



MIAMI-DADE COUNTY
FEDERAL APPROPRIATIONS REQUEST FORM (FY 2011)
SECOND HALF - 111th CONGRESS

1. NAME OF DEPARTMENT

Miami-Dade County Park and Recreation Department (MDPR)

2. DEPARTMENT CONTACT PERSONS, ADDRESS, TELEPHONE AND FAX NUMBER(S), & E-MAIL ADDRESS

Jack Kardys

Miami-Dade County Park and Recreation Department

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Miami, FL 33129

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3. PROJECT NAME

Off-Highway Vehicle Recreational Trails Development

4. BACKGROUND

Miami-Dade and Collier Counties each have approximately 12,000 all-terrain vehicles and off-highway motorcycles ("OHVs") registered within their jurisdiction. Law enforcement agencies within each County have determined that the lack of a safe and legal location for members of the public to ride OHVs have caused a growing number of severe accidents, losses of life, charges of trespassing, and wildfires that cause costly damage to private lands and to federal, state and county natural and agricultural areas. Both Counties jointly seek to provide a convenient location where residents can safely and legally ride OHVs.

The Miami-Dade County Park and Recreation Department (MDPR) utilized a State of Florida grant to evaluate safe and legal locations that could properly support OHV use and the result of the evaluations was that the Dade-Collier Training and Transition Airport located at the 48-mile marker of U.S. Highway 41, was the preferred site. Approximately twenty percent (20%) of the Airport Site is located within the legal boundaries of Miami-Dade County and approximately eighty percent (80%) of the Airport Site is located within the legal boundaries of Collier County and Miami-Dade County is the sole owner of the entire Airport Site. A Miami-Dade County Aviation Department study, dated April, 2009, recommended that a 1,600-acre portion of the

24,480-acres Airport Site be transitioned to support a variety of outdoor recreation activities including, but not limited to, camping, fishing, archery, wildlife viewing, and designated trails for hiking, biking, and OHVs. MDPR and the Aviation Department have executed a Memorandum of Understanding, dated December, 2008, that establishes the basis for the use of the 1,600-acre property and provides for the joint development of a portion of the Airport Site as the Dade-Collier Cypress Recreation Area. This Recreation Area is equidistant between Miami-Dade County and Collier County resident population areas, and therefore it could successfully provide a suitable place for OHV riders and could provide a functional replacement for the 2005 closure of the 640-acre Picayune Strand, which was previously used by Collier County OHV riders.

5. DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT

This project will provide safe and organized riding areas for off highway vehicles riders. Funding is for Phase I permitting for the construction of OHV recreational trails, campground and support facilities.

6. AMOUNT REQUESTED

\$337,000

7. APPROPRIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE OF JURISDICTION (Please include federal agency of jurisdiction and account)

None

8. RATIONALE FOR FUNDING PROPOSAL (Including verification that County has signed necessary cost sharing agreements if applicable)

In order to advance the project to a level that authorizes capital improvements and permits development of facilities and trails, zoning related actions will be required. A general cost estimate of the Zoning related tasks and associated fees, inclusive of staff and consultant expenses, to accomplish this are listed below.

Environmental Assessment/Impact Statement	\$150-200,000
Adaptive Management Plan/Site Plan	\$100-120,000
Collier County Zoning fees	<u>\$ 42- 60,000</u>
	\$337,000

9. ARE GRANT, FORMULA, OR ENTITLEMENT FUNDS AVAILABLE FOR THE PROPOSED PROJECT, INITIATIVE, OR ACTIVITY? (If so, please indicate and explain rationale for requesting a separate appropriation earmark, as opposed to accessing other federal funds)

None

10. INTENDED RECIPIENT(S) OF FUNDING

Miami-Dade County Park and Recreation Department (MDPR)

- 11. MATCHING FUNDS (List amount and source. Are Local and State matching funds required for this funding source? If so, please indicate the state or local match, as well as % of federal match required by the Federal Government)**
\$72,000 from the FL Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, Division of Forestry OHV grant
- 12. HISTORY OF FEDERAL FUNDING (List agency funding and amount funded per year over the last 5 years)**
- 13. HISTORY OF COUNTY FUNDING (List each fiscal year and amount funded)**
- 14. AMOUNT RECOMMENDED IN THIS YEAR'S FEDERAL BUDGET (include agency funding this item)**
- 15. IS THERE A DOCUMENTED NEED FOR THE PROJECT: INCLUDING DEPARTMENT REPORTS OR BCC ACTION? (If so, please provide documentation)**
In the Division of Forestry's 2002 Off-Highway Vehicle Safety and Recreation Report (required by Florida Statute 261.06), southeast Florida is identified as the area of the state with the most critical need for OHV recreational trails
- 16. WAS THIS PROJECT HEARD BEFORE A PUBLICLY NOTICED MEETING OR BODY OF ELECTED OFFICIALS (MUNICIPAL, COUNTY OR STATE)? (List hearing body or meeting date)**
- 17. PRIORITIZE YOUR REQUESTS NUMERICALLY**