



## AGENDA

1. ***Interim County Library Director Report on Northeast Library Branch***
2. ***Request to Prepare Resolution Supporting South Florida Sea Level Rise and Climate Change Congress (Commissioner Narotsky)\****  
Future Action Required: Resolution
3. ***Legislative Program And Priorities (City Manager)\****  
Future Action Required: Resolution
4. ***Amendment to Commission Email Policy (Commission Cohen)\****
5. ***Miami-Dade County League of Cities Installation Dinner – February 7, 2015 (City Manager)***
6. ***Adjournment***



**RESOLUTION NO. 228-14-14322**

**A Resolution of the City of South Miami (“City”) calling for a South Florida Sea Level Rise and Climate Change Congress that will include local, state, and federal elected officials meeting to propose constructive solutions to sea level rise and climate change.**

**WHEREAS**, numerous studies have established that South Florida is comprised of some of the world’s most vulnerable areas to the impacts of climate change as the warming Earth’s melting ice caps push the sea level higher; and

**WHEREAS**, scientists believe that the rising sea level will threaten some of the region's most vital facilities; and

**WHEREAS**, South Florida’s sea level rose about 8 inches during the past century, and is projected to increase by as much as 2 feet as early as 2048 and could go up to 3 feet by 2063; and

**WHEREAS**, South Florida is exceptionally vulnerable to climate change due to its unique geology that is built on porous limestone which is slowly filling up as the sea level rises, making the land, streets and neighborhoods more likely to flood and causes sewer systems to back up into homes and gardens; and

**WHEREAS**, the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development lists Miami as the number-one most vulnerable city worldwide in terms of property damage, with more than \$416 billion in assets at risk to storm-related flooding and sea-level rise; and

**WHEREAS**, rising sea level will also flood land, streets and neighborhoods; and

**WHEREAS**, there is little land in South Florida that is more than six feet above sea level. Many condos and apartment blocks are at the edge of the sea; and

**WHEREAS**, of the total of 4.2 million US citizens who live at an elevation of four feet or less, 2.4 million of them live in South Florida; and

**WHEREAS**, 38.01 billion dollars’ worth of property, 71 thousand homes, and 73 hazardous waste sites located in Miami-Dade County sit lower than 3 feet above sea level, leaving them exposed to increasingly dangerous flooding and extreme weather events; and

**WHEREAS**, southeast Florida’s roads, bridges and businesses already are facing flooding because of higher sea levels, and the water is only expected to rise higher during the next 50 years; and

**WHEREAS**, rising sea level threatens all of South Florida’s popular coastal areas and could alter the freshwater supply that feeds our cities and agriculture; and

**WHEREAS**, three major sewage plants in South Florida could be reduced to shrinking islands in less than 50 years due to climate change; and

**WHEREAS**, potential threats include more saltwater seeping in and fouling drinking water supplies, and stronger, more frequent hurricanes; and

**WHEREAS**, even areas and resources that are far from the coast, such as Florida's Biscayne Aquifer, are already experiencing saltwater intrusion, which is exacerbated by sea-level rise; and

**WHEREAS**, with sea level rise of only 3-9 inches, southeast Florida could lose 70 percent of its drainage capacity in the 28 control structures that protect the region from flooding and saltwater intrusion; and

**WHEREAS**, future warming will only increase the risk of more frequent and severe impacts to the area's economy, infrastructure, and communities; and

**WHEREAS**, a Southeast Regional Climate Compact exists to address climate change in Miami-Dade, Monroe, Broward, and Palm Beach counties; and

**WHEREAS**, in moments of crisis special congresses have been convened to address serious problems; and

**WHEREAS**, too many elected officials not only refuse to address climate change, they won't even acknowledge it as a legitimate threat; and

**WHEREAS**, South Florida's coastal communities need all levels of government—local elected officials, state elected officials, and the state's full Congressional delegation—to mobilize resources for wide-ranging adaptation and mitigation measures. By acting as leaders on climate action, Florida's decision-makers can not only protect the state's vulnerable citizens from the dangers of climate change—they can inspire communities across the United States to follow suit; and

**WHEREAS**, we need comprehensive action now; and

**WHEREAS**, we call for a South Florida Sea Level Rise and Climate Change Congress to address these issues specifically including the mobilization of resources for wide-ranging adaptation and mitigation measures. This special Congress would include all local, state, federal elected officials in the four Southeast Florida counties (Miami-Dade, Monroe, Broward, and Palm Beach).; and

**WHEREAS**, the southeast Florida climate change plan seeks to help local communities take a regional approach to preparing for everything from sea level rise to protecting drinking water supplies; and

WHEREAS, we call for a South Florida Sea Level Rise and Climate Change Congress be held in the Fall of 2015.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSIONERS OF THE CITY OF SOUTH MIAMI, FLORIDA:

Section 1. The Mayor and the City Commission hereby call for a South Florida Sea Level Rise and Climate Change Congress to be held in the Fall of 2015 that will include local, state, and federal elected officials meeting to propose constructive solutions to sea level rise and climate change. We, the City Commission for the City of South Miami, encourage such a conference to be held which should necessarily include: all local elected officials of all the 108 municipalities of Miami-Dade, Monroe, Broward, and Palm Beach counties; the Mayor of Miami Dade County and all local elected officials at the county level in Miami-Dade, Monroe, Broward, and Palm Beach counties; the Governor of Florida and all elected Florida Legislature representatives in the Miami-Dade, Monroe, Broward, and Palm Beach counties; all members of the U.S. Congressional delegation that represents Miami-Dade, Monroe, Broward, and Palm Beach counties; the President of the United States; and the 2016 leading Presidential candidates in both political parties. We call for a South Florida Sea Level Rise and Climate Change Congress to address these issues specifically including the mobilization of resources for wide-ranging adaptation and mitigation measures. This special Congress would include all local, state, federal elected officials in the four Southeast Florida counties (Miami-Dade, Monroe, Broward, and Palm Beach).

Section 2. The City Clerk is hereby instructed to forward this resolution to all of the elected officials listed in Section 1, above.

Section 3. Severability. 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. Effective Date. This resolution shall become effective immediately upon adoption by vote of the City Commission.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 6th day of November, 2014.

ATTEST:

[Signature of City Clerk]
CITY CLERK

APPROVED:

[Signature of Mayor]
MAYOR

READ AND APPROVED AS TO FORM, LANGUAGE, LEGALITY AND EXECUTION THEREOF

[Signature of City Attorney]
CITY ATTORNEY

COMMISSION VOTE: 5-0
Mayor Stoddard: Yea
Vice Mayor Harris: Yea
Commissioner Edmond: Yea
Commissioner Liebman: Yea
Commissioner Welsh: Yea

# **CITY OF AVENTURA LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM AND PRIORITIES**



**2015**

**Mayor Enid Weisman  
Commissioner Enbar Cohen  
Commissioner Teri Holzberg  
Commissioner Denise Landman  
Commissioner Marc Narotsky  
Commissioner Robert Shelley  
Commissioner Howard Weinberg  
City Manager Eric M. Soroka  
City Clerk Ellisa Horvath  
City Attorney Weiss Serota Helfman Cole Bierman & Popok, P.L.**

**CITY OF AVENTURA  
LEGISLATIVE PROGRAMS AND PRIORITIES  
2015**

*This document is intended to provide direction to the City Manager, City Attorney and Legislative Lobbyist as to the official City position regarding issues and pending legislation which would affect the operation of local government. This document further provides priorities for the acquisition of supplemental funding (grants) for various programs.*

**The City of Aventura will endorse and support legislation that will:**

1. Provide a dedicated revenue source for Charter School capital improvements at the same levels provided to the local school boards.
2. Increase educational funding levels for Miami-Dade County public schools in order to meet per pupil State Constitutional requirements.
3. Amend State law allowing a more economical method of advertising for a public hearing relating to Comprehensive Plan adoption and/ or amendments.
4. Adopt the 2015 Policy Statement of the Florida League of Cities.
5. Enact a law enabling cities to prohibit smoking at city sponsored events or activities and/ or at city parks and facilities.
6. On a state-wide level, ban the use of handheld phones by persons operating motor vehicles, but allowing hands free phone devices.
7. Provide a dedicated revenue source to cities that are located within 1 mile of a facility that houses legalized gambling to offset police and road impact costs to the community.
8. Preserve municipal authority for red light camera safety programs.
9. Amend Safe Harbor provisions (Fla. Stat. 718.116(1)(b) condos and 720.3085(2)(c) HOAs) to increase the liability of qualified lending institutions to the lesser of twenty four months of past due assessments or two percent of the original mortgage in the event of a foreclosure plus recovery of reasonable attorney fees.
10. Seek an amendment to Sec. 790.065, F.S., to enable municipal police departments to decline to release a firearm to a person who has been Baker Acted, in the absence of a court order entered in a replevin case. The law presently restricts firearms purchases and access to concealed weapons permits by certain Baker Acted persons, but does not bar their possession of firearms.

**CITY OF AVENTURA**  
**OFFICE OF THE CITY COMMISSION**

**MEMORANDUM**

TO: City Commission

FROM: Commissioner Enbar Cohen

DATE: November 5, 2014

SUBJECT: **Amendment to Commission Email Policy**

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I would request that the current policy of the City Clerk's office transmitting City Commission email be revised to allow Commissioners to receive their emails directly to their private cell phones.

Please place this item on the next Workshop Agenda.

Thank you.

EC/elh



# 61<sup>st</sup> Annual Installation Gala

*Honoring the Installation of our Incoming President*

*Jon Burgess*

*Councilman, City of Homestead*

*and the 2015-2016 Executive Board & Board of Directors*



*Saturday, February 7, 2015*

*6:30pm Cocktail Reception, 7:30pm Awards Ceremony  
Installation and Dinner to Follow*



*Jungle Island, Treetop Ballroom*

*1111 Parrot Jungle Trail, Miami Florida*



*R.S.V.P.: (305) 416-4155*

*No Later than January 23, 2015*



COMCAST