

MEMORANDUM

Agenda Item No. 8(L)(1)

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

DATE: April 5, 2022

FROM: Geri Bonzon-Keenan
County Attorney

SUBJECT: Resolution authorizing the
disbursement of up to \$550,000.00
from the Biscayne Bay
Environmental Enhancement Trust
Fund to conduct environmental
enhancement in Biscayne Bay
through the Miami-Dade County
Biscayne Bay Restoration and
Enhancement Program

Resolution No. R-321-22

The accompanying resolution was prepared by the Regulatory and Economic Resources Department and placed on the agenda at the request of Prime Sponsor Commissioner Rebeca Sosa.



Geri Bonzon-Keenan
County Attorney

GBK/jp

Memorandum



Date: April 5, 2022

To: Honorable Chairman Jose “Pepe” Diaz
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

From: Daniella Levine Cava
Mayor 

Subject: Resolution Authorizing the Disbursement of up to \$550,000.00 from the Biscayne Bay Environmental Enhancement Trust Fund to Conduct Environmental Enhancement in Biscayne Bay

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Board of County Commissioners approve the attached resolution authorizing the disbursement of up to \$550,000.00 from the Biscayne Bay Environmental Enhancement Trust Fund (BBEETF) for environmental enhancement in Biscayne Bay through the removal of trash and solid waste on restored bay islands, supplemental planting of native coastal plants and control of nonnative and invasive plant species, and assessment of the efficacy of these specific efforts, where such assessment is an integral part of the above-mentioned projects. All of these activities are for the sole purpose of increasing the net habitat value of the bay, its tidal tributaries, and foreshore in association with the County’s ongoing Biscayne Bay Restoration and Enhancement Program.

Scope

This disbursement request will benefit coastal areas of Commission Districts 3, 4, 5, 7, 8 and 9, represented by Commissioner Keon Hardemon, Commissioner Sally A. Heyman, Commissioner Eileen Higgins, Commissioner Raquel A. Regalado, Commissioner Danielle Cohen Higgins, and Commissioner Kionne L. McGhee, respectively.

Delegation of Authority

This item has no delegation of authority.

Fiscal Impact/Funding Source

This resolution authorizes the disbursement of funds from the BBEETF for Biscayne Bay restoration and enhancement activities. This BBEETF disbursement is consistent with the BBEETF Ordinance codified in section 24-40 of the Code of Miami-Dade County (Code) that allows BBEETF Funds to be used for the restoration and enhancement of Biscayne Bay and its foreshore. The unencumbered balance of the Biscayne Bay Environmental Enhancement Trust Fund as of July 31, 2021 is \$7,885,531.80 (Fund TF064). This disbursement request is not a match against other funds.

Track Record/Monitor

Pamela Sweeney, Senior Manager of the Water Resources Section of the Department of Regulatory and Economic Resources, Division of Environmental Resources Management (DERM), will monitor activities performed using these funds.

Background

The Department of Regulatory and Economic Resources, Division of Environmental Resources Management (DERM) conducts various environmental restoration and enhancement activities throughout Biscayne Bay as part of the Biscayne Bay Restoration and Enhancement Program. These environmental enhancement projects have been assisted financially by agencies such as the South Florida Water Management District and the Florida Inland Navigation District (FIND). While this disbursement request is not a match against other funds, DERM will continue to leverage disbursements of funds from the Biscayne Bay Environmental Enhancement Trust Fund to provide matching funds for a variety of grants for activities including new environmental restoration and enhancement projects, marine debris removal, artificial reef deployments, and projects that specifically address bay water quality improvements.

In addition to being a priority for Miami-Dade County, project agreements between the County and funding agencies require that sites restored or enhanced through the Biscayne Bay Restoration and Enhancement Program be maintained. This disbursement request will provide funding for ongoing environmental enhancement through the removal of trash and solid waste on restored bay islands (Attachment A shows DERM’s current level of service which will be maintained with these funds), supplemental planting of native coastal plants and control of nonnative and invasive plant species, and assessment of the efficacy of these specific efforts. Such assessments, which may, for example, include inspections of the work, are an integral part of the above-referenced projects and are necessary to ensure that the projects are carried out appropriately. All of these activities are for the sole purpose of increasing the net habitat value of the bay, its tidal tributaries, and foreshore. The focus of the work funded through this disbursement from the BBEETF is to maintain a level of service at previously restored sites throughout Biscayne Bay that maintains and enhances the County’s significant investment in bay restoration and enhancement.

The enhancement activities associated with this specific disbursement request will be conducted over the next five years by County staff, by volunteers when appropriate, and by pre-qualified local contractors selected through a competitive bidding process. The estimated budget for the requested five-year allocation of \$550,000.00 covers the costs of several enhancement activities that take place on an annual basis. The first, contracted trash and garbage removal from twelve restored spoil islands in northern Biscayne Bay has an estimated annual budget of \$60,000.00. The estimated cost may vary depending on the rate charged by the vendor, enhanced partnerships for islands cleanups, and adjustments to the level of service provided. Secondly, the control of nonnative and invasive plant species at restored sites has an estimated annual budget of \$25,000.00. Thirdly, supplemental planting at restored sites has an estimated annual budget of \$15,000.00. Lastly, monitoring and assessment of the efficacy of the enhancement activities have an estimated annual budget of \$10,000.00. Therefore, the total estimated annual budget for the aforementioned environmental enhancement activities is \$110,000.00.

Honorable Chairman Jose “Pepe” Diaz
and Members, Board of County Commissioners
Page No. 3

In accordance with chapter 24-40(4) of the Code, I have received and considered the attached recommendation from the Director of the Department of Regulatory and Economic Resources.



Jimmy Morales
Chief Operations Officer

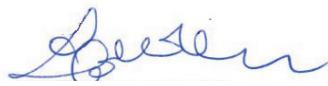
Attachment A: Spoil Islands Receiving Trash Pickup Services Map

Memorandum



Date: August 11, 2021

To: Daniella Levine Cava
Mayor

From: Lourdes M. Gomez, Director 
Department of Regulatory and Economic Resources

Subject: Recommendation for the Disbursement of up to \$550,000.00 from the Biscayne Bay Environmental Enhancement Trust Fund to the Miami-Dade County Department of Regulatory and Economic Resources to Conduct Environmental Enhancement in Biscayne Bay through the Biscayne Bay Restoration and Enhancement Program

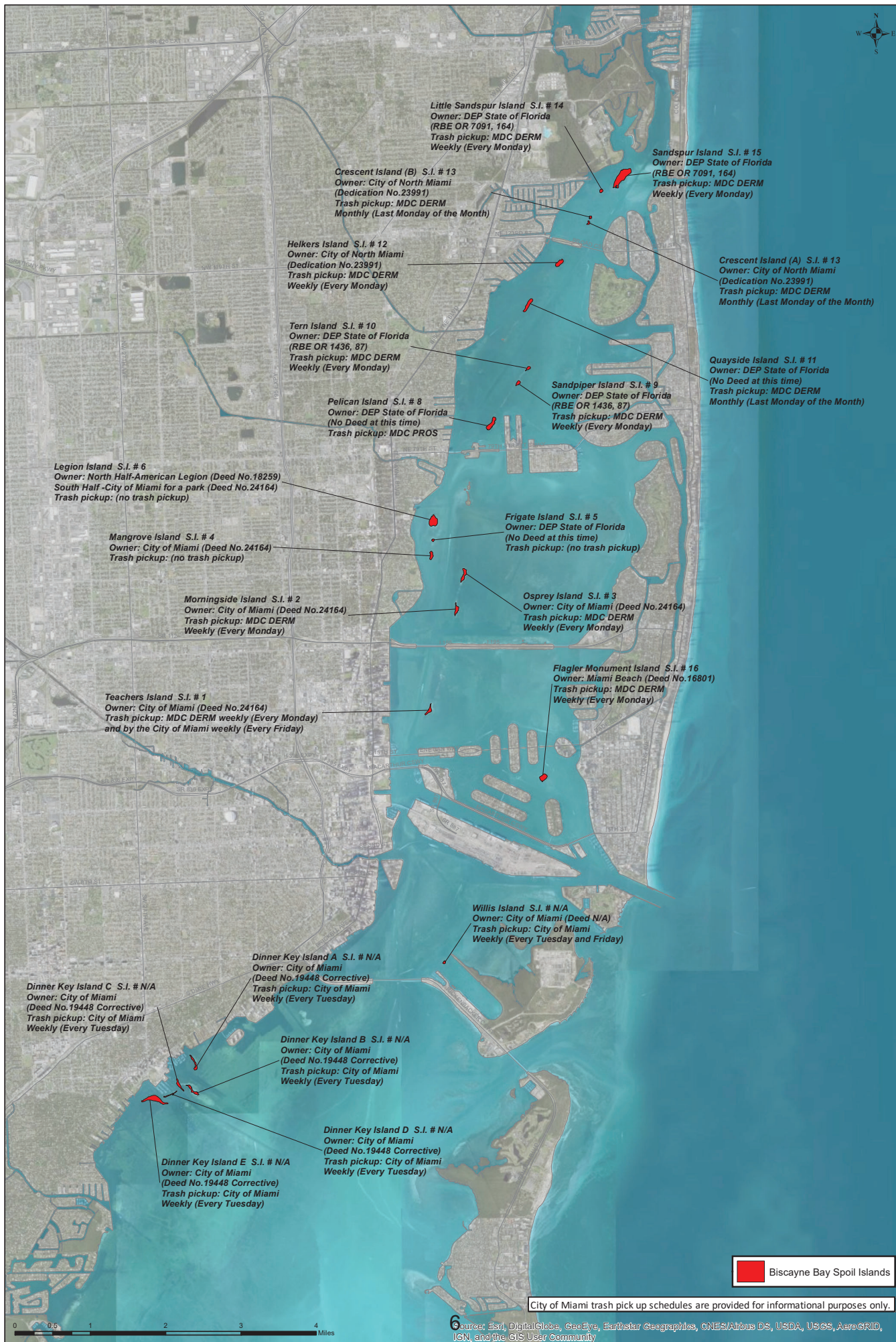
Pursuant to Section 24-40 of Miami-Dade County (Code), I am recommending the disbursement of up to \$550,000.00 from the Biscayne Bay Environmental Enhancement Trust Fund (BBEETF) to the Miami-Dade Department of Regulatory and Economic Resources, Division of Environmental Resources Management (DERM), for environmental enhancement pursuant to project agreements between various funding partners. These enhancement activities are conducted by DERM at previously restored or enhanced sites in connection with the County's ongoing Biscayne Bay Restoration and Enhancement Program.

The coastal environments in Biscayne Bay face many challenges and threats to their present and future health. This funding request will provide funding for environmental enhancement through the removal of trash and solid waste on restored bay islands, supplemental planting of native coastal plants and control of nonnative and invasive plant species, and assessment of the efficacy of these specific efforts. Such assessments, which may, for example, include inspections of the work are an integral part of the above-referenced projects and are necessary to ensure that the projects are carried out appropriately. All of these activities are for the sole purpose of increasing the net habitat value of the bay, its tidal tributaries, and foreshore in association with the County's ongoing Biscayne Bay Restoration and Enhancement Program. These enhancement activities will be conducted over the next five years by County staff, by volunteers when appropriate, and by pre-qualified local contractors selected through a competitive bidding process.

The \$550,000.00 requested for disbursement will be drawn from funds deposited into the Biscayne Bay Environmental Enhancement Trust Fund for the purpose of restoring and enhancing Biscayne Bay and its foreshore. The proposed activities are consistent with the goals and intent of the Biscayne Bay Environmental Enhancement Trust fund as codified in Section 24-40 of the Code of Miami-Dade County.

There are sufficient unencumbered funds currently available in the BBEETF to fulfill this request.

Spoil Islands Receiving Trash Pickup Services





MEMORANDUM

(Revised)

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

DATE: April 5, 2022

FROM: 
Gen Bonzon-Keenan
County Attorney

SUBJECT: Agenda Item No. 8(L)(1)

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. 8(L)(1)
4-5-22

RESOLUTION NO. _____ R-321-22

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE DISBURSEMENT OF UP
TO \$550,000.00 FROM THE BISCAYNE BAY
ENVIRONMENTAL ENHANCEMENT TRUST FUND TO
CONDUCT ENVIRONMENTAL ENHANCEMENT IN
BISCAYNE BAY THROUGH THE MIAMI-DADE COUNTY
BISCAYNE BAY RESTORATION AND ENHANCEMENT
PROGRAM

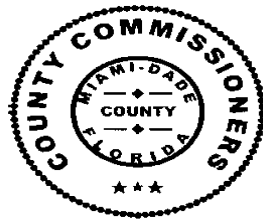
WHEREAS, this Board desires to accomplish the purposes outlined in the accompanying memorandum, a copy of which is incorporated herein by reference,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, that this Board, pursuant to section 24-40 of the Code of Miami-Dade County, authorizes the disbursement of up to \$550,000.00 from the Biscayne Bay Environmental Enhancement Trust Fund for environmental enhancement in Biscayne Bay through the removal of trash and solid waste on restored bay islands, supplemental planting of native coastal plants and control of nonnative and invasive plant species, and assessment of the efficacy of these specific efforts, where such assessment is an integral part of the above-referenced projects, and where all of these activities are for the sole purpose of increasing the net habitat value of the bay, its tidal tributaries, and foreshore in association with the County's ongoing Biscayne Bay Restoration and Enhancement Program, consistent with chapter 24 of the Code of Miami-Dade County.

The foregoing resolution was offered by Commissioner **Rebeca Sosa**, who moved its adoption. The motion was seconded by Commissioner **Oliver G. Gilbert, III** 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 5th day of April, 2022. 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: **Basia Pruna**
Deputy Clerk

Approved by County Attorney as
to form and legal sufficiency.

Abbie Schwaderer-Raurell