

MEMORANDUM

Agenda Item No. 11(A)(17)

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

DATE: November 16, 2021

FROM: Geri Bonzon-Keenan
County Attorney

SUBJECT: Resolution urging the Florida
Legislature to provide funding
for the Westchester Cultural Arts
Center

Resolution No. R-1125-21

The accompanying resolution was prepared and placed on the agenda at the request of Prime Sponsor Senator Javier D. Souto.



Geri Bonzon-Keenan
County Attorney

GBK/jp



MEMORANDUM

(Revised)

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

DATE: November 16, 2021

FROM: 
Gen Bonzon-Keenan
County Attorney

SUBJECT: Agenda Item No. 11(A)(17)

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)(17)
11-16-21

RESOLUTION NO. R-1125-21

RESOLUTION URGING THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE TO
PROVIDE FUNDING FOR THE WESTCHESTER CULTURAL
ARTS CENTER

WHEREAS, in 2004, and pursuant to Resolution No. R-913-04, the voters of Miami-Dade County approved funding for the Westchester Cultural Arts Center (the “Center”) through the Building Better Communities General Obligation Bond Program; and

WHEREAS, on June 17, 2008, this Board, after determining that Tropical Park was the most appropriate location for the Center and that the construction of the Center will benefit the community and add to the quality of life of the residents of Miami-Dade County, approved Resolution No. R-715-08 to present a referendum ballot question to voters countywide to permit the construction of the Center in Tropical Park under Article 7 of the Home Rule Charter; and

WHEREAS, on August 26, 2008, a special election was held and the referendum question was approved by a majority vote of voters in Miami-Dade County for the construction of the Center at Tropical Park; and

WHEREAS, this Board approved the allocation of funds and architectural and construction contracts for the construction of the Center, located at the entrance to Tropical Park at 7930 SW 40th Street, Miami, Florida 33165; and

WHEREAS, the construction of the Center is complete and the results are stunning; and

WHEREAS, the Center is a state-of-the-art performing and cultural arts center prominently and centrally located at the entrance to Tropical Park facing Bird Road, right off of the Palmetto Expressway; and

WHEREAS, the Center is expected to host children's theater productions, musical performances for the community, cultural exhibitions, and a variety of other programs and events year-round as well as outdoor activities and performances such as movie nights, "noches tropicales," recreational programs, and food festivals; and

WHEREAS, the Center was created by action of this Board and spearheaded by Senator Javier D. Souto to serve all Miami-Dade County residents and visitors to the County; and

WHEREAS, this Board would like to urge the Florida legislature to provide funding to enhance the services and programming provided at the Center, provide scholarships for arts education training for students who cannot afford it at the Center, and to acquire equipment needed for the Center,

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

Section 1. Urges the Florida Legislature to provide funding to enhance the services and programming provided at the Center, provide scholarships for arts education training for students who cannot afford it at the Center, and to acquire equipment needed for the Center.

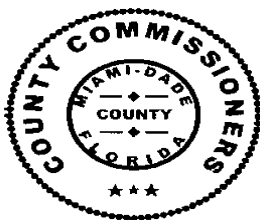
Section 2. Directs the Clerk of the Board to transmit a certified copy of this resolution to the Governor, Senate President, House Speaker, and the Chair and Members of the Miami-Dade State Legislative Delegation.

Section 3. Directs the County's state lobbyists to advocate for the appropriation set forth in section 1 above, and authorizes and directs the Office of Intergovernmental Affairs to amend the 2022 State Legislative Package to include this item.

The Prime Sponsor of the foregoing resolution is Senator Javier D. Souto. 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	absent	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 16th day of November, 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.

MRP

Monica Rizo Perez