

CORAL GABLES SUSTAINABILITY ADVISORY BOARD MEETING
 COMMISSION CHAMBERS MEETING (IN-PERSON AND ZOOM)

September 27, 2022 @ 5:00 P.M.

MEETNG MINUTES

MEMBERS	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	APPOINTED BY:
	22	22	22	22	22	22	22	22	22	
Nicholas Eterovic	P	P	P	E	P	*	P	*	E	Mayor Lago
Carmen Olazabal	P	P	P	P	P	*	E	*	P	Commissioner Fors
Jasper Brock	P	P	P	P	P	*	P	*	E	Commissioner Menendez
Greg Hamra	E	E	P	E	E	*	E	*	E	Commissioner Mena
Marlin Ebbert	P	P	P	E	P	*	P	*	P	Commissioner Anderson
Martin Pinilla	P	P	P	P	P	*	P	*	P	City Manager Peter Iglesias
Joe Fadel	P	P	P	P	P	*	P	*	P	City Commission-As-A-Whole
Teddy Lhoutellier	P	P	P	P	P	*	E	*	P	U.M. Representative
Monique Selman	E	E	P	P	E	*	E	*	P	C.G. Chambers of Commerce
Piero Gardinali	P	P	P	P	E	*	P	*	P	F.I.U. Representative
Gabriela McGrath									P	Youth Appointment

A – Absent
 P – Present
 E – Excused.
 (*) no meeting

STAFF:

Matt Anderson, City Resiliency and Sustainability Manager
 Anthonique Jay, Public Works Administrative Assistant

CALL TO ORDER:

Meeting called to order at 5:01 by Chairperson Marlin Ebbert.

Guests: Grace Carricarte

MOTIONS:

July 27, 2022, Meeting Minutes – Martin moved to approve the meeting minutes, Carmen seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

Joe moved to approve the 2022 Board report, Martin seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved

Carmen moved to support the Clean Competition Act as shown in the draft resolution in the commission agenda; Gabriela seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

Monique moved to excuse Jasper, Nicholas and Greg, from September’s meeting, Gabriela seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

PHYSICAL QUORUM (8): Gabriela, Monique, Carmen, Martin, Marlin, Piero, Joe, Teddy

Quorum was met at 5:01pm

Via Zoom -Nicholas Eterovic

New Business: Matt discussed the annual Board report with the Board. Monique suggested that there should be three businesses, per fiscal year to be considered for the Coral Gables Green Business Certification Program.

PRESENTATION- Pelican Harbor Seabird Station began in 1980 by a couple who took in an injured pelican. Since then, they have been open to Miami-Dade County to provide free care for sick, injured, and orphaned native animals. Pelican Harbor is a non-profit organization, who has partnered with Uber to transport animals when needed. Not only can you get animals an Uber, but they can also driven or drop them off for 24/7 care. There are also volunteers in the community who can also come out and assist you. The majority of the native animals that are taken in are 75% avian, 24% mammals, and 1% reptiles.

<https://www.pelicanharbor.org/about-us>

Member Comments

1. **Clean Energy Symposium:** Matt and the Raimundo from the City’s IT Department are working with Dr. Celik to pursue different grants for microgrids or other applications. Teddy also shared the following Clean Energy Symposium hosted at UM.

<https://news.miami.edu/coe/stories/2022/09/clean-energy-symposium-focuses-on-innovative-solutions.html>

2. Coral Gables Senior High School Sustainability Clubs:

- **Cavs Closet** is an environmental initiative club that collects clothes and donations from students. Around Earth Week, the school has a thrift store event to sale to the students.
- **Project Green:** a program consisting of a team of students trying to start various initiatives within education and environmental literature within the school. With the help from the PTA, they are hoping to start the back of the kitchen composting initiative.

3. Resilient Florida Grants: in 2017 the City was one of the first in the state to do a vulnerability assessment. Due to the recent state requirements for receiving funding through the state for Resiliency grants the City applied for funding (\$188,000.00) to complete an updated vulnerability assessment. This funding would be used for an updated assessment looking at the updated projections of sea level rise, King Tides, storm surge modeling and its potential impact on the City's critical infrastructure.

4. King Tides: The King Tides are the highest predicted high tides of the year. King Tides are technically called "perigean spring tides," but they occur in both the spring and fall seasons. The highest tides in southeast Florida occur in the fall due to, the water being warmer, and the seasonal winds driving water levels higher. The City is educating the community on the King Tide schedules and tips for dealing with King Tides (www.coralgables.com/kingtides) The annual Sea Level Rise Solutions day for FIU is October 9, 2022.
https://www.miamidade.gov/global/newsitem.page?Mduid_news=news1506958000324763

5. Granada Golf Course Air Ducts: Nicholas asked as to the status of the air ducts at the Granada Pro Shop. He has spoken with someone at the Pro Shop who indicated they were not getting replaced as a part of the renovation. Matt said he would follow up once he gets more information.

6. Clean Competition Act: On June 7, 2022, the Clean Competition Act (S. 4355) was introduced by U.S. Senator Sheldon Whitehouse and others to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to create a carbon border adjustment based on carbon intensity. The Clean Competition Act would impose a carbon border adjustment on energy intensive imports, while incentivizing decarbonization of domestic manufacturing. Starting in 2024, the adjustment would apply to energy intensive industries such as fossil fuels, refined petroleum products, iron and steel, aluminum, glass, and ethanol, and would later be expanded to include additional goods and products

Keep Coral Gables Beautiful Program Updates (KCGB):

i. Recent Events

1. ***Camp Mahachee Cleanup:*** On July 23rd and August 13th over 39 volunteers came out to collect litter and remove invasive species at the camp. There was over 1,300 pounds of garbage collected. Miami-Dade County will be holding a planting event with the girl scouts on Sunday, October 2, 2022, from 2-5pm.
2. ***Downtown Community Cleanup:*** On 8/26, KCGB, Downtown Cleanup. Over 15 volunteers came out and over 100 pounds of litter was Collected.
3. ***Parks Pollinators Palooza:*** On September 10th in partnership with the Community Recreation Department over 64 attendees attended out and planted over 100 pollinator plants in front of the Coral Gables Country Club.
4. ***Parking Day:*** On September 16, eight locations throughout the City of local business converted parking spaces into a mini park, in front of their business.
5. ***International Coastal Cleanup:*** Matt and Solanch, Commissioner Anderson and other City employees went around on the City's pontoon boat and collected 500 pounds of trash from the Coral Gables Waterway. In addition, over 60 volunteers at the Cocoplum Circle and Riviera Kayak Launch collected over 300 pounds of litter.

ii. Upcoming Sustainability Events

1. ***Air Potato Removal Event:*** Commissioner Anderson has been encouraging the community to participate in collecting air potatoes. For every pound of air potatoes collected, participants will receive an \$10 gift card for Books and Books. Join Keep Coral Gables Beautiful on Saturday, October 15 at 9 a.m. and help remove invasive air potato plants on Sevilla Ave., between Alhambra Circle and Anastasia Ave.
2. ***Recycling Drive-Thru Event:*** The next event will be taking place on October 22, 2022, from 9am-12pm in the City Hall parking lot.

Next Meeting – October 26th ,2022 @5:00 PM

ADJOURNED: 6:10 pm

Sustainability Advisory Board Annual FY 2022 Report

www.coralgables.com/sab

1) Whether the board is serving its purpose for which it was created: *The board continues to do great work in supporting and overseeing the City's sustainability and resiliency initiatives. The board has also taken on additional responsibilities including overseeing the Keep Coral Gables Beautiful program which has grown immensely in popularity since it was launched in July 2020.*

2) List of FY 2022 Sustainability Advisory Board Accomplishments

- *During FY22 the board voted to add a Youth Appointment to the SAB. City Commission voted unanimously to support.*
- *The Board has continued to provide feedback on the implementation of projects identified in the City's Sustainability Management Plan (LED Streetlights Conversion, purchasing of Electric Vehicles and installation of electric vehicle charging Infrastructure, Increasing Building Energy Efficiency, LED Lighting Conversions at City Facilities, Water Conservation measures, etc.)*
- *During FY22, the City and the Sustainability Advisory Board certified Quirch Foods as a Silver Certified Green Business. Since launching the [Coral Gables Green Business Certification Program](#) in April 2019, the board has certified eight green businesses within the city (I Know Science, University of Miami, Barakat Law, Jelly Places, Avion Auto Spa, Lovvett, Andromeda District, and Quirch Foods LLC).*
- *In collaboration with Economic Development, Greenspace and Code Enforcement, KCGB launched the first annual Commercial Beautification Awards. The Commercial Beautification Awards serve to recognize those businesses that have gone above and beyond in the beautification and maintenance of their storefronts and surrounding areas. Four winners were selected by the SAB and are being presented at individual Commission Meetings. 2022 winners include Trend Boutique, Bulla Gastrobar, The Globe, and Bachour.*
- *Through the Florida Beverage Association grant, KCGB will be launching a Reverse Vending Machine Rewards Incentives pilot program in Nov. 2022. Throughout the past year the \$25,000 grant was received, the RVM skin was designed and outreach to business partners has begun. Two business partners have been secured and prelaunch work continues. The goal of this program is to reward Coral Gables residents and visitors for recycling their empty aluminum and plastic containers at the War Memorial Youth Center.*
- *The Sustainability Advisory Board also serves as the governing board of the [Keep Coral Gables Beautiful Program](#) through Keep America Beautiful National Program. Keep Coral Gables Beautiful Program's mission is to promote environmental sustainability and educate the community to take action every day to reduce litter from our open spaces & waterways, improve recycling effort and keep our City Beautiful. Below is a sample of the accomplishments of the program for FY22. Please see the attached events spreadsheet for full list of events.*
 - *During FY22 KCGB hosted 39 events/programs*
 - *4,688 participants & 657 volunteers*
 - *Collected over 132,700 pounds of debris*
 - *Planted over 2,250 trees/flowers*

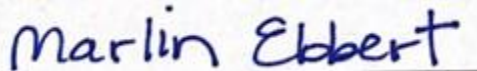
- *Some major event highlights included:*
 - *The City and Sustainability Advisory Board continues to organize two [Recycling Drive-Thru Events](#) each fiscal year. The city held the FY22 events on Saturday Nov. 6th and Saturday April 23rd. The November 6th event had over 1,100 attendees and collected over 34,550 lbs of electronic waste, household hazardous waste, and sensitive documents that were shredded. In addition, for the first time, clothing donations were added in partnership with Camillus House. Over 4,500 pounds of clothes were collected and donated. The April 23rd event had over 1,150 attendees and collected over 42,120 pounds of electronic waste, household hazardous waste, paper that was shredded, and clothing. As a result of the collection events over the last 7 years, the city has been able to collect and divert 370,000 pounds of electronic waste, household hazardous waste, paper, and clothing from entering the landfills.*
 - *Hosted 4 Downtown Community Cleanups (12/2, 2/28, 5/23, 8/26)*
 - *Hosted International Coastal Cleanup on September 17th (3 locations: Cocoplum Circle, Riviera US1 Launch, Employee Waterway Cleanup) collecting a total of 891 pounds of litter with 60 volunteers.*
 - *Assisted the Girls Scouts with cleaning out exotic plants and debris from Camp Mahachee (7/23, 8/13)*
 - *Organized Christmas Tree Recycling program, collecting 1,771 trees that were turned into around 88,550 pounds of mulch for City use.*
 - *Completed a Litter Index of the City that included dividing the city into 5 areas with 10 sites for each area. Each site averaged ½ mile or 1 mile in length. The affiliate litter index score was 1.15 which indicated the city has minimal to no litter.*
 - *Hosted two beautification events (Stantec in the Community- planting at Ponce Entrance to City, Parks Pollinator Palooza at Coral Gables Country Club- Planting Pollinator Patch).*
 - *Received the Keep America Beautiful 2021 Innovation Award for Virtual Litter Index.*

FY 2023 Board Priorities

- *Continue implementing and overseeing the Keep Coral Gables Beautiful Program (host cleanup and community beautification events, complete litter analysis, expand litter and recycling education and outreach).*
- *Launch Reverse Vending Machine Program at Youth Center and continue recruiting partners for local rewards.*
- *Continue to market and certify additional businesses through the Coral Gables Green Business Certification Program. There are currently three businesses going through the certification process. Set a goal of 3 certified business per fiscal year.*

- Continue holding community Recycling Drive-thru events. FY2023 dates are set for October 22, 2022, and April 22, 2023.
 - Continue overseeing the implementation of the projects identified in the Sustainability Management Plan to reduce City's and community's energy, water, waste, and greenhouse gas emissions
 - Continue assisting in the community education and awareness efforts in the City on issues such as water quality, fertilizer use reduction, Biscayne Bay restoration, recycling, energy and water conservation, fuel conservation, climate resiliency, etc.
- 3) **Whether the ordinance creating the board should be amended to better enable the board to serve the purpose for which it was created.**; No need to update ordinance that governs the Sustainability Advisory Board after it was amended in FY22 to add an additional seat for a Youth Appointment. The board now sits at 11 total members.
- 4) **Whether the board's membership requirements should be modified.** Same as above
- 5) **The costs both direct and indirect, of maintaining the board.** None
- 6) **A report on authorized fundraising, bank accounts and grant applications and approvals.**
Through Keep Coral Gables Beautiful two grants were received and utilized to support sustainability initiatives and Keep Coral Gables Beautiful Program (RVM) costs as well as purchase supplies and giveaway items for cleanup events.
- **Waste Management – \$12,000**
 - **Florida Beverage Association - Community Organization Grant:** \$25,000 for the Reverse Vending Machine to be installed at the Youth Center in November 2022.

Sincerely,



Marlin Ebbert
Sustainability Advisory Board Chairperson



Pelican Harbor

SEABIRD STATION



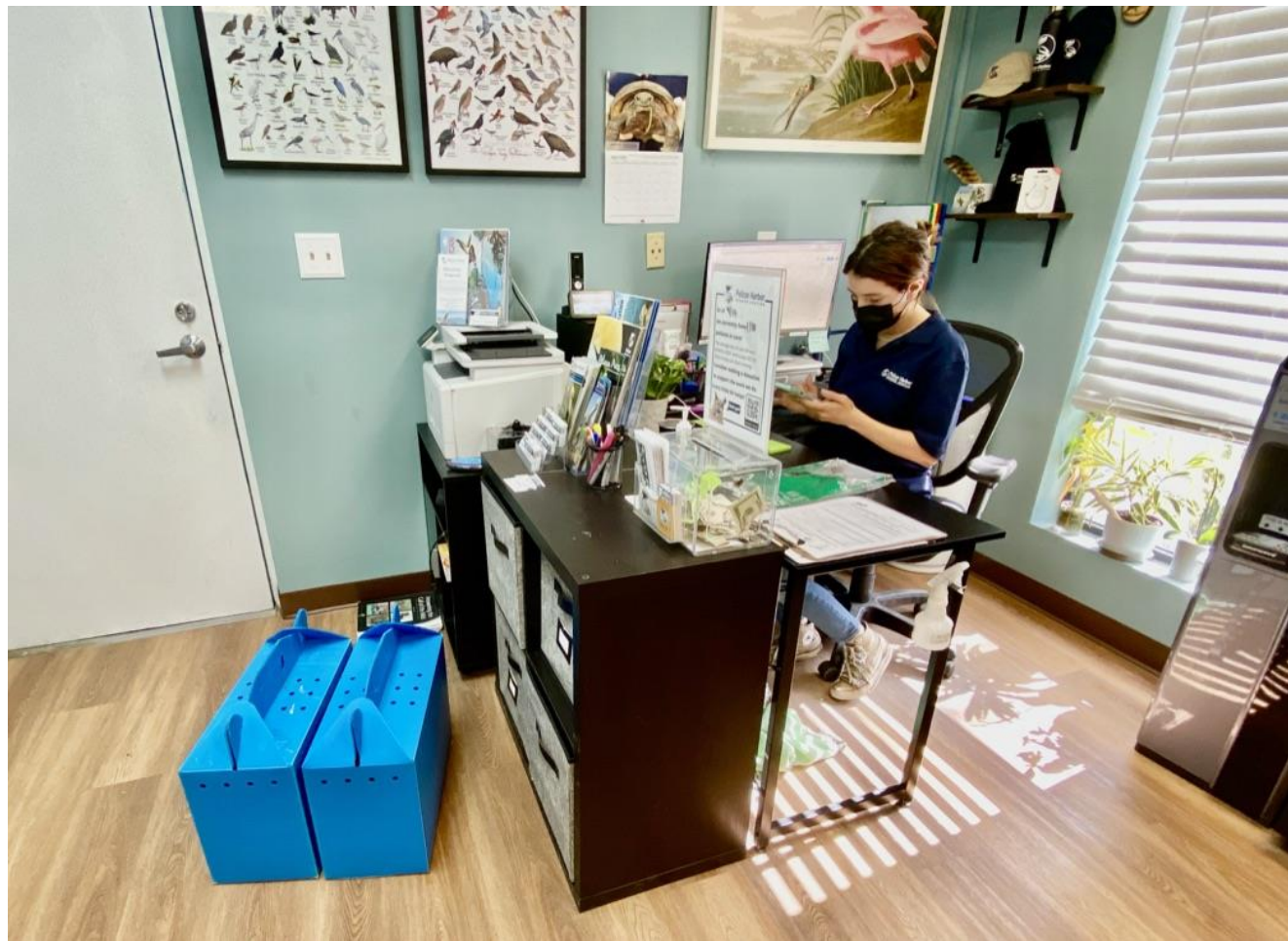






















Vision Statement

As a trusted wildlife rehabilitation center, Pelican Harbor Seabird Station embodies professionalism, compassion, and integrity. Through innovation, education, and outreach, we provide the highest quality of patient care while promoting the importance of conservation in the community.

2,300+ Patients Annually

-  75% Avian
-  24% Mammal
-  1% Reptile

More than pelicans

-  43% Songbirds
-  23% Seabirds
-  20% Shorebirds/ Marshbirds
-  14% Raptors



Pelican Harbor

SEABIRD STATION

Miami's Native Wildlife Hospital Since 1980

70+ Volunteers, and interns	75% Release rate for brown pelicans	211 Native bird species treated
\$2,500+ Daily operating costs	9,000 Volunteer hours per year	38,000+ Wildlife patients treated

Prevent Wildlife Injury

Our most common injuries are due to fishing line/fackle, cat attacks, window strikes, and botulism. Please help us reduce injury with these practices:

- Prevent window strikes with UV decals
- Avoid using rodenticide for pest control
- Do not attempt to raise orphaned wildlife
- Landscape with native plants
- Keep cats indoors
- Dispose of fishing hooks and line properly
- Never feed fish or food scraps to wildlife



Get Involved!

- Follow us on social media
- Become a volunteer or intern
- Make a one-time or monthly recurring donation
- "Adopt" a bird's life story
- Sign up for our newsletter
- Join our Legacy Society

Keep in touch!



Find out more at PelicanHarbor.org
Pelican Harbor is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, operating solely on donations





SEASONAL RECOMMENDATIONS FOR CORAL GABLES



Pelican Harbor
SEABIRD STATION



Winter

Winter in Miami is not the most extreme change from fall or summer. But we do still see a seasonal change in patient species and reasons for coming in to PHSS. One of the most common patient from CG in winter is hawks and falcons. These guys tend to come in for rodenticide poisoning but we can help mitigate this by not using poison for pest control, instead opting for live traps.



Spring

Spring is the start of baby season. Birds will begin nesting as early as February but mainly from March to July. Baby song birds learn to fly from the ground up which is a completely natural process they must go through to become full fledged adults. This does however; make them vulnerable to predators like cats. This is the most common injury we see from CG in spring. We recommend keeping cats indoors for this period when possible and always keeping a look out for injured fledglings. Healthy fledglings can be left where they are found.



Summer

Summer months are the main nesting months for Grey Squirrels. Nestlings that fall out of their tree come in to PHSS from all over Miami and CG is no exception. Many times if you find a baby squirrel you can leave them at the base of the tree while playing baby squirrel sounds and standing 20ft back. Mom should hear the cries and come down for her baby. In the case that the baby is injured please bring them in right away. During these months we also see heavier cases of botulism poisoning in seabirds from CG. We can help mitigate this by doing clean ups of the bay and advocating for cleaner water ways in our city.



Fall

In Fall months we begin to see many birds migrating from the north. Many of these birds will accidentally fly into windows. Diurnal migrants tend to fly into them because they see the reflection of vegetation and nocturnal ones tend to crash into flighted windows. This can cause lead to minor head trauma or in serious cases spinal injury. We can help mitigate this by applying dots of chalk outside our windows 2x2 inches apart. We can also purchase UV reflective clear stickers for the outside of our windows to help deter window strikes. If you would like to know more about this topic, you can watch our webinar on mitigating bird window-collisions and Miami migration lead by Katie Bird on our YouTube.



Success Stories from Coral Gables!



Red Shoulder Hawk 21-1822 came into us with severe head trauma. He could not hold his his head up or stand on his own. After over two weeks of rigorous care by our rehab team, including laser treatments, assisted feeding and time in an oxygen chamber, he was able to be released back to Coral Gables!



Oven Birds 21-1690 came into Pelican Harbor Seabirds Station after flying into a window in September. This resulted in mild head trauma that left him stunned and unable to fly on his own. Luckily a good samaritan noticed and was able to bring him into PHSS where he received supportive care and was able to be released only two days later!

Found a baby bird?

Its best chances of survival are with the mother.

Follow these guidelines to see if it needs help!*

Call your local wildlife center first to ensure the bird you found is a baby

Do any of the following apply?
-Caught by a cat
-Visible wounds or blood
-Cold and wet
-Covered in flies or ants

YES

Place the baby in a dark warm box and contact your local wildlife rehabilitation center

NO

Is the bird fully feathered and hopping around?

YES

This is a fledgling and should be left alone. The parents are caring for it and teaching it to fly

NO

Can you access the nest?

NO

Follow these steps

1. Use a small basket or poke holes in the bottom of a small container and line it with grass
2. Place the baby bird in the new nest and attach it firmly to the tree
3. Observe from a distance for the next 4-6 hours of daylight

Gently place the bird back in the nest. (Your scent will not scare away the mother!)



Has the mother returned?

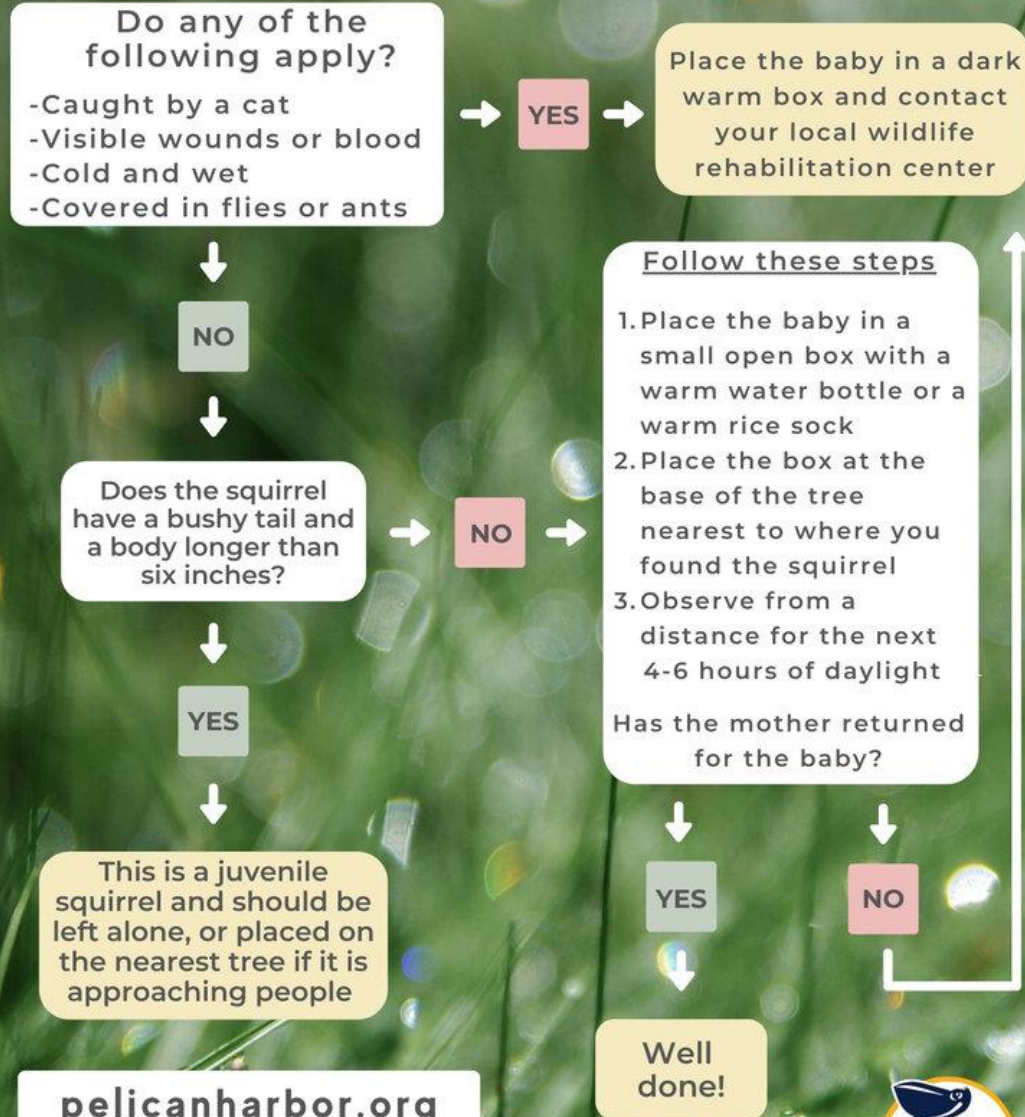
NO

Place the baby in a dark warm box and contact your local wildlife rehabilitation center

pelicanharbor.org
305-751-9840

Found a Baby Squirrel?

Its best chances of survival are with the mother.
Follow these guidelines to see if it needs help!



pelicanharbor.org
305-751-9840



NATIVE WILDLIFE

The Everglades Outpost

(South Miami)

305-247-8000

Facebook

Website

Wildlife Rescue of Dade County

(South Miami)

305-342-1075

Facebook

Website

South Florida Wildlife Center

(Broward County)

954-524-4302

Facebook

Website

Florida Keys Wild Bird Center

(Tavernier)

305-852-4486 Ext. 1

Facebook

Website

DUCKS

Duck Haven

Muscovy Ducks

954-979-5044

Facebook

Website

Duck Issues

Muscovy Ducks

954-646-0344

Instagram

PETS/DOMESTIC ANIMALS

South Florida Rabbit Rescue

Rabbits

561-221-2712

yhjg

Bird Lovers Club

Parrots

954-304-7556

[Facebook](#)

FWC Exotic Pet Amnesty

Exotic Pet Surrenders

1-888-483-4681

[Facebook](#)

[Website](#)

Florida Parrot Rescue

Parrots

813-334-3229

[Facebook](#)

Rooterville

Chickens and Roosters

386-661-2287

[Email](#)

CRUELTY TO ANIMALS

**South Florida Society for the
Prevention of Cruelty to Animals**

Horses and other Livestock

305-825-8826

Facebook

Website

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services

Wildlife Abuse Reporting

305-526-2610

Facebook

Website

39477

PATIENTS TREATED AND COUNTING

1484

PATIENTS TREATED IN 2022

110

PATIENTS CURRENTLY IN OUR CARE

109

SPECIES TREATED THIS YEAR



**OUR WORK NEVER
STOPS**

<https://www.pelicanharbor.org/about-us>



City of Coral Gables
CITY COMMISSION MEETING
September 28, 2022

ITEM TITLE:

RESOLUTION. A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF CORAL GABLES URGING THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS TO ENACT THE CLEAN COMPETITION ACT, S. 4355.

BRIEF HISTORY:

On June 7, 2022, the Clean Competition Act (S. 4355) was introduced by U.S. Senator Sheldon Whitehouse and others to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to create a carbon border adjustment based on carbon intensity. The Clean Competition Act would impose a carbon border adjustment on energy intensive imports, while incentivizing decarbonization of domestic manufacturing. Starting in 2024, the adjustment would apply to energy intensive industries such as fossil fuels, refined petroleum products, iron and steel, aluminum, glass, and ethanol, and would later be expanded to include additional goods and products.

American manufacturers are on average less carbon intensive than most of their foreign competitors, for example, the U.S. economy is almost 50 percent less carbon intensive than its trading partners, whereas the Chinese economy is more than three times as carbon intensive as the U.S., and India is almost four times as carbon intensive. A foundational premise of the Clean Competition Act, is that U.S. climate policy should reward more efficient U.S. manufacturers and penalize high carbon polluting imports as nearly every U.S. sector enjoys a carbon advantage over most key trading partners.

In addition to being sound economic policy designed to give American companies a leg up in the global marketplace, a carbon border adjustment would help address climate change and lower carbon emissions worldwide. According to conservative estimates, the world's climate scientists state that to achieve climate stabilization and avoid cataclysmic climate change, emission of greenhouse gases (GHGs) must be brought to 80-95% below 1990 levels by 2050.

For imports manufactured in opaque economies, the levy would be calculated based on the ratio of the country of origin's economy-wide carbon intensity to the U.S. economy-wide carbon intensity. For imports manufactured in transparent economies with reliable, verifiable data, the levy would be calculated based on the extent to which the country of origin's relevant industry-specific average carbon intensity exceeds the comparable U.S. industry-specific average carbon intensity; foreign manufacturers in such economies could use their own carbon intensities. Importers would only pay the levy based on the fraction of emissions that exceeds the comparable U.S. carbon intensity baseline. During the period from 2025 through 2028, the applicable U.S. carbon intensity baselines would be reduced by 2.5 percentage points each year from the initial average. Starting in 2029, the baselines would decrease by 5 percentage points per year. The levy would begin at \$55/ton and increase at 5 percent above inflation per year. Covered imports from least developed countries would be exempt from any charges.

Covered domestic manufacturers include any facilities producing the same energy intensive primary goods covered under the initial phase of the border adjustment that are also required to report GHG emissions under EPA's Greenhouse Gas Reporting Program (GHGRP). Such facilities would be required to report GHGRP data to Treasury, as well as their annual electricity consumption and annual production of any covered primary goods by weight. Treasury would then calculate the average carbon intensity (covering scope one and two emissions) for each energy intensive industry covered under the initial phase of the border adjustment.

Starting in 2024, covered facilities whose carbon intensity is calculated to be at or below the applicable industry carbon intensity baseline would pay nothing; covered facilities whose carbon intensity is above the applicable industry carbon intensity baseline would pay the levy only on the fraction of emissions that exceeds the industry average carbon intensity. As for imports, each industry baseline would start at the industry average and then decline first by 2.5 percentage points a year for four years and then by five percentage points per year.

Similarly, the European Union ("EU") adopted a Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism ("CBAM") which targets imports of carbon-intensive products, in full compliance with international trade rules, to prevent offsetting the EU's greenhouse gas emissions reduction efforts through imports of products manufactured in non-EU countries, where climate change policies are less ambitious than in the European Union. The EU's CBAM will require reporting to begin in 2023 with full implementation in 2027.

The City Commission has taken legislative action related to climate change and the U.S. economy in the past. For example, on February 23, 2021, the City Commission passed Resolution 2021-30, urging Congress to pass the Carbon Dividend Act, which included a recommendation for a border adjustment to help discourage businesses from outsourcing resources and jobs to countries that emit more carbon dioxide. The City Commission also passed Ordinance 2016-30, establishing the City's "Buy American" procurement preference. The City Commission now seeks to build upon its climate advocacy, commitment to reducing carbon emissions, and support of the U.S. economy by urging Congress to support the Clean Competition Act.

ATTACHMENT(S):

- 1. Draft Ordinance**
- 2. Clean Competition Act**

CITY OF CORAL GABLES, FLORIDA

RESOLUTION NO-2022-

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF CORAL GABLES URGING THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS TO ENACT THE CLEAN COMPETITION ACT, S. 4355.

WHEREAS, on June 7, 2022, the Clean Competition Act (S. 4355) was introduced by U.S. Senator Sheldon Whitehouse and others to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to create a carbon border adjustment based on carbon intensity; and

WHEREAS, the Clean Competition Act would impose a carbon border adjustment on energy intensive imports, while incentivizing decarbonization of domestic manufacturing; and

WHEREAS, starting in 2024, the adjustment would apply to energy intensive industries such as fossil fuels, refined petroleum products, iron and steel, aluminum, glass, and ethanol, and would later be expanded to include additional goods and products; and

WHEREAS, American manufacturers are on average less carbon intensive than most of their foreign competitors, for example, the U.S. economy is almost 50 percent less carbon intensive than its trading partners, whereas the Chinese economy is more than three times as carbon intensive as the U.S., and India is almost four times as carbon intensive; and

WHEREAS, a carbon border adjustment mechanism would provide the economic incentive and leverage needed to invest in clean energy, and to encourage other countries to do the same, particularly those that do not have a carbon emissions reduction program analogous to that of the U.S.; and

WHEREAS, U.S. climate policy should reward more efficient U.S. manufacturers and penalize high carbon polluting imports as nearly every U.S. sector enjoys a carbon advantage over most key trading partners; and

WHEREAS, presently the environmental, health, and social costs of carbon emissions are not included in prices paid for fossil fuels, but rather these externalized costs are borne directly and indirectly by all Americans and global citizens; and

WHEREAS, in addition to being sound economic policy designed to give American companies a leg up in the global marketplace, a carbon border adjustment would help address climate change and lower carbon emissions around the world; and

WHEREAS, according to conservative estimates, the world's climate scientists state that to achieve climate stabilization and avoid cataclysmic climate change, emission of greenhouse gases (GHGs) must be brought to 80-95% below 1990 levels by 2050; and

WHEREAS, the European Union (“EU”) adopted a Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (“CBAM”) which targets imports of carbon-intensive products, in full compliance with international trade rules, to prevent offsetting the EU’s greenhouse gas emissions reduction efforts through imports of products manufactured in non-EU countries, where climate change policies are less ambitious than in the European Union; and

WHEREAS, the EU’s CBAM will require reporting to begin in 2023 with full implementation in 2027; and

WHEREAS, on February 23, 2021, the City Commission passed Resolution 2021-30, urging Congress to pass the Carbon Dividend Act; and

WHEREAS, the Commission also passed Ordinance 2016-30, establishing the City’s “Buy American” procurement preference; and

WHEREAS, the City Commission seeks to build upon its climate advocacy and commitment to reducing carbon emissions by urging Congress to support the Clean Competition Act;

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

SECTION 1. That 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 City urges the United States Congress to enact without delay the Clean Competition Act, S. 4335.

SECTION 3. That the City Clerk is directed to transmit copies of this resolution to the President and Vice President of the United States, to the Speaker of the House of Representatives, to the Majority Leader of the Senate, to each U.S. Senator and Representative from the State of Florida in the Congress of the United States and to Miami-Dade County, and neighboring municipalities urging that they pass similar resolutions.

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

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS TWENTY-EIGHTH DAY OF SEPTEMBER, A.D., 2022.

(Moved: / Seconded:)
(Yeas:)
(Unanimous: 5-0 Vote)
(Agenda Item:G-1)

APPROVED:

VINCE LAGO
MAYOR

ATTEST:

APPROVED AS TO FORM
AND LEGAL SUFFICIENCY:

BILLY Y. URQUIA
CITY CLERK

MIRIAM SOLER RAMOS
CITY ATTORNEY