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Overtown NET Office  
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July 8, 2011

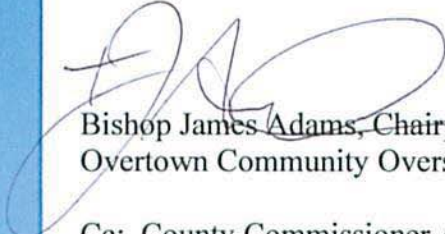
To Whom It May Concern:

On June 16 of this year, Scenic Miami-Dade County, Inc. shared with our board and community an impassioned view of their organization, and its desire to preserve the look of our neighborhoods.

Encouraging historic and cultural preservation in Overtown is a primary duty for the Overtown Community Oversight Board (OCOB). This is a constant challenge in Overtown, a historically Black neighborhood in Miami. This was once considered a well-preserved utopia, now it's an impoverished community where unsightly and inappropriate décor have become the norm. Excessive billboards, including ever-changing electronic billboards and mural ads, threaten to diminish the quality of life, particularly since many of the advertisements facing and placed in Overtown encourage bad behavior, not family and fun-filled activities like in our communities.

We support any efforts to protect our neighborhood, its history and scenic beauty. We support any organization that believes in character versus clutter. In short, we support Scenic Miami-Dade County, Inc.

Thank you,

  
Bishop James Adams, Chairperson  
Overtown Community Oversight Board

Cc: County Commissioner Audrey Edmondson, District 3  
City Commissioner Richard P. Dunn, II, District 5

#### MEMBERS

Bishop James Adams  
*Board Chair*

Terrance Cribbs-Lorant  
*Board Vice Chair*

Brother Lyle Grandison  
*Treasurer*

Andrea Copeland  
*Secretary*

Deidra Davis  
*Parliamentarian*

Dr. Paul Ahr

Timothy Barber

Irby McKnight

Marlon Moore

Reginald Munnings

Shamar Robbins

Deborah Breedlove  
*Youth Member*

Saliha Nelson  
*Immediate Past Chair*

#### LIAISON

Stephanie van Vark

**RESOLUTION AND RECOMMENDATION OF  
THE “OVERTOWN COMMUNITY OVERSIGHT BOARD”**

**WHEREAS:**

1. The “Overtown Community Oversight Board” was established in 1980;
2. The express purpose of the Overtown Community Oversight Board “is to encourage and support housing, job creation, economic and business development, educational opportunities, and historic and cultural preservation, and to provide written recommendations to the City Commission regarding activities, developments and improvements within, or substantially impacting, the residents of the Overtown Area;
3. The “Overtown Community Oversight Board” is a Board which advises the City of Miami and which makes recommendations to the City of Miami on behalf of the community.
4. The Overtown Community Oversight Board is troubled by and concerned with the proliferation of billboards, including electronic LED digital billboards, and so-called “mural” ads in the Overtown Area and in the area immediately to the East of the Overtown Area. Particularly, the Overtown Community Oversight Board is troubled by the number, size, brightness, and subject matter content of these billboards, including electronic LED digital billboards, and mural ads;
5. Residents of the Overtown Area have relied on the “Sign Code of Dade County” (hereinafter, the “Sign Code”) to shield them and their visitors from the visual pollution of billboards, including electronic LED digital billboards, and mural ads which otherwise may be permitted by the City of Miami;
6. In 2007, the Board of County Commissioners of Miami-Dade County passed an amendment to the Sign Code which allowed municipalities to “opt out” of only one provision of that Sign Code, and to thereby free themselves from that one provision;
7. In April of 2011, on first reading, the Board of County Commissioners of Miami-Dade County passed an amendment to the Sign Code which would allow municipalities to opt out of the Sign Code completely;
8. The Board of County Commissioners of Miami-Dade County thereafter sent the above-mentioned amendment to the Miami-Dade Infrastructure and Land Use Committee for consideration;
9. After initial consideration of this proposed amendment on June 15, 2011, the Miami-Dade Infrastructure and Land Use Committee deferred consideration of the amendment until 2:00 p.m., Wednesday, July 13, 2011; and
10. The Overtown Community Advisory Board strongly and firmly believes that permitting municipalities to opt out completely from the Sign Code negatively impacts the residents of and visitors to the Overtown Area.

11. The members of the Overtown Community Oversight Board, reading and interpreting the sentiment and mood of their community, oppose this proposed amendment to the Sign Code.

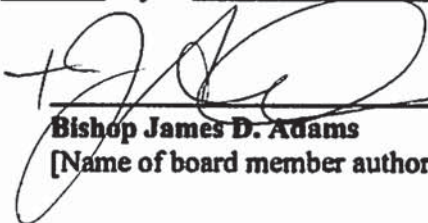
**NOW, THEREFORE, Be It Resolved and Recommended:**

1. That the Overtown Community Oversight Board requests that our County Commissioner Audrey Edmonson, and all other County Commissioners, vote against any Sign Code ordinance amendment which will allow the municipalities to opt out completely from the Sign Code.

2. That the Overtown Community Oversight Board requests that our City Commissioner Richard P. Dunn, II, and all other City Commissioners, do not seek any amendment to the Sign Code which will allow the City of Miami to opt out completely from that Sign Code.

3. That the Overtown Community Oversight Board requests that our City Commissioner Richard P. Dunn, II, and all other City Commissioners, support the Overtown Community Oversight Board and this Resolution and Recommendation.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED** this 16 day of June, 2011.

  
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**Bishop James D. Adams**  
[Name of board member authorized to sign]

Moved by: Terrance Cribbs-Lorrant (Vice Chair)

Second by: Andrea Copeland

Board Vote: Unanimous (6 Yes, 0 No)