

RESOLUTION NO. 2015-1

A RESOLUTION OF THE MIAMI-DADE COUNTY LEAGUE OF CITIES URGING THE MIAMI-DADE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS TO PROTECT THE COUNTY FROM SEA LEVEL RISE BY MOVING, INTO ACTION, THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SEA LEVEL RISE TASK FORCE.

WHEREAS, the world's scientific community has reached consensus that human-induced climate change is occurring and is causing sea level rise; and

WHEREAS, Miami-Dade County, its wildlife, natural lands, water supply, vital facilities, and infrastructure are especially vulnerable to the impacts of sea level rise; and

WHEREAS, climate scientists and other groups have predicted the potential erosion of dry land and loss of property and natural resources in Miami-Dade County as a result of sea level rise; and

WHEREAS, a U.S. Geological Survey study concluded that sea levels along the east coast of the country will rise three to four times faster than the global average over the next century and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has projected that the water around Miami could rise up to 24 inches by 2060; and

WHEREAS, parts of Miami-Dade have already experienced an increased frequency of urban flooding caused by higher high tides, elevated groundwater levels, and oversaturated soils, and without any action, these rising tides will pose a significant threat to the city's tourism industry; and

WHEREAS, the Miami-Dade Sea Level Rise Task Force ("SLRTF") reviewed the relevant data and prior studies, assessments, reports, and evaluations of the potential impact of sea level rise on vital public services and facilities, real estate, water and other ecological resources, water front property, and infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, the SLRTF issued a report with their findings on July 1, 2014, that included a comprehensive and realistic assessment of the likely and potential impacts to sea level rise and storm surge over time, to be used to help develop a set of recommendations relative to amendments to the CDMP, capital facilities planning, budgetary priorities and other County programs as necessary to ensure that Miami-Dade County is taking all appropriate actions to reduce its contributions to climate-induced sea level rise and to ensure its resiliency to the increase in sea level rise, storm surge and related impacts which are expected to occur; and

WHEREAS, the SLRTF set forth numerous recommendations in their report that, if followed, would aid Miami-Dade County in coping with the inevitable consequences of this measurable, tractable, and relentless reality of sea level rise; and

WHEREAS, the Miami-Dade Board of County Commissioners will discuss the adoption of legislation to implement the recommendations of the SLRTF;

WHEREAS, The Miami-Dade County League of Cities seeks to work collaboratively and jointly with Miami-Dade County to ensure our quality of life and economy is protected; and

WHEREAS, Three municipalities in Miami-Dade County have passed resolutions similar to this one, urging implementation of the Sea Level Rise Taskforce recommendations, and additional municipalities will be considering the same.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MIAMI-DADE COUNTY LEAGUE OF CITIES THAT:

Section 1. The Miami-Dade County League of Cities supports the adoption of sound legislation to move the recommendations of the Sea Level Rise Task Force into action.

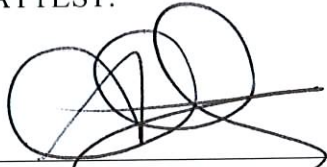
Section 2. The Miami-Dade County League of Cities urges the Board of County Commissioners to ensure the language contained in its legislation is action-oriented, and furthers the process of preparing Miami-Dade County and its natural and built environment for the inevitable rise in sea level.

Section 3. If any section clause, sentence, or phrase of this resolution is for any reason held invalid or unconstitutional by a court of competent jurisdiction, the holding shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this resolution.

Section 4. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon adoption.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 5 day of March, 2015.

ATTEST:



GEORGE VALLEJO
SECRETARY



JON BURGESS
PRESIDENT