

MEMORANDUM

Agenda Item No. 11(A)(16)

TO: Honorable Chairman Oliver G. Gilbert, III
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

DATE: October 3, 2023

FROM: Geri Bonzon-Keenan
County Attorney

SUBJECT: Resolution reaffirming Miami-Dade County's ongoing commitment to assisting survivors and victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, and human trafficking; and amending Resolution No. R-595-12 to remove previously identified specific information and direct the County Mayor to develop updated signage with appropriate and current resource information in all public women's restrooms owned or operated by Miami-Dade County or the Public Health Trust, and to update such information in the future as necessary

The accompanying resolution was prepared and placed on the agenda at the request of Prime Sponsor Vice Chairman Anthony Rodríguez.



Geri Bonzon-Keenan
County Attorney

GBK/gh

MDC001



MEMORANDUM
(Revised)

TO: Honorable Chairman Oliver G. Gilbert, III
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

DATE: October 3, 2023

FROM: 
Gen Bonzon-Keenan
County Attorney

SUBJECT: Agenda Item No. 11(A)(16)

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)(16)
10-3-23

RESOLUTION NO. _____

RESOLUTION REAFFIRMING MIAMI-DADE COUNTY'S ONGOING COMMITMENT TO ASSISTING SURVIVORS AND VICTIMS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, SEXUAL ASSAULT, AND HUMAN TRAFFICKING; AND AMENDING RESOLUTION NO. R-595-12 TO REMOVE PREVIOUSLY IDENTIFIED SPECIFIC INFORMATION AND DIRECT THE COUNTY MAYOR TO DEVELOP UPDATED SIGNAGE WITH APPROPRIATE AND CURRENT RESOURCE INFORMATION IN ALL PUBLIC WOMEN'S RESTROOMS OWNED OR OPERATED BY MIAMI-DADE COUNTY OR THE PUBLIC HEALTH TRUST, AND TO UPDATE SUCH INFORMATION IN THE FUTURE AS NECESSARY

WHEREAS, this Board has been a long-time advocate for assisting survivors and victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, and human trafficking; and

WHEREAS, for example, in 1971, this Board created the Metropolitan Dade County Commission on the Status of Women, known today as the Commission for Women, an advisory board that focuses on issues pertaining to the status of women and being an advocate for women in the community, striving to improve their quality of life; and

WHEREAS, in 1994, this Board also created the Domestic Violence Oversight Board, an advisory board that focuses on issues that affect or relate to domestic violence, whose responsibilities include overseeing and making recommendations for use of the portion of the food and beverage tax proceeds collected in accordance with section 212.0306, Florida Statutes, and dedicated to the construction and operation of domestic violence centers within the County; and

WHEREAS, in 2012, this Board found that placing signs that list the telephone numbers of domestic violence, rape, and human trafficking assistance hotlines in women’s restrooms was a way to reach women who might need assistance, while they had a moment of privacy away from their aggressor; and

WHEREAS, at the very least, making the resource information available in this way might encourage women to make note of the telephone numbers for future use; and

WHEREAS, the Board adopted Resolution No. R-595-12, directing the County Mayor to place a permanent sign with the telephone numbers of seven identified resource centers (Miami-Dade County’s Coordinated Victims Assistance Center (“CVAC”); two Miami-Dade County domestic violence shelters; Switchboard of Miami-Crisis and Suicide Prevention Hotline; Roxcy Bolton Rape Treatment Center; Kristi House; and Florida Freedom Partnership) in the public women’s restroom in all facilities owned or operated by Miami-Dade County; and

WHEREAS, the resolution also directed the Public Health Trust to place such signs in the public women’s restrooms of the facilities owned or operated by the Public Health Trust; and

WHEREAS, Resolution No. R-595-12 further directed that the signage state “Don’t Suffer in Silence Anymore” and required that this message and the resource information be posted in English, Spanish, and Haitian Creole; and

WHEREAS, a decade later, certain updates to the signage might be considered in order to realize the full intent of Resolution No. R-595-12; and

WHEREAS, for example, the sign only reflects two of the County’s domestic violence shelters, but the County now runs four shelters; and

WHEREAS, also, only including the telephone number for the CVAC—rather than telephone numbers for each of the four shelters—will help foster a centralized intake system for the County’s domestic violence shelters and resources; and

WHEREAS, additionally, the Commission for Women recommends updating the message accompanying the resource information to be more empowering and relevant to women today; and

WHEREAS, this Board wishes to reaffirm its ongoing commitment to assisting survivors and victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, and human trafficking, and to provide the administration with the flexibility to keep its outreach to this population up-to-date and relevant,

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

Section 1. Reaffirms Miami-Dade County’s ongoing commitment to assisting survivors and victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, and human trafficking.

Section 2. Amends Resolution No. R-595-12 to remove previously identified specific information, including specific named resource centers, phone numbers, and messages that must be included on the signage in public women’s restrooms in all facilities owned or operated by Miami-Dade County or the Public Health Trust, and directs the County Mayor or County Mayor’s designee, with input from the Commission for Women and other relevant community stakeholders, to develop updated signage with appropriate and current resource information and messaging, in English, Spanish, and Haitian Creole, for all such facilities, and to update the information and messaging in the future as necessary.

The Prime Sponsor of the foregoing resolution is Vice Chairman Anthony Rodríguez. 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:

Oliver G. Gilbert, III, Chairman	
Anthony Rodríguez, Vice Chairman	
Marleine Bastien	Juan Carlos Bermudez
Kevin Marino Cabrera	Sen. René García
Roberto J. Gonzalez	Keon Hardemon
Danielle Cohen Higgins	Eileen Higgins
Kionne L. McGhee	Raquel A. Regalado
Micky Steinberg	

The Chairperson thereupon declared this resolution duly passed and adopted this 3rd day of October, 2023. 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

JUAN FERNANDEZ-BARQUIN, CLERK

By: _____
Deputy Clerk

Approved by County Attorney as
to form and legal sufficiency.

LCK

Leigh C. Kobrinski