



Zika in City of Miami

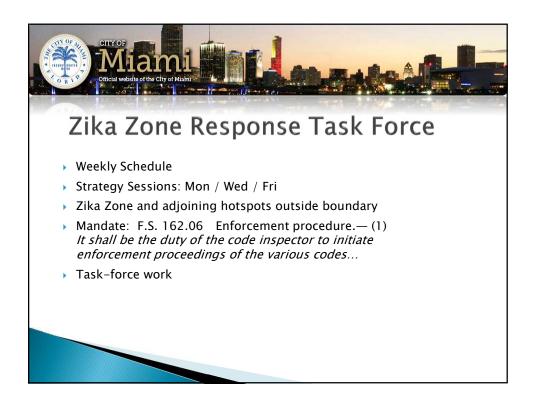
- July 2016: the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) announce Zika Virus transmitted locally in Miami Wynwood area
- City activates Zika Zone Response Task Force
- July 15: Wynwood Zika zone announcement
- July 29: Reports of business closures in Wynwood area
- August 1: CDC issue first travel warning ever issued for the continental United States for pregnant women to avoid Wynwood
- September 29: Little River Zika zone announcement



Zika Zones in City of Miami

- Wynwood Zika zone: first neighborhood where CDC declared a travel advisory for pregnant women because of Zika; between NW 5 Ave and Biscayne Blvd and NW/NE 20 St and NW/NE 36 St
- Little River Zika zone: between N.E. 79 and 63 streets from N.W. 10 Ave to North Miami Ave
- "Keep Miami Beautiful" is our vehicle for Zika response







Zika Zone Response Task Force

- Miami Police
- Code Compliance
- Solid Waste
- Public Works
- Building
- Fire Rescue
- Communications
- Parks and Recreation
- Neighborhood Enhancement Team



Local Stakeholder Collaboration

- > Florida Department of Health
- Miami-Dade County Mosquito Control
- Florida Department of Transportation
- Downtown Development Authority
- Miami Parking Authority
- Business Improvement Districts
- HOAs, CBOs, FBOs, etc.



Task Force Response Plan 1

- Miami Police Department: public safety, distribute repellent and outreach to officers and homeless population
- Code Compliance: investigate overgrown lots, illegal dumping, open dumpsters, outdoor storage, etc.
- Solid Waste: illegal dumping, bulk pickup, remote recycling and coordination of commercial solid waste franchisees
- Public Works: street inspections, standing water, public drains and trash holes



Task Force Response Plan 2

- Building: building sites, construction storage bins, open trenches, abandoned swimming pools, and standing water
- Fire Rescue: Public outreach; emergency response
- Neighborhood Enhancement Team: Public outreach, educational programs, public meetings with HOAs, CBOs, and BIDs, etc.
- Communications: information dissemination thru TV, Website and Social Media
- Parks: parklands and playgrounds; outreach to users, parents and children; Landscape improvement







Operational Challenges - 1

- Better and prompt communication needed between all agencies
- Lack of transparent information on where to concentrate initial efforts in designated Zika zones
- Limited community in-person meetings in designated Zika transmission zones
- Public outreach is done by multiple agencies in the same areas; this could be better coordinated through strategy sessions



Operational Challenges - 2

- Large scale rapid response is difficult due to number of storm water inlets and time required to clean them and apply larvicides
- > Potholes and damaged swale areas may hold standing water
- Paved swales, turf blocks, and erosion control structures in parking areas and swales hold small puddles that are slow to drain
- Illegal Dumping Abandoned structures, Mattresses, and Buckets/Containers
- Vacant and/or abandoned lots with restricted access



Operational Challenges - 3

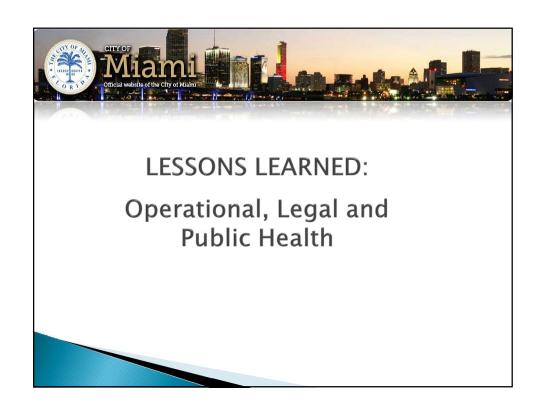
- Vacant properties and roof with planters that hold stagnant water
- Backyards without access
- Absentee landlords
- Multi-ethnic city with conflicting cultural issues and sensitivity
- Information dissemination in different languages (English, Spanish and Creole) for materials, cards, flyers, PSAs, etc.



Operational Challenges - 4

- Legislative Restraints: Code enforcement officers have to wait for seven (or ten) days to correct property violations though Zika virus infestation is public health threat
- Illegal storage or dumping of tires, mattresses, buckets and other containers that store water or act as mosquito breeding sites
- Overgrown lots that pose public health concern
- Uncontrolled plantings and landscape improvements in private properties - plantings that hold water and flower pots



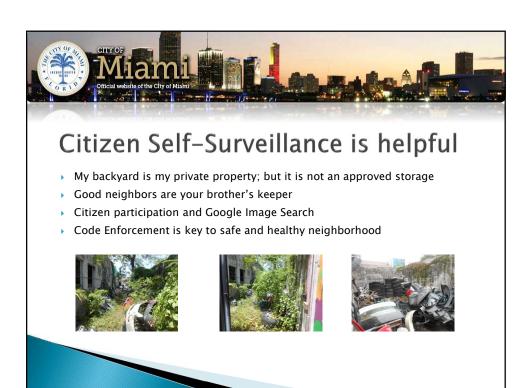




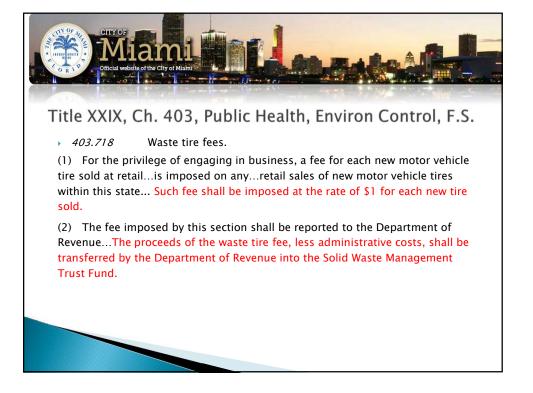
Design and Policy Changes

- Revise landscape design standards: No structures that hold water outdoors; prescribe self-draining systems
- Update prohibited plant specie inventory: No Bromeliads, etc., in public spaces and streets
- Code Enforcement: adopt a realistic compliance period











Title XXIX, Ch. 403, Public Health, Environ Control, F.S.

- 403.717(3)(b) "It is unlawful for any person to dispose of waste tires or processed tires in the state except at a permitted solid waste management facility..."
- 403.717(5)(a) "The department shall encourage the voluntary establishment of waste tire collection centers at retail tire-selling businesses, waste tire processing facilities, and solid waste disposal facilities, to be open to the public for the deposit of waste tires."
- 403.717(5)(b) "The department may establish an incentives program to encourage individuals to return their waste tires to a waste tire collection center. The incentives may involve the use of discount or prize coupons, prize drawings, promotional giveaways, or other activities the department determines will promote collection, reuse, volume reduction, and proper disposal of waste tires."
- 403.031(2) Definitions.—In construing this chapter, or rules and regulations...(2) "Department" means the Department of Environmental Protection.





Recommendation

- Identify gaps in existing laws and regulations that would impede recovery in new situations such as emerging diseases
- Review Ch. 162 and Ch. 403, F.S. to address enhanced/rapid response to Code violations that threaten public health
- Recommend Exemption Clause in case of emergencies and threats to public health
- Fiscal Impact make realistic budgetary provision
- > Funding...partnership of local, state and federal agencies needed



Is Miami Zika Free?

- Wynwood Zika zone: lifted September 19th
- ▶ Little River Zika zone: lifted December 2nd
- Zika zone is lifted if 45 days have passed without local transmission of the mosquito-borne virus in the zone
- Florida DOH and Gov Rick Scott declarations a relief but effort to be sustained



Zika: the fight is not over

- Unfortunately, the vectors are here to stay
- "We can't take this for granted. We have to understand that we're going to have to continue to fight this until we get a vaccine." – Gov. Rick Scott
- CDC says "don't let down guard"



Zika: But the fight is not over!

Miami Zika Task Force is now a permanent feature of municipal service delivery

