

**RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE ADOPTION OF THE
MIAMI-DADE COUNTY RESOLUTION APPROVING
SIGNIFICANT MODIFICATION TO BUILDING BETTER
COMMUNITIES GENERAL OBLIGATION BOND
PROGRAM PROJECT NO. 293 – “HISTORIC
PRESERVATION FUND,” TO ALLOCATE FUNDS FOR
THE BILTMORE HOTEL FOR THE EXTERIOR
STRUCTURAL REHABILITATION PROJECT.**

WHEREAS, the Historic Biltmore Hotel and Country Club (“Biltmore”), built in 1925, is a large Spanish-style structure with a tower modeled after the Giralda tower in Seville, Spain and was built by George Merrick, developer of Coral Gables; and

WHEREAS, the Biltmore helped influence the architectural styles of Coral Gables and Miami with its Mediterranean Revival architecture and contributed in large part to the tourism boom in southern Florida in the opening decades of the twentieth century; and

WHEREAS, the Biltmore also served as an Army hospital during World War II and later a Veteran’s hospital, and is designated as a National Historic Landmark, and

WHEREAS, in 1973 the United States government conveyed the Biltmore property to the City of Coral Gables for public historic preservation purposes; and

WHEREAS, the current operators of the Biltmore have expended nearly \$2,750,000 to complete Phases I and II of the exterior structural rehabilitation project, and

WHEREAS, on December 7, 2010 the Miami-Dade County Commission passed and adopted the attached resolution which will provide \$1.2 million from the Building Better Communities General Obligation Bond Program Project No. 293 – “Historic Preservation Fund” to fund the restoration of the exterior structural rehabilitation project at the Biltmore Hotel.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COMMISSION OF THE CITY
OF CORAL GABLES:**

SECTION 1. The foregoing “Whereas” clauses are hereby ratified and confirmed as being true and correct and are hereby made a specific part of this Resolution upon adoption hereof.

SECTION 2. That the City of Coral Gables supports and encourages the Miami-Dade County Commission to approve a subsequent resolution to approve a significant modification to Project No. 293 in order to increase the Historic Preservation Fund's total allocation by \$300,000 to be funded from interest earnings, and to allocate such additional funds to the Biltmore Hotel.

SECTION 3. The City Clerk is hereby directed to distribute a copy of this Resolution to each member of the Miami-Dade County Commission.

SECTION 4. That this Resolution shall become effective upon the date of its passage and adoption herein.

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS FOURTEENTH DAY OF DECEMBER, 2010

DONALD D. SLESNICK II
MAYOR

ATTEST:

WALTER J. FOEMAN
INTERIM CITY CLERK

APPROVED AS TO FORM
AND LEGAL SUFFICIENCY:

ELIZABETH M. HERNANDEZ
CITY ATTORNEY