

Item # 48⁽⁶⁾

ADDITIONAL MATERIAL
Regular Meeting
May 4, 2021

SUBMITTED AT THE REQUEST OF
MAYOR STEVE GELLER



April 29, 2021

Honorable Steven Geller, Mayor
Broward County Governmental Center
115 South Andrews Ave., Room 411
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301

Dear Mayor Geller:

The Urban League of Broward County is a community based nonprofit organization that has been an established part of the Broward community since 1975 and is led by Board of Directors of local business and community leaders and professional executive management team. As an affiliate of the National Urban League, our mission is *to enable and empower African-Americans and others in underserved communities to achieve their highest human potential and secure economic self-reliance, parity, power and civil rights*. Annually, the Urban League provides direct service to approximately 14,000 children, adults, and families in six primary verticals: education, entrepreneurship, jobs, justice, housing, and health.

On behalf of the Urban League of Broward County's Board of Directors, staff, and constituents, I applaud Ms. Bertha Henry for her tremendous commitment to this County and the years of services to ensure the equitable use of County resources to ensure the economic and social progression of our community. Her commitment externally is only elevated by her dedication internally to develop a team that would be prepared for her eventual retirement.

To that end, we are full in support of the recommendation of the current County Administrator to have Ms. Monica Cepero, Deputy County Administrator, succeed her following her retirement. We strongly believe in succession of talented professionals and know that it makes a difference to have the continuity when a team has been developed. The Urban League in 2007 experienced the benefits of a clear succession strategy when I was promoted to the CEO role after serving as second in command for more than a decade. I believe that our County Commission, residents, nonprofits, and businesses would benefit from a similar guidance by placing Ms. Cepero in this role.

As an organization that has worked closely with County Administrator and staff on many initiatives that particularly addresses low and moderate income Broward residents and communities, the Urban League is positioned to know the importance of continuity and stability in county government. We are, therefore, staunchly committed to supporting Ms. Cepero and working together to ensure her success.

We appreciate your and the Commission's desire to have this timely conversation and hope that there will be consensus in selecting Ms. Cepero as this County's next County Administrator.

Sincerely,


Germaine Smith Baugh
President and CEO

Cc: Vice-Mayor Udine, Commissioner Rich, Commissioner Bogen, Commissioner Fisher, Commissioner Furr, Commissioner Ryan, Commissioner Sharief, Commissioner Holness, Administrator Henry and Deputy Administrator Cepero