson thereupon declared this resolution duly passed and adopted this 5<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2021. 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.



Abbie Schwaderer Raurell