

ITEM TITLE:

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF CORAL GABLES, FLORIDA DIRECTING THE CITY MANAGER TO PURSUE FEDERAL FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES FOR SEPTIC TO SEWER CONVERSION.

(Sponsored by Commissioner Menendez)

BRIEF HISTORY:

Municipalities around the country and many in Florida are converting from septic to sewer for wastewater treatment. There are numerous benefits to converting from septic to sewer to ensure that wastewater is properly treated, reduce the burden of septic tank maintenance and replacement, and better protect human health and the environment. The use of septic tanks is prolific within Coral Gables, with nearly half of the city's single family residential properties having septic tanks.

There are federal funding opportunities, including grants and community project funding requests ("earmarks"), available for septic to sewer conversion projects. In fact, the Miami-Dade County congressional delegation has been recently successful in securing millions of dollars of funding for such projects.

Communities throughout Miami-Dade County continue to pursue federal funding opportunities for septic to sewer projects, including neighboring cities like South Miami. The City Commission wishes to pursue such federal funding opportunities as well, and through this resolution directs the City Manager to work with the City's federal lobbying firm, Becker, to identify and pursue such funding opportunities.

1. Draft Resolution