

MEMORANDUM

Agenda Item No. 11(A)(3)

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

DATE: September 3, 2025

FROM: Geri Bonzon-Keenan
County Attorney

SUBJECT: Resolution directing the
County Mayor to establish or
enhance comprehensive
reporting and compliance
requirements for solid waste
reduction, and recycling
programs in multifamily,
commercial, and mixed-use
properties and provide
recommendations; and to
provide a report

Resolution No. R-878-25

The accompanying resolution was prepared and placed on the agenda at the request of Prime Sponsor Commissioner Marleine Bastien.



Geri Bonzon-Keenan
County Attorney

GBK/ks



MEMORANDUM

(Revised)

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

DATE: September 3, 2025

FROM: 
Gen Bonzon-Keenan
County Attorney

SUBJECT: Agenda Item No. 11(A)(3)

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)(3)
9-3-25

RESOLUTION NO. R-878-25

RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE COUNTY MAYOR OR COUNTY MAYOR'S DESIGNEE TO ESTABLISH OR ENHANCE COMPREHENSIVE REPORTING AND COMPLIANCE REQUIREMENTS FOR SOLID WASTE REDUCTION, AND RECYCLING PROGRAMS IN MULTIFAMILY, COMMERCIAL, AND MIXED-USE PROPERTIES AND PROVIDE RECOMMENDATIONS; AND TO PROVIDE A REPORT

WHEREAS, Miami-Dade County (the "County"), through its residential curbside recycling program, collects paper, cardboard, steel and aluminum cans, cartons, plastic and glass bottles, and plastic tubs and jugs, from its residential customers once every two weeks; and

WHEREAS, section 15 of the Code of Miami-Dade County, Fla. (the "Code"), defines "commercial establishment" as "Any structure used or constructed for use for business operations. For purposes of this chapter, hotels and motels are commercial establishments;" and

WHEREAS, commercial establishments in the County must provide a recycling program for their employees and tenants, using the services of a permitted hauler; and

WHEREAS, multifamily properties in the County must recycle, at a minimum, glass, aluminum cans, newspapers, household plastic containers (bottles, jugs, and tubs), and steel cans, or request and receive approval of a modified recycling program; and

WHEREAS, there are various recycling facilities that focus on other waste streams separate from the County's designated recycling materials that commercialize waste diversion, such as construction and demolition debris, textiles, used cooking oil, and food rescue efforts; and

WHEREAS, successful recycling programs at multifamily, commercial, and mixed-use buildings have been demonstrated to significantly increase waste diversion rates, reduce landfill dependency, and conserve natural resources; and

WHEREAS, studies have shown that recycling effectiveness is directly linked to strong participation rates among residents and tenants, which can be achieved through consistent education, accessibility, and transparent program management; and

WHEREAS, effective recycling programs rely on the active engagement of permitted haulers and property managers to maintain service quality and address contamination, ensuring the proper disposal of recyclable materials; and

WHEREAS, comprehensive monitoring and compliance measures are critical to evaluate the success of recycling programs, identify areas for improvement, and ensure accountability among property managers, owners, and haulers; and

WHEREAS, the City of Orlando (“Orlando”), implemented a robust recycling program as part of its goal to become a zero-waste community by 2040; and

WHEREAS, Orlando focused on making recycling as convenient as waste disposal, thereby ensuring accessibility for residents in multifamily properties; and

WHEREAS, the Orlando program included clear signage, educational outreach, and collaboration with property managers to improve participation rates; and

WHEREAS, Orlando added recycling services to 21,500 multifamily units in the first year of this four-year project; and

WHEREAS, by increasing participation in the city’s recycling program, Orlando diverted an additional 2.2 million pounds of recyclables from landfills in the program’s first year; and

WHEREAS, the Recycling Partnership also reported that through the city's program, contamination and educational intervention showed that for properties with expanded access to recycling, contamination rates decreased at two-thirds of the properties as a result; and

WHEREAS, the County recognizes the need for enhanced reporting requirements to standardize the collection of key metrics such as participation rates, contamination levels, and diversion rates, thus enabling data-driven decision-making to improve program effectiveness, and has included such metrics as requirements in new residential recycling hauler contracts; and

WHEREAS, section 15-2 of the Code, requires semiannual review of modified recycling programs, but does not require review of unmodified recycling programs for multifamily and commercial properties; and

WHEREAS, section 8CC-10 of the Code, imposes civil penalties for failure to provide a recycling program in compliance with the requirements of section 15-2 of the Code; and

WHEREAS, concentrated efforts to conduct inspections and audits will promote adherence to recycling guidelines while supporting a culture of environmental responsibility among building owners and tenants; and

WHEREAS, the County is developing a Zero Waste Master Plan that will review how recycling could be better utilized to promote waste diversion and recycling across the entire County, including in multifamily, commercial, and mixed-use buildings; and

WHEREAS, this Board wishes to improve waste diversion County-wide by strengthening the effectiveness of recycling programs in multifamily, commercial, and mixed-use buildings,

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 establish or enhance comprehensive reporting and compliance requirements for solid waste reduction, and recycling programs in multifamily, commercial, and mixed-use properties, including the provision of mechanisms to measure and improve program effectiveness, and promote accountability among property managers, owners, and permitted haulers. For multifamily, commercial, and mixed-use properties, the County Mayor or County Mayor's designee shall recommend reporting requirements including, at a minimum, an Annual Recycling Program Report detailing: (a) the type, frequency and volume of recyclables collected; (b) the outreach and engagement methods property owners use to educate residents and tenants; and (c) the hauler's name and permit number. For permitted haulers servicing these properties, the County Mayor or County Mayor's designee shall recommend reporting requirements such as Quarterly Recycling Service Reports to the County, including: (a) collection volumes for each serviced property; (b) available contamination rates; and (c) recommendations to improve solid waste reduction or diversion. For permitted recycling facilities and other companies practicing waste diversion that service these properties and other facilities across Miami-Dade County, the County Mayor or County Mayor's designee shall recommend reporting requirements including, at a minimum, an Annual Recycling Program Report detailing (a) the type and volume of recyclables collected, and (b) a deadline for the Annual Recycling Program Report to be submitted to the County prior to February 15th of each year. The County Mayor or County Mayor's designee shall also recommend incentives and/or penalties to encourage such entities to provide an Annual Recycling Program Report to the County.

Section 3. Further directs the County Mayor or County Mayor's designee to include in its recommendations the following: (a) compliance monitoring and inspection requirements to, at a minimum, include i. random site inspections of a sampling of properties and haulers, ii.

adherence to reporting requirements, and iii. deficiencies and improvement plans; (b) penalties and incentives to encourage participation, including, fines depending on the severity of non-compliance, escalating as recycling participation goes unaddressed, and staggered reduced permit renewal fees for permitted haulers demonstrating exemplary recycling practices (quantifiable improvement of contamination rate year-over-year); and (c) education and outreach initiatives, including, i. educational materials on proper recycling practice, ii. workshops and training sessions to increase participation rates, iii. a recycling toolkit to promote recycling for multifamily, commercial, and mixed-use properties; and (d) identify legally available and sufficient funds to comply with the reporting requirements outlined in sections 2 and 3 of this resolution.

Section 4. Directs the County Mayor or County Mayor’s designee to provide a report detailing the foregoing for Board consideration within 180 days of the effective date of this resolution. The completed report shall be placed 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 Marleine Bastien. It was offered by Commissioner **Danielle Cohen Higgins** , who moved its adoption. The motion was seconded by Commissioner **Kionne L. McGhee** 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	absent
Sen. René García	absent	Oliver G. Gilbert, III	aye
Roberto J. Gonzalez	aye	Keon Hardemon	aye
Danielle Cohen Higgins	aye	Eileen Higgins	aye
Natalie Milian Orbis	aye	Raquel A. Regalado	aye
Micky Steinberg	aye		

The Chairperson thereupon declared this resolution duly passed and adopted this 3rd day of September, 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