

MEMORANDUM

RTRC

Agenda Item No. 2(B)

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

DATE: September 9, 2026

FROM: Geri Bonzon-Keenan
County Attorney

SUBJECT: Resolution directing the County Mayor to implement certain strategies to enhance and expand the Animal Services Department's Foster a Pet Program; and directing the County Mayor to collaborate with municipalities within Miami-Dade County to combine and coordinate foster program operations

The accompanying resolution was prepared and placed on the agenda at the request of Prime Sponsor Senator René García.


Geri Bonzon-Keenan
County Attorney

GBK/ks

MDC001



MEMORANDUM

(Revised)

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

DATE: October 6, 2026

FROM: 
Gen Bonzon-Keenan
County Attorney

SUBJECT: Agenda Item No.

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.

RESOLUTION NO. _____

RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE COUNTY MAYOR OR COUNTY MAYOR'S DESIGNEE TO IMPLEMENT CERTAIN STRATEGIES TO ENHANCE AND EXPAND THE ANIMAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT'S FOSTER A PET PROGRAM; AND DIRECTING THE COUNTY MAYOR OR COUNTY MAYOR'S DESIGNEE TO COLLABORATE WITH MUNICIPALITIES WITHIN MIAMI-DADE COUNTY TO COMBINE AND COORDINATE FOSTER PROGRAM OPERATIONS

WHEREAS, the Miami-Dade County Animal Services Department's Foster a Pet Program provides temporary homes for dogs and cats prior to adoption; and

WHEREAS, the Foster a Pet Program helps foster pets socialize, recover from illness or injury, adapt to home life, and be matched with adoptive families; and

WHEREAS, this program also frees up space at animal shelters, thereby allowing more animals to be saved; and

WHEREAS, the Animal Services Department provides pet foster parents with training, instructions, pet food, and supplies; and

WHEREAS, this Board wishes to direct the County administration to implement certain strategies to enhance and expand the Foster a Pet Program; and

WHEREAS, such strategies include increasing the frequency of pet adoption events and rotating foster pets through different facilities to alleviate shelter capacity shortages and increase exposure to potential adoptive families; and

WHEREAS, this Board also wishes to direct the County administration to collaborate with municipalities within Miami-Dade County to combine and coordinate pet foster program operations,

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 enhance and expand the Animal Services Department's Foster a Pet Program by implementing the following strategies: (a) increasing the frequency of pet adoption events; and (b) rotating foster pets through different facilities to alleviate shelter capacity shortages and increase exposure to potential adoptive families.

Section 2. Directs the County Mayor or County Mayor's designee to collaborate with municipalities within Miami-Dade County to combine and coordinate the County's Foster a Pet Program operations with those of similar municipal programs. The County Mayor or County Mayor's designee shall take necessary steps to accomplish such collaboration, including negotiating proposed interlocal agreements, which shall be placed on an agenda of the full Board as a separate item for this Board's approval.

The Prime Sponsor of the foregoing resolution is Senator René García. 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:

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 6th day of October, 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.



Cristina M. Rabionet