

MEMORANDUM

Agenda Item No. 14(A)(7)

TO: Honorable Chairman Jose "Pepe" Diaz
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

DATE: June 15, 2021

FROM: Geri Bonzon-Keenan
County Attorney

SUBJECT: Resolution authorizing the utilization of the sister seaport program created under Resolution No. R-967-98 for the purpose of negotiating and executing a sister seaport agreement with the Puerto Rico Ports Authority; directing the County Mayor to negotiate and, if possible, execute, a sister seaport agreement with the Puerto Rico Ports Authority; and directing the County Mayor to provide a written report to the Board

Resolution No. R-615-21

The accompanying resolution was prepared and placed on the agenda at the request of Prime Sponsor Commissioner Rebeca Sosa.



Geri Bonzon-Keenan
County Attorney

GBK/jp



MEMORANDUM

(Revised)

TO: Honorable Chairman Jose "Pepe" Diaz
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

DATE: June 15, 2021

FROM: 
Gen Bonzon-Keenan
County Attorney

SUBJECT: Agenda Item No. 14(A)(7)

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. 14(A)(7)
6-15-21

RESOLUTION NO. _____ R-615-21

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE UTILIZATION OF THE SISTER SEAPORT PROGRAM CREATED UNDER RESOLUTION NO. R-967-98 FOR THE PURPOSE OF NEGOTIATING AND EXECUTING A SISTER SEAPORT AGREEMENT WITH THE PUERTO RICO PORTS AUTHORITY; DIRECTING THE COUNTY MAYOR OR COUNTY MAYOR'S DESIGNEE TO NEGOTIATE AND, IF POSSIBLE, EXECUTE, A SISTER SEAPORT AGREEMENT WITH THE PUERTO RICO PORTS AUTHORITY; AND DIRECTING THE COUNTY MAYOR TO PROVIDE A WRITTEN REPORT TO THE BOARD

WHEREAS, it is economically and culturally beneficial to establish affiliations between the County and other cities, airports, and seaports throughout the world; and

WHEREAS, in the case of seaports, such affiliations are long-term cooperative relationships between seaports through which cultural, educational, business, and technical exchanges take place; and

WHEREAS, in recognition of the value of such exchanges, in 1981, this Board established the Miami-Dade Sister Cities Program, which has established sister cities relationships with over two dozen cities in South America, Central America, the Caribbean, Europe, Africa, and Asia; and

WHEREAS, these relationships have developed innovative projects, furthered international cooperation and understanding between the County and our respective sister cities, and helped to promote the County's position as the Gateway to the Americas; and

WHEREAS, for the same reasons, in 1998, this Board adopted Resolution Nos. R-967-98 and R-965-98 establishing international sister seaports and airports programs, resulting in many agreements between the County and foreign seaports and airports; and

WHEREAS, although the Puerto Rico Ports Authority is in Puerto Rico—an unincorporated territory of the United States and is, therefore, not a seaport system in a foreign city as contemplated in Resolution No. R-967-98—the Board nonetheless finds that the beneficial exchanges contemplated through sister seaport agreements with international seaports would apply to a sister seaport agreement with the Puerto Rico Ports Authority, whose ports share many clients and characteristics with PortMiami; and

WHEREAS, because of the great benefits in trade, tourism, cooperation, and understanding brought by sister seaports, the Board would like to direct the County Mayor or County Mayor’s designee to negotiate, and to the extent possible, execute a sister seaport agreement with the Puerto Rico Ports Authority,

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

Section 1. Adopts and incorporates the foregoing recitals and, notwithstanding the Puerto Rico Port Authority’s status as a domestic port system, authorizes the utilization of the sister seaport program created under Resolution No. R-967-98 for the purpose of negotiating and executing a sister seaport agreement with the Puerto Rico Ports Authority.

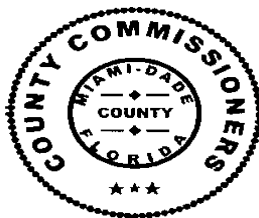
Section 2. Directs the County Mayor or County Mayor’s designee to negotiate, and to the extent possible, execute a sister seaport agreement with the Puerto Rico Ports Authority.

Section 3. Directs the County Mayor or County Mayor’s designee to provide a written report to this Board within 60 days of the effective date of this resolution regarding the status of the negotiation and execution of the agreement in section 2 and to place the completed report on an agenda of the Board pursuant to Ordinance No. 14-65.

The Prime Sponsor of the foregoing resolution is Commissioner Rebeca Sosa. It was offered by Commissioner **Rebeca Sosa**, who moved its adoption. The motion was seconded by Commissioner **Eileen Higgins** and upon being put to a vote, the vote was as follows:

Jose "Pepe" Diaz, Chairman	aye		
Oliver G. Gilbert, III, Vice-Chairman	aye		
Sen. René García	aye	Keon Hardemon	aye
Sally A. Heyman	aye	Danielle Cohen Higgins	aye
Eileen Higgins	aye	Joe A. Martinez	aye
Kionne L. McGhee	aye	Jean Monestime	aye
Raquel A. Regalado	aye	Rebeca Sosa	aye
Sen. Javier D. Souto	aye		

The Chairperson thereupon declared this resolution duly passed and adopted this 15th day of June, 2021. 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.

MAG

Miguel A. Gonzalez