

RESOLUTION No. 23-140

A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF DORAL, FLORIDA, IN SUPPORT OF THE MIAMI-DADE COUNTY MAYOR'S RECOMMENDATION TO SELECT OPA-LOCKA WEST AIRPORT AS THE PREFERRED FUTURE SITE FOR A WASTE-TO-ENERGY FACILITY, AND URGING THE MIAMI-DADE COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS TO ACCEPT SAID RECOMMENDATION; URGING MIAMI-DADE COUNTY TO REMOVE THE EXISTING RESOURCE RECOVERY FACILITY LOCATION IN THE CITY OF DORAL FROM THE LIST OF POTENTIAL SITES; IN OPPOSITION OF REACTIVATING OR REPURPOSING THE EXISTING RESOURCE RECOVERY FACILITY LOCATION IN THE CITY OF DORAL; DIRECTING THE CITY CLERK TO TRANSMIT COPIES OF THIS RESOLUTION; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE

WHEREAS, the Miami-Dade County ("County") Resources Recovery Facility ("RRF") is a waste-to-energy facility ("WTE Facility"), operated by Covanta Dade Renewable Energy, LLC ("Covanta Energy"), and located within the jurisdictional boundaries of the City of Doral ("City"); and

WHEREAS, the RRF is located in the northern portion of the City, surrounded by residential communities, schools, and businesses; and

WHEREAS, on Sunday, February 12, 2023, a massive fire began at the RRF, resulting in heavy and noxious smoke emanating from the structure, and the entire City; and

WHEREAS, as a result of aforementioned industrial fire, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency ("EPA") advised the City's residents and visitors to remain indoors because of concerns as to air quality; and

WHEREAS, although the RRF was significantly damaged by the fire, a portion of the RRF was reopened and currently operates on a limited basis for tire shredding; and

WHEREAS, the City Council continues to oppose the operation of the RRF, in any capacity, as it has a significant adverse impact to the quality of life of the City's residents; and

WHEREAS, the City's historic opposition to the RRF is evidence by Resolution Nos. 22-61 and 23-38, urging the County to locate any future facility outside of the City's limits; and

WHEREAS, on March 27, 2023, the Board of County Commissioner's (the "Board") approved Resolution No. R-240-23, directing the County Mayor or her designee to analyze and recommend siting alternatives for a new WTE Facility, explore alternative technologies, and provide a report, including costs and potential funding sources; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the aforementioned resolution, on August 18, 2023, the County Mayor published a report ("County Report"), proposing, amongst other things, a recommendation that the County procure the development of a Solid Waste campus, which would include the construction of a new mass burn WTE Facility; and

WHEREAS, according to the County Report, the County Mayor recommends that the new WTE Facility be sited at County-owned property located at the intersection of Krome Avenue and US 27 ("Opa-Locka West Airport"); and

WHEREAS, the County Report further indicates that not only does the Opa-Locka West Airport site have the capacity to host a WTE facility, but it also provides space for other elements of the County's Integrated Solid Waste Management Plan, thereby increasing the County's ability to deploy more strategies to divert waste from the County's landfills and perhaps reduce disposal costs in the process; and

WHEREAS, the City strongly supports the County Mayor's recommendation that the Opa-Locka West Airport be selected as the preferred site for any future WTE Facilities, and urges the Board to accept said recommendation; and

WHEREAS, nevertheless, according to the County Report, the existing RRF site, which is located within the City, will be considered as an alternate site for a future WTE Facility, and will be submitted to the Florida Department of Environmental Protection ("FDEP") and the EPA for consideration as a potential siting option; and

WHEREAS, the City Council strongly opposes any effort by the County to locate a future WTE Facility within the City's boundaries, and urges the County to remove the current RRF site as a potential alternate site; and

WHEREAS, the County Report also includes a proposal by Covanta Energy to modify the Trash Processing/Recyclable Trash Improvements ("RTI") system at the RRF in order to process approximately 400,000 tons per year of trash (not including tires) into biomass fuel and operate two boilers (and associated air pollution control equipment) and one turbine ("Reactivation of the RRF"); and

WHEREAS, should the County move forward with the Reactivation of the RRF, the facility would potentially be operational by FY2025; and

WHEREAS, the County Report also includes a recommendation that the existing RRF be repurposed for other solid waste purposes (e.g., a transfer station, a mulching operation, etc.) ("Repurposing of the RRF"); and

WHEREAS, the City Council strongly opposes the Repurposing or Reactivation of the RRF, because said operations will negatively impact the quality of life, health, welfare, and safety of the City's residents, businesses, and visitors; and

WHEREAS, the City Mayor and Council support the County Mayor's recommendation of locating the new WTE Facility at Opa-Locka West Airport, and strongly urge the County Board to (1) accept the County's Mayor's recommendation of selecting the Opa-Locka West Airport as the preferred site for a new WTE Facility (2) remove the current RRF site in the City of Doral as a potential alternate site for the new WTE Facility, and (3) reject any effort to repurpose or reactivate the existing RRF, including Covanta Energy's proposal.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF DORAL AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Recitals. The above recitals are confirmed, adopted, and incorporated herein and made part hereof by this reference.

Section 2. Urging Miami-Dade County. The Mayor and City Council for the City of Doral hereby express its support of the County Mayor's recommendation of locating the new WTE Facility at Opa-Locka West Airport, and strongly urge the County Board to (1) accept the County's Mayor's recommendation of selecting the Opa-Locka West Airport as the preferred site for a new WTE Facility (2) remove the current RRF site in the City of Doral as a potential alternate site for the new WTE Facility, and (3) reject any effort to repurpose or reactivate the existing RRF, including Covanta Energy's proposal.

Section 3. Transmittal. The City Clerk is hereby directed to transmit a certified copy of this Resolution to Mayor Daniella Levine Cava, Chairman Oliver G. Gilbert, III, Vice Chairman Anthony Rodriguez, and the Members of the Board of County Commission of Miami-Dade County.

Section 4. Effective Date. This Resolution shall take effect immediately

upon adoption.

The foregoing Resolution was offered by Councilmember Porras who moved its adoption.

The motion was seconded by Vice Mayor Pineyro and upon being put to a vote, the vote was as follows:

Mayor Christi Fraga	Yes
Vice Mayor Rafael Pineyro	Yes
Councilwoman Digna Cabral	Yes
Councilwoman Maureen Porras	Yes
Councilman Oscar Puig-Corve	Yes

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 23 day of August, 2023.



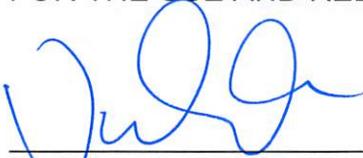
CHRISTI FRAGA, MAYOR

ATTEST:



CONNIE DIAZ, MMC
CITY CLERK

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGAL SUFFICIENCY
FOR THE USE AND RELIANCE OF THE CITY OF DORAL ONLY:



VALERIE VICENTE, ESQ. for
NABORS, GIBLIN & NICKERSON, P.A.
CITY ATTORNEY