

MEMORANDUM

Agenda Item No. 11(A)(14)

TO: Honorable Chairman Anthony Rodriguez
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

DATE: February 19, 2025

FROM: Geri Bonzon-Keenan
County Attorney

SUBJECT: Resolution directing the County
Mayor to develop a closed loop
recycling plan for the Miami-
Dade Aviation Department and
PortMiami, and provide a written
report

Resolution No. R-193-25

A substitute was presented and forwarded to the BCC with a favorable recommendation at the February 10, 2025 Infrastructure, Innovation & Technology Committee.

This substitute differs from the original item printed on the January 28, 2025 Committee of the Whole agenda to also investigate more cost-effective methods of composting as part of the exploration, evaluation and development of a closed loop recycling plan.

The accompanying resolution was prepared and placed on the agenda at the request of Prime Sponsor Commissioner Raquel A. Regalado.



Geri Bonzon-Keenan
County Attorney

GBK/jp



MEMORANDUM (Revised)

TO: Honorable Chairman Anthony Rodriguez
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

DATE: February 19, 2025

FROM: 
Glen Bonzon-Keenan
County Attorney

SUBJECT: Agenda Item No. 11(A)(14)

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)(14)
2-19-25

RESOLUTION NO. _____ R-193-25

RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE COUNTY MAYOR OR
COUNTY MAYOR'S DESIGNEE TO DEVELOP A CLOSED
LOOP RECYCLING PLAN FOR THE MIAMI-DADE
AVIATION DEPARTMENT AND PORTMIAMI, AND
PROVIDE A WRITTEN REPORT

WHEREAS, closed loop recycling is the process of collecting and reprocessing recycled goods without the loss of integrity of the initial material; and

WHEREAS, with a closed loop recycling program, certain products and materials can be recycled repeatedly, and made into the same or similar products or materials, without wastes needing disposal; and

WHEREAS, closed loop recycling minimizes environmental harm by reducing the production and use of raw materials; and

WHEREAS, section 403.706(2)(a) of the Florida Statutes requires each county to “implement a recyclable materials recycling program that shall have a goal of recycling recyclable solid waste by ... 75 percent by December 31, 2020”; and

WHEREAS, innovative recycling achievements have resulted in Walt Disney World and Disneyland (collectively “Disney”) reducing waste production by (i) pulverizing glass bottles into sand to replenish beaches and road surfaces, (ii) turning cooking oil into biodiesel fuel to power steam trains, (iii) repurposing food scraps into animal feed, (iv) reclaiming wastewater for irrigation, and (v) capturing rainwater to filter into the groundwater; and

WHEREAS, the Disney recycling program works because its system is a closed loop; and

WHEREAS, chapter 15 of the Code of Miami-Dade County, Florida (the “Code”), which pertains to solid waste management, imposes certain recycling requirements on residential, multi-family residential, and commercial establishments in both the unincorporated and incorporated areas of Miami-Dade County (the “County”); and

WHEREAS, on December 12, 2023, this Board passed and adopted Resolution No. R-1123-23, which approved a contract award for the purchase of recycling services for multiple County departments, including the Miami-Dade Aviation Department (“MDAD”) and PortMiami; and

WHEREAS, the Miami-Dade County Department of Solid Waste (“DSWM” or the “Department”) processes and disposes of approximately 2,400,000.00 tons of solid waste annually, arising from both the solid waste collected by the Department as well as waste from 15 municipalities that have long-term disposal contracts; and

WHEREAS, DSWM operates (i) three landfills, (ii) three Regional Transfer Stations, and (iii) the Resources Recovery Facility (“RRF”) for waste disposal; and

WHEREAS, on February 12, 2023, a fire occurred at the RRF, and, except for tire shredding, the RRF has remained inoperable since that date; and

WHEREAS, the County has negotiated with WSP USA Inc. to develop and create a zero waste master plan to support waste reduction, diversion, and recycling in the County (Request for Proposal No. EVN0005224); and

WHEREAS, the County is already identifying and implementing zero waste strategies pertaining to solid waste management; and

WHEREAS, the development and implementation of a closed loop recycling plan will reduce the amount of non-biodegradable waste either disposed of in landfills or becoming a pollutant, as the recyclables are recovered and reused; and

WHEREAS, the Board wants to determine whether the current MDAD recycling contract can be used for these purposes; and

WHEREAS, the Board wants to create a proof of concept for an effective zero waste plan in a closed loop system; and

WHEREAS, this Board desires to explore, evaluate, and implement a closed loop recycling plan, with the objective of reducing the County's creation and disposal of waste in the most cost effective manner,

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

Section 1. Incorporates the foregoing recitals.

Section 2. Directs the County Mayor or County Mayor's designee to explore, evaluate, and develop a closed loop recycling plan for MDAD and PortMiami, including but not limited to: (i) investigating more cost-effective methods of recycling >>and composting<<;¹ (ii) investigating additional potential markets for recycled items or materials that could prove cost-effective; (iii) identifying legally available funding source(s) to pay any costs associated with the construction, implementation and operation of the closed loop recycling plan; (iv) investigating the existence of

¹ The differences between the substitute and the original item are indicated as follows: Words stricken through and/or [[double bracketed]] shall be deleted, words underscored and/or >>double arrowed<< are added.

state or federal grant opportunities that may be available for such purposes; and (v) determining whether the current MDAD recycling contract can be used for these purposes.

Section 3. Further directs the County Mayor or County Mayor’s designee to prepare a written report detailing the plan required by section 2 of this resolution within 90 days of the effective date of this resolution, and to place the completed report on an agenda of the full Board without committee review pursuant to Rule 5.06(j) of the Board’s Rules of Procedure.

The Prime Sponsor of the foregoing resolution is Commissioner Raquel A. Regalado. It was offered by Commissioner **Kionne L. McGhee**, who moved its adoption. The motion was seconded by Commissioner **Marleine Bastien** and upon being put to a vote, the vote was as follows:

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

The Chairperson thereupon declared this resolution duly passed and adopted this 19th day of February, 2025. 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.

dsh

David Stephen Hope