

CITY OF CORAL GABLES, FLORIDA

RESOLUTION NO. 2015-269

A RESOLUTION ENCOURAGING CITY OF CORAL GABLES' RESIDENTS, BUSINESSES, VENDORS AND VISITORS TO CEASE USING AND PURCHASING PRODUCTS MADE FROM EXPANDED POLYSTYRENE, AND REPLACING EXPANDED POLYSTYRENE PRODUCTS WITH REUSABLE, RECYCLABLE, AND COMPOSTABLE ALTERNATIVES THAT ARE SAFER FOR HUMAN HEALTH AND THE ENVIRONMENT.

WHEREAS, the City of Coral Gables declares that it is in the best interest of the public health, safety, and welfare of its residents and visitors to reduce litter and pollutants within the City; and

WHEREAS, expanded polystyrene, a petroleum by-product commonly known as Styrofoam, is neither readily recyclable nor biodegradable and takes hundreds to thousands of years to degrade in the environment; and

WHEREAS, expanded polystyrene is a common pollutant, which fragments into smaller, non-biodegradable pieces that are ingested by marine life and other wildlife, thus harming and killing them; and

WHEREAS, due to the physical properties of expanded polystyrene, the EPA states "that such materials can have serious impacts on human health, wildlife, the aquatic environment and the economy;" and

WHEREAS, polystyrene materials constitute a portion of the litter in the City's streets, parks, public places, and waterways; and

WHEREAS, the City's goal is to replace expanded polystyrene food service articles with reusable, recyclable or compostable alternatives; and

WHEREAS, this Resolution will preserve and enhance the environment of the City; and

WHEREAS, the City Commission finds that this Resolution is necessary for the preservation of the public health, safety and welfare of the City's residents;

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

SECTION 1. The City of Coral Gables encourages its residents, businesses, vendors and visitors to cease using and purchasing products made from expanded polystyrene.

SECTION 2. The City of Coral Gables recommends its residents, businesses, vendors and visitors replace the use and purchase of expanded polystyrene products with reusable, recyclable, or compostable alternatives that are safer for human health and the environment.

SECTION 3. That this resolution shall become effective upon the date of its passage and adoption herein.

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS TWENTY-SEVENTH DAY OF OCTOBER, A.D., 2015.

(Moved; Quesada / Seconded: Keon)

(Yeas: Lago, Quesada, Slesnick, Keon, Cason)

(Unanimous: 5-0 Vote)

(Agenda Item: F-3)

APPROVED:



JIM CASON
MAYOR

ATTEST:



WALTER J. FOEMAN
CITY CLERK

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND
LEGAL SUFFICIENCY:



CRAIG E. LEEN
CITY ATTORNEY