

MEMORANDUM

Agenda Item No. 11(A)(12)

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

DATE: September 3, 2025

FROM: Geri Bonzon-Keenan
County Attorney

SUBJECT: Resolution urging the Florida
Legislature and Florida
Department of Environmental
Protection to appropriate funding
for the Stormwater Management
System Cistern Project in Miami-
Dade County near Grapeland
Heights and the Miami River

Resolution No. R-886-25

The accompanying resolution was prepared and placed on the agenda at the request of Prime Sponsor Commissioner Natalie Milian Orbis.


Geri Bonzon-Keenan
County Attorney

GBK/jp



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)(12)

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)(12)
9-2-25

RESOLUTION NO. R-886-25

RESOLUTION URGING THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE AND
FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL
PROTECTION TO APPROPRIATE FUNDING FOR THE
STORMWATER MANAGEMENT SYSTEM CISTERN
PROJECT IN MIAMI-DADE COUNTY NEAR GRAPELAND
HEIGHTS AND THE MIAMI RIVER

WHEREAS, a major stormwater management project is presently contemplated across a 131-acre development near Grapeland Heights and the Miami River; and

WHEREAS, this initiative hopes to address critical local challenges of flooding, nutrient pollution, and water quality degradation impacting the community and sensitive waterways, including Biscayne Bay; and

WHEREAS, the project aims to integrate a large underground concrete cistern within the area's overall stormwater management network; and

WHEREAS, this cistern and its associated exfiltration trenches may provide over 1.35 million gallons of storage capacity, ideally capturing and retaining stormwater runoff from rooftops and paved areas before it enters municipal drains or natural water bodies; and

WHEREAS, it is hoped that the system could detain and gradually infiltrate stormwater, potentially removing up to 77 percent of nitrogen and phosphorus pollutants, reducing nutrient loading, preventing localized flooding, and supporting regulatory water quality compliance; and

WHEREAS, this innovative stormwater infrastructure is aimed at enhancing climate resilience, safeguarding adjacent neighborhoods and aquatic ecosystems, and blending advanced engineering with the area's vibrant, mixed-use setting; and

WHEREAS, the project site is located within the Biscayne Bay watershed; and

WHEREAS, state funding will ensure the project’s successful and timely completion; and

WHEREAS, the Board desires that the state fund this important project to improve water quality in South Florida and Biscayne Bay,

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

Section 1. Urges the Florida Legislature and the Florida Department of Environmental Protection to appropriate funding for the Stormwater Management System Cistern Project in Miami-Dade County near Grapeland Heights and the Miami River.

Section 2. Directs the Clerk of the Board to transmit a certified copy of this resolution to the Governor, the Senate President, the House Speaker, the Secretary of the Florida Department of Environmental Protection, and the Chair and remaining members of the Miami-Dade County State Legislative Delegation.

Section 3. Directs the County’s state lobbyists to advocate for the action described in section 1 above, and authorizes and directs the Office of Intergovernmental Affairs to include this item in the 2026 State Legislative Package when it is presented to the Board.

The Prime Sponsor of the foregoing resolution is Commissioner Natalie Milian Orbis. 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.

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

Chrisitan J. Fernandez-Andes