



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

Joyce Denny
275 N. W. 2nd Street,
Miami, Florida 33128
Phone 305-755-7878
Fax: 305-755-7996
Email: jdenny@miamidade.gov

3. NAME OF LEGISLATIVE ISSUE REQUEST

Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP), Florida Recreation Development Assistance Program (FRDAP)

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

MDPR recommends that the Rule of the FDEP Chapter 62D-5 Part V - FRDAP be amended. The Rule is authorized by Florida Statute 375.075 and was last amended on August 15, 2004.

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)

The Rule allows an agency to apply for up to two (2) grants a year; however, an agency may only have three (3) open grants at a time. Any agency with three (3) open grants is not eligible to apply for any new grant monies, and an agency with two (2) open grants can only apply for one (1) grant.

MDPR would like to have the legislation amended for Chapter 62D-5.056 (2) (d) Active Projects, to allow for an entity to have more than three (3) grants active/open at one time and still be allowed to apply for two (2) new grants per year.

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?)

MDPR has many eligible FRDAP projects. Currently we have one (1) open FRDAP grant and will apply for two (2) additional FRDAP grants for 2010. If we receive both 2010 grants, we will have three (3) open grants and ineligible to apply for a grant in 2011.

The purpose of the rule is to make agencies complete projects as soon as possible. However, construction projects usually take more than 12 months and thus cannot be closed within one (1) year. Under the current rule, the only way to apply for two grants a year at least one of the two grant projects must be closed within 12 months.

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

None; MDPR is the only County Department that applies for FRDAP grants

8. BACKGROUND

In 2007, MDPR received a FRDAP grant for the Homestead Atoll Pool which will expire in 2011.

In September 2008, MDPR applied for two (2) FRDAP grants for 2009, one for Gwen Cherry Aquatic Center and one for Deering Estate Boardwalk and Dig Site. Neither project received the requested funds because the FRDAP program was suspended for 2009. If both projects had received FRDAP funds, MDPR would have had three (3) open FRDAP grants and therefore ineligible to apply for a FRDAP grant in 2010.

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

62D-5.056 (2) (d) states "A grantee with two incomplete FRDAP projects by the closing date of an application submission period shall only be eligible to submit one additional application". Deleting this sentence would allow an applicant to submit up to two applications a year regardless of how many projects are open.

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

Representative Juan Zapata (District 119)

12. PRIORITIZE YOUR REQUEST NUMERICALLY
One (1)