

MEMORANDUM

Agenda Item No. 11(A)(11)

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

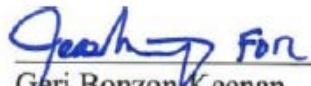
DATE: October 16, 2024

FROM: Geri Bonzon-Keenan
County Attorney

SUBJECT: Resolution directing the Chairperson of the Board of County Commissioners to negotiate and finalize an agreement with Sun City Strategies, LLC, to obtain governmental representation and consulting services before the executive and legislative branches of the State of Florida subject to identification and allocation of legally available funds in the County budget; authorizing the County Mayor to execute the agreement with Sun City Strategies, LLC; delegating authority to the Chairperson of the Board to exercise all rights contained in such agreement, including cancellation and renewal provisions; and directing the Chairperson to submit a written report to the Board

Resolution No. R-956-24

The accompanying resolution was prepared and placed on the agenda at the request of Prime Sponsor Commissioner Juan Carlos Bermudez.



Geri Bonzon-Keenan
County Attorney

GBK/jp

MDC001



MEMORANDUM (Revised)

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

DATE: October 16, 2024

FROM: 
Glen Bonzon-Keenan
County Attorney

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

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 ____, majority plus one ____, 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) ____, 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)(11)
10-16-24

RESOLUTION NO. R-956-24

RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE CHAIRPERSON OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS TO NEGOTIATE AND FINALIZE AN AGREEMENT WITH SUN CITY STRATEGIES, LLC, TO OBTAIN GOVERNMENTAL REPRESENTATION AND CONSULTING SERVICES BEFORE THE EXECUTIVE AND LEGISLATIVE BRANCHES OF THE STATE OF FLORIDA SUBJECT TO IDENTIFICATION AND ALLOCATION OF LEGALLY AVAILABLE FUNDS IN THE COUNTY BUDGET; AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY MAYOR OR COUNTY MAYOR'S DESIGNEE TO EXECUTE THE AGREEMENT WITH SUN CITY STRATEGIES, LLC; DELEGATING AUTHORITY TO THE CHAIRPERSON OF THE BOARD TO EXERCISE ALL RIGHTS CONTAINED IN SUCH AGREEMENT, INCLUDING CANCELLATION AND RENEWAL PROVISIONS; AND DIRECTING THE CHAIRPERSON TO SUBMIT A WRITTEN REPORT TO THE BOARD

WHEREAS, on October 1, 2024, this Board delegated authority to the Chairperson to negotiate and finalize agreements to obtain governmental representation and consulting services before the executive and legislative branches of the State of Florida from among nine recommended firms that submitted proposals in response to County RFQ No. EVN0008128 using legally available funds in the County budget; and

WHEREAS, the list of recommended firms does not currently include Sun City Strategies, LLC; and

WHEREAS, Sun City Strategies, LLC, currently provides governmental representation and consulting services for the County as a subcontractor under GrayRobinson, P.A.; and

WHEREAS, Sun City Strategies is led by former Florida State Representative Eddy Gonzalez; and

WHEREAS, former Representative Gonzalez has also served as a Councilman for the City of Hialeah, President of the Miami-Dade County League of Cities, Chairman of the Miami-Dade Legislative Delegation, and worked alongside numerous legislators and leaders, including Florida Senate President Designate Ben Albritton, Florida Education Commissioner Manny Diaz, Jr., and Lieutenant Governor Jeanette Nuñez; and

WHEREAS, Sun City Strategies, LLC, provides a full range of lobbying and advocacy services, including meeting with members of the Florida Legislature, testifying at committee meetings on the County's behalf, assigning individuals to closely monitor and review all substantive floor amendments and bills, integrating efforts with the County's Office of Intergovernmental Affairs, and preparing reports advising the County of the current status of legislation during and after the legislative session; and

WHEREAS, Sun City Strategies, LLC, has also provided representation and consulting services before the executive and legislative branches of the State of Florida on behalf of the City of Doral, the Town of Miami Lakes, the City of Hialeah, and the City of Hialeah Gardens; and

WHEREAS, this Board has evaluated Sun City Strategies, LLC's relevant experience, qualifications, past performance, and capabilities, including the relevant experience and qualifications of the key personnel that will be working for the County; and

WHEREAS, this Board has verified that Sun City Strategies, LLC possesses (1) a strong working knowledge of legislative, administrative, and regulatory processes at the state and local level; (2) a clear understanding of large urban areas, including specific knowledge of Miami-Dade County; (3) a history of successful lobbying experience at the state level; and (4) a clear strategy for representing the County at meetings with key legislators and members of the Executive Branch; and

WHEREAS, because of Sun City Strategies, LLC's impressive record and work on behalf of the County, this Board wishes to negotiate and finalize an agreement for governmental representation and consulting services before the State of Florida's legislative and executive branches with Sun City Strategies, LLC,

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

Section 1. Adopts the foregoing recital clauses as if fully set forth herein.

Section 2. Directs the Chairperson of the Board to negotiate and finalize an agreement with Sun City Strategies, LLC, to obtain governmental representation and consulting services before the executive and legislative branches of the State of Florida subject to identification and allocation of legally available funds in the County budget.

Section 3. Authorizes the County Mayor or County Mayor's designee to execute the agreement with Sun City Strategies, LLC, for and on behalf of Miami-Dade County and delegates authority to the Chairperson of the Board to exercise all rights contained in such agreement, including cancellation and renewal provisions. A copy of the agreement to be executed shall be on file with and available upon request from the Strategic Procurement Department.

Section 4. If the Chairperson of the Board is unable to identify and allocate sufficient funds for the agreement, or otherwise unable to finalize an agreement for governmental representation and consulting services before the executive and legislative branches of the State of Florida with Sun City Strategies, LLC, the Chairperson shall, on or before December 1, 2024, file a written memorandum with the Clerk of the Board and send a copy to each County Commissioner setting forth the reasons why such an agreement could not be reached.

The Prime Sponsor of the foregoing resolution is Commissioner Juan Carlos Bermudez. It was offered by Commissioner **Eileen Higgins**, 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	aye
Roberto J. Gonzalez	aye	Keon Hardemon	absent
Danielle Cohen Higgins	aye	Eileen Higgins	aye
Kionne L. McGhee	aye	Raquel A. Regalado	aye
Micky Steinberg	absent		

The Chairperson thereupon declared this resolution duly passed and adopted this 16th day of October, 2024. 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.

Jess M. McCarty
Eduardo W. Gonzalez
Javier Zapata