

RESOLUTION NO. 2016 - 29574

A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA, AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO SEND A LETTER TO THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES TO REQUEST PERMISSION FROM THE U.S. FOOD & DRUG ADMINISTRATION (FDA) TO EXPLORE THE PROSPECT OF USING GENETICALLY MODIFIED MOSQUITOS TO COMBAT MOSQUITOS CARRYING THE ZIKA VIRUS IN THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH AND URGING MIAMI-DADE COUNTY (COUNTY) TO LIKEWISE REQUEST PERMISSION FROM THE FDA TO EXPLORE THE PROSPECT OF USING GENETICALLY MODIFIED MOSQUITOS TO COMBAT MOSQUITOS CARRYING THE ZIKA VIRUS IN COUNTY.

WHEREAS, *Aedes aegypti* mosquitos carrying the Zika virus, and persons infected with the Zika virus, have been identified within the City of Miami Beach (City); and

WHEREAS, the Zika virus poses a serious health threat to the City's citizens and its visitors due to its link to microcephaly among infants born to infected pregnant women and potential neurological disorders in affected adults; and

WHEREAS, methods to control and eradicate Zika-carrying mosquitos in the City include the spraying of pesticides, such as Naled, which also raise health concerns for the City's residents; and

WHEREAS, one alternative to traditional mosquito control techniques is the use of genetically modified male mosquitos (OX513A) developed by Oxitec, Ltd. (a subsidiary of Intrexon Corp. (NYSE:XON)) that don't bite or transmit disease and which transmit a self-limiting gene to their offspring causing the offspring to die before becoming functioning adult mosquitos; and

WHEREAS, Pinellas County, Florida has already requested the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services to utilize its "emergency use" authorization under Section 564 of the Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act, as amended by the Pandemic and All-Hazards Preparedness Act of 2013, to allow Pinellas County to utilize OX513A mosquitos which have already been approved by the FDA for a pilot program in Monroe County, Florida; and

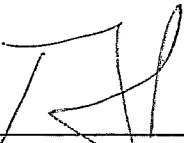
WHEREAS, the use of genetically modified mosquitos to reduce Zika-carrying mosquitos has been used in Brazil, Grand Cayman Island, Panama, Columbia, and Malaysia and has resulted in reported reduction rates of 90% or higher, which is more effective than the traditional methods of spraying Naled and the larvicide Bti; and

WHEREAS, on August 5, 2016, the FDA published a final environmental assessment and a finding of no significant impact relative to the use of genetically engineered mosquitos to control Zika-carrying mosquitos in a proposed field trial in Monroe County to be conducted in conjunction with the Florida Keys Mosquito Control District.

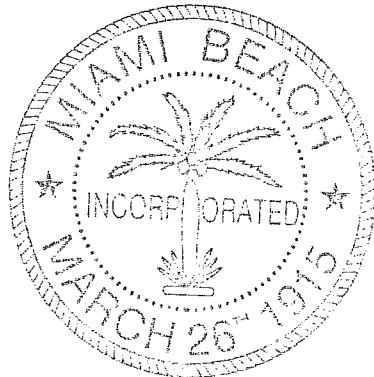
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT DULY RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA, that the Mayor and City Commission hereby authorize the City Manager to send a letter to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services to request permission from the U.S. Food & Drug Administration to explore the prospect of using genetically modified mosquitos to combat mosquitos carrying the Zika virus in the City of Miami Beach and urge Miami-Dade County to likewise request permission from the FDA to explore the prospect of using genetically modified mosquitos to combat mosquitos carrying the Zika virus in the County.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 14 day of September, 2016.

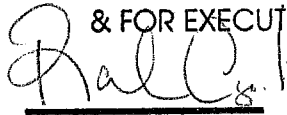
ATTEST:


9/23/16
Rafael E. Granado, City Clerk


Philip Levine, Mayor



APPROVED AS TO
FORM & LANGUAGE
& FOR EXECUTION


City Attorney
9/21/16
Date