

IND B-137

Fax cover sheet



Miami-Dade County
Commissioner District 11
Joe A. Martinez

Date: 9-10-02 pgs. Incl. cover pg. 8

To: Robert Meyers Fax No. 305-579-0273

From: Addys Perez

Message:


District Office
1401 SW 107 Ave. suite 301M
Miami, Florida 33174
(305) 552-1155
Fax (305) 552-0577

COMMISSIONER JOE A. MARTINEZ DISTRICT 11



Memorandum

To: Robert Ginsburg, County Attorney

From: Commissioner Joe A. Martinez 

Date: September 04, 2002

Re: Emergency Shelter Proposal

Attached you will find a draft ordinance, a draft letter, and a list of supplies forwarded to me by The American Red Cross that are needed to have fully operational shelters in Miami-Dade County.

As you will note in my draft letter, I would encourage the private sector to partner with the County in order to acquire steel containers for the shelters throughout the county in order to provide the necessary emergency assistance to the citizenry during emergency situations. These containers would be stocked with the necessary items as provided by the American Red Cross. Also, please note that these will be used for all emergencies and will not be limited to hurricanes.

Please advise as to whether the language and intent of my letter and proposed ordinance violate any legal or ethical rules of procedure. If there any issues or concerns, please forward them to me so that I can make the appropriate changes and move forward with my proposal.

If you should have any questions please call me at (305) 552-1155.

JM/jim

Cc: Robert Meyers, Director (Commission on Ethics and Public Trust)

DRAFT

August 24, 2002

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Miami, Fl.

Dear Sir/Madam:

After months of research I have identified several private entities that have partnered with local governments to improve services to their communities. To this end you have been selected as one of the corporations which should be interested in this endeavor. I truly hope that you choose and accept this opportunity to create a program, which I believe, once its success has been proven, will be a blue print for nationwide implementation.

This program consists of the full partnership between Miami-Dade County, Miami-Dade Public Schools and several private entities. Local governments provide life saving assistance to its residents during times of crisis. Emergency shelters provide basic necessities such as shelter, food and water. Sometimes this is all a family has to rely on in order to resume their life. Ten years ago today, South Dade County was torn apart by Hurricane Andrew. As a victim and a Sergeant with The Miami Dade Police Department at the time, I experienced first hand the need for operating shelters. I found that some people were unable to reach shelters. Shelters that were open, lacked the provisions needed to help those that occupied the shelters thereby proving a tad ineffective. To that end I have devised the below detailed plan that will address those needs.

Attached is a list of supplies The American Red Cross deems necessary to stock Emergency Shelters. Here is where you come in. Miami Dade County has numerous shelters located throughout our Public School System. My idea simply consists of obtaining steel containers, donated by the private sector, and anchoring them on School Board Property near a shelter. Cosmetics such as painting them to blend in with the school will be conducted as local community projects. This will not only involve the local residents but also ensure the Community is aware that these services are available.

Secondly, to stock the shelters pursuant to the attached list thereby ensuring that people will have adequate supplies in case of an emergency. Businesses such as yours will "Adopt" the shelters and be recognized accordingly.

Third, since most of the supplies are not perishable, the shelters can be stocked once and replacement cost will be minimal. Those items that need to be consumed will be given out to any charitable organizations of your choosing on your behalf. That will allow maximum use of all consumables and nothing will go to waste.

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Lastly, this plan will allow the private and public sector to work together and find solutions to aid the people we serve. Letters are being sent out to the following Corporations for assistance in order to ensure that all the designated shelters are adopted.

- Home Depot and Expo Center
- Navarro Pharmacy
- Eckerd
- Century Builders
- Costco
- K-mart
- Target
- Sedanos
- Walgreens
- Winn Dixie
- Wal-mart and Sams Club
- Smart and Final

Mind you, this is not only for major catastrophes such as another Hurricane Andrew. This is also for situations such as an evacuation of buildings due to Fire or Flooding or any instance when shelters need to be activated.

As you can see the need is great; the solution is in front of you; The Reward is priceless.

Sincerely,

Joe A. Martinez
Commissioner

JM/il
Attachment

DRAFT

**RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE COUNTY MANAGER TO
STUDY THE FEASIBILITY OF PROVIDING PERMANENT
EMERGENCY SUPPLY CONTAINERS AT EMERGENCY
SHELTERS**

WHEREAS, Miami-Dade County provides certain services to residents during emergency periods; and

WHEREAS, among the services to which the County contributes is the provision of shelters for residents displaced due to fires, floods, storms, and other emergency situations; and

WHEREAS, emergency situations have arisen where residents were not able to obtain emergency supplies due to non-accessibility; and

WHEREAS, emergency supplies and/or workers are not always able to reach residents to deliver life-saving supplies; and

WHEREAS, the American Red Cross has compiled a list of supplies and food products that it recommends should be kept at an emergency shelter; and

WHEREAS, a copy of the list of recommended supplies and food products is attached hereto and incorporated by reference as Exhibit "A"; and

WHEREAS, the private sector may be willing to subsidize, sponsor, or donate some of the recommended supplies and food products identified by the American Red Cross; and

WHEREAS, this Board desires to determine the necessity and feasibility of providing permanent, stocked emergency supply containers at emergency shelters,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, that:

Section 1. This Board directs the County Manager to conduct a study to determine the necessity and feasibility of providing permanent, emergency supply containers at emergency shelters stocked with the supplies and food products described in Exhibit "A." The County Manager is directed to issue a report to this Board within 90 days of this resolution detailing: (1) the necessity of having stocked emergency supply containers at emergency shelters; (2) the cost of providing such emergency supply containers; (3) any further recommended supplies for the containers; (4) the recommended location of the containers; (5) the willingness of private organizations and corporations to subsidize or donate goods for the containers; and (6) the

position of Miami-Dade County Public Schools—or any other affected non-County organizations-- on the placement of the containers at their facilities.

Exhibit "A"

Water

- ξ Collapsible plastic containers for water storage.

Food

- ξ Ready-to-eat canned meats, fruits, and vegetables
- ξ Canned juices
- ξ Staples (salt, sugar, pepper, spices, etc.)
- ξ Long life shelf milk
- ξ Vitamins
- ξ Jar / canned food for infants

First Aid Kits

- ξ Sterile adhesive bandages in assorted sizes
- ξ Assorted sizes of safety pins
- ξ Cleansing agent/soap
- ξ Latex gloves (2 pairs)
- ξ Sunscreen
- ξ 2-inch sterile gauze pads (4-6)
- ξ 4-inch sterile gauze pads (4-6)
- ξ Triangular bandages (3)
- ξ Non-prescription drugs
- ξ 2-inch sterile roller bandages (3 rolls)
- ξ 3-inch sterile roller bandages (3 rolls)
- ξ Scissors
- ξ Tweezers
- ξ Needle
- ξ Moistened towelettes
- ξ Antiseptic
- ξ Thermometer
- ξ Tongue blades (2)
- ξ Tube of petroleum jelly or other lubricant

Non-Prescription Drugs

- ξ Aspirin or non-aspirin pain reliever
- ξ Anti-diarrhea medication
- ξ Antacid (for stomach upset)
- ξ Syrup of Ipecac
- ξ Laxative
- ξ Activated charcoal (use if advised by the Poison Control Center)

Tools and Supplies

- ξ Battery-operated radio and extra batteries*
- ξ Flashlight and extra batteries*
- ξ Non-electric can opener, utility knife*
- ξ Fire extinguisher: small canister ABC type

Sanitation

- ξ Toilet paper, towelettes*
- ξ Soap, liquid detergent*
- ξ Feminine supplies*
- ξ Personal hygiene items*
- ξ Plastic garbage bags, ties (for personal sanitation uses)
- ξ Plastic bucket with tight lid
- ξ Disinfectant
- ξ Household chlorine bleach

Clothing and Bedding

- ξ Blankets or sleeping bags*

For Babies

- ξ Variety canned formula
- ξ Diapers
- ξ Bottles
- ξ Powdered milk

Entertainment

- ξ Games and books

All semi-perishable products should be of a nature that the School District could rotate them into their normal programs, etc at the end of hurricane season, while leaving non-perishable ones intact.