

MEMORANDUM

Amended
Agenda Item No. 11(A)(1)

TO: Honorable Chairwoman Audrey M. Edmonson
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

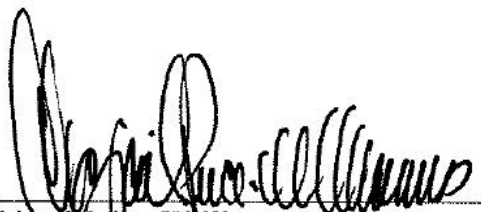
DATE: July 21, 2020

FROM: Abigail Price-Williams
County Attorney

SUBJECT: Resolution urging the United States Congress to appropriate funding for the United States Army Corps of Engineers to conduct the Central and Southern Florida Project flood risk management infrastructure resiliency plan study; urging the United States Army Corps of Engineers to conduct the study in a manner that is complementary to the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan and incorporates nature-based and natural-infrastructure options, so long as the seepage wall is put in place as part of the study

Resolution No. R-741-20

The accompanying resolution was prepared and placed on the agenda at the request of Prime Sponsor Commissioner Daniella Levine Cava.



Abigail Price-Williams
County Attorney

APW/uw



MEMORANDUM

(Revised)

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and Members, Board of County Commissioners

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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 _____	Amended Agenda Item No. 11(A)(1)
Veto _____		7-21-20
Override _____		

RESOLUTION NO. **R-741-20**

RESOLUTION URGING THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS TO APPROPRIATE FUNDING FOR THE UNITED STATES ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS TO CONDUCT THE CENTRAL AND SOUTHERN FLORIDA PROJECT FLOOD RISK MANAGEMENT INFRASTRUCTURE RESILIENCY PLAN STUDY; URGING THE UNITED STATES ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS TO CONDUCT THE STUDY IN A MANNER THAT IS COMPLEMENTARY TO THE COMPREHENSIVE EVERGLADES RESTORATION PLAN AND INCORPORATES NATURE-BASED AND NATURAL-INFRASTRUCTURE OPTIONS, SO LONG AS THE SEEPAGE WALL IS PUT IN PLACE AS PART OF THE STUDY

WHEREAS, in 1948, the United States Congress authorized the Central and Southern Florida (“C&SF”) Project in order to provide flood control, manage water supply, prevent saltwater intrusion, and protect fish and wildlife resources; and

WHEREAS, the United States Army Corps of Engineers (“Army Corps”) has administered the C&SF Project with the help of, among other agencies, the South Florida Water Management District (“SFWMD”); and

WHEREAS, the C&SF Project has resulted in the construction of over 1,000 miles of canals and levees, as well as dozens of water control structures and pump stations, throughout Central and Southern Florida; and

WHEREAS, over the course of decades, the C&SF Project has substantially altered Florida’s natural and built environment to allow for development and agriculture and to improve Florida residents’ quality of life; and

WHEREAS, the C&SF Project has nevertheless also contributed greatly to the degradation of Florida's natural environment, including the Everglades, such as by altering natural water flows, reducing the geographic extent of wetlands, and compromising water quality of surface waters; and

WHEREAS, a restudy of the C&SF Project was conducted in the 1990s to address the project's adverse environmental impacts in light of the significant development that had taken place in Central and Southern Florida since the C&SF Project was authorized in 1948; and

WHEREAS, that restudy led to the creation of the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan ("CERP"), which the United States Congress approved in the year 2000; and

WHEREAS, despite the successes of CERP and the ongoing efforts to implement CERP, development, population growth, and saltwater intrusion, among other factors, have continued to change the environmental conditions in which the C&SF Project operates; and

WHEREAS, governmental entities and stakeholders have therefore advocated for further study of the C&SF Project, a concept which has been referred to as a "resiliency study," an "update study," or a "restudy"; and

WHEREAS, a C&SF Project resiliency study could identify improvements that need to be made to the C&SF Project and could prioritize the improvements that best meet future C&SF Project objectives, such as flood control, protecting drinking water from saltwater intrusion, and defending against sea level rise; and

WHEREAS, a C&SF Project resiliency study could also be conducted in a manner that is complementary to CERP and incorporates nature-based and natural-infrastructure options; and

WHEREAS, conducting the C&SF Project resiliency study in this manner could help ensure synergy and alignment with the Army Corps's ongoing effort to restore the Everglades via CERP, which is a critical component of Miami-Dade County's environment, economy, and quality of life; and

WHEREAS, the Army Corps has already initiated efforts to qualify for federal funding to conduct a C&SF Project resiliency study, which the Army Corps is referring to as the C&SF Project flood risk management infrastructure resiliency plan study; and

WHEREAS, in March of this year, the SFWMD agreed to participate in the C&SF Project flood risk management infrastructure resiliency plan study with the Army Corps; and

WHEREAS, in May of this year, the Mayors of Miami-Dade, Monroe, Broward, and Palm Beach Counties urged United States Senators Marco Rubio (R – Florida) and Rick Scott (R – Florida), as well as the members of the United States House of Representatives who represent districts in Central and Southern Florida, to support the C&SF Project flood risk management infrastructure resiliency plan study and to ensure that the study would receive federal funding; and

WHEREAS, to ensure the continued protection of the natural and built environment of Miami-Dade County, this Board wishes to urge the United States Congress to appropriate funding for the Army Corps to conduct the C&SF Project flood risk management infrastructure resiliency plan study, and wishes to urge the Army Corps to conduct the study in a manner that is complementary to CERP and incorporates nature-based and natural-infrastructure options,

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

Section 1. Urges the United States Congress to appropriate funding for the United States Army Corps of Engineers to conduct the Central and Southern Florida Project flood risk management infrastructure resiliency plan study.

Section 2. Urges the United States Army Corps of Engineers to conduct the Central and Southern Florida Project flood risk management infrastructure resiliency plan study in a manner that is complementary to the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan and incorporates nature-based and natural-infrastructure options, so long as the seepage wall is put in place as part of the study.

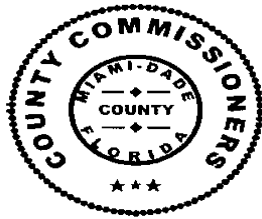
Section 3. Directs the Clerk of the Board to transmit a certified copy of this resolution to the Members of the Florida Congressional Delegation.

Section 4. Directs the County's federal lobbyists to advocate for the actions in sections 1 and 2, and authorizes and directs the Office of Intergovernmental Affairs to amend the 2020 Federal Legislative Package to include this item and to include this item in the 2021 Federal Legislative Package when it is presented to the Board.

The Prime Sponsor of the foregoing resolution is Commissioner Daniella Levine Cava. It was offered by Commissioner **Daniella Levine Cava** , who moved its adoption. The motion was seconded by Commissioner **Audrey M. Edmonson** and upon being put to a vote, the vote was as follows:

Audrey M. Edmonson, Chairwoman	aye
Rebeca Sosa, Vice Chairwoman	aye
Esteban L. Bovo, Jr.	absent
Jose "Pepe" Diaz	aye
Eileen Higgins	aye
Joe A. Martinez	aye
Dennis C. Moss	aye
Xavier L. Suarez	absent
Daniella Levine Cava	aye
Sally A. Heyman	aye
Barbara J. Jordan	aye
Jean Monestime	aye
Sen. Javier D. Souto	aye

The Chairperson thereupon declared this resolution duly passed and adopted this 21st day of July, 2020. 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: **Melissa Adames**
Deputy Clerk

Approved by County Attorney as
to form and legal sufficiency. _____

Christopher J. Wahl