Agenda Item #: 5A

PALM BEACH COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

Meeting Date:	April 16, 2013	[] Consent [] Ordinance	[X] Regular [] Public Hearing
Department:	Department of Eco	nomic Sustainability	

I. EXECUTIVE BRIEF

Motion and Title: Staff recommends motion to adopt: a Resolution by the Board of County Commissioners of Palm Beach County, Florida, concurring with Palm Beach County's inclusion within the Service Area of Foreign-Trade Zone (FTZ) 135; and supporting the application of the Port of Palm Beach District for Alternate Site Framework designation through a letter of support.

Summary: The Port of Palm Beach District (Port) is federally-designated as Grantee of FTZ 135. Pursuant to a Resolution passed by its Board on December 20, 2012, the Port is applying to the U.S. Foreign-Trade Zones Board for an Alternate Site Framework (ASF) designation. The ASF designation would expand FTZ 135 to include the counties of Palm Beach, Martin and St. Lucie, in their entirety, allowing companies broader access to FTZ benefits and shortening the process for FTZ activation. Companies operating in an FTZ can defer, reduce or eliminate customs duties on foreign products admitted into zones for storage, exhibition, assembly, manufacture, and processing. It is anticipated that the Port will be able to expand international trade and exports, attract new off-shore activity and encourage the retention of domestic activity, assist state and local economic development efforts, and create employment opportunities by having this designation.

As part of the ASF application process, each county to be included in the FTZ is requested to provide a letter of support/concurrence to accompany the application. There is no fiscal impact associated with this item. (DES) <u>Countywide</u> (DW)

Background and Justification: FTZ 135 currently covers 623 acres on specific sites in Palm Beach and Martin Counties, including the Port of Palm Beach, and as a Traditional Site Framework, is designed to serve zone projects on a limited number of fixed FTZ sites that serve multiple users such as port districts or industrial parks. The process for a company to apply for inclusion as a subzone under the traditional FTZ is extensive and lengthy, sometimes taking as long as 18 months. The ASF program was developed by the U.S. Foreign-Trade Zones Board to serve zone projects that want the flexibility to both attract users/operators to certain fixed sites but also want the flexibility to serve companies at other locations where the demand for FTZ services arises in the future. The ASF was designed to allow grantees to more quickly and efficiently provide access to FTZ benefits to companies based on their trade-related needs rather than by their geographical location.

Attachments:

- 1. Resolution
- 2. Resolution of the Port of Palm Beach District Board
- 3. Letter of support

Recommended By:	Edward to from	3/28/2013
	Department Director	Date
Approved By:	Shann R By- Assistant County Administrator	4/9/13 Date

II. FISCAL IMPACT ANALYSIS

Five Year Summary of Fiscal Impact: Α.

Fiscal Years	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Capital Expenditures					
Operating Costs					
External Revenues	······································				
Program Income					
In-Kind Match (County)					
NET FISCAL IMPACT	*			······································	<u>.</u>

ADDITIONAL FTE POSITIONS (Cumulative)

Is Item Included In Current Budget? Yes _____ No ____

Budget Account No.:

Fund _____ Dept _____ Unit _____ Object _____ Program Code/Period ____

Recommended Sources of Funds/Summary of Fiscal Impact: Β.

* No fiscal impact.

C. **Departmental Fiscal Review:**

Shairette Majør, Fiscal Manager I

III. REVIEW COMMENTS

OFMB Fiscal and/or Contract Development and Control Comments: Α.

OFMB

Development and

Legal Sufficiency: Β.

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C. **Other Department Review:**

Department Director

RESOLUTION NUMBER R2013-____

A RESOLUTION BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA, CONCURRING WITH PALM BEACH COUNTY'S INCLUSION WITHIN THE SERVICE AREA OF FOREIGN-TRADE ZONE (FTZ) 135; AND SUPPORTING THE APPLICATION OF THE PORT OF PALM BEACH DISTRICT FOR ALTERNATE SITE FRAMEWORK DESIGNATION THROUGH A LETTER OF SUPPORT.

WHEREAS, Foreign-Trade Zones provide public benefits in the expansion of international trade, facilitating exports, assisting economic development efforts, and in creating employment opportunities; and

WHEREAS, companies operating in a Foreign-Trade Zone can defer, reduce, or eliminate customs duties on foreign products admitted into zones for storage, exhibition, assembly, manufacture, and processing, as well as attain access to streamlined customs procedures; and

WHEREAS, the Port of Palm Beach District serves as Grantee for Foreign-Trade Zone (FTZ) 135, which currently covers 623 acres on specific sites in Palm Beach and Martin Counties under a Traditional Site Framework; and

WHEREAS, the current Traditional Site Framework for FTZ 135 serves zone projects on a limited number of fixed sites that serve multiple users such as industrial parks and the Port of Palm Beach; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Foreign-Trade Zones Board has developed a process for an Alternate Site Framework to expand the ability of Foreign-Trade Zones to serve companies at other locations based on their trade-related needs; and

WHEREAS, the Port of Palm Beach will submit an application with the U.S. Foreign-Trade Zones Board for FTZ 135 to receive an Alternate Site Framework designation to include in the FTZ 135 Service Area the Counties of Palm Beach, Martin and St. Lucie in their entirety; and

WHEREAS, approval of an Alternate Site Framework would expand access to FTZ benefits to companies throughout Palm Beach County and shorten the process for FTZ activation; and,

WHEREAS, the Port of Palm Beach requests that Palm Beach County provide a letter of support to accompany its application for an Alternate Site Framework designation; and

WHEREAS, Palm Beach County is working with an increasing number of manufacturing businesses, both domestic and foreign, that are relocating or expanding in the county; and

WHEREAS, Palm Beach County supports efforts to establish new channels of commerce, increase international trade, and enhance economic development opportunities and job growth in the region.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA, that the Board hereby concurs with the efforts of the Port of Palm Beach District to include all of Palm Beach County within the Service Area of FTZ 135, and conveys its support for the application for an Alternate Site Framework designation through a letter of support.

This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.

The foregoing Resolution was offered by Commissioner ______ who moved its adoption. The motion was seconded by Commissioner ______ and, being put to a vote, the vote was as follows:

STEVEN L. ABRAMS, Mayor	RX.
PRISCILLA A. TAYLOR, Vice Mayor	R.R
HAL R. VALECHE	m
PAULETTE BURDICK	-
SHELLEY VANA	-
MARY LOU BERGER	1113
JESS R. SANTAMARIA	-

The Mayor thereupon declared the Resolution duly passed and adopted this _____ day of _____, 2013.

PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA, BY ITS BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGAL SELF SUFFICIENCY

ATTEST: SHARON R. BOCK, CLERK & COMPTROLLER

By:

By: _____ Deputy Clerk

Dawn S. Wynn, Senior Assistant County Attorney

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December 20, 2012

GRANTEE RESOLUTION FOREIGN-TRADE ZONE #135

WHEREAS, the Port of Palm Beach District, as Grantee of FTZ #135, deems it desirable to make application to the U.S. Foreign-Trade Zones Board to reorganize its zone project under the Alternative Site Framework (ASF), and to include Palm Beach County, Martin County and St. Lucie County in the Service Area of the reorganized zone project;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that the Port of Palm Beach District does hereby ratify and approve the ASF Application; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the <u>Executive Director or his Port appointee</u> be, and hereby is, authorized to do and perform all acts and to execute and deliver all instruments and documents necessary or convenient for the submission of the ASF Application on behalf of the Port of Palm Beach District to the Executive Secretary of the Foreign-Trade Zones Board, Department of Commerce, Washington, D.C. and take such further action as deemed appropriate incident to securing the approval by the Foreign-Trade Zones Board with respect to said ASF Application.

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BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS PORT OF PALM BEACH DISTRICT
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Blair J. Ciklin, Commissioner
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Br. Jean L. Ennight, Commissioner
George EMastics, Commissioner
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Advard R. Oppel/Commission .
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Wayng M. Richards, Commissioner

ATTACHMENT 2



Department of Economic Sustainability

Administration

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Palm Beach County Board of County Commissioners

Steven L. Abrams Mayor

Priscilla A. Taylor Vice Mayor

Hal R. Valeche

Paulette Burdick

Shelley Vana

Mary Lou Berger

Jess R. Santamaria

County Administrator

Robert Weisman, P.E.

"An Equal Opportunity Affirmative Action Employer" April 16, 2013

George E. Mastics, Chairman Port of Palm Beach District FTZ #135 P.O. Box 9935 Riviera Beach, FL 33419

Dear Commissioner Mastics:

The purpose of this letter is to document the support of Palm Beach County for inclusion within the Service Area of Foreign-Trade Zone (FTZ) 135.

We understand that the grantee, the Port of Palm Beach District, will be applying to the Foreign-Trade Zones Board for authority to serve sites located throughout this county based on businesses' trade-related needs, and that the zone will be made available on a uniform basis to companies within this county, in a manner consistent with the legal requirement that each FTZ be operated as a public utility.

Sincerely,

c:

Steven L. Abrams Mayor

> Members of the Board of County Commissioners Robert Weisman, County Administrator

> > Attachment 3