

**RESOLUTION No. 20-50**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF DORAL, FLORIDA, OPPOSING THE EXPANSION OR CREATION OF NEW FACILITIES ON THE SITE OF THE TURNER GUILFORD KNIGHT CORRECTIONAL CENTER; URGING THE MAYOR AND BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY TO REJECT ANY PLANS TO DO THE SAME; PROVIDING FOR TRANSMITTAL; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE**

**WHEREAS**, On February 13<sup>th</sup>, 2020, the office of Miami-Dade County (the "County") Mayor Carlos A. Gimenez transmitted to the Board of County Commissioner a report that provided a "Review of Miami -Dade County's Need for a New Detention Facility and Recommended Funding Model in Response to Resolution No. R-1295-18" ( the "Report"); and

**WHEREAS**, neither the request for the Report nor the analyses or recommendations of the Report were made known to or included the Village of Virginia Gardens ("Virginia Gardens"), the City of Doral ("Doral"), the Town of Medley("Medley"), or the City of Miami Springs ("Miami Springs"); and

**WHEREAS**, the Report recommends the construction of a new massive \$393 million detention center ("Jail Project") adjacent to, or on the site of, the Turner Guilford Knight Correction Center ("TGK"), located at 6950 NW 41<sup>st</sup> Street, near Miami International Airport and surrounded by Virginia Gardens, Doral, Medley, and Miami Springs; and

**WHEREAS**, according to the Report, "[t]he new detention center complex would include a *1,400-bed* Detention Center with Mental Health Treatment Center and full service medical clinic; a *556-bed Intake and Release* Center to be combined with four *high volume* courtrooms and office space for partnering criminal justice

agencies . . . ; a Central Support Services Building; and a parking garage with finished office space for video visitation" (emphasis added); and

**WHEREAS**, despite the existence of TGK, the Report takes for granted the compatibility of the Jail Project with surrounding areas, which include single family residential to the east, industrial areas that are trending towards commercial around the site, and the growth of residential over the past 30 years to the west, all of which are incompatible with the Jail Project, likely resulting in the depression of property values and a reduction in the quality of life of the surrounding areas; and

**WHEREAS**, many of NW Miami-Dade County's roads, such as NW 36th Street, and its intersections, such as NW 36th Street and 72nd Avenue, have seen immense increases in traffic resulting in further deficiencies in levels of service to the point of failure and impassible traffic at peak morning and afternoon times, and the Jail Project will dramatically exacerbate those traffic conditions; and

**WHEREAS**, because the Report fails to give appropriate weight to the foregoing factors, the Report does not consider more appropriate locations for the construction of the Jail Project; and

**WHEREAS**, the selection of a site for a jail or the expansion of an existing facility cannot simply consider what is in the best financial and operational interests of the County or special interests, but must balance the impact such a facility will have on the surrounding communities; and

**WHEREAS**, there exists a variety of locations in the County, including, but not limited to, the Metrowest Detention Center, better suited for the construction and permanence of the Jail Project; and

**WHEREAS**, the residents, workers, and business owners of NW Miami-Dade County should not have to carry such a disproportionate burden; and

**WHEREAS**, the Mayor and City Council for the City of Doral opposes the construction of the Jail Project at TGK and urges Mayor Gimenez and the Board of County Commissioners to reject the plans and find a more appropriate site for same which does not create detrimental impacts to the surrounding communities.

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

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

**Section 2. Opposition to the Jail Project.** The Mayor and City Council for the City of Doral are hereby opposed to the Jail Project and the massive expansion or creation of new jail facilities on the TGK site. The City of Doral urges Mayor Gimenez and the Board of County Commissioners to reject the recommendation of the Report, and any plans associated with the construction of the Jail Project at the TGK site. Mayor Gimenez and the Board of County Commissioners are strongly urged to find an alternative location for the Jail Project, one that suits the needs of the County while also considering the impact on the residents, workers, and business owners of the surrounding areas. It is also urged that Miami-Dade County include municipalities earlier in the process in the development of the Jail Project and/or other such projects of County-wide significance to ensure adequate information is provided and due consideration given to the municipalities' position(s).

**Section 3. Transmittal.** The City Clerk is hereby directed to transmit a certified copy of this Resolution to Mayor Carlos Gimenez, Chairwoman Audrey M. Edmondson, Vice Chairwoman Rebeca Sosa, and the Members of the Board of the Miami-Dade County

**Section 4. Effective Date.** This Resolution shall become effective immediately upon its adoption.

The foregoing Resolution was offered by Councilmember Mariaca who moved its adoption. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Cabrera and upon being put to a vote, the vote was as follows:

Mayor Juan Carlos Bermudez	Yes
Vice Mayor Christi Fraga	Yes
Councilwoman Digna Cabral	Yes
Councilman Pete Cabrera	Yes
Councilwoman Claudia Mariaca	Yes

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 11 day of March, 2020.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
JUAN CARLOS BERMUDEZ, 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:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
LUIS FIGUEREDO, ESQ.  
CITY ATTORNEY