

Memorandum



Date: October 4, 2018

To: Honorable Chairman Esteban L. Bovo, Jr.
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

From: Carlos A. Gimenez
Mayor

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Carlos A. Gimenez". The signature is fluid and cursive, written over the printed name.

Subject: Beaches North of Haulover Inlet Closed

Due to the recently confirmed presence of red tide in Palm Beach County, Miami-Dade County, in collaboration with the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC), collected water samples on Tuesday, October 2, at four locations off the coast of the County for testing. The County received results late Wednesday indicating that elevated levels of the algae linked to red tide have been detected in our area.

Although results for three sampling areas off Miami Beach and Crandon Park were reported in the very-low to low range, results for samples collected off Haulover Park were reported in the medium concentration range.

Red tides produce toxic chemicals that can affect marine organisms as well as humans. The Florida Department of Health advises people with severe or chronic respiratory conditions to avoid red tide areas.

In an abundance of caution, public beaches in Miami-Dade County located north of Haulover Inlet will be closed until further notice. Miami-Dade County will continue to monitor this situation and will be coordinating with state officials on further testing and any updated instructions regarding the presence of red tide in our area.

In addition, fish kills may occur during red tide. Fish kills can be reported by calling FWC's Fish Kill Hotline at 800-636-0511 or online.

We are taking this proactive step to ensure our residents and visitors are not affected as we collect samples in other areas for state testing. We will continue to seek guidance from the state Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission and take precautionary measures as warranted.

c: Honorable Harvey Ruvin, Clerk, Circuit and County Courts
Abigail Price-Williams, County Attorney
Geri Bonzon-Keenan, First Assistant County Attorney