



MIAMI-DADE COUNTY STATE LEGISLATIVE REQUEST FORM

1. NAME OF DEPARTMENT

Miami-Dade County Park and Recreation Department (MDPR)

2. DEPARTMENT CONTACT PERSON(S), ADDRESS, TELEPHONE AND FAX NUMBERS, & E-MAIL ADDRESS

**W. Howard Gregg
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Miami, Florida 33128
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3. NAME OF LEGISLATIVE ISSUE REQUEST

Florida Forever Program

4. DEPARTMENTAL RECOMMENDATION OF ACTION NEEDED – (Include whether change is legislative or administrative in nature)

Support funding of Florida Forever, the state's conservation and recreation lands acquisition program.

5. STATEMENT OF CURRENT PROBLEM THAT THE LEGISLATIVE CHANGE IS INTENDED TO ADDRESS (Please include information that will help us advocate on the County's behalf)

Current drafts of the state budget include zero dollars for the Florida Forever Program

6. IMPACT OF CHANGES TO MIAMI-DADE COUNTY (What does the proposed legislation do and how does it address the current problem? Are there other alternatives to addressing the problem? What are the pros and cons of the legislation?)

Provides funding to local governments to acquire community-based parks, open spaces and greenways; the funding ultimately helps local governments implement their comprehensive plans through acquisition of land.

7. INTERDEPARTMENTAL IMPACTS (Describe potential impacts on other departments)

DERM has received funds from Florida Forever for its Environmentally Endangered Lands (EEL) Program

8. BACKGROUND

Florida Forever is Florida's premier conservation and recreation lands acquisition program. *Florida Forever* replaced *Preservation 2000 (P2000)*, the largest public land acquisition program of its kind in the United States. Between its inception in July 2001 to the present, the *Florida Forever* program has acquired more than 638,600 acres of land with \$2.62 billion.

Miami-Dade County through its Parks Department has received several grants through Florida Forever, including \$1,668,000 for the Camp Matecumbe Acquisition, \$694,500 for the Castellow Hammock Acquisition, \$468,804 for the Deering Cutler Glades Addition Acquisition and \$344,754 for the West Kendall District Park Addition Acquisition.

9. PROPOSED LANGUAGE (Attach or insert a draft of proposed changes to Florida Statutes)

N/A

10. LIST ANY KNOWN ORGANIZATION OR GOVERNMENT ENTITY THAT WOULD SUPPORT THIS PROPOSED CHANGE.

All local governments

12. PRIORITIZE YOUR REQUEST NUMERICALLY