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CLERK OF THE BOARD
OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA**

MEMORANDUM

Agenda Item No. 9(A)(2)

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

DATE: July 21, 2026

FROM: Geri Bonzon-Keenan
County Attorney

SUBJECT: Resolution authorizing the
disbursement of up to
\$650,000.00 from the Biscayne
Bay Environmental Enhancement
Trust Fund to be used for the
installation and maintenance of
mooring buoys through the
Miami-Dade County mooring
buoy program

Resolution No. R-658-26

The accompanying resolution was prepared by the Department of Environmental Resources Management and placed on the agenda at the request of Prime Sponsor Commissioner Vicki L. Lopez.


Geri Bonzon-Keenan
County Attorney

GBK/uw

MDC001

Memorandum



Date: July 21, 2026

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

From: Daniella Levine Cava *Daniella Levine Cava*
Mayor

Subject: Resolution Authorizing the Disbursement of up to \$650,000.00 from the Biscayne Bay Environmental Enhancement Trust Fund for the Miami-Dade County Mooring Buoy Program

Executive Summary

The attached resolution seeks authorization from the Board of County Commissioners (Board) for the disbursement of up to \$650,000.00 from the Biscayne Bay Environmental Enhancement Trust Fund (BBEETF) for the installation, maintenance, and management of the mooring buoys in the Miami-Dade Mooring Buoy Program in the coastal waters of the County, consistent with Chapter 24 of the Code of Miami-Dade County (Code).

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Board approve the attached resolution authorizing the disbursement of up to \$650,000.00 from the BBEETF for the installation, maintenance, and management of the mooring buoys in the Miami-Dade Mooring Buoy Program.

Scope

The Mooring Buoy Program protects offshore natural and artificial reefs which are important both ecologically and economically to residents and visitors throughout Miami-Dade County. The mooring buoys are specifically located offshore of Commission District 4, represented by Commissioner Micky Steinberg; District 5, represented by Commissioner Vicki L. Lopez; and District 7, represented by Commissioner Raquel A. Regalado.

Delegation of Authority

This item has no delegation of authority.

Fiscal Impact/Funding Source

This resolution authorizes the disbursement of up to \$650,000.00 from the BBEETF for installation, maintenance, and management of the mooring buoys in the Miami-Dade Mooring Buoy Program in the coastal waters of the County. The unencumbered balance of the Biscayne Bay Environmental Enhancement Trust Fund as of December 31, 2025, is \$9,908,471.94.

Track Record/Monitor

The Manager of the Restoration & Enhancement Section within the Department of Environmental Resources Management (DERM), Laura Eldredge, will monitor activities performed using these funds.

Background

The Miami-Dade County Mooring Buoy Program was established in 2009 and expanded in 2023 to provide enhanced boating, fishing, and diving access to our natural and artificial reef resources while protecting those valuable resources from anchor damage caused by recreational boater use. Fifty-four (54) mooring buoys have been placed at 14 popular snorkeling/diving sites from Golden Beach south to the northern border of Biscayne National Park.

The Mooring Buoy Program requires quarterly maintenance by a contractor to ensure the individual buoy systems are in good working order repairing, replacing, or installing anchors, hardware, lines, and buoys as necessary. In between the quarterly maintenance, DERM staff are required to complete interim inspections to clean the mooring buoy assemblies and record the condition and any missing or damaged components are documented to expedite repairs during quarterly maintenance. To properly manage the Mooring Buoy Program, education and outreach is also required to inform the public on mooring buoy benefits, locations, and proper use. These activities are for the sole purpose of increasing the net habitat value of the coastal waters of the County through the installation, maintenance, and management of the County's ongoing offshore Mooring Buoy Program consistent with Chapter 24 of the Code.

A previous disbursement request was authorized for this Mooring Buoy Program in 2018, pursuant to Resolution No. R-1172-18 for \$350,000.00 and has been fully utilized. As such, another disbursement from the BBEETF is necessary for the continued maintenance and management of the program.

In accordance with Section 24-40(4) of the Code, I have received and considered the attached recommendation of the Director of the Department of Environmental Resources Management for the disbursement of up to \$650,000.00 from the Biscayne Bay Environmental Enhancement Trust Fund to be used for the stated purposes.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Roy Coley". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style. Below the signature is a solid horizontal line.

Roy Coley
Chief Utilities and Regulatory Services Officer

Memorandum



Date: December 1, 2025

To: Daniella Levine Cava
Mayor

From: Loren Parra, Director and Chief Resilience Officer 
Department of Environmental Resources Management

Subject: Recommendation for the Disbursement of up to \$650,000.00 from the Biscayne Bay Environmental Enhancement Trust Fund to the Miami-Dade County Department of Environmental Resources Management for the installation, maintenance, and management of the mooring buoys in the Miami-Dade Mooring Buoy Program in the coastal waters of the County

Pursuant to Section 24-40 of the Code of Miami-Dade County (Code), I am recommending the disbursement of up to \$650,000.00 from the Biscayne Bay Environmental Enhancement Trust Fund (BBEETF) to be used for the subject project.

The Miami-Dade County Mooring Buoy Program was established in 2009 and provides enhanced boating, fishing, and diving access to our natural and artificial reef resources while protecting those valuable resources from anchor damage caused by recreational boater use. Fifty-four (54) mooring buoys have been placed at 14 popular snorkeling/diving sites from Golden Beach south to the northern border of Biscayne National Park.

The Mooring Buoy Program requires quarterly maintenance by a contractor to ensure the individual buoy systems are in good working order repairing, replacing, or installing anchors, hardware, lines, and buoys as necessary. In between the quarterly maintenance, Department of Environmental Resources Management (DERM) staff are required to complete interim inspections to clean the mooring buoy assemblies and record the condition and any missing or damaged components are documented to expedite repairs during quarterly maintenance. To properly manage the Mooring Buoy Program, education and outreach is also required to inform the public on mooring buoy benefits, locations, and proper use. These activities are for the sole purpose of increasing the net habitat value of the coastal waters of the County through the installation, maintenance, and management of the County's ongoing offshore Mooring Buoy Program consistent with Chapter 24 of the Code.

There are sufficient unencumbered funds currently available in the BBEETF to fulfill this request.



MEMORANDUM (Revised)

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

DATE: July 21, 2026

FROM: 
Gen Bonzon-Keenan
County Attorney

SUBJECT: Agenda Item No. 9(A)(2)

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**
- _____ **Requires more than a majority vote (i.e., 2/3’s present ____, 2/3 membership ____, 3/5’s ____, unanimous ____, majority plus one ____, CDMP 7 votes (majority of membership) ____, CDMP 2/3 members present but not less than 7 votes (majority of membership) ____, CDMP 9 votes (2/3 membership) ____) 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. 9(A)(2)
7-21-26

RESOLUTION NO. R-658-26

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE DISBURSEMENT OF UP
TO \$650,000.00 FROM THE BISCAYNE BAY
ENVIRONMENTAL ENHANCEMENT TRUST FUND TO BE
USED FOR THE INSTALLATION AND MAINTENANCE OF
MOORING BUOYS THROUGH THE MIAMI-DADE COUNTY
MOORING BUOY PROGRAM

WHEREAS, this Board desires to accomplish the purposes outlined in the accompanying memorandum, a copy of which is incorporated herein by reference,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, that this Board, pursuant to section 24-40 of the Code of Miami-Dade County, hereby authorizes the disbursement of up to \$650,000.00 from the Biscayne Bay Environmental Enhancement Trust Fund to be used for the installation, maintenance, and management of mooring buoys located in the coastal waters of Miami-Dade County. These activities will be conducted and overseen by the Restoration and Enhancement Section of the Department of Environmental Resources Management.

The foregoing resolution was offered by Commissioner **Vicki L. Lopez** ,
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 Rodríguez, Chairman	aye	
Kionne L. McGhee, Vice Chairman	aye	
Marleine Bastien	aye	Juan Carlos Bermudez aye
Sen. René García	aye	Oliver G. Gilbert III aye
Roberto J. Gonzalez	aye	Keon Hardemon absent
Danielle Cohen Higgins	aye	Vicki L. Lopez aye
Natalie Milian Orbis	aye	Raquel A. Regalado aye
Micky Steinberg	aye	

The Chairperson thereupon declared this resolution duly passed and adopted this 21st day of July, 2026. 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 dark ink, appearing to read "ASR", is written over a horizontal line.

Abbie Schwaderer-Raurell