

MEMORANDUM

Agenda Item No. 11(A)(13)

TO: Honorable Chairman Oliver G. Gilbert, III
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

DATE: October 3, 2023

FROM: Geri Bonzon-Keenan
County Attorney

SUBJECT: Resolution reaffirming that Miami-Dade County is a Green Light For Veterans County; directing the County Mayor to ensure that, from November 6, 2023 through November 12, 2023, major County buildings are illuminated with visible green lighting or visible and prominent green lighting is displayed in observance of Operation Green Light for Veterans, provided that such lighting can be accomplished without incurring expense; encouraging all residents of Miami-Dade County to support and participate in operation Green Light for Veterans by displaying a green light in a window of their residence or place of business from November 6, 2023 through November 12, 2023; and directing the County Mayor to ensure the County's participation in Operation Green Light so long as Operation Green Light remains an initiative of the National Association of Counties

Resolution No. R-897-23

The accompanying resolution was prepared and placed on the agenda at the request of Prime Sponsor Commissioner Eileen Higgins and Co-Sponsor Commissioner Kevin Marino Cabrera.


Geri Bonzon-Keenan
County Attorney

GBK/ks

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MEMORANDUM

(Revised)

TO: Honorable Chairman Oliver G. Gilbert, III
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

DATE: October 3, 2023

FROM: 
Gen Bonzon-Keenan
County Attorney

SUBJECT: Agenda Item No. 11(A)(13)

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)(13)
10-3-23

RESOLUTION NO. R-897-23

RESOLUTION REAFFIRMING THAT MIAMI-DADE COUNTY IS A GREEN LIGHT FOR VETERANS COUNTY; DIRECTING THE COUNTY MAYOR OR COUNTY MAYOR'S DESIGNEE TO ENSURE THAT, FROM NOVEMBER 6, 2023 THROUGH NOVEMBER 12, 2023, MAJOR COUNTY BUILDINGS ARE ILLUMINATED WITH VISIBLE GREEN LIGHTING OR VISIBLE AND PROMINENT GREEN LIGHTING IS DISPLAYED IN OBSERVANCE OF OPERATION GREEN LIGHT FOR VETERANS, PROVIDED THAT SUCH LIGHTING CAN BE ACCOMPLISHED WITHOUT INCURRING EXPENSE; ENCOURAGING ALL RESIDENTS OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY TO SUPPORT AND PARTICIPATE IN OPERATION GREEN LIGHT FOR VETERANS BY DISPLAYING A GREEN LIGHT IN A WINDOW OF THEIR RESIDENCE OR PLACE OF BUSINESS FROM NOVEMBER 6, 2023 THROUGH NOVEMBER 12, 2023; AND DIRECTING THE COUNTY MAYOR OR COUNTY MAYOR'S DESIGNEE TO ENSURE THE COUNTY'S PARTICIPATION IN OPERATION GREEN LIGHT SO LONG AS OPERATION GREEN LIGHT REMAINS AN INITIATIVE OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES

WHEREAS, the community of Miami-Dade County is known for having great respect, admiration, and gratitude for all of the men and women who have selflessly served our country and this community as members of the United States Armed Forces; and

WHEREAS, the contributions and sacrifices of our nation's veterans and transitioning service members have been vital in maintaining the freedoms and way of life enjoyed by our country; and

WHEREAS, following their service with the United States Armed Forces, veterans often continue to serve our communities as part of the American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars, and religious groups, through civil service, and by serving as County Veteran Service Officers in various states to help fellow former service members gain access to billions of dollars in federal health, disability, and compensation benefits each year; and

WHEREAS, approximately 200,000 service members transition to civilian communities annually according to the United States Department of Labor, and it is estimated that, in the near future, there will be a 20 percent increase in the number of service members who will transition to civilian life; and

WHEREAS, unfortunately, however, studies have shown that a high percentage of transitioning service members experience high levels of stress during the transition from military life to civilian life, and that transitioning service members are at a significant risk for suicide during their first year following military service; and

WHEREAS, for this upcoming Veterans Day on November 11, 2023, to show support and appreciation for our nation's veterans and transitioning service members, the National Association of Counties and the National Association of County Veteran Service Officers have invited counties, parishes, and boroughs across the country to participate in the "Operation Green Light for Veterans" initiative; and

WHEREAS, through this initiative, participating government buildings will be illuminated green and/or have a visible green light shining from them from November 6, 2023 through November 12, 2023, to let veterans and transitioning service members know that they are seen, appreciated, and supported, and also to raise awareness about the unique challenges faced by many of these individuals and the resources available to them and their families at the county, state and federal levels; and

WHEREAS, this Board previously proclaimed Miami-Dade County as a Green Light for Veterans County; and

WHEREAS, this Board wishes to show its continued appreciation and support for our veterans and transitioning service members by once again participating in Operation Green Light for Veterans,

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

Section 1. Hereby reaffirms that Miami-Dade County is a Green Light for Veterans County.

Section 2. Directs the County Mayor or County Mayor's designee to ensure that, from November 6, 2023 through November 12, 2023, major County buildings are illuminated with visible green lighting or visible and prominent green lighting is displayed in observance of Operation Green Light for Veterans, provided that such lighting can be accomplished without incurring expense.

Section 3. Encourages all residents of Miami-Dade County to support and participate in Operation Green Light for Veterans by displaying a green light in a window of their residence or place of business from November 6, 2023 through November 12, 2023.

Section 4. Directs the County Mayor or County Mayor's designee to ensure the County's participation in Operation Green Light so long as Operation Green Light remains an initiative of the National Association of Counties.

The Prime Sponsor of the foregoing resolution is Commissioner Eileen Higgins and the Co-Sponsor is Commissioner Kevin Marino Cabrera.

It was offered by Commissioner **Anthony Rodriguez**, who moved its adoption. The motion was seconded by Commissioner **Danielle Cohen Higgins** and upon being put to a vote, the vote was as follows:

Oliver G. Gilbert, III, Chairman	aye		
Anthony Rodríguez, Vice Chairman	aye		
Marleine Bastien	aye	Juan Carlos Bermudez	aye
Kevin Marino Cabrera	aye	Sen. René García	absent
Roberto J. Gonzalez	aye	Keon Hardemon	aye
Danielle Cohen Higgins	aye	Eileen Higgins	aye
Kionne L. McGhee	aye	Raquel A. Regalado	aye
Micky Steinberg	aye		

The Chairperson thereupon declared this resolution duly passed and adopted this 3rd day of October, 2023. 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

JUAN FERNANDEZ-BARQUIN, CLERK

By: **Basia Pruna**
Deputy Clerk

Approved by County Attorney as
to form and legal sufficiency.

Christian Fernandez-Andes