



## Miami-Dade County Legislative Delegation

*"Working Together for Miami-Dade"*

Eric Buermann, Chair  
South Florida Water Management District  
3301 Gun Club Road  
West Palm Beach, Florida 33406

Carol Wehle, Executive Director  
South Florida Water Management District  
3301 Gun Club Road  
West Palm Beach, Florida 33406

Dear Mr. Buermann and Mrs. Wehle:

We are in the midst of one of the most severe economic recessions in the history of our region, our State and our Nation. The State budget has been cut by \$5.6 billion and there is still a shortfall of nearly \$2.2 billion.

Recently, we met as a Delegation and listened to the needs and, in certain instances, panic, that many of our municipal, social, elderly, mental health, and low-income service providers have for the upcoming budget year(s). As State Legislators, we are faced with the certain reality that we will not be able to bring back state funding for worthy community projects to our districts and local governments.

Our community has great needs that will go unmet due to the revenue shortfalls. Yet, your agency, through an unelected board, is preparing to spend \$1.34 billion on land for what appears to be nothing more than a corporate bailout according to recent news reports.

It is the basic concept of taxation without representation and a lack of accountability. We are extremely concerned that your proposed action will lead to an increase of taxes for our already overtaxed constituents.

On behalf of the millions of Floridians that we represent in Miami-Dade County we request that you provide us with a full briefing of this transaction prior to any Board action so that we can determine whether it is truly in the best interest of the constituents we were elected to represent. We are ready to meet at a location to be determined in short order for this purpose. I also intend on extending an invitation to the members of the Broward County Legislative Delegation so that they may participate as well.

Thank you in advance. I await your prompt and cooperative response.

Sincerely,

Juan C. Zapata  
Chairman, on behalf of all Miami-Dade Legislative Delegation Members