

Memorandum



Date: May 17, 2024

To: Honorable Chairman Oliver G. Gilbert, III
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

Agenda Item No. 2(B)(4)
June 4, 2024

From: Daniella Levine Cava
Mayor

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Daniella Levine Cava".

Subject: Report on Funding Received and Expenditures Made from the Illegal Dumping Trust Fund - Directive 211534

Executive Summary

The following information is provided in response to Resolution No. R-907-21, sponsored by former Chairman Jose “Pepe” Diaz and adopted by the Board of County Commissioners on October 5, 2021, establishing the Illegal Dumping Trust Fund (IDTF), disbursing all funds from the Florida Environmental Trust Fund into the IDTF, and requiring the Mayor or Mayor’s designee to provide a report to the Board within six months of the effective date and every six months thereafter. The IDTF is utilized by the Miami-Dade Police Department’s (MDPD) Illegal Dumping Unit to conduct operations and investigations that target various environmental crimes plaguing Miami-Dade County. On August 1, 2023, the IDTF had a beginning balance of \$16,173.91. There were no reported expenditures during this period. Due to a lack of adequate funding in the IDTF, the MDPD’s Illegal Dumping Unit did not expend any IDTF funds to support overtime activities related to on-going investigations. During this reporting period that began on August 1, 2023, and ended on January 31, 2024, the IDTF received \$6,576.96 in total funding. Revenues collected by the IDTF during this reporting period consist of earned interest and court ordered payments. As of January 31, 2024, the IDTF had an ending balance of \$22,750.87.

Background

There were no reported IDTF expenditures during this period that began on August 1, 2023, and ended on January 31, 2024. However, the MDPD’s Illegal Dumping Unit, composed of 2 sergeants and 11 investigators, conducted four investigations during regular working hours that did not require the use of IDTF funds. A total of 247 investigative cases were completed that resulted in 8 misdemeanor arrests, and 239 civil citations issued. Of those arrested, eight were for various County ordinance violations.

Revenues received by the IDTF during this reporting period included interest in the amount of \$256.88, and court ordered payments totaling \$6,320.08. On January 31, 2024, the IDTF had an ending balance of \$22,750.87 (see attached).

Also, during this reporting period, the MDPD’s Illegal Dumping Unit assisted the MDPD’s Medical Crimes Unit on cases where biohazardous/medical waste was illegally discarded and resulted in the arrest of ten suspects for the improper disposal of said biohazardous waste. Additionally, water vessels that have been abandoned or discarded along roadways continue to be an issue throughout the County. As such, the MDPD’s Illegal Dumping Unit recovered two discarded junk boats during this reporting period. Another issue plaguing Miami-Dade County is the practice of individuals dumping/abandoning derelict vessels in Biscayne Bay, which causes various environmental concerns and pollutes our waterways. The MDPD’s Illegal Dumping Unit has assigned two full time detectives to address this issue and is in the process of creating standard operating procedures that govern how the MDPD will handle such cases. Additionally, the MDPD’s Illegal Dumping Unit has partnered with the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission and other municipal partners to address this issue.

To address the issue of limited resources needed to support complex investigations/operations related to illegal dumping and environmental crimes, the MDPD introduced legislation to the Board of County Commissioners to provide the IDTF with a regular stream of funding to support the efforts of the MDPD's Illegal Dumping Unit. On December 12, 2023, the Board adopted Resolution No. R-1075-23, authorizing the deposit of fines collected from civil citations issued by the MDPD, for specified environmental violations of the Code of Miami-Dade County, Florida, into the IDTF. Additionally, Resolution No. R-1075-23 provides for the transfer of specific fines for environmental violations collected and previously deposited into the County's Diversion Program Fund between October 5, 2021, and the effective date of Resolution No. R-1075-23 into the IDTF. It is anticipated that the adoption of Resolution No. R-1075-23 will result in an estimated transfer of \$310,310.50 from the County's Diversion Program Fund into the IDTF, which will post during the next reporting period of February 1, 2024, through August 31, 2024.

The MDPD remains committed to the County and combatting crimes that threaten the safety of County residents and the environment. The MDPD's Illegal Dumping Unit will continue to utilize the IDTF to enforce, educate, and collaborate with other agencies to ensure the County's diverse ecosystem remains protected.

Per Ordinance 14-65, this memorandum will be placed on the next available Board meeting agenda.

Should you require additional information, please contact Director Stephanie V. Daniels, Miami-Dade Police Department, at (305) 471-3272.

Attachment

- c: Geri Bonzon-Keenan, County Attorney
- Gerald K. Sanchez, First Assistant County Attorney
- Jess M. McCarty, Executive Assistant County Attorney
- Office of the Mayor Senior Staff
- Stephanie V. Daniels, Director, Miami-Dade Police Department
- Jennifer Moon, Chief, Office of Policy and Budgetary Affairs
- Adeyinka Majekodunmi, Commission Auditor
- Basia Pruna, Director, Clerk of the Board
- Eugene Love, Agenda Coordinator

Illegal Dumping Trust Fund R-907-21

Reporting Period 8/1/2023-1/31/2024

<u>Beginning Balance</u>		\$16,173.91
AUGUST 2023	<u>Expenditures</u>	
	Equipment	\$0.00
	Investigative Overtime	\$0.00
	Fringes	\$0.00
	<u>Funds Received</u>	
	Revenues	\$165.00
	Interest Income	\$49.52
	<u>Trust Fund Balance</u>	\$16,388.43
SEPTEMBER 2023	<u>Expenditures</u>	
	Equipment	\$0.00
	Investigative Overtime	\$0.00
	Fringes	\$0.00
	<u>Funds Received</u>	
	Revenues	\$0.00
	Interest Income	\$90.59
	<u>Trust Fund Balance</u>	\$16,479.02
OCTOBER 2023	<u>Expenditures</u>	
	Equipment	\$0.00
	Investigative Overtime	\$0.00
	Fringes	\$0.00
	<u>Funds Received</u>	
	Revenues	\$1,502.77
	Interest Income	\$51.01
	<u>Trust Fund Balance</u>	\$18,032.80
NOVEMBER 2023	<u>Expenditures</u>	
	Equipment	\$0.00
	Investigative Overtime	\$0.00
	Fringes	\$0.00
	<u>Funds Received</u>	
	Revenues	\$2,084.92
	Interest Income	\$65.76
	<u>Trust Fund Balance</u>	\$20,183.48

DECEMBER 2023	<u>Expenditures</u>	
	Equipment	\$0.00
	Investigative Overtime	\$0.00
	Fringes	\$0.00
	<u>Funds Received</u>	
	Revenues	\$2,086.19
	Interest Income	
	<u>Trust Fund Balance</u>	\$22,269.67
JANUARY 2024	<u>Expenditures</u>	
	Equipment	\$0.00
	Investigative Overtime	\$0.00
	Fringes	\$0.00
	<u>Funds Received</u>	
	Revenues	\$481.20
	Interest Income	\$0.00
	<u>Trust Fund Balance</u>	\$22,750.87
Reporting Period Totals	<u>Expenditures</u>	
	Equipment	\$0.00
	Investigative Overtime	\$0.00
	Fringes	\$0.00
	<u>Funds Received</u>	
	Revenues	\$6,320.08
	Interest Income	\$256.88
<u>Ending Balance</u>		\$22,750.87