

PALM BEACH COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

Meeting Date:	SEPTEMBER 12, 2017	<input type="checkbox"/> Consent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Regular
		<input type="checkbox"/> Public Hearing	
Department(s)			
Submitted By:	COUNTY ATTORNEY		
Submitted For:	COUNTY ATTORNEY		


I. EXECUTIVE BRIEF

Motion and Title: Staff recommends motion to adopt: Resolution of the Board of County Commissioners of Palm Beach County, Florida, Urging the Pro Football Hall of Fame Selection Committee to Induct Former NFL Running Back Ottis Anderson Into the Pro Football Hall of Fame.

Summary: Ottis Jerome "O.J." Anderson is a West Palm Beach native and a member of the Palm Beach County Sports Hall of Fame. After dominating high school football as a player at Forest Hill High School, he earned an athletic scholarship to the University of Miami. There, he established himself as a First Team All-American and the premier Running Back in college football. As such, the St. Louis Cardinals drafted Anderson in the first round of the 1979 NFL Draft. As a Cardinal, he excelled and earned numerous accolades including NFL Offensive Rookie of the Year, All Pro and Pro Bowl selections before a trade to the New York Giants in 1986. As a New York Giant, the accolades grew and included two Super Bowl championships, a Super Bowl MVP, and the Comeback player of the year. More importantly, Anderson's career achievements stacks up favorably to many current inductees in the Pro Football Hall of Fame, making him a very worthy and deserving candidate for Hall of Fame selection. District 4 (DO)

Background and Justification: As the eighth overall pick and the first Running Back selected in the 1979 NFL Draft, Palm Beach County native, Ottis Jerome Anderson had a Hall of Fame worthy career and is the only player in NFL history to win the Rookie of the Year award, Comeback Player of the Year award, two Super Bowl championships, and a Super Bowl MVP, in addition to his All Pro selections. Yet, despite his achievements and multiple nominations, Anderson is yet to be selected to the Hall of Fame. Anderson is heavily endorsed by his legendary NFL coaches, Bill Parcells and Bill Belichick, who considered him a selfless competitor, the consummate team player and the complete package at the Running Back position. Considering Ottis Anderson's accomplishments in comparison to other Hall of Fame inductees at his position, he deserves favorable consideration for selection to the Pro Football Hall of Fame.

- Attachments:**
1. Resolution (with Exhibits "A" through "E")

Recommended by:		9/1/17
	County Attorney	Date
Approved by:	N/A	
		Date

II. FISCAL IMPACT ANALYSIS

A. Five Year Summary of Fiscal Impact:

Fiscal Years	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Capital Expenditures	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Operating Costs	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
External Revenues	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Program Income (County)	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
In-Kind Match (County)	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
NET FISCAL IMPACT	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
# ADD'L FTE POSITIONS (CUMULATIVE)	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Is Item Included in Current Budget?	_____ Yes		_____ No		
Budget Account No.:	Fund_____ Department_____ Unit_____ Object_____				
	Reporting Category_____				


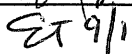
B. Recommended Sources of Funds/Summary of Fiscal Impact:


***NO FISCAL IMPACT -

C. Departmental Fiscal Review: _____

III. REVIEW COMMENTS

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


OFMB  9/1
AC 9/3


Contract Dev. & Control 9/7/17

B. Legal Sufficiency:



Chief Assistant County Attorney

C. Other Department Review:

Department Director

(THIS SUMMARY IS NOT TO BE USED AS A BASIS FOR PAYMENT)

RESOLUTION NO. R-2017-**RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY
COMMISSIONERS OF PALM BEACH COUNTY,
FLORIDA, URGING THE PRO FOOTBALL HALL OF
FAME SELECTION COMMITTEE TO INDUCT
FORMER NFL RUNNING BACK OTTIS ANDERSON
INTO THE PRO FOOTBALL HALL OF FAME.**

WHEREAS, Ottis Jerome "O.J." Anderson, the former Forest Hill High School standout and Palm Beach County native, had a long and distinguished NFL career as a Running Back for the St Louis Cardinals and New York Giants football teams; and

WHEREAS, O.J. Anderson had a stellar collegiate career at the University of Miami and as a First Team All-American he established himself as the premier Running Back in college. The St. Louis Cardinals selected him in the first of a twelve-round draft, as the eighth overall pick of the 330 players selected in the 1979 NFL Draft. He was also the first Running Back selected in the draft; and

WHEREAS, Anderson immediately justified the Cardinals first round draft pick with one of the greatest debut in NFL history, rushing for 193 yards in his first game. He continued his magnificent rookie season setting a rookie rushing record with 1,605 yards and, in the process, took the Associated Press, Offensive Rookie of the Year award, coupled with a First Team All-Pro selection by the Pro Football Writers and the Associated Press; and

WHEREAS, O.J. Anderson rushed for over 1,000 yards in five of his first six seasons with the St. Louis Cardinals, setting team records along the way, while earning a reputation as dependable, consistent and as one of the most punishing rushers on the gridiron. Those attributes cemented his legacy as one of the greatest players in St. Louis Cardinals' history; and

WHEREAS, a 1986 mid-season trade to the New York Giants presented new challenges to Anderson, he made the adjustments to his new environment and was rewarded with opportunities to display his greatness. Under the tutelage of legendary Head Coach Bill Parcells, Anderson solidified his hall of fame worthy credentials. During the 1987 and 1988 season Anderson saw limited action but his winning attitude and unselfishness impressed his coaches, who dubbed him a selfless competitor and the consummate team player. The result was a call back to action as the team's starting

Running Back in 1989, a year in which he unleashed another bruising 1,000-yard season against defenders. For advertising his true NFL pedigree to the league that year, he was compensated with the Associated Press, NFL Comeback Player of the Year award. However, Anderson's best was still to come; and

WHEREAS, the 1990 NY Giants lost their starting quarter back late in the season and the team's offense needed a dependable running game, Anderson became the focal point of the offense. Mr. Reliable proved his mettle, grit and determination and led the Giants to a Super Bowl victory over the heavily favored Buffalo Bills in Super Bowl XXV. For his effort, Anderson was rewarded with the Super Bowl MVP trophy; and

WHEREAS, O.J. Anderson retired after a brilliant 14-year career, and a member of the hallowed 10,000-yard club, he is the only player in NFL history to have earned the Rookie of the Year, Comeback Player of The Year, Super Bowl MVP and 2 Super Bowl Championships. Of course, those accolades are in addition to the All-Pro and Pro Bowl selections he earned from as early as his rookie season in the NFL. Hence, his resume screams Hall of Fame selection and stacks up favorably to many current inductees. However, the Hall of Fame has no objective criteria; and

WHEREAS, in addition to his achievements on the field, Ottis Anderson has been endorsed for the Pro Football Hall of Fame by the likes of legendary NFL Head Coaches, Bill Parcells, Tom Coughlin, Bill Belichick and, for good measure, former boxing Heavyweight Champion, Larry Holmes; and

WHEREAS, O.J. Anderson is a member of Palm Beach County's Sports Hall of Fame, he has proven himself an upstanding citizen and a man of character off the field, and has carried the ideals of football forward into his relations with his community. He is the founder of the "O.J. Anderson College Fund," which he established here in West Palm Beach over a decade ago, to assist students that demonstrate financial need and good academic performance, in realizing their dreams of obtaining a college education.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA, that:

Ottis "O.J." Anderson deserves every consideration for induction into the Pro Football Hall of Fame and we strongly urge the Pro Football Hall of Fame Selection Committee to induct Ottis Anderson into the Pro Football Hall of Fame.

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

Commissioner Paulette Burdick, Mayor	-
Commissioner Melissa McKinlay, Vice Mayor	-
Commissioner Hal R. Valeche	-
Commissioner Dave Kerner	-
Commissioner Steven L. Abrams	-
Commissioner Mary Lou Berger	-
Commissioner Mack Bernard	-

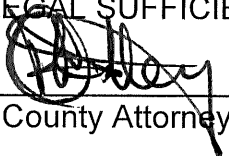
The Chair thereupon declared the Resolution duly passed and adopted this _____ day of _____, 2017.

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

SHARON R. BOCK, CLERK & COMPTROLLER

By: _____
Deputy Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM
AND LEGAL SUFFICIENCY

By:  _____
County Attorney



BILL BELICHICK
HEAD COACH

May 23, 2016

Pro Football Hall of Fame Selection Committee
2121 George Halas Drive, N.W.
Canton, OH 44708

Dear Selection Committee:

It is with great admiration and pleasure that I write to you in support of Ottis Anderson and his nomination for the Pro Football Hall of Fame.

I had both the challenge of facing OJ as an opposing coach and the privilege of being with him at the New York Giants. Each of those situations brings back strong memories.

Trying to limit the damage OJ could inflict to our defense was a difficult task. Everyone remembers his dominance as a running back because he was the complete package - big, strong, tough, fast, elusive, a good receiver out of the backfield. He could truly do it all. OJ's skill set went even further, though, because early in his career he was a tremendous kick returner. When the decision was made to remove him from that role, special teams coaches around the league were ecstatic, beginning with me.

When he came to the Giants, I was able to witness first-hand what a selfless competitor OJ was on a daily basis. He was the consummate team player, a key piece to our 1990 championship season and a deserving Super Bowl MVP.

I am proud to have coached with and against Ottis Anderson and I thank you very much for giving strong consideration to Ottis Anderson during the upcoming nomination process.

Sincerely,

Bill Belichick

Bill Belichick



WORLD CHAMPIONS
XXXVI XXXVIII XXXIX XLIX

**STEVEN L. ABRAMS**

Commissioner, District 4

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"An Equal Opportunity
Affirmative Action Employer"

July 24, 2017

Mr. Steven Hatchell
National Football Foundaton
Suite 1130
433 East Las Colinas Boulevard
Irving, Texas 75039

Dear Mr. Hatchell:

Two years ago, I spearheaded an effort by the Palm Beach County Commission to formally endorse one of our county's most distinguished statesmen, Coach Howard Schnellenberger, for the College Football Hall of Fame. This is a follow up on that initiative.

I am in receipt of an eloquent endorsement letter from five-time Super Bowl-winning head coach Bill Belichick, arguably the most unimpeachable source in football history. It is hard to imagine any endorsement that could have greater influence on the NFF to take action with respect to Coach Schnellenberger's Hall of Fame bid.

Coach Schnellenberger is 83 years old, and I fear time is running out on his CFHOF quest. Surely there must be something you can do to make an exception and waive this .600 winning percentage guideline that discriminates against a program-building coach and football legend like Coach Schnellenberger?

As Coach Belichick wrote, Howard Schnellenberger's "rightful place" is in the CFHOF. On behalf of the residents of Palm Beach County and football fans everywhere, I urge you once again to examine taking the appropriate steps to ensure this well-deserved honor for our beloved Coach Schnellenberger.

Sincerely,

Steven Abrams
Palm Beach County
Commissioner, District 4



**NEW YORK
FOOTBALL GIANTS**

Founded in 1925

December 24, 2015

PRO FOOTBALL HALL OF FAME
SELECTION COMMITTEE
2121 George Halas Drive, N.W.
Canton, OH 44708

Dear Selection Committee Members:

It is my great honor to write to you in support of Ottis "OJ" Anderson's nomination into the Pro Football Hall of Fame.

In the first half of OJ's brilliant career, he was the dominant offensive weapon of the St. Louis Cardinals, rushing for 1,605 yards in his rookie season and winning the rookie of the year award.

OJ ultimately became our main "to go" guy in 1989 winning the Comeback Player of the Year award while rushing for over 1,000 yards and in 1990 he was the Super Bowl XXV MVP.

Needless to say, without OJ's dominant, time-consuming presence in Super Bowl XXV, we never could have held off the offensive Buffalo Bills juggernaut.

On the basis of his brilliant all around career, please give OJ Anderson every consideration for Pro Football Hall of Fame.

Sincerely,

A large, stylized handwritten signature of Tom Coughlin in black ink.

Tom Coughlin



Larry Holmes Enterprises, Inc.

February 2, 2016

Pro Football Hall of Fame Selection Committee
2121 George Halas Drive, N.W.
Canton, OH 44708

Dear Selection Committee Members:

It has come to my attention that living legend running back and two-time Super Bowl Champion, Ottis "OJ" Anderson is not in the Pro Football Hall of Fame. I find this preposterous!

I may not be a football player by trade, but as Heavyweight Champion of the World for seven years, I know a human wrecking machine when I see one! No way did I think that anyone relished tackling OJ Anderson on the gridiron!

Looking over his stats, he retired as the #8 all time leading rusher with over 10,000 rushing yards and 3,000 receiving yards. He was Rookie of the Year, Comeback Player of the Year, two-time Super Bowl winner and Super Bowl 25 MVP. In the history of the NFL, can anyone else boast this quartet of accomplishments? I think not!

The more I think about him being snubbed, the madder I get. Because he's not just a first ballot Hall of Famer, but he's a kind and caring man as well. Please give my friend OJ Anderson every consideration for the Pro Football Hall of Fame.

Regards,


Larry Holmes



**NEW YORK
FOOTBALL GIANTS**

Founded in 1925

February 1, 2016

PRO FOOTBALL HALL OF FAME
SELECTION COMMITTEE
2121 George Halas Drive, N.W.
Canton, OH 44708

Dear Selection Committee Members:

As with my esteemed Super Bowl winning colleagues, Coach Coughlin and Coach Belichick, it is my distinct honor to write to you in support of Ottis "O.J." Anderson's nomination into the Pro Football Hall of Fame.

O.J. started his career with the St. Louis Cardinals and instantly became a dynamic offensive weapon, being elected to the Pro Bowl en route to a then rookie record of 1,605 yards rushing and the 1979 Rookie of the Year award.

When we traded for him at the start of the 1986 campaign, his unselfishness proved to be the missing piece to our championship puzzle as our short yardage specialist. As time elapsed, he eventually became our premier feature Back winning the 1989 Comeback Player of the Year award, rushing for his sixth 1,000 yard season.

In 1990, after our starting quarterback went down with an injury late in the season, we relied heavily on O.J.'s veteran leadership and toughness as we fought our way to Super Bowl XXV. In that game, at an advanced age of 34 for a Running Back, O.J. never shined brighter as he carried the ball 21 times for 102 precious time-consuming yards. Without him doing the "heavy lifting" of pounding "smash mouth" football right into the teeth of the Buffalo Bills defense, there is no way we would have won that game - and his earning the MVP award was completely justified.

On the overall body of work of his super brilliant career, including joining the 10,000 yard rushing club and 13,335 overall yards from scrimmage, I'm proud to lend my name and reputation to O.J. Anderson's legitimate quest for the Pro Football Hall of Fame.

Sincerely,

Bill Parcells