City of Coral Gables
City Commission Meeting
City Hall
April 29, 2008

REPORT:

PROPOSED CHARTER AMENDMENT ISSUE(S)

USING EITHER

PETITIONING PROCESS

OR

REFERENDUM PROCESS

PRESENTED BY:

THE OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK
AND
THE CITY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE

MEMO TO THE

CITY COMMISSION

MEMORANDUM FROM THE CITY ATTORNEY TO THE HONORABLE MEMBERS OF THE CITY COMMISSION – TO BE DISTRIBUTED

CITY OF CORAL GABLES, FLORIDA

--MEMORANDUM--

TO: HONORABLE MEMBERS OF
THE CITY COMMISSION

DATE: APRIL 23, 2008

FROM: WALTER J. FOEMAN
CITY CLERK

SUBJECT: ACTIVITY TIMELINE:
PROPOSED CHARTER
AMENDMENT PROCESS

Please be advised that at the City Commission Meeting of April 8, 2008, the Mayor on behalf of the Commission instructed the City Clerk to provide said governing body with a report, including the process, procedural steps, along with an activity timeline for a proposed Charter Amendment Issue(s) using either the petitioning process, or referendum process, for a Special Election regarding said Charter Amendment Issue.

Enclosed herein, please find the contents of said report, which also contains a memo regarding election costs as well as other related support documentation regarding same for your consideration and review.

WJF/sd

Enclosure

cc: David L. Brown, City Manager
    Elizabeth M. Hernandez, City Attorney

CORRESPONDENCE

CORAL GABLES CITIZENS POLITICAL ACTION COMMITTEE

80 S.W. 8th STREET
SUITE 2550
MIAMI, FLORIDA 33130

TELEPHONE (305) 379-1681
TELECOPY (305) 374-1719
E-mail: vdamian@skdrlaw.com

April 7, 2008

VIA E-MAIL

Walter Foeman, City Clerk
City of Coral Gables
City Hall
405 Biltmore Way, 1st Floor
Coral Gables, Fl 33134

Re: Proposed Amendment to the City Charter of the City of Coral Gables

Dear Mr. Foeman:

Because of certain comments that I received regarding interruption of a Commissioners' term, I have added the last sentence to each of these Amendments so that they make it clear that the adoption of the Amendment will not interfere with the four year or two year term of a Commissioner or Mayor, in one of the Amendments, and will not interfere with the four year terms in the other Amendment. Please provide this to each of the Commissioners so that this intent becomes clear.

Yours very truly,
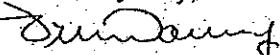
Vincent E. Damian, Jr.

VED/ley
Enclosures

cc: Mayor Slesnick
     Commissioners
     City Manager
     City Attorney

PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE CITYCHARTER OF THE CITY OF CORAL GABLES

The purpose of this Amendment is to reduce the term of the Mayor from four years to two years; and to limit the term that the Mayor or any Commissioner may serve, without break, to eight consecutive years.

It is proposed that City of Coral Gables Charter, Article II, City Commission and Mayor, provision of the Charter of the City of Coral Gables be amended so that as amended it reads in full as follows:

ARTICLE II. CITY COMMISSION AND MAYOR

1.   Sec. 8. Creation, composition, election, terms, vacancies, qualifications.

The city shall be governed by a commission consisting of five members elected from the city, at large, in groups or seats numbered one through five. One of the said Commissioners shall be the Mayor and shall be elected by the people from the group to be numbered one, and all persons desiring to qualify as a candidate for Mayor shall file in Group One. The Mayor shall have the powers set in the Charter of the City of Coral Gables, Dade County, Florida. All persons desiring to qualify for commissioner shall file in Groups Two through Five. Commissioners in Groups Two and Three shall be elected at the general election to be held the second Tuesday in April, 1985, and at each general election each four years thereafter. Commissioners in Groups Four and Five shall be those Commissioners whose terms presently expire in 1987, and Commissioners who elect to run in Groups Four and Five shall be elected the second Tuesday in April, 1987 and each general election each four years thereafter. The Mayor shall be elected at the general election beginning the second Tuesday in April 2009, and each general election each two years thereafter, and shall hold office for a term of two years. The Mayor and Commissioners shall take office at noon on the third day after their election. The Mayor and all other members of the Commission shall be subject to recall, as provided by the Charter.

No person who has served terms totaling eight consecutive years as Mayor shall be qualified for further service in that office until he or she has a break in service in that office of at least two years.

No person who has served terms totaling eight consecutive years as Commissioner shall be qualified for further service in that office until he or she has a break in service in that office of at least two years.

The disqualifications imposed by this section shall not prevent a person who is disqualified from serving as mayor from serving as Commissioner or a person is disqualified from serving as a Commissioner from serving as mayor. However, any person who has served terms totaling sixteen consecutive years in offices of mayor and Commissioner shall be disqualified from further service in either office until he or she has a break in service from both offices of at least two years.

As used in this section, a person shall be considered to have served a "term" of office if such person has served one-half of a full term of office plus one day.

The candidate receiving the greatest number of votes in each group shall be considered elected upon and after the canvas of the vote and the declaration of the result of the elections as hereinafter provided.

Any Commissioner whose term of office does not expire at noon on the third day after the election, desiring to run for the office of Mayor shall present an irrevocable resignation of his office of City Commissioner to the City Commission not less than 60 days prior to the date of election, and said resignation shall become effective at noon on the third day after the election. Upon receipt of said resignation, the Commission shall make public announcement, by resolution, accepting the resignation and instructing the Clerk to accept qualified candidates to run for election for the unexpired term of the Commissioner resigning for the purpose of running for Mayor.

Within 30 days after a vacancy occurs on the Commission, the remaining Commissioners shall elect a Commissioner to fill the vacancy until the next general biennial election, at which time, if the term of office vacated extends beyond such election, a Commissioner shall be elected to fill the balance of the unoccupied term, except as provided by section 22 regarding recall. Members of the Commission shall not hold any other public office except that of Notary Public or member of the State Militia. A member of the Commission ceasing to possess any of the qualifications specified in the Charter or, if convicted of a felony while in office, shall immediately and automatically forfeit his office.

Nothing contained in this section prevent a Commissioner or the Mayor from serving out the remainder of their term as set forth herein, to wit: the remainder of a four year term for a Commissioner and a remainder of a two year term for the Mayor.

(Compiled Charter § 9; Laws of Fla. ch. 21161(1941), § 2; Ord. No. 2453, § 2, 2-8-1983, referendum 4-12-1983; Ord. No. 2507, § 2(A), 7-24-1984, referendum 11-6-1984; Ord. No. O-2004-32, § 3, 8-24-2004, referendum 11-2-2004; Ord. No. 2005-07, § 3, 1-25-2005, referendum 4-12-2005)

PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE CITYCHARTER OF THE CITY OF CORAL GABLES

The purpose of this Amendment is limit the term that the Mayor or any Commissioner may serve, without break, to eight consecutive years.

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No person who has served terms totaling eight consecutive years as Mayor shall be qualified for further service in that office until he or she has a break in service in that office of at least two years.

No person who has served terms totaling eight consecutive years as Commissioner shall be qualified for further service in that office until he or she has a break in service in that office of at least two years.

The disqualifications imposed by this section shall not prevent a person who is disqualified from serving as mayor from serving as Commissioner or a person is disqualified from serving as a Commissioner from serving as mayor. However, any person who has served terms totaling sixteen consecutive years in offices of mayor and Commissioner shall be disqualified from further service in either office until he or she has a break in service from both offices of at least two years.

As used in this section, a person shall be considered to have served a "term" of office if such person has served one-half of a full term of office plus one day.

The candidate receiving the greatest number of votes in each group shall be considered elected upon and after the canvas of the vote and the declaration of the result of the elections as hereinafter provided.

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Within 30 days after a vacancy occurs on the Commission, the remaining Commissioners shall elect a Commissioner to fill the vacancy until the next general biennial election, at which time, if the term of office vacated extends beyond such election, a Commissioner shall be elected to fill the balance of the unoccupied term, except as provided by section 22 regarding recall. Members of the Commission shall not hold any other public office except that of Notary Public or member of the State Militia. A member of the Commission ceasing to possess any of the qualifications specified in the Charter or, if convicted of a felony while in office, shall immediately and automatically forfeit his office.

Nothing contained herein shall prohibit a Commissioner or the Mayor from serving out the balance of the four year term for which they were elected.

(Compiled Charter § 9; Laws of Fla. ch. 21161(1941), § 2; Ord. No. 2453, § 2, 2-8-1983, referendum 4-12-1983; Ord. No. 2507, § 2(A), 7-24-1984, referendum 11-6-1984; Ord. No. O-2004-32, § 3, 8-24-2004, referendum 11-2-2004; Ord. No. 2005-07, § 3, 1-25-2005, referendum 4-12-2005)

COMMISSION MINUTES

City of Coral Gables City Commission Meeting
Agenda Item D-2
April 8, 2008
City Commission Chambers
405 Biltmore Way, Coral Gables, FL

City Commission
Mayor Slesnick Donald D. Slesnick, II
Vice Mayor William H. Kerdyk, Jr.
Commissioner Maria Anderson
Commissioner Rafael "Ralph" Cabrera, Jr.
Commissioner Wayne "Chip" Withers

City Staff
City Manager, David Brown
City Attorney, Elizabeth Hernandez
City Clerk, Walter J. Foeman
City Clerk Staff, Billy Urquia

Public Speaker(s)
Vincent Damian, Chairman, Coral Gables Citizens Political Action Committee

_____

D-2 [Start: 9:47:22 a.m.]

> Vincent E. Damian, Jr. President of the Coral Gables Citizens Political Action
> Committee, to present two (2) proposed Amendments to Article II, Section 8 of the
> Coral Gables Charter regarding terms of Commissioners.

Mayor Slesnick: Our next item of business is D-2, it's a personal appearance requested by Vince
Damian, President of the Coral Gables Citizens Political Action Committee, Mr. Damian. Good
morning Vince.

Mr. Damian: Good morning Mr. Mayor, Commissioners, thank you for allowing me to speak here
today. Actually, I had requested this to be put on the agenda as an item for public hearing, but
procedurally we are going about it in a different way, which I think will probably accomplish the
same thing, maybe yes maybe no, but again I thank you for the time allowing me to be here. Twice
before I did request that the issue of term limits be voted on by the Commission, and be put before
the voters as a Charter Amendment, put on the ballot and voted on, that's the only way we'll get
term limits as a Charter Amendment; and twice before it was discussed, but no vote was taken on
it, a motion was made not seconded. I'm here because if in fact we cannot get a vote of the
Commission on it, then the alternative would be to go by initiative; and I have prepared two forms
of an amendment to the Charter imposing term limits of eight years upon the Commissioners and
the Mayor. One calls for the Mayor's term to be reduced back to two years, which we thought was
a good thing before, we still think it is, but there has been a vote on that and we are willing to go
along with that if we have to; the other, it just imposes a four year term upon all Commissioners,
excuse me an eight year limitation on all Commissioners with the right to run again after a hiatus
of two years, or to run immediately for Mayor when their term is up. It was pointed out to me that

the way I had written the amendment and the way that its in your package, it would seem that it could possibly interrupt the running of a present term of a Commissioner, and that was not the intent, so I submitted to the City Attorney, to the City Clerk a modification to that which it makes it clear that anybody presently serving a term, their term would not be interrupted by the term limits. That is how we….to where we are. I'm not here today to convince anybody on this Commission or the citizens that term limits is a good idea and we ought to have it. I'm here only to say that I think it is the duty of this Commission to allow the voters to vote on term limits. I say that because this is not a wild hair-brain scheme that somebody has come up with that says all the Commissioners have to wear hats, or robes, or whatever. This is something that political scientists throughout the country have been supporting, and have been put up before many of the municipal governments. I think there is a big difference between the State Legislator and the two hundred some odd people and the complexities there, and a City government where you are supposed to be close to the people; I said this ten years ago, nine years ago when I was attempting with the assistance of some of the present Commissioners to reverse the Commission's choice on certain activities, and I said the writer of a great deal of the democratic institutions that we have in this country, Thomas Jefferson, said the government that is closest to the people is the most democratic government, and the idea of that is to have turn over, have citizens participate. It started in the Greek Republic and the Roman Republic, that they automatically had citizens participate for the purpose of making sure there were fresh ideas from the people coming about at all times. Again, you may disagree with this, you may think that twelve and sixteen years is necessary for experience in order to have good government, and I respect that, but I think that this accepted idea, this idea that is recommended so often ought to be at least allowed for the people to vote on it. One of the Commissioners said, well you want to vote on it, let's have an initiative. I would point out that nine years ago, ten years ago there was an initiative in this City, and it was fractious. The citizens were one against each other; there was one Commissioner who is now here, was one of the leaders of that initiative, and that Commissioner explained to me before that Commissioner ran with my support, that an initiative was one of the worst experiences that, that Commissioner had ever gone through personally, and for the people of Coral Gables, and the people of Coral Gables should never have been put to that kind of a burden that was fractious, and put citizen against citizen.

Commissioner Anderson: Mr. Damian, who was the Commissioner?

Mr. Damian: That would be you.

Commissioner Anderson: I never said that.

Mr. Damian: You told me that; you told me that Maria.…

Commissioner Anderson: I actually found that to be one of the best experiences of my life, the hardest, but one of the best. So you stand corrected.

Mr. Damian: Well Maria, while we are at it…

Commissioner Anderson: No, I'm not going to….I just want to clarify for the record.

Mr. Damian: I supported you very, very strongly when you ran…
Commissioner Anderson: Thank you.

Mr. Damian: …I gave you money, I gave you time, and I influenced my friends to vote for you because you stood on the issue of term limits; you promised me that you would vote for term limits; you promised the citizens of this City you would vote for term limits. Now, you have the right to change your mind, and I respect that, but you don't have a right not to allow those persons who supported you to allow them to vote on it without going through that process, if you do this is the reason why we are here for the term limits. Another Commissioner also ran on the same platform, and I expect that Commissioner to stand by where they ran. We have three other Commissioners and all I can do is appeal to your sense of what the citizens of this City is smart enough to know the kind of government they want, and I would request that you therefore adopt one of the two proposals that I have put before you.

Mayor Slesnick: Thank you, Mr. Damian…

Mr. Damian: One last thing.

Mayor Slesnick: Yes.

Mr. Damian: If there is an alternative proposal that the Commission wants, I have no objection to the Commission putting that forward as well. For example, no term limits, vote on that yes or no; if that one wins – boom, that one would win; eighteen years – twenty years term limits, put that one on; our Charter in fact acknowledges that you could put two competing proposals before the people and the one that gets the most votes would win. So if the no's are greater than the yeses for either one of them they both loose, etc. Last, if for any reason we do not get an immediate vote on this then I have requested because of the time constraints with the ballot, with the election coming up in August, and another one in November, and the periods of time that are required here – the approval of the form, then the initiative process, and then an election within sixty days, that will start the process right away. The City Attorney and the City Clerk has been very cooperative in that basis; the City Attorney has invited me to meet with her in the event this does not get Commission approval, and I will do so at the appropriate time when the Commission makes that decision. Thank you.

Mayor Slesnick: Thank you Mr. Damian; and Vince before you go as you and I talked when we arranged for this personal appearance, and for you to come forward, and make this presentation today, we spoke at least, I won't speak for everybody, but we spoke at least my intention was to let you make that presentation today, as you know there was some discussion whether it would be today or later, to get it started and then we would refer to the City Attorney and to the management the proposals that you've made for their analyzation, recommendations and coming back here for a decision to be made at our next meeting, and in that interim time to allow you to meet with the City Attorney and to allow you to meet with the City Clerk, and to make sure all our T's are crossed and I's are dotted, and that when we come back here in the next meeting that our vote would be on an item that we truly understand, have analyzed and so forth; and I believe I promised you that I would do all in my power to give you a final decision of whether this Commission takes a position or not, or what position it takes by the next meeting.

Mr. Damian: That is correct; this is a legislative matter, so we can talk to each other as much as we want about it. I welcome talking to you; I called you, you responded and you suggested this procedure, I wasn't entirely in favor of it, but I understand the wisdom of it; everybody has different opinions on things, but as long as we get it before the people in a democratic manner, we're heading toward the same ending. Thank you.

Mayor Slesnick: Thank you. It would be therefore my suggestion that we take the recommendations that has been given to us by the Coral Gables Citizens Political Action Committee as stated by their President, Vincent Damian, and ask our City Attorney, our City Clerk to come back to us with a full sheet of one, Walter, we'd like to know exactly what the time limits are as far as when we have to make a decision, what things have to be decided, when would the election be, what would the cost of the election be, and so forth, and what our Charter requires us to do, and what the County law may require us to do; and Liz in the same thing, we would like to know your analyzation of what the proposals that have been presented to us would mean to the Commission and lay it out in terms that we can understand, and in meeting with Mr. Damian maybe bring forth to him any concerns you have as far as misunderstandings of his words and so forth, and if we make sure we all come together the next time with the clear understanding of what we may or may not vote on, then we'll do that, OK. Is that acceptable to everybody?

Vice Mayor Kerdyk: That's good.

Mayor Slesnick: Maria?

Commissioner Anderson: OK.

Mayor Slesnick: OK; Ralph?

Commissioner Cabrera: OK.

Mayor Slesnick: OK. Mr. Namon, I know that you turned a card in, but what I'd ask you to do is if you would speak to this next time because what we'll do is bring this back as an item for discussion and you'll have a full packet from the City at that time which will analyze this and so forth, and you'll have a right to comment and critique or support whatever that is. Thank you. Mr. Damian thank you, and I understood I saw some e-mails you do have some appointments being set up with the attorney, and you'll do the same with Walter, or Walter you'll do the same.

Mr. Damian: That's already in process.

Mayor Slesnick: OK, very good.

[End: 9:58:30 a.m.]

LEGAL OPINIONS

The City of Coral Gables

April 21, 2008

Florida Department of State
Division of Elections
Mr. Donald Palmer, Director
500 Bronough Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399

Re: Municipal Charter Issue on Statewide General Election Ballot

Dear Mr. Palmer:

(1) Request is hereby made to provide this office with an Advisory Opinion in accordance with Section 106.107(1)(a) of the Florida Statutes, specifically whether or not a municipal charter related election issue, intended to be placed by a political committee through the initiative petition process, on the above referenced general election ballot, is obligated to file Campaign Reports on the 32nd, 18th and 4th days respectively, preceding the **primary election ballot**, as well as on the 46th, 32nd, 18th and 4th day preceding the **general election ballot** consistent with the County filing reporting schedule, wherein there is no candidate election involved in our municipality, but merely placement of an issue on said general election ballot of November 4, 2008?

(2) If the answer to the above is in the affirmative, then would the municipality be only obligated to require a political committee to file Campaign Reports on the 18th and 4th day preceding the election in accordance with Section 106.107(1)(a) of the Florida Statutes, since in the municipality this would be construed as a special election?

In closing your timely request to this response would be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,
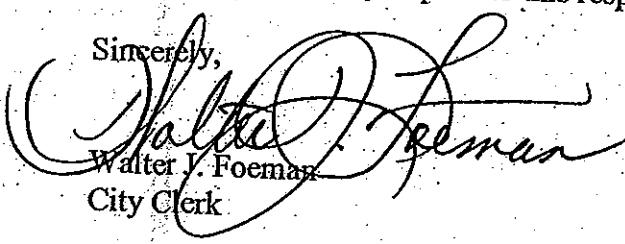
Walter J. Foeman
City Clerk

WJF/yd

CHARTER REFERENDUM

AMENDMENT ISSUE

CHART FOR
ADMINISTRATIVE DEADLINES
(CHARTER REFERENDUM AMENDMENT ISSUE)

2008 Administrative Deadlines
For Charter Referendum Amendment Issue to be placed on August 26, 2008 Countywide Ballot

8 – 147 days prior to August 26 Primary Election

28 – 120 days prior to the August 26 Primary Election

29 - City Commission Meeting Direct City Attorney to Draft Proposal (119 Days prior to August 26 Election)

29 – Letter from City Clerk to **MDCED Supervisor Pursuant to Section 100.151, F.S. requesting Approval needed for Charter Amendment issue to be placed on ballot.**

(Section 6.03 Miami-Dade County Code requires an election be held no less than 60, no greater than 120 days after proposal is submitted.)

April '08						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

13 - City Commission Meeting (105 Days until August 26 Primary Election)

27 - City Commission Meeting (91 Days until August 26 Primary Election)

27 – Recommended meeting by City Attorney for Consideration on First Reading Municipal Ordinance for proposed Charter Amendment (Primary Election)

May '08						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

10 - City Commission Meeting (77 Days until August 26 Election)

10 - Recommended meeting by City Attorney for Consideration on Second Reading Municipal Ordinance for proposed Charter Amendment (Primary Election)

20 – Legislation must be passed by no later than June 20, 2008 in order to appear on the August 26, 2008 Primary Election Ballot

24 - City Commission Meeting (63 days until August 26 Primary Election)

June '08						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

8 - City Commission Meeting (49 days until August 26 Primary Election)

10 – Quarerly Campaign Report due (F1)

25 – Copies of the Charter Amendment proposal made available to the public.

28 – Copies of the proposal available to the public.

20-26 – 5th Week Prior: Advertising / Primary Election (A1)

29 - City Commission Meeting (28 Days until August 26 Primary Election)

July '08						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

3-9 – 3rd Week Prior: Advertising / Primary Election (A1)

8 – Campaign Report Filed (F2)

12 - City Commission Meeting (14 days until August 26 Primary Election)

22 – Campaign Report Filed (F3)

26 - City Commission Meeting

26 - Countywide Primary Election Day

29 – Charter Amendment Proposal filed with Clerk of the Circuit Court

August '08						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

Color Code		
Advertising		
A1	Advertising (Primary Election)	
A2	Advertising (General Election)	
Campaign Reports		
F1	April 1st thru June 30, 2008 (to be filed on July 10, 2008)	
F2	July 19th thru August 1, 2008 (to be filed on August 8, 2008)	
F3	August 2nd thru August 21, 2008 (to be filed on August 22, 2008)	
Charter Issues		
Aug. 26 Election	Legislation to be passed (by no later than June 20)	

PETITIONING PROCESS

2008 ELECTION ACTIVITY
(For County Initiative Petition Procedure Charter Amendment Issue)

Step 1 – Form of Petition
All petitions for initiative, referendum, and recall submitted pursuant to Article 7 of the Miami-Dade County Home Rule Charter shall be in 12 point font with no more than one signature per page and in a format determined by the Supervisor of Elections; however, each petition shall contain the following information:
- A. A statement in each petition circulator's own handwriting, setting forth his or her own name, both in printed and signature form.
- B. The resicen address of the circulator.
- C. Dates between which all the signatures on each individual petition were obtained.
- D. A sworn statement that the circulator personally circulated the petition, witnessed each signature as it was being written and that to the best information and belif of the circulator, each signature is the genuine signature signed of the person whose name it purports to be.
- E. A sworn statement signed by the Circulator certifying to the truthfulness and the correctness of the certificate set forth in Section (1)(D) hereof; stating that it is being givven under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of Florida; and setting forth the date and the place of execution of the certification.
- F. Any individual who knowingly signs more than one petition or who attempts to sign another person's name, or a fictitious name shall be deem to have violaated F.S. 104.185, and in addition shall be guilty of a misdemeanor in the second degree.

April '08

S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

Step 2 – Disqualitifacations of Forms – Within thirty (30) days, excluding weekends and legal holidays, of the date of filing a petition of initiative or referendum, the Supervisor of Electios, or in the case of recall, the Clerk of the Circuit Court, shall disqualify the following petition forms:
- A. Those that do not include the title and text of the ordinance or the Charter provision sought to be enacted or repealed.
- B. Those that do not comply with any one or more of the provisions relating to the circulator set forth in Section (1) hereof.
- C. Those where the notary failed to comply with the provisions of F.S. 117.05, requiring the notary to certify that to the best of his or her knowledge he or she knows the circulator or has seen documentary evidence to substantiate the authenticity of the circulator.
- D. Those where the notary is the smae person as the circulator,
- E. Those where the signaures of the circulator or notare are dated earlier than the dates on which the electors signed the petition.

May '08

S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	**27**	28	29	30	31

Step 3 – Petitioner submits proposal and the proposed ballot language to Agenda Coordinator to schedule appearance at regular Commission meeting.

Step 4 – County Attorney will then review the petition form and give approval as to language.

Step 5 – If approved, the Petitioner appears before the Commission who must allow petition to be circulated.

Step 6 – Petitioner then receives from Clerk of the Board:
- A. The master petition form signed by the Clerk of the Board.
- B. A letter stating the deadline by which to collect the signatures and the amount of signatures needed (10% of the registered voters on the County on that day) in order for it to pass.

June '08

S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

July '08

S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

Step 7 – Petitioner shall then collect no more than 25% of the signatures from any single Commission District.

Step 8 – Each person will sign and write their name, date, and place of residence or precinct number.

Step 9 – The circulator of the page shall sign the sworn affidavit stating the number og signers on that page and that each signature was made in their presence.

Step 10 – The circulator's statement is notarized on the petition form.

Step 11 – No later than 60 days from approval, the petition is then filed with the Clerk of the Board, which has 30 days to order a canvass of the signatures.

Step 12 – The petition is given to the Supervisor of Elections who will check each signature. *(Payment must be received at submission, which is a check made out to "Board of County Commission" at a cost of 10 cents per signature or $50.00 if the Petitioner wishes it to be done by random sample. If the Petitioner is unable to pay for the petition, an undue burden form must be submitted in lieu of payment.)*

August '08

S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

September '08

S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

Step 13 – Upon completion, a certification will be submitted to the Clerk of the Board by the Supervisor of Elections.
- A. If the number of signatures is insufficient, the Petitioner is notified that the petition failed.
- B. If the number of signatures is sufficient, the Petitioner is notified that the petition passed.

Step 14 – The Board has 30 days to either:
- A. Adopt the ordinance as submitted in an initiatory petition.
- B. Repeal the ordinance referred to by referendary petition.

Submit the proposal to the electors in impartial and concise language at the next county-wide election or within 120 days if the petition contained 8% of valid County voters.

October '08

S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

November '08

S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

November 4, 2008 – General Election

REVISED
SPECIAL ELECTIONS
2008 BALLOT ISSUES DEADLINES

If a municipality wishes to conduct a special election along with one of the countywide elections listed below, a Resolution or Ordinance to call a Special Election must be passed no less than 60, no more than 120 days prior to the date of the election. However, in order to meet the new State mandated deadlines to mail absentee ballots to overseas voters, the deadline to submit a resolution/ordinance to the Elections Department must follow the revised dates listed below. Please notify the Supervisor of Elections for approval prior to passing a resolution or ordinance calling for a special election.

The following schedule deadlines must be followed:

2008 ELECTIONS	CHARTER AMENDMENTS, BOND QUESTIONS, STRAW BALLOT QUESTIONS, OTHER PROPOSALS, OR SPECIAL CANDIDATE ELECTIONS (Deadline to pass Resolution or Ordinance)	DEADLINE TO SUBMIT RESOLUTION/ ORDINANCE TO THE ELECTIONS DEPARTMENT
PRIMARY ELECTION August 26, 2008	*No later than June 20, 2008	No later than June 20, 2008
GENERAL ELECTION November 4, 2008	*No later than August 22, 2008	No later than August 22, 2008

* For candidate elections, qualifying dates must not exceed the June 20, 2008, and August 22, 2008 deadlines as listed above.

Should you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Zeida Reyes, Elections Coordination Manager, at 305-499-8405 or e-mail: zeidar@miamidade.gov

ZR:2/5/08

CHART FOR
CHARTER AMENDMENT ISSUE
RESULTING FROM PETITIONING PROCESS

2008 Administrative Deadlines
For Charter Amendment Issue Resulting from Petitioning Process to be placed on November 4th Countywide Ballot

Section 100.151, F.S. Approval needed by MDCED Supervisor for Charter issue to be placed on ballot.

29 - City Commission Meeting
Direct City Attorney to Draft Ordinance
(105 Days prior to August 26 Primary Election)

(Section 6.03 Miami-Dade County Code requires an election be held no less than 60, no greater than 120 days after proposal is submitted.)

April '08

S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

May '08

S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

13 - City Commission Meeting
(91 Days prior to August 26 Primary Election)

27 - City Commission Meeting
(77 Days prior to August 26 Primary Election)

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10 - City Commission Meeting
(63 Days until August 26 Primary Election)

24 - City Commission Meeting
(49 days until August 26 Primary Election)

27- 60 days prior to the August 26 Primary Election

20 – Legislation must be passed by June 20, 2008 in order to appear on the August 26, 2008 Primary Election Ballot.

June '08

S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

July '08

S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

7 – Issues appearing on the November 4th General Election Ballot must be passed between July 7th and September 5th.

15 – City Commission Meeting (28 days prior to August 26 Primary Election)

28 – Copies of the proposal available to the public.

20-26 – 5th Week Prior: Advertising / Primary Election (A1)

25 - Campaign Report 32nd day preceeding Primary Election (F1)

20-26 – 3rd Week Prior: Advertising / Primary Election (A1)

8 - Campaign Report: 18th day preceeding Primary Election (F2)

22 – Campaign Report: 4th day preceeding Primary Election (F3)

22 - Deadline to adopt Ordinance submitted as a petition in order to aapear on the November 4, 2008 General Election Ballot

24 – Sample Ballot Advertisement (A1)

26 - Countywide Primary Election Day (69 days prior to November 4 General Election)

August '08

S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

September '08

S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

5 – Issues appearing on the November 4th General Election Ballot must be passed between July 7th and September 5th.

9 - City Commission Meeting (56 days prior to November 4 General Election)

19 – Campaign Report: 46th Day preceeding General Election (G1)

21-27 – 5th Week prior: Advertising / General Election (A2)

23 - City Commission Meeting (42 days prior to November 4 General Election

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3 – Campaign Report: 32nd day preceeding General Election (G2)

5-11 – 3th Week Prior: Advertising \ General Election (A2)

14 - City Commission Meeting (21 days prior to November 4 General Election)

17 – Campaign Report: 18th day preceeding General Election (G3)

28 - City Commission Meeting (7 days prior to November 4 General Election)

31 – Campaign Report: 4th day preceeding General Election (G4)

October '08

S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

November '08

S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

2 – Sample Ballot

4 - General Election Day

11 - City Commission Meeting

25 - City Commission Meeting

Color Code		
Advertising		
A1	Advertising (Primary Election)	
A2	Advertising (General Election)	
Campaign Reports		
F1	April 1st thru June 30, 2008 (to be filed on July 25, 2008)	
F2	July 1st thru August 1, 2008 (to be filed on August 8, 2008)	
F3	August 2nd thru August 21, 2008 (to be filed on August 22, 2008)	
G1	August 22nd thru September 12, 2008. Campaign Report 46th Day preceeding General Election (to be filed on September 19, 2008)	
G2	September 13th thru September 26, 2008. Campaign Report 32nd day preceeding General Election (to be filed on October 3, 2008)	
G3	September 27th thru October 10, 2008. Campaign Report 18th day preceeding General Election (to be filed on October 3, 2008)	
G4	October 11 thru October 30, 2008. Campaign Report 4th day preceeding General Election (to be filed on October 31, 2008)	
Charter Issues		
Aug. 26 Election	Legislation to be passed (by no later than June 20, 2008)	
Nov 4 Election	Legislation to be passed (by no later than August 22, 2008)	

REVISED
SPECIAL ELECTIONS
2008 BALLOT ISSUES DEADLINES

If a municipality wishes to conduct a special election along with one of the countywide elections listed below, a Resolution or Ordinance to call a Special Election must be passed no less than 60, no more than 120 days prior to the date of the election. However, in order to meet the new State mandated deadlines to mail absentee ballots to overseas voters, the deadline to submit a resolution/ordinance to the Elections Department must follow the revised dates listed below. Please notify the Supervisor of Elections for approval prior to passing a resolution or ordinance calling for a special election.

The following schedule deadlines must be followed:

2008 ELECTIONS	CHARTER AMENDMENTS, BOND QUESTIONS, STRAW BALLOT QUESTIONS, OTHER PROPOSALS, OR SPECIAL CANDIDATE ELECTIONS (Deadline to pass Resolution or Ordinance)	DEADLINE TO SUBMIT RESOLUTION/ ORDINANCE TO THE ELECTIONS DEPARTMENT
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GENERAL ELECTION November 4, 2008	*No later than August 22, 2008	No later than August 22, 2008

* For candidate elections, qualifying dates must not exceed the June 20, 2008, and August 22, 2008 deadlines as listed above.

Should you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Zeida Reyes, Elections Coordination Manager, at 305-499-8405 or e-mail: zeidar@miamidade.gov

ZR:2/5/08

ELECTION COSTS

CITY OF CORAL GABLES, FLORIDA

--MEMORANDUM--

TO: HONORABLE MEMBERS OF
THE CITY COMMISSION

DATE: APRIL 17, 2008

FROM: WALTER J. FOEMAN
CITY CLERK

SUBJECT: ELECTION COSTS

At the City Commission meeting of April 8, 2008, Mayor Slesnick on behalf of the Commission instructed the City Clerk to bring back to the Commission the cost factors involved in connection with the conduct of the proposed Charter Amendment petition initiative to our City Charter. Please be advised that there are two possible scenarios that could impact on cost. They are as follows: Stand Alone Election, and Piggyback off of a Countywide Election. There is a possible third scenario namely, Mail Ballot Elections; however, it would require an Amendment to our City's Charter (See Attachment A spreadsheet regarding same).

Stand Alone Election

Pursuant to House Bill 537, effective July 1, 2008, all voting in the State of Florida shall be by paper ballot. Furthermore, Supervisors of Election are authorized to use "ballot-on-demand" technology during Early Voting; further noting that said technology will allow pollworkers to print ballots specific to the voter, instead of printing a large number of ballots for each type at each location.

Optional scan technology will be implemented by Miami-Dade County on August 26, 2008 (for early voting and on Election Day). However, a minimum number of iVotronic Touch Screen Voting machines will be placed at each voting location, in order to afford the disabled voter the option to continue using said touch screen machine, or utilizing the optical scan equipment.

If one were to have a Stand Alone Election, given the fact that the County is going to an **Optical Scan Voting System** by August of 2008, the cost impact to the City will be roughly $140,000. The major cost items will include **ballot creation**—involving the programming and creation of the ballot ($6,900); **printing of the ballots** ($5,000)—since we are returning to a paper based ballot, said cost resulting from the new **Optical Scan System** will be driven by the number of registered voters (26,342), which for right now, we do not have any prior year election history; **polling place rental** ($1,130)—is a minor object code category which requires a municipality to pay rent based on the number of locations requiring a charge for usage of each respective facility; **election labor special charges** ($400), was previously designated for **Election Specialists**, however said cost will be

supplanted by only **Precinct Phone Charges** ($800) to activate the phone lines at each precinct; **Seasonal Laborers** ($16,000) will be used more for billing purposes rather than **regular laborers** ($4,800) for billing purposes; further stating that regular staff is utilized more for overtime billing of hourly employees ($11-$12 hourly); **PW Payroll** ($75,100), specifically addresses pollworkers, whose rates are established by federal law; **truck** charges in a Stand Alone Election are established by daily rates; further noting that if there are more than one municipality in an election, then said cost is apportioned accordingly. Finally, **administrative overhead** ($23,348) encompasses everything that is not captured in the categorical areas contained in the attached spreadsheet, including but not limited to the wear and tear on the County vehicles, fringe benefits for hourly employees, electricity, etc.

Mail Ballot Election

If one were to have a mail ballot election (assuming that a Charter Amendment were to pass to allow for same), it is estimated that the cost impact to the City would be $32,280, said amount would break down as follows:

Ballot creation	($6,900)
Printing of ballots	($5,000)
Precinct phone charges	($11,000)
Labor (seasonals)	($4,000) and
Administrative overhead	($5,280)

Countywide Piggy-back

Finally, the projected fiscal impact to the City regarding piggy-backing off of a countywide election would be approximately $9,000, which breaks down as follows: ballot creation cost would roughly run about a third of the normal cost ($2,300); printing of ballots ($5,000); translation charges -- for translating the ballot pursuant to County ordinance in three different languages namely Creole, Spanish and English ($110); and administrative overhead ($1,590).

Advertising Costs

Advertising costs must also be included for the placement of ads in the fifth and third week prior to the election, along with publication of the sample ballot -- said total amount in the Miami Herald runs approximately $14, 868 (including both English and Spanish in El Nuevo Herald), Comparative cost for same in the Daily Business Review (English only) would be roughly $403.

Municipal and County Administrative and Legislative Initiatives

The new State law (HB537) allows absentee ballots to be canvassed six days prior to the election; as well as moving up the candidate-qualifying period by three weeks for state, multi-county, district, and Special District Offices (except for Judicial Offices, Federal Offices, and the Offices of the State Attorney and Public Defender).

One strategy that is being looked at in addressing cost related issues, is having municipalities that currently share election dates to modify their respective qualifying dates to mirror those of the state, and thus providing Miami-Dade County Elections Department with significantly more lead time in

programming elections and printing of ballots. Secondly, municipalities may consider for possible adoption and approval legislation that would establish a **countywide consolidated municipal election date** (See Attachment B resolution which was previously forwarded to you from the City of Miami Springs) – thus providing an avenue concomitant with County/State/Federal Elections, said possibility may provide two avenues of thought, either consideration for all General Elections amongst Miami-Dade County municipalities to be conducted on a consolidated single-date basis, or providing for a single-municipality-only election date. In short, the value in considering both proposals would significantly reduce the fiscal impact to conducting elections on a stand alone basis. Additionally, one may also consider the added value of a greater voter turnout (i.e. countywide consolidated municipal election date -- with County/State/Federal Elections) along with a plan for cost savings resulting from said designated consolidated election date.

Opposition to Countywide Consolidated Municipal Election Dates

However, there has been opposition to the aforementioned consolidated municipal election date initiative from Miami-Dade League of Cities (See Attachment C), citing reasons including micromanaging of independent municipal election dates; interference from non-elected Miami-Dade County employees in changing state mandated municipal charters, which are changed only by the will of the electorate.

WJF/sd

Enclosures

cc: David L. Brown, City Manager
        Elizabeth M. Hernandez, City Attorney
        Don Nelson, Finance Director

Breakdown of Estimates–Coral Gables

	Stand Alone	Mail Ballot	CW-Piggyback
Ballot Creation	6,900.00	6,900.00	2,300.00
Printing-Ballots	5,000.00	5,000.00	5,000.00
Polling Place Rental	1,130.00		
Postage	1,200.00		
Pre. Phone Chgs.	800.00	11,000.00	
EL Spec. Chg.	400.00		
Precinct Supplies	1,300.00		
Labor-Seasonals	16,000.00	4,000.00	
Labor-Regular	4,800.00		
PW Payroll	75,100.00		
Trucks	4,000.00		
Translations	110.00		110.00
Admin O/H	23,348.00	5,380.00	1,590.00
Total	$ 140,088.00	$ 32,280.00	$ 9,000.00

RESOLUTION NO. 2008-3390 2008 MAR 24 PM 3: 10

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MIAMI SPRINGS AUTHORIZING AND APPROVING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A COUNTYWIDE CONSOLIDATED MUNICIPAL ELECTION DATE; PROPOSING THE DATE FOR ELECTION; PROVIDING FOR TRANSMISSION OF THE RESOLUTION; EFFECTIVE DATE

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Miami Springs has been debating the benefits and detriments associated with moving the date of the City's General Municipal Election which is conducted every two (2) years in odd numbered years; and,

WHEREAS, the internal debate has centered upon the impact of a "Spring Break Election" upon the electorate, the potential for a larger voter turn-out if the City election is conducted simultaneously with a County/State/Federal election, the cost of conducting "stand alone" elections, and whether local issues and City Council elections would be less significant in "coordinated elections" with County, State or Federal ballots; and,

WHEREAS, on February 5, 2008, County Manager George M. Burgess, authored a memorandum that discussed the feasibility and advisability of requesting municipalities to consider participating in some form of "consolidated elections"; and,

Resolution No. 2008-3390

WHEREAS, although the memorandum discussed the merits and impacts of municipalities continuing to conduct "stand alone" elections, it is clear that the County preference would be for all Miami-Dade County municipalities to conduct their general elections on a consolidated, single date basis, either in conjunction with a countywide election, or on a single "municipalities only" election date; and,

WHEREAS, the memorandum went on to discuss many of the same issues that have been debated by the City of Miami Springs City Council; and,

WHEREAS, as a result of its recent debate on the subject, the City of Miami Springs City Council has authorized the calling of a Special City Election to amend the City Charter to change the City election date from the first Tuesday in April of odd numbered years to the fourth Tuesday; and,

WHEREAS, the City Council believes that this new election date solves the "Spring Break" unavailability problems of the electorate while maintaining the autonomy and the importance of local ballot issues; and,

WHEREAS, although the City Council does not believe that the City will experience a larger voter turnout on municipal issues if the City election is conducted in conjunction with a County/State/Federal election, the City remains concerned about the costs of continuing to conduct its own "stand alone" elections; and,

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Miami Springs believes that a consolidated municipal election date, not in conjunction with a County/State/Federal election, is a sound idea and a less costly alternative to the conducting of multiple "stand alone" municipal elections in the County:

Resolution No. 2008-3390

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MIAMI SPRINGS, FLORIDA:

Section 1: That the City Council of the City of Miami Springs hereby authorizes and approves the establishment of a "consolidated municipal election date", not in conjunction with the conducting of a County/State/Federal election.

Section 2: That the City Council of the City of Miami Springs hereby respectfully suggests that the proposed consolidated election date be established as the fourth Tuesday in April of every year in order to accommodate all staggered terms for all municipal elected officials.

Section 3: That the City Clerk is hereby requested to provide a certified copy of this resolution to the Clerk of the Board of County Commissioners, the Miami-Dade County Supervisor of Elections and each City, Town and Village Clerk in Miami-Dade County.

Section 4: That this Resolution shall take effect immediately upon adoption.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the City Council of the City of Miami Springs, Florida, this 10th day of March, 2008.

The motion to adopt the foregoing resolution was offered by Councilman Garcia, seconded by Vice Mayor Dotson, and on roll call the following vote ensued:

Vice Mayor Dotson   "aye"
Councilman Best   "aye"

Resolution No. 2008-3390

3

Councilman Garcia   "aye"
Councilman Youngs   "aye"
Mayor Bain   "aye"
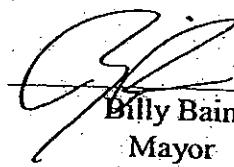
Billy Bain
Mayor

ATTEST:
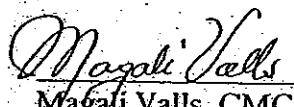
Magali Valls, CMC
City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO LEGALITY AND FORM:
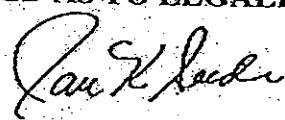
Jan K. Seiden, City Attorney

CERTIFIED COPY
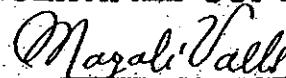
CITY CLERK
CITY OF MIAMI SPRINGS

Date 3/21/08

Resolution No. 2008-3390

4

RESOLUTION NO. 2008-4

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE
MIAMI-DADE COUNTY LEAGUE OF CITIES, INC., OPPOSING
ANY COMPELLED CONSOLIDATION OF MUNICIPAL
ELECTIONS.

WHEREAS, the diverse municipalities of Miami-Dade County are unique in their

character, design, culture, and state mandated charters; and

WHEREAS, this diverse group of municipalities has selected, through the people's

charter process, an election date which is unique to that municipal charter and government; and

WHEREAS, there is a movement to attempt to either alter or micromanage independent

municipal election dates; and

WHEREAS, any municipality, after a vote of their constituents, can voluntarily elect to

alter, change, or align their municipal election date without interference from non-elected

employees of Miami-Dade County.

NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Directors of the Miami-Dade County League of

Cities, Inc., as follows:

Section 1. The foregoing recitals are true and correct.

Section 2.   That the hallmark of local self-government has the ability to adhere to

their state mandated charter without interference from outside entities.

Section 3.   That even Miami-Dade County must respect the people's municipal

charters and their chosen election dates.

RESOLUTION NO. 2008-4

The attendant cost of a democracy is a small price to pay in light of the people's free will choice of their election dates in their unique and diverse municipal charters.

Section 4. This Resolution shall become effective upon its passage and adoption by the Miami-Dade County League of Cities, Inc.

Section 5. The Executive Director of the Miami-Dade County League of Cities is hereby directed to send a copy of this Resolution to Miami-Dade County Mayor, Board of County Commissioners, County Manager, and County Elections Supervisor.

APPROVED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Directors of the Miami-Dade County League of Cities, Inc. at its regular meeting assembled this 6th day of March, 2008.

ATTEST:
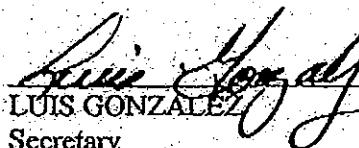
LUIS GONZALEZ
Secretary
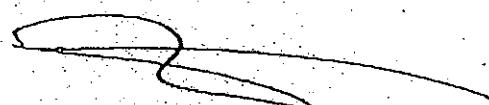
RICHARD STEINBERG
President

APPROVED AS TO FORM:
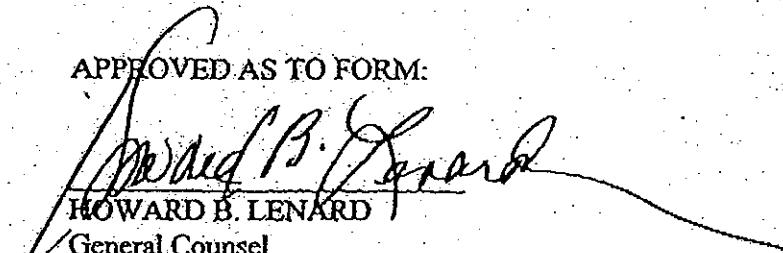
HOWARD B. LENARD
General Counsel

RESOLUTION NO. 2008-4

Board of County Commissioners

Rebeca Sosa
COMMISSIONER
DISTRICT 6

April 15, 2008

Mr. David L. Brown
City Manager
City of Coral Gables
405 Biltmore Way
Miami, FL 33134

Dear Mr. Brown:

I recently sponsored resolution R-1135-07 requesting that the County Manager evaluate the feasibility and advisability of consolidating municipal elections into one day or in conjunction with countywide elections. As a result, on February 5, 2008, a report was brought before the Miami-Dade Board of County Commissioners that recommended we adopt legislation urging municipal officials to sponsor their own legislation in support of a consolidated elections calendar. This recommendation was approved based on the benefits that will be realized by both the municipalities and its voters.

We would like to begin discussing how a consolidated elections calendar would benefit your city and its voters. The meeting will take place on Monday, May 5, 2008 from 2:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the Miami-Dade County Elections Department (2700 NW 87 Avenue). Lester Sola, Miami-Dade County Supervisor of Elections, will be in attendance to explain the extensive planning and preparation that is required to hold an election, especially in light of the recent law mandating the use of optical scan technology.

Historically, municipalities holding elections on one day or in conjunction with a countywide election experience higher turnout and reduced election costs. Your municipality could see a significant cost savings from the economies of scale realized through consolidating election-related services such as ballot programming, printing, tabulation, equipment delivery, overtime and seasonal employee costs – all of which are associated with administering separate municipal elections. In addition, your municipality will benefit from an increase in voter participation as municipalities holding elections on one day or in conjunction with a countywide election historically experience higher turnout, due in part to enhanced media exposure.

I hope that you will join me to discuss this topic further with the hopes of making our election process more efficient and keeping government spending low. Please do not hesitate to contact my office at the number below if you have any questions or require additional information.

To confirm your attendance to this event, please R.S.V.P. with Carolina Lopez, Assistant to the Chief Deputy Supervisor of Elections, at 305-499-8509 or via email at lopezc@miamidade.gov.

Sincerely,

Rebeca Sosa
Miami-Dade County Commissioner

cc: Alina T. Hudak, Assistant County Manager
Lester Sola, Supervisor of Elections

1000 S.W. 57TH AVENUE, SUITE 201 • MIAMI, FLORIDA 33144 • (305) 267-6377 • FAX (305) 267-6366

FORMS

Ballot Title	
Proposed Ballot Language	

	Write information below:
Print name / **Escriba su nombre en letra de molde /** **Ekri non an gwo lèt**	Printed name must be included or this signature is invalid.
Date must be included or this signature is invalid. **Date/ Fecha/ Dat**	
Residence address/ **Domicilioo/** **Adrès kay/**	Residence or precinct # must be included or this signature is invalid.
_____ Check if change of address / Marque aquí si cambió de domicilio / Make si se chanjman adrès	
Date of birth or Registration#/ **Fecha de nacimiento o número de inscripc** **Dat nesans oswa nimewo enskripsyon**	Optional information that helps locate the voter in the registration system.
Signature/ Firma/ Siyati	This signature is invalid if the date is before or after date the circulator obtained signature or the notary date.

STATEMENT OF CIRCULATOR

I, *(print name)* _____ [Circulator's printed name must be included.] siding at *(residence address)* _____ am the circulator of the foregoing document containing one pe[Circulator's address must be included.]d between the dates of _____ an [Date signature was obtained must be included.] ally c_____ itnessed the signature as it was being writte_____ and information, the signature is the genuine signature of the person whose name it purports to be. I certify to the truthfulness and the correctness of the certificate set forth in Section (1)(D) hereof under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of Florida on this date _____ and at this notary location _____

_____ Signature of circulator must be included.

(Signature of Circulator)

STATEMENT OF NOTARY

STATE OF FLORIDA, COUNTY OF MIAMI-DADE
Sworn to (or affirmed) and subscribed before me this _____ day of _____, 20___, by _____ who is personally known _____ OR produced identification the following type of identification _____.

_____
Signature of Notary Public-State of Florida

Circulator's name must be included.
Must be the same date as written in the Statement of Circulator.
Notary must designate "personally known" or list ID provided.

_____
Notary Seal & Name of Notary Typed, Printed, or Stamped

Must contain signature of notary and official notary information.
Notary can't sign as a voter on their own notarized page.

Ballot Title
Proposed Ballot Language

	Write information below:
Print name / **Escriba su nombre en letra de molde /** **Ekri non an gwo lèt**	
Date/ Fecha/ Dat	
Residence address/ **Domicilioo/** **Adrès kay/**	
_____	Check if change of address / Marque aquí si cambió de domicilio / Make si se chanjman adrès
Date of birth or Registration #/ **Fecha de nacimiento o número de inscripción/** **Dat nesans oswa nimewo enskripsyon**	
Signature/ Firma/ Siyati	

I, *(print name)* _____ residing at *(residence address)* _____am the circulator of the forgoing paper containing _____ petition signatures obtained between the dates of _____ and _____. I personally circulated this petition, witnessed each signature as it was being written, and that to the best of my belief and information each signature is the genuine signature of the person whose name it purports to be. I certify to the truthfulness and the correctness of the certificate set forth in Section (1)(D) hereof under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of Florida on this date _____ and at this notary location _____.
_____(Signature of Circulator)

STATEMENT OF NOTARY

STATE OF FLORIDA, COUNTY OF MIAMI-DADE
Sworn to (or affirmed) and subscribed before me this _____ day of _____, 20___, by _____who is personally known _____ OR produced identification the following type of identification _____.

_____
Signature of Notary Public-State of Florida

_____
Notary Seal & Name of Notary Typed, Printed, or Stamped