



City of Coral Gables
CITY COMMISSION MEETING
March 12, 2019

ITEM TITLE:

A Resolution of the City Commission of Coral Gables, Florida establishing the Coral Gables History Tours Program for fourth grade students who attend school in the City of Coral Gables.

BRIEF HISTORY:

On January 12, 2016 the City Commission passed Resolution No. 2016-07.1 approving the Coral Gables History Tours Program as a priority project for the Coral Gables School and Community Relations Committee ("SCRC"). Subsequently, the SCRC conducted a two year pilot program with fourth grade students from George Washington Carver Elementary School. The pilot program brought together several community stakeholders, including the Coral Gables Museum, the Coral Gables Community Foundation, the Biltmore Hotel and Miami-Dade County Public Schools and was considered a success by all those involved.

In light of the success of the pilot program, and in recognition of the importance of local history as a component of Florida history within the fourth grade social studies curriculum, the City Commission wishes to extend and fund the Coral Gables History Tours Program to all fourth grade students attending school within the City of Coral Gables. At this time, the program will extend to public schools and private schools and the following schools will be eligible to participate: Coral Gables Preparatory Academy, George Washington Carver Elementary, Somerset Gables, Henry S. West Laboratory School, Gulliver Elementary, St. Philips, St. Thomas, St. Theresa, Riviera Day School and Crystal Academy.

The SCRC will continue to support, promote, and facilitate the Coral Gables History Tours Program in partnership with the Coral Gables Museum. The Program will include visits to destinations such as the Coral Gables Museum, the Biltmore Hotel, the Merrick House, City Hall and the like. The City will waive admission fees, if applicable, to participants of the Coral Gables History Tours Program and shall fund the program in the amount of \$20,000 (Twenty Thousand Dollars) annually from the City Clerk's reserve fund balance, with any unused funds returning to the original budget source. Modifications to the program, including extending the program to a new elementary school, should one open in the future, can be made administratively through the City Manager.

ATTACHMENT(S):

- 1. Draft Resolution**