

Memorandum



Date: July 21, 2026

To: Honorable Chairman Anthony Rodriguez
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

Agenda Item No. 14(A)(2)

From: Daniella Levine Cava *Daniella Levine Cava*
Mayor

Subject: Resolution Authorizing the County Mayor to Execute a Bridge Investment Program Grant Agreement with the United States Department of Transportation Federal Highway Administration in the amount of \$100,547,040 for the Venetian Causeway Bridge Replacement Project

Executive Summary

The purpose of this item is to gain: (1) retroactive approval from the Board of County Commissioners (Board) relating to the Administration's actions in applying for grant funds from the United States Department of Transportation (USDOT) Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) of up to \$100,547,040 under the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) Bridge Investment Program (BIP) for the Venetian Causeway Bridge Replacement Project, with a required County match of at least \$50,273,520; and (2) Board authorization to execute the bridge grant agreement with the FHWA, in addition to any relevant Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) Local Agency Program (LAP) agreement and grants, and administer the grant funds in accordance with the agreements and additional funds, should they become available.

The work to be completed under the agreement includes replacing 11 Venetian Causeway bridges that were originally built in 1926, with newer, more resilient infrastructure anticipated to last 50 years, meeting updated design codes and improving safety. The total estimated project construction cost is \$201,094,080, which includes a required local match of at least \$50,273,520, and a FDOT match of up to \$50,273,520. The project will increase the safety and resiliency of the bridges, maintain the aesthetics of the Causeway, and enhance bicycle and pedestrian facilities.

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Board retroactively authorize the Administration's submission of a grant application to the FHWA. Additionally, it is recommended that the Board grant authorization to execute a future grant agreement between FHWA and Miami-Dade County (County) for the awarded BIP Large Bridge Grant, and to administer the grant funds in accordance with the terms of the agreement for an amount of up to \$100,547,040 in support of the Venetian Causeway Bridge Replacement Project.

Scope

The Venetian Causeway Bridge Replacement project spans Commission Districts 3 and 4, represented by Commissioner Keon Hardemon and Commissioner Micky Steinberg, respectively.

Delegation of Authority

In accordance with Section 2-8.3 of the Miami-Dade County Code related to identifying delegation of Board Authority, there are no authorities beyond that specified in the resolution, which includes authority for the County Mayor or County Mayor's designee to execute the grant agreement and any amendments thereto as required by grant guidelines or to further the purposes described in the funding requests following approval by the County Attorney's Office, to receive and expend funds, including any additional funds that may become available from federal, state, or local sources, and to exercise all provisions contained in the grant agreement, including any renewal, extensions, cancellation, and termination provisions.

Fiscal Impact/Funding Source

The total Federal funding provided under this agreement is \$100,547,040. The total estimated project construction cost is \$201,094,080, which includes a required local match of \$100,547,040 (50 percent), with the County funding at least \$50,273,520 (25 percent) via Toll Revenue and Mobility Impact Fees (MIF), and FDOT funding up to the remaining \$50,273,520 (25 percent).

Program	Adopted Budget	Funding Source
2000000266 Venetian Causeway - Bridge Replacement Matching Funds	FY25-26 Adopted Budget & Multi-Year Capital Plan; Volume 2, Page 166	- Causeway Toll Revenue - FDOT Funds - Mobility Impact Fees

Track Record/Monitor

The Grant Manager for this award is Paola Baez, P.E., Chief, Multimodal Development, Department of Transportation and Public Works (DTPW).

Background

The Bridge Investment Program is a competitive, discretionary program that focuses on existing bridges to reduce the overall number of bridges in poor condition, or in fair condition or at risk of falling into poor condition. It also expands applicant eligibility to create opportunities for all levels of government to be direct recipients of program funds. Alongside states and federal lands management agencies, metropolitan planning organizations and local and tribal governments can also apply directly to FHWA, making it easier to advance projects at the local level that meet community needs. Projects eligible for funding include a project (or bundle of projects) to replace, rehabilitate, preserve, or protect a bridge on the National Bridge Inventory (NBI). Eligible projects under the "Large Bridge Project" category may receive a federal share of up to 50 percent funding from the Highway Trust Fund for eligible project costs greater than \$100 million.

The Venetian Causeway was originally built in 1926 with an anticipated design life of 50 years. It crosses Biscayne Bay, connecting mainland Miami to Miami Beach through a series of six man-made residential barrier islands connected by 10 fixed bridges and two movable bridges. Since its original construction completion, the Causeway has undergone extreme environmental effects resulting in widespread deficiencies to its 12 bridges. Repairs have historically been performed through a series of rehabilitation contracts to restore the bridges to

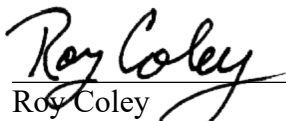
their original load carrying capacity and to enable the continued safe operation of the Causeway.

Due to design code revisions, none of the 11 bridges in this agreement meet current geometric or safety design standards. In addition, these bridges (Bridges 2 through 12 in the map below) also exhibit severe deterioration due to their age and exposure to an aggressive marine environment. The deteriorated condition of the bridges, and substandard deck geometry and load carrying capacity create a safety and hurricane evacuation concern for the residents of the Venetian Islands and other users of the corridor. The Causeway is an important connection for users with jobs in Miami Beach. Additionally, users that do not have motorized vehicles but walk or ride bicycles on the Causeway are negatively impacted by the substandard sidewalks and bike lanes.



Because of the existing advanced deteriorated conditions of the bridges, and ongoing design services following a recently completed PD&E Study, DTPW selected the Venetian Causeway bridges as a top candidate to apply for the anticipated BIP grant Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO).

In response to the NOFO published on September 27, 2023, DTPW submitted a Large Bridge Project application for the Venetian Causeway bridge replacement project, requesting \$100,547,040 in federal funding assistance. On July 17, 2024, USDOT FHWA awarded \$100,547,040 in federal funds under the “Large Bridge Project” category for the Venetian Causeway bridge replacement project. Grant disbursement is pending grant agreement execution under this resolution.


Roy Coley
Deputy Mayor

Memorandum



Date: July 13, 2026

To: Honorable Chairman Anthony Rodriguez
Board of County Commissioners

From: Stacy L. Miller, P.E., Director and CEO
Department of Transportation and Public Works

Subject: Request to Process Late Departmental Agenda Item

I respectfully request that the following item be placed on the July 21st BCC meeting agenda of the Board of County Commissioners:

RESOLUTION RATIFYING ACTIONS OF THE COUNTY MAYOR OR COUNTY MAYOR'S DESIGNEE IN SUBMITTING A GRANT APPLICATION TO THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE BRIDGE INVESTMENT PROGRAM, LARGE BRIDGE PROJECT CATEGORY, IN AN AMOUNT UP TO \$100,547,040.00 FOR THE VENETIAN CAUSEWAY BRIDGE REPLACEMENT PROJECT; FURTHER AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY MAYOR OR COUNTY MAYOR'S DESIGNEE TO EXECUTE THE GRANT AGREEMENT, AMENDMENTS THERETO, AND TO RECEIVE AND EXPEND SUCH FUNDS; AND FURTHER AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY MAYOR OR COUNTY MAYOR'S DESIGNEE TO EXERCISE ALL PROVISIONS CONTAINED THEREIN, INCLUDING RENEWALS, EXTENSIONS, CANCELLATIONS AND TERMINATION PROVISIONS, AND TO APPLY FOR, RECEIVE AND EXPEND ADDITIONAL FUNDS

Although this item was submitted after the noticed deadline and provided late to the Agenda Coordination Office, placement on the July 21, 2026, Board agenda is necessary to avoid delays to the Venetian Causeway Bridge Replacement Project and to preserve the County's ability to obtain federal reimbursement for eligible project costs.

The project is approaching 100 percent design completion on August 28th, 2026, and the Department of Transportation and Public Works (DTPW) anticipates receiving the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) Bridge Investment Program (BIP) Large Bridge Grant Agreement in the immediate future. The grant will provide up to \$100,547,040 in federal funding, representing approximately 50% of the estimated project cost at the time of submission of the grant application. Execution of the grant agreement will enable the County, in partnership with the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT), to fund the remaining project costs while maximizing available federal participation.

Because the grant agreement is expected imminently, timely Board authorization is essential to permit prompt execution upon receipt. Delaying Board approval beyond the July 21, 2026, meeting risks delaying the project schedule and may jeopardize the County's ability to obtain federal reimbursement, as project expenditures incurred prior to execution of the grant agreement may not be eligible for reimbursement under FHWA requirements. Such a delay could result in unreimbursed project costs and additional financial obligations to the County. Accordingly, I respectfully request that this item be processed notwithstanding the potential applicability of the Four-Day Rule. I understand that placement of this item on the agenda is subject to your approval as Chairman of the Board and review by the Office of the County Attorney.


Approved by Mayor or Mayor's Designee

Roy Coley
Print Name


Approved by Legislative Director or Designee

Demetria Henderson
Print Name

c: Geri Bonzon-Keenan, County Attorney
CAOagenda@miamidade.gov
Eugene Love, Agenda Coordinator

MDC004



MEMORANDUM

(Revised)

TO: Honorable Chairman Anthony Rodriguez
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

DATE: July 21, 2026

FROM: 
Gen Bonzon-Keenan
County Attorney

SUBJECT: Agenda Item No. 14(A)(2)

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
- ☐ Requires more than a majority vote (i.e., 2/3's present ____, 2/3 membership ____, 3/5's ____, unanimous ____, majority plus one ____, CDMP 7 votes (majority of membership) ____, CDMP 2/3 members present but not less than 7 votes (majority of membership) ____, CDMP 9 votes (2/3 membership) ____) 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. 14(A)(2)
7-21-26

RESOLUTION NO. _____

RESOLUTION RATIFYING ACTIONS OF THE COUNTY MAYOR OR COUNTY MAYOR'S DESIGNEE IN SUBMITTING A GRANT APPLICATION TO THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE BRIDGE INVESTMENT PROGRAM, LARGE BRIDGE PROJECT CATEGORY, IN AN AMOUNT UP TO \$100,547,040.00 FOR THE VENETIAN CAUSEWAY BRIDGE REPLACEMENT PROJECT; FURTHER AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY MAYOR OR COUNTY MAYOR'S DESIGNEE TO EXECUTE THE GRANT AGREEMENT, AMENDMENTS THERETO, AND TO RECEIVE AND EXPEND SUCH FUNDS; AND FURTHER AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY MAYOR OR COUNTY MAYOR'S DESIGNEE TO EXERCISE ALL PROVISIONS CONTAINED THEREIN, INCLUDING RENEWALS, EXTENSIONS, CANCELLATIONS AND TERMINATION PROVISIONS, AND TO APPLY FOR, RECEIVE AND EXPEND ADDITIONAL FUNDS

WHEREAS, this Board desires to accomplish the purposes outlined in the accompanying memorandum, a copy of which is incorporated herein by reference,

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

Section 1. Ratifies the actions of the County Mayor or County Mayor's designee in submitting a grant application to the United States Department of Transportation (USDOT) Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) under the Bridge Investment Program, Large Bridge Project category, in the amount up to \$100,547,040.00 for the Venetian Causeway Bridge Replacement Project.

Section 2. Authorizes and delegates the authority to the County Mayor or County Mayor's designee to execute such grant agreement, relevant grants or Local Agency Program (LAP) agreements

with Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) and any amendments thereto as required by grant guidelines or to further the purposes described in the funding requests following approval by the County Attorney's Office, and to receive and expend the grant funds.

Section 3. Further authorizes the County Mayor or County Mayor's designee to exercise all provisions contained in the grant agreement and LAP agreements, including any renewal, extensions, cancellation, and termination provisions, and to receive and expend any additional funds as specified in the agreement should they become available.

The foregoing resolution 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:

Anthony Rodriguez, Chairman	
Kionne L. McGhee, Vice Chairman	
Marleine Bastien	Juan Carlos Bermudez
Sen. René García	Oliver G. Gilbert, III
Roberto J. Gonzalez	Keon Hardemon
Danielle Cohen Higgins	Vicki L. Lopez
Natalie Milian Orbis	Raquel A. Regalado
Micky Steinberg	

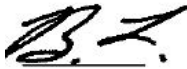
The Chairperson thereupon declared this resolution duly passed and adopted this 21st day of July, 2026. This resolution shall become effective upon the earlier of (1) 10 days after the date of its adoption unless vetoed by the County Mayor, and if vetoed, shall become effective only upon an override 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.



Bruce Libhaber