

MEMORANDUM

Amended
Agenda Item No. 15(F)(1)

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

DATE: May 3, 2022

FROM: Geri Bonzon-Keenan
County Attorney

SUBJECT: Resolution approving 2022
federal legislative priorities;
waiving provision of Resolution
No. R-764-13 limiting number
of federal legislative priorities

Resolution No. R-471-22

The accompanying resolution was prepared and placed on the agenda at the request of Prime Sponsor Chairman Jose "Pepe" Diaz.



Geri Bonzon-Keenan
County Attorney

GBK/smm



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
Veto	_____		Agenda Item No. 15(F)(1)
Override	_____		5-3-22

RESOLUTION NO. R-471-22

**RESOLUTION APPROVING 2022 FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE
PRIORITIES; WAIVING PROVISION OF RESOLUTION NO. R-
764-13 LIMITING NUMBER OF FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE
PRIORITIES**

WHEREAS, the 117th United States Congress began on January 3, 2021 and will end on January 3, 2023; and

WHEREAS, on January 24, 2012, this Board approved Resolution No. R-59-12, which directed the Office of Intergovernmental Affairs, when it presents the proposed federal or state legislative packages respectively to the Board, to include all “urging” resolutions and other resolutions related to federal or state legislation passed by the Board of County Commissioners to date for the current Congress or session; and

WHEREAS, on September 17, 2013, this Board approved Resolution No. R-764-13, which directed that the federal and state legislative packages each be presented to the Board in two separate companion items, one consisting of no more than 10 priorities for distribution to the Miami-Dade Legislative Delegation and the other to include guiding principles, Board “urging” resolutions enacted to date and departmental items for approval by the Board; and

WHEREAS, Resolution No. R-764-13 provided that, upon the priorities being approved and effective, incorporating any amendments by the Board, the Chair of the Board, or a County Commissioner designated by the Chair, shall transmit the priorities to the respective federal or state legislative delegation; and

WHEREAS, on December 4, 2018, this Board approved Resolution No. R-1267-18, which:

1. Directed the Office of Intergovernmental Affairs to timely remit the federal legislative package, after its approval by the Board, to the County's federal contract lobbyists for feedback and to prepare a report detailing the findings of said feedback prior to the Board's consideration of the federal legislative priorities, with such report being placed on the Board agenda as a supplement to the item providing for the Board's consideration of the federal legislative priorities;

2. Directed the Office of Intergovernmental Affairs to include in the draft federal legislative package the federal legislative requests from the Public Health Trust, if available; and

3. Requested that the Office of Intergovernmental Affairs, starting in December 2019 and each year thereafter, present the draft legislative package for the following year to the Board for consideration in December; and

WHEREAS, the provision of Resolution No. R-1267-18 directing the Office of Intergovernmental Affairs to seek the input of the County's federal contract lobbyists after the Board approves the federal legislative package necessitates the Board approving the federal legislative package at one meeting and then deciding on federal legislative priorities at a subsequent meeting; and

WHEREAS, the Board approved the 2022 federal legislative package at the March 15, 2022 meeting; and

WHEREAS, the report detailing the findings of the feedback from the County's federal contract lobbyists is contained in a supplement to this item pursuant to Resolution No. R-1267-18; and

WHEREAS, the proposed 2022 federal legislative priorities as determined by the Board are attached to this resolution and incorporated by reference,

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

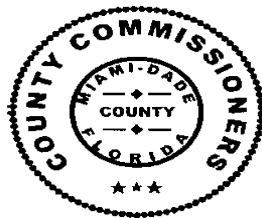
Section 1. Waives the provision of Resolution No. R-764-13 limiting the number of federal legislative priorities and approves the County’s federal legislative priorities for 2022 as determined by the Board.

Section 2. Directs the County’s federal lobbyists to advocate for the 2022 federal legislative priorities.

The Prime Sponsor of the foregoing resolution is Chairman Jose “Pepe” Diaz. It was offered by Commissioner **Raquel A. Regalado** , who moved its adoption. The motion was seconded by Commissioner **Rebeca Sosa** 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 3rd day of May, 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.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "JMM", written over a horizontal line.

Jess M. McCarty

2022 Federal Legislative Critical Priorities

1. **Bridge Infrastructure Projects:** Resolution No. 165-22 urging the President of the United States, the United States Department of Transportation, and the United States Federal Highway Administration to allocate additional funding for bridge infrastructure projects under the 2021 infrastructure investment and jobs act to the State of Florida.
2. **SMART Plan Funding:** **SUPPORT** funding and financing for all corridors in the Strategic Miami Area Rapid Transit (SMART) Plan. **ADVOCATE** for accelerated review of East-West Bus Rapid Transit Project and Northeast Commuter Rail Corridors currently in the FTA evaluations process.
3. **Everglades Restoration:** **SUPPORT** the State of Florida's request for South Florida Ecosystem Restoration (SFER) funding at \$725 million for FY22 to continue the progress made for the Everglades restoration that includes funds for planning efforts for the Biscayne Bay Southeastern Everglades Ecosystem Restoration project (BBSEER). The BBSEER project is essential to Miami-Dade County. BBSEER will restore parts of the south Florida ecosystem in freshwater wetlands of the Southern Glades and Model Lands, the coastal wetlands, and subtidal areas, including mangrove and seagrass areas, of Biscayne Bay, Biscayne National Park. (Resilience)
4. **Septic to Sewer Conversion:** **SUPPORT** legislation providing funding in the form of federal grants and loans to facilitate septic to sewer projects where it is shown that septic systems are contributing to public health risks or environmental degradation of significant resources such as Biscayne Bay and Biscayne National Park. Funding is needed for the public infrastructure as well as for the cost of connection for private property owners.
5. **Miami-Dade County Public Schools:** Resolution No. R-67-22 **SUPPORT** the 2022 State and Federal Legislative Priorities of the Miami-Dade County Public Schools.
6. **HELPER Act:** Resolution No. 71-22 urging the United States Congress to enact S. 2981, H.R. 3172, the helper act, or similar legislation establishing a mortgage loan assistance program for first responders and teachers.
7. **Airport Improvement Program (AIP):** **SUPPORT** authorizing the Airport Improvement Program at no less than \$3.35 billion for the traditional AIP account in FY22 — the same amount provided in the current fiscal year. Of that amount, approximately \$127.2 million would go toward administration expenses, \$15 million for the Airport Cooperative Research Program, almost \$41 million for Airport Technology Research and \$10 million for the Small Community Air Service Development Program.
8. **Cuban Government:** Resolution No. 754-21 urging President Joseph R. Biden, Jr. and the Biden administration to condemn the Cuban government's handling of the protests, and support the Cuban people in their struggle for freedom and basic needs by various avenues, including by maintaining and strengthening economic sanctions, by publicly denouncing the Cuban dictatorship for its violence against the Cuban people, by

2022 Federal Legislative Critical Priorities

recognizing the pro-democracy movement's efforts on behalf of democracy, by using all available technology to allow the free flow of information in and out of Cuba, by diplomatic intervention, and by coordinating an international effort for humanitarian aid and support toward a democratic transition.

9. **Veterans Suicide Prevention:** Resolution No. 1115-21 urging the United States Congress to recognize the epidemic of suicide among veterans and fully fund suicide prevention efforts by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs; and urging the United States Congress to fully fund the United States Department of Veterans Affairs suicide prevention efforts.
10. **National Fire Protection Association (“NFPA”):** Resolution No. 1188-21 urging the United States Congress to urge the National Fire Protection Association to reevaluate and amend NFPA standards 1851 and 1852 to align the service life of fire protective clothing with objective technical specifications that correlate to the actual capacity of the equipment to protect firefighters during its intended use, rather than merely the date of manufacture; urging the National Fire Protection Association to reevaluate and amend NFPA standards 1851 and 1852 to do the same.
11. **Strengthen Federal Passenger and Cargo Screening Staffing:** **ADVOCATE** for sufficient staffing to both address lengthy passenger wait times and delays in cargo processing. Maintaining the safety and security of the traveling public is a top priority for Miami International Airport (MIA). MIA continually works with the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) and U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) to protect passengers while providing an efficient passenger and cargo screening process. But staffing shortfalls from these government agencies have proven to be an on-going challenge.
12. **Transit Build Back Better Framework:** **SUPPORT** the passage of the Build Back Better Framework for Transit and alternative fuel investments. The House Committee on Rules posted revised legislative text that reflects most of the Framework. In Fiscal Year (FY) 2022, the bill provides:
 - \$10 billion for a new, innovative program providing competitive grants for public transit access to affordable housing and to enhance mobility for low-income riders and residents of disadvantaged communities;
 - \$10 billion for the planning and development of public high-speed rail projects; and
 - Additional investments in climate incentive grants and neighborhood access and equity grants.
 - It also creates a manufacturer's tax credit equal to 30 percent of the cost of electric or hydrogen fuel-cell transit buses; extends the alternative fuel tax credit; and extends and substantially increases the alternative fuel vehicle property tax credit.

2022 Federal Legislative Critical Priorities

- 13. Ludlam Trail Corridor: *ADVOCATE*** for funding for the construction of the Ludlam Trail. The Ludlam Trail Corridor is an approximately 5.6 mile long, generally one-hundred-foot wide, former railroad corridor that extends from NW 7 St. just south of Miami International Airport to SW 80 St. just north of Dadeland Mall between 69th – 70th Avenues. This funding request will help reduce an estimated \$60,000,000 in unfunded needs for various phases of Ludlam Trail development for the phased conversion and activation of this abandoned railway corridor into a public bicycle and pedestrian corridor. This corridor will be owned, developed and maintained by Miami-Dade County and is an important element of the County-wide network of bicycle and pedestrian trails for non-motorized alternative transportation, and recreational uses.
- 14. Infrastructure Finance and Programs: *SUPPORT*** the implementation of Water Infrastructure Financing and Innovation Authority (WIFIA), adequate funding of State Revolving Loan Funds, and federal policy on affordability, climate change, Clean Water Act mandates, and Safe Drinking Water Act mandates, which are all significant factors for WASD capital and operating requirements. The Department has been selected in each of the first four funding cycles for WIFIA projects, in addition to maximizing utilization of the State Revolving Loan Fund program, demonstrating the importance of these federal initiatives to produce results on the ground. A reliable utility system meeting all state and federal requirements is essential for the operation of other departments as well as the continued economic well-being of the County. Miami-Dade County has an \$8+ billion water and sewer capital needs program resulting from aging infrastructure, federal and state regulatory mandates, and changing conditions associated with documented sea level rise. This represents the largest capital burden of any comparably sized utility in the nation.
- 15. Flexibility for Public Housing Capital fund and other funds: *SUPPORT*** that any additional funding to the HUD Public Housing Capital Fund be made flexible in terms of use with other programs such as the Rental Assistance Demonstration (RAD) program that promote redevelopment or repositioning. Flexibility in the use of funds allows a change in the traditional method of funding public housing to one that combines private sector resources with reliable project based “section 8” contracts with the government.