

C I T Y O F C O R A L G A B L E S

OFFICE OF THE CITY ATTORNEY

- MEMORANDUM-

TO: **CITY COMMISSION** **DATE:** **July 15, 2009**

FROM: **Elizabeth M. Hernandez** **SUBJECT:** **SB 360**
City Attorney

Senate Bill, which was signed into law by Governor Crist on June 1, 2009, also known as the Community Renewal Act, makes sweeping changes to growth management laws and was expressly intended to “encourage urban infill and development by removing costly and unworkable state regulations in urban areas;”.

Due to the fact that, among other things, the impacts of the Act reach far beyond urban infill and development areas to encompass approximately half of the municipalities, eight of the largest counties, and half of the state’s population. As well, the language in the Act is unclear resulting in disagreements between attorneys for developers and attorneys for local governments as to its applicability. The City of Weston adopted a resolution requesting other cities join in a lawsuit to challenge the law, and is willing to file and fund the attorney’s fees and costs of the lawsuit if a sufficient number of other local governments agree to join the lawsuit as plaintiffs. Each municipality joining the lawsuit would be asked to contribute \$2,500 towards the attorneys’ fees and costs.

The attached resolution is presented for review and consideration as to whether the City of Coral Gables should join in the litigation as a party-plaintiff. Should you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact our office.

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Encls.