



City of Coral Gables  
CITY COMMISSION MEETING  
June 10, 2014

**ITEM TITLE:**

A resolution authorizing the implementation of the Neighborhood Tree Succession and Initiation Program; and authorizing an amendment to the Fiscal year 2013-2014 Annual Budget to recognize as revenue a \$3,601,081 transfer from the General Capital Improvement Fund Reserve and to appropriate such funds to cover the cost of the Program.

**DEPARTMENT HEAD RECOMMENDATION:**

Approval.

**BRIEF HISTORY:**

On May 8, 2012, the City Commission passed Resolution No. 2012-95 authorizing staff to proceed with a tree succession and initiation plan design for residential neighborhoods throughout the City. Curtis and Rogers Design Studio was selected to develop the program that would replace thousands of stressed and dying trees and to add new ones to our City's beautiful tree canopy, which is one of our City's greatest assets.

After performing an extensive survey of every tree in residential neighborhoods, the consultants have recommended planting over 3,000 trees and palms to enhance our urban forest. The program is designed to replace missing, sick or hazardous trees, as well as to promote species diversity. Curtis and Rogers evaluated neighborhoods to assess the appropriateness of the species of the trees in that area. They looked at the past performance of trees, identified new species for inclusion, and were mindful of preserving the historically established tree themes.

As part of the process, the community was extensively involved. The City was divided into 5 zones for public neighborhood meeting discussions, which were held in 2013 on September 25, October 2, October 9, October 15, and October 16.

After public input Curtis and Rogers finalized a plan that proposes removal of trees in hazardous condition and replacement with healthy trees. The residents on the coconut palm themed streets that had greater than 30% of the palms missing or unhealthy were surveyed and allowed to vote to decide whether to change the theme of their street from coconut palms to canopy trees. Coconut palms in poor condition needing replacement with a palm will instead be replaced with a Green Malayan Coconut, which is a greener variety with a larger canopy. Streets that had no street trees, will now receive trees in accordance with a newly established planting guide.

This effort will restore our City's canopy to its original glory, and will continue to nurture the extraordinarily beautiful trees throughout our neighborhoods.

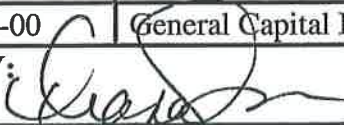
In order to implement the program, an amendment to the Fiscal Year 2013-2014 Annual Budget

is required to recognize as revenue a \$3,601,081 transfer from the General Capital Improvement Fund Reserve and to appropriate such funds to cover the cost of the program.

**LEGISLATIVE ACTION:**

Date.	Resolution/Ordinance No.	Comments
5/8/12	Resolution No. 2012-95	Appropriation of funds to develop a tree succession and initiation plan

**FINANCIAL INFORMATION: (If Applicable)**

No.	Amount	Account No.	Source of Funds
1	\$3,601,081	310-1500-572-63-00	General Capital Improvement Fund
APPROVED BY: 			

**APPROVED BY:**

Department Director	City Attorney	City Manager
		

**ATTACHMENT(S):**

1. Proposed Resolution
2. Proposed Neighborhood Tree Succession and Initiation Plan
3. PowerPoint Presentation