

MEMORANDUM

Agenda Item No. 11(A)(3)

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

DATE: October 19, 2021

FROM: Geri Bonzon-Keenan
County Attorney

SUBJECT: Resolution urging the United
States Congress and the Florida
Legislature to provide funding
for the Sabrina Cohen
Foundation Adaptive Recreation
Center

Resolution No. R-997-21

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



Geri Bonzon-Keenan
County Attorney

GBK/jp



MEMORANDUM

(Revised)

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

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County Attorney

SUBJECT: Agenda Item No. 11(A)(3)

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. 11(A)(3)
10-19-21

RESOLUTION NO. _____ R-997-21

RESOLUTION URGING THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS
AND THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE TO PROVIDE FUNDING
FOR THE SABRINA COHEN FOUNDATION ADAPTIVE
RECREATION CENTER

WHEREAS, the City of Miami Beach (the “City”), in collaboration with the Sabrina Cohen Foundation (the “Foundation”) and Miami-Dade County, is in the process of developing the Sabrina Cohen Foundation Adaptive Recreation Center at 5301 Collins Avenue, Miami Beach, Florida 33140 which will consist of a building (the “Center”) for community wellness and recreation programs focusing on persons of all abilities along with associated public, outdoor facilities and amenities (the “project”); and

WHEREAS, the project is located on the beach and will be open to serve all County residents and visitors worldwide; and

WHEREAS, the project will be unique in Florida and the United States as it will provide access to the beach as well as a state-of-the-art health and wellness facility for County residents, tourists worldwide and visitors living with disabilities and mobility challenges; and

WHEREAS, the Foundation is a 501c3 nonprofit organization dedicated to developing adaptive fitness and recreational programs that provide a better quality of life for individuals living with paralysis and various disabilities; and

WHEREAS, since 2016, the Foundation has hosted Adaptive Beach Days twice a month to provide access to the beach and ocean for disabled individuals, veterans, children with special needs, and the elderly; and

WHEREAS, the project will be developed in two phases, consisting of the outdoor public access space and amenities as phase 1 to allow for year-round access to the beach, and the Center as phase 2; and

WHEREAS, the Center and outdoor public access space will be equipped with adaptable playgrounds, picnic areas, accessible walkways, and exercise equipment, and additional quality of life improvements for the community at large; and

WHEREAS, the Center and surrounding outdoor public space will put the County, the City, South Florida, and Florida on the map as a welcoming and accommodating destination for those with disabilities and their families; and

WHEREAS, the goal of the County, the City, and the Foundation is to improve the quality of life and make the County an accessible place for residents and visitors; and

WHEREAS, the project will, most importantly, be an invaluable amenity and service to County residents and visitors that are physically disabled and allow them to enjoy the beach; and

WHEREAS, on April 20, 2021, this Board approved Resolution No. R-257-21 allocating \$577,000.00 to the City for the design and construction of the public infrastructure improvements associated with the project in phase 1; and

WHEREAS, on June 23, 2021, the City Commission approved Resolution No. R-2021-31751 allocating up to \$2.5 million to match future donations for the design and construction of the Center in phase 2; and

WHEREAS, to date, the Foundation has raised nearly \$700,000.00 in individual donations for phase 2 and continues to aggressively fundraise; and

WHEREAS, the design and construction of the Center in phase 2 is projected to cost \$10.5 million; and

WHEREAS, the success of the project is contingent on securing additional funding for phase 2; and

WHEREAS, this Board desires to urge the United States Congress as well as the Florida Legislature to provide funding for the Sabrina Cohen Foundation Adaptive Recreation Center,

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 and the Florida Legislature to provide funding for the Sabrina Cohen Foundation Adaptive Recreation Center.

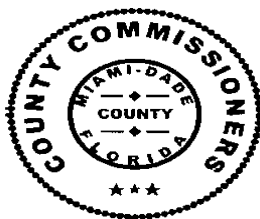
Section 2. Directs the Clerk of the Board to transmit a certified copy of this resolution to the President of the United States, the members of the Florida Congressional Delegation, the Governor, Senate President, and House Speaker of the State of Florida, and the Chair and members of the Miami-Dade County State Legislative Delegation.

Section 3. Directs the County's federal and state lobbyists to advocate for the action set forth in Section 1 above, and authorizes and directs the Office of Intergovernmental Affairs to amend the 2021 Federal Legislative Package and 2022 State Legislative Package to include this item, and to include this item in the 2022 Federal Legislative Package when its presented to the Board.

The Prime Sponsor of the foregoing resolution is Commissioner Eileen Higgins. It was offered by Commissioner **Rebeca Sosa** , who moved its adoption. The motion was seconded by Commissioner **Sally A. Heyman** 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 the resolution duly passed and adopted this 19th day of October, 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

Melissa Adames

By: _____
Deputy Clerk

Approved by County Attorney as
to form and legal sufficiency.

mjs

Melanie J. Spencer