MEMORANDUM

Supplement to
Agenda Item No. 11(A)(10)

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

DATE: November 17, 2026

FROM: Geri Bonzon-Keenan
County Attorney

SUBJECT: Supplemental information to resolution directing the County Mayor to take certain actions to facilitate the development of certain County-owned property designated as Spaceport Territory and located in the vicinity of the Homestead Air Reserve Base (HARB) as an aerospace industry hub and other compatible industries; directing the County Mayor to prepare solicitations for contracts to effectuate the purposes of this resolution and bring such solicitations back to the Board for approval along with recommendations for funding sources; requiring reports; and suspending rule 5.06(a) by a two-thirds vote of the Board members present as related to the preparation and enactment of ordinances and resolutions

This supplement is being submitted in order to present letters of support that were received by the County, in addition to the letters of support that are attached as exhibits to the resolution.

The accompanying resolution was prepared and placed on the agenda at the request of Prime Sponsor Vice Chairman Kionne L. McGhee.

Geri Bonzon-Keenan
County Attorney

GBK/gh

CARLOS A. GIMENEZ
28TH DISTRICT, FLORIDA

448 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
(202) 225–2778

DISTRICT OFFICES:
14221 SW 120TH STREET, #115
MIAMI, FL 33186
(305) 222–0160

404 W PALM DRIVE
FLORIDA CITY, FLORIDA 33034
(305) 222–0160

1100 SIMONTON STREET, ROOM 1-213
KEY WEST, FL 33040
(305) 292–4485

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515–0926

November 9, 2026

The Honorable Anthony Rodríguez, Chairman
The Honorable Kionne L. McGhee, Vice Chairman
Members of the Board of County Commissioners
Miami-Dade County
111 NW 1st Street
Miami, FL 33128

RE: Letter of Support for the Miami-Dade County Spaceport Territory

Dear Chairman Rodríguez, Vice Chairman McGhee, and Members of the Board:

On behalf of the residents of Florida's 28th Congressional District, I write in strong support of the resolution sponsored by Vice Chairman Kionne L. McGhee recognizing the Miami-Dade County Spaceport Territory and directing the County to advance the development of County-owned property at and adjacent to Homestead Air Reserve Base for aerospace, aviation, and defense-related industries.

In 2024, the Florida Legislature, through CS/SB 968, designated property within the former boundaries of Homestead Air Force Base as Florida Spaceport Territory. This designation gives South Miami-Dade a historic opportunity. More than three decades after Hurricane Andrew and the 1994 base realignment, County-owned land conveyed for economic development can finally become what it was meant to be: an engine of high-wage jobs, private investment, and an expanded industrial base for our community.

Homestead Air Reserve Base is a vital national security asset, and I have long worked to protect and strengthen its mission. I am encouraged that this resolution places military compatibility at its core. Bringing aerospace, defense, advanced manufacturing, and maintenance, repair, and overhaul (MRO) employers to the land around the installation will guard against incompatible encroachment, reinforce the base's long-term viability, and build a defense and aerospace ecosystem that supports its current and future missions.

The Urban Land Institute's Miami-Dade Aerospace Zone report and Florida International University's 2026 Competitive Assessment of South Miami-Dade County provide a sound, data-driven framework for this effort. The endorsements of Homestead, Florida City, Palmetto Bay, Cutler Bay, and Pinecrest demonstrate the broad regional consensus behind it. I also support the resolution's focus on site readiness, competitive selection of a master developer, coordination with Space Florida and the Florida Department of Transportation, and workforce pathways that connect our residents, schools, and local businesses to these new opportunities.

I stand ready to work with the County, Space Florida, the U.S. Air Force, and our federal partners to explore opportunities for federal support to advance infrastructure and site readiness within the Spaceport Territory. I respectfully urge the Board to adopt this resolution.

Sincerely,



Carlos A. Gimenez (FL-28)
Member of Congress

FIU | FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY

November 9, 2026

Office of Miami-Dade County Mayor
Miami-Dade Board of County Commissioners
Stephen P. Clark Government Center
111 NW 1st Street
Miami, FL 33128

Dear Mayor Levine Cava, Chairman Anthony Rodriguez, and Members of the Board of County Commissioners:

I write in strong support of Miami-Dade County's efforts to advance the Miami-Dade County Spaceport Territory and position South Miami-Dade as a center for aerospace, aviation, defense, advanced manufacturing, research, and innovation.

Advancing Florida's aerospace economy has been a significant focus of my public service. As Lieutenant Governor and Chair of the Space Florida Board of Directors, I helped lead statewide efforts to expand aerospace investment, strengthen Florida's space and defense infrastructure, and grow the network of communities participating in this important sector. I was particularly proud to support the expansion of Florida's Spaceport Territory to include Miami-Dade County.

This designation recognizes that Florida's continued leadership in aerospace will require a statewide network of assets that can support investment, innovation, national security, and the continued growth of the industry. Space Florida is developing a statewide Spaceport System Plan to guide the expansion and modernization of Florida's designated spaceport territories and help direct future infrastructure and investment priorities. South Miami-Dade has an important role to play in that statewide system.

Florida International University has been a key institutional partner in the visioning of these properties and we look forward to exploring opportunities for continued collaboration as the County advances this initiative. FIU is well-positioned to contribute to this initiative through our expertise in engineering, technology, aviation, research, workforce development, and national security. We see opportunities to connect industry with faculty, researchers, students, and the university at large while working with the County and its partners on developing the talent pipeline needed to attract and retain aerospace, aviation, defense, and advanced manufacturing employers and support these growing industries.

FIU's capabilities extend beyond workforce development and present opportunities to foster university-industry partnerships that can help companies conduct research, develop and test technologies, access specialized talent, and build lasting relationships in South Florida. These

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capabilities can contribute to the region's value proposition for companies considering investment in the Spaceport Territory and throughout South Miami-Dade.

I support Miami-Dade County taking the steps necessary to prepare these properties for future investment, including planning for infrastructure needs, establishing a development framework, and exploring opportunities to attract aerospace and related industries. FIU welcomes opportunities to collaborate and work directly with Miami-Dade County, Space Florida, industry, federal and state partners, and our educational institutions to support those efforts in areas aligned with our academic, research, and workforce development mission.

The Miami-Dade County Spaceport Territory gives South Florida an opportunity to become a more significant part of Florida's statewide aerospace strategy. As President of FIU, I look forward to continued collaboration with Miami-Dade County to advance this important opportunity and explore ways FIU's talent, research, and industry partnerships can contribute to its success.

Sincerely,

Jeanette M. Nuñez
President
Florida International University

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MIAMI-DADE BEACON COUNCIL

November 9th, 2026

The Honorable Daniella Levine Cava
Mayor, Miami-Dade County
and Members of the Board of County Commissioners
111 NW 1st Street
Miami, FL 33128

RE: Support for the Miami-Dade Spaceport Territory Resolution

Dear Mayor Levine Cava and Members of the Board of County Commissioners:

On behalf of the Miami-Dade Beacon Council, I am pleased to express our support for the proposed resolution advancing the Miami-Dade Spaceport Territory in South Dade. This initiative represents an important opportunity to position South Dade to attract investment and create high-quality jobs in the aerospace, aviation, defense, and advanced manufacturing sectors.

South Dade brings important assets to this effort, including proximity to Homestead Air Reserve Base, opportunities for industrial development, regional connectivity, and a growing network of educational and workforce partners. The proposed resolution provides a valuable framework for bringing these assets together through more coordinated planning, infrastructure priorities, industry engagement, and economic development.

As Miami-Dade County's official economic development organization, the Beacon Council is positioned to be a strategic partner in advancing the Spaceport Territory Initiative. We bring expertise in real estate development, financing, business attraction, and public-private partnerships, along with established relationships with capital providers and leaders in the aviation, aerospace, and defense industries. Drawing on relevant development models in Oklahoma City, Houston, and Colorado Springs, we can help translate the Territory's vision into a market-driven strategy that attracts private investment, creates high-quality jobs, and strengthens Miami-Dade's position in these industries.

We welcome the opportunity to work alongside Miami-Dade County, Space Florida, the South Dade Economic Development Council, and other stakeholders to move this initiative from planning toward implementation. This will require clear priorities, sustained private-sector engagement, and a coordinated approach to the infrastructure, workforce, and development conditions necessary for long-term success.

We commend the County for advancing this initiative and look forward to serving as an active partner in translating its potential into meaningful economic opportunities for South Dade and the broader Miami-Dade community.

Sincerely,

Rodrick T. Miller
President & CEO
Miami-Dade Beacon Council

CITY OF HOMESTEAD

CITY COUNCIL

Steven D. Losner
Mayor

Jenifer N. Bailey
Vice Mayor
Seat 4

Kimberly Konsky
Councilwoman
Seat 1

Sean L. Fletcher
Councilman
Seat 2

Larry Roth
Councilman
Seat 3

Erica G. Ávila
Councilwoman
Seat 5

Clemente Canabal
Councilman
Seat 6

CITY OFFICERS

Zerry Ihekwaba, PhD, PE
City Manager

Elizabeth Sewell, MMC
City Clerk

Weiss Serota Helfman Cole + Bierman
City Attorney

November 13, 2026

The Honorable Anthony Rodríguez, Chairman
and Members of the Board of County Commissioners
Miami-Dade County
111 NW 1st Street, Suite 220
Miami, FL 33128

RE: Support for Proposed Resolution(s) Advancing the South Dade Aerospace & Defense Corridor and Miami-Dade Spaceport Territory Development

Dear Chairman Rodríguez and Members of the Board:

On behalf of the City of Homestead, I am pleased to express our strong support for Miami-Dade County's proposed recognition and advancement of the South Dade Aerospace & Defense Corridor, together with the establishment of an aerospace-focused economic-development priority for eligible County-owned or County-controlled lands within the state-designated spaceport territory adjacent to Homestead Air Reserve Base.

Homestead occupies a uniquely strategic position in this initiative. As the host community for Homestead Air Reserve Base and a growing center for aviation, aerospace, and advanced industrial activity, our City has long recognized the economic and national-security importance of these assets. The convergence of military infrastructure, state-designated spaceport territory, industrial development opportunities, and a growing regional workforce creates an exceptional opportunity to establish South Dade as a competitive destination for aerospace and defense investment.

Demonstrating our commitment to this vision, the Homestead City Council, on October 28, 2026, adopted a resolution formally supporting the creation and advancement of the South Dade Aerospace & Defense Corridor. The resolution establishes a framework for regional collaboration and directs City staff to evaluate potential aerospace and defense zoning measures, economic-development incentives, suitable development sites, infrastructure requirements, and workforce partnerships for future Council consideration. This action reflects Homestead's intention to be an active participant in translating the Corridor concept into a coordinated and actionable economic-development strategy.

Our commitment is also reflected in growing private-sector interest and investment. Aerospace and aviation-related companies are establishing operations within Homestead's Park of Commerce, while additional enterprises are evaluating opportunities in our community. Equally important, the planned 1,200-student

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aerospace technology magnet high school in Homestead offers the opportunity to establish an enduring talent pipeline connecting education, technical training, and career opportunities within this emerging industry.

We recognize that the Corridor's potential extends well beyond Homestead's municipal boundaries. The resolutions adopted by neighboring South Dade municipalities demonstrate an emerging regional consensus around this economic-development opportunity. Homestead's recent action builds upon that cooperation and reinforces the importance of a unified approach among municipal governments, Miami-Dade County, educational institutions, and economic-development partners.

Of particular significance is the opportunity to establish a coordinated development framework for eligible County-controlled spaceport-territory property adjacent to Homestead Air Reserve Base. A clear long-term land-use vision, supported by appropriate master planning, infrastructure investment, and predictable development processes, would complement Homestead's own initiatives and strengthen the region's ability to attract major aerospace and defense employers while ensuring compatibility with military operations, aviation safety, and surrounding communities.

The City of Homestead stands ready to work with Miami-Dade County, state and federal partners, and regional economic-development organizations to advance responsible development that creates quality jobs, strengthens our economic base, and contributes to the nation's aerospace and defense capabilities.

We respectfully encourage the Board of County Commissioners to adopt appropriate resolutions advancing these objectives, building upon the actions already taken by Homestead and its neighboring municipalities to establish the South Dade Aerospace & Defense Corridor as a regional economic-development priority.

Sincerely,

Steven D. Losner
Mayor
City of Homestead

cc: The Honorable Daniella Levine Cava, Mayor, Miami-Dade County
Mr. James Kohnstamm, Director, Office of Innovation and Economic Development, Miami-Dade County

www.homesteadfl.gov 100 Civic Court, Homestead, FL 33030 305.224.4400

November 13, 2026

The Honorable Anthony Rodríguez, Chairman & Members of the Board of County Commissioners
Miami-Dade County
111 NW 1st Street, Suite 220
Miami, FL 33128

Subject: Support for Proposed Resolutions Advancing the Miami-Dade Spaceport Territory Development and South Dade Aerospace & Defense Corridor

Dear Chairman Rodríguez and Members of the Board:

The Economic Development Council of South Miami-Dade (EDC) strongly endorses Miami-Dade County's efforts to prioritize appropriate aerospace and related industrial development on eligible County-owned or County-controlled lands within the state-designated spaceport territory near Homestead Air Reserve Base. Additionally, we support formal recognition of the South Dade Aerospace & Defense Corridor and development incentives to prioritize aerospace and defense business growth.

The EDC's 2026 South Miami-Dade Competitive Assessment, developed with Florida International University's Jorge M. Pérez Metropolitan Center, identifies a compelling need to align South Dade's continued population and workforce growth with a more diversified economy offering higher-wage employment, advanced industries, and long-term private investment. Aerospace, defense, and related advanced manufacturing present particularly promising opportunities to achieve those objectives. South Dade offers a substantial workforce, educational and technical training resources, established transportation connections, and strategically located development opportunities. The proposed Corridor provides a framework for connecting these assets across municipal boundaries and creating a more cohesive regional investment proposition.

Importantly, establishing a clear aerospace-focused development direction for appropriate County-controlled spaceport-territory property could provide the geographic anchor needed to attract major employers, stimulate complementary supplier activity, and encourage investment throughout the broader Corridor. The EDC believes that sustained success will require coordinated land-use planning, infrastructure readiness, predictable development processes, workforce alignment, and active collaboration among local governments and economic-development partners.

OFFICERS & DIRECTORS
Officers: Lisa Greer, Chair • Geri Grimes-Lewis, Executive Director • Peter England, Chief Strategy Officer
Directors: Dr. Beverly Moore-Garcia • Wilbur Bell • Andy Manglione • Mitch Candia • Richard Miller • Matthew Rocco • Kenneth Spell
Mailing Address: 9555 SW 175 Terr #637 • Palmetto Bay, Florida 33157 • 305.378.9470 • info@edcsouthmiamidade.com • edcsouthmiamidade.com

We commend the County for considering an initiative that can help transform South Dade's considerable economic potential into tangible business investment and career opportunities for its residents. The EDC respectfully urges the Board of County Commissioners to support the Corridor designation and advance the strategic development of eligible spaceport-territory lands.

Sincerely,



Lisa Greer
Board Chair

cc:
The Honorable Daniella Levine Cava, Mayor, Miami-Dade County
Mr. James Kohnstamm, Director, Office of Innovation and Economic Development, Miami-Dade County

GREATER MIAMI CHAMBER of COMMERCE℠

November 10. 2026

The Honorable Anthony Rodríguez, Chairman
and Members of the Board of County Commissioners
Miami-Dade County
111 NW 1st Street, Suite 220
Miami, FL 33128

Support for the South Dade Aerospace & Defense Corridor

Dear Chairman Rodríguez and Members of the Board,

On behalf of the Greater Miami Chamber of Commerce, I urge you to support the proposed South Dade Aerospace & Defense Corridor and establish a clear County policy to encourage aerospace and defense development on eligible County-controlled land within the state-designated spaceport territory near Homestead Air Reserve Base.

Miami-Dade has the trade and logistics network, universities, and access to global markets to compete for aerospace and defense investment. The corridor would give us a way to build on those strengths and attract employers in research, engineering, and advanced manufacturing. It would also give businesses across Miami-Dade a chance to compete for work in commercial aerospace and defense supply chains.

At the Chamber, we see aerospace and defense as a priority for Miami-Dade's economic growth, and we're preparing to dedicate one of our committees to these industries.
A clear development policy would signal to employers and investors that Miami-Dade is serious about growing these industries. We ask the Board to advance the corridor and help bring more high-skilled jobs and private investment to South Dade.

Sincerely,



Alfred Sanchez
President & CEO
Greater Miami Chamber of Commerce

cc The Honorable Daniella Levine Cava, Mayor, Miami-Dade County
James Kohnstamm, Director, Office of Innovation and Economic Development, Miami-Dade County

12 November 2026

The Honorable Anthony Rodríguez, Chairman, and Members of the Board of County Commissioners
Miami-Dade County
111 NW 1st Street, Suite 220
Miami, FL 33128

RE: Support for Proposed Resolution(s) Advancing the South Dade Aerospace & Defense Corridor and Miami-Dade Spaceport Territory Development

Dear Chairman Rodríguez and Members of the Board of County Commissioners:

The South Florida Defense Alliance (SFDA) expresses strong support for Miami-Dade County's proposed recognition and advancement of the South Dade Aerospace & Defense Corridor, together with the establishment of an aerospace-focused economic-development priority for eligible County-controlled lands within the state-designated spaceport territory near Homestead Air Reserve Base (HARB).

The evolving national-security environment is driving substantial demand for expanded domestic defense industrial capacity, resilient supply chains, and accelerated development and production of advanced technologies. Critical capability areas include autonomous and uncrewed systems, aerospace propulsion, advanced materials and manufacturing, sensors and communications, artificial intelligence, cybersecurity, and integrated command-and-control systems. Increasingly, national defense requirements depend upon regional ecosystems capable of supporting the entire technology lifecycle – from research, engineering, and prototyping through testing, integration, production, and sustainment.

South Miami-Dade possesses a distinctive combination of assets capable of supporting these requirements. The proximity of HARB, state-designated spaceport territory, established aviation and logistics infrastructure, research universities, and technical workforce institutions creates an opportunity to develop a concentrated aerospace and defense industrial ecosystem. With appropriate infrastructure investment and master planning, the area could accommodate advanced manufacturing, systems integrators, specialized testing facilities, secure research and engineering operations, and supporting supply-chain enterprises.

Of particular importance is the opportunity to establish a development environment that supports both commercial aerospace innovation and defense applications, enabling companies to transition emerging technologies into operationally relevant capabilities. Planning must also ensure compatibility with HARB's military missions, installation security, airspace requirements, aviation safety, and long-term operational readiness.

Formal County recognition of the Corridor, coupled with a clear development policy for eligible spaceport-territory lands, would send an important signal to aerospace and defense companies, investors, and state and federal partners that Miami-Dade County is committed to establishing the infrastructure and industrial capacity needed to compete for these high-value activities.

SFDA welcomes the opportunity to collaborate with the County, municipalities, economic-development organizations, academic institutions, military stakeholders, and industry partners to advance this initiative and strengthen South Florida's contribution to the national defense industrial base.

We respectfully encourage the Board of County Commissioners to adopt appropriate resolutions advancing these objectives.

Sincerely,



Rick Miller
CAPT, USN (Ret.)

Executive Director
South Florida Defense Alliance

cc:
The Honorable Daniella Levine Cava, Mayor, Miami-Dade County
Mr. James Kohnstamm, Director, Office of Innovation and Economic Development, Miami-Dade County

SOUTHDADE
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
Our Business is Your Business

11/12/2026

The Honorable Anthony Rodríguez, Chairman
and Members of the Board of County Commissioners
Miami-Dade County
111 NW 1st Street, Suite 220
Miami, FL 33128

RE: Support for Proposed Resolution(s) Advancing the South Dade Aerospace & Defense Corridor and Miami-Dade Spaceport Territory Development

Dear Chairman Rodríguez and Members of the Board:

On behalf of the South Dade Chamber of Commerce and the local business community we serve, we are pleased to endorse the proposed South Dade Aerospace & Defense Corridor and efforts to prioritize eligible County-controlled spaceport-territory lands near Homestead Air Reserve Base for aerospace, defense, and related business development.

South Dade has experienced substantial residential and commercial growth, yet many residents continue to travel considerable distances to access higher-wage career opportunities. Expanding the local employment base and attracting businesses that offer meaningful career advancement are essential to creating a stronger, more balanced, and economically resilient community.

The proposed Corridor offers an opportunity to attract a new generation of employers while supporting the many established businesses that already contribute to South Dade's economy. Aerospace and defense-related enterprises create demand extending well beyond their immediate operations, including construction, professional services, transportation, logistics, equipment suppliers, maintenance, hospitality, and other local businesses.

We are particularly encouraged by the potential to connect these opportunities with local schools, colleges, technical training programs, and workforce-development organizations so that South Dade residents and businesses can participate directly in the benefits of this initiative.

Establishing an intentional development focus for suitable spaceport-territory lands would demonstrate a long-term commitment to expanding South Dade's economic opportunities while supporting responsible growth and protecting the interests of surrounding communities.

The South Dade Chamber of Commerce respectfully encourages the Board of County Commissioners to formally support the Corridor and advance the development of this important economic asset.

We look forward to helping connect local businesses, employers, and residents with the opportunities that emerge.



Sincerely,

Karin Mas
Chairman
South Dade Chamber of Commerce

cc:

The Honorable Daniella Levine Cava, Mayor, Miami-Dade County

Mr. James Kohnstamm, Director, Office of Innovation and Economic Development, Miami-Dade County