

CITY OF CORAL GABLES, FLORIDA

RESOLUTION 2022-

**A RESOLUTION OF THE INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS
COORDINATING COUNCIL EXPRESSING THEIR
DESIRE FOR THE CORAL GABLES CITY
COMMISSION TO ESTABLISH A SISTER CITY
RELATIONSHIP WITH THE CITY OF
STELLENBOSCH, SOUTH AFRICA.**

WHEREAS, to increase international ties as a growing international city, the City of Coral Gables has forged relationships with cities around the world through the Sister Cities International program since its first Sister City relationship with Cartagena, Colombia in 1957; and

WHEREAS, the International Affairs Coordinating Council (IACC) wishes to continue to advance intercultural communications and cultural diversity in the City of Coral Gables; and

WHEREAS, during the IACC board meeting of October 18, 2021, the IACC discussed Stellenbosch, South Africa was introduced as a possible Sister City for Coral Gables; and

WHEREAS, the City does not have a Sister Cities relationship with a city outside of the Americas and Europe; and

WHEREAS, common ties of mutual interest exist between Stellenbosch, South Africa and Coral Gables, Florida in the areas of education, arts and culture, economic development, public services, tourism, and trade, which justify the mutual establishment of a Sister City relationship; and

WHEREAS, Stellenbosch and Coral Gables are both university towns and tree-lined garden cities with significant cultural appeal and rich natural and built environments; and

WHEREAS, Coral Gables founder George Merrick envisioned Coral Gables as an international city and commissioned acclaimed architect Marion Sims Wyeth to design a Dutch South Africa Village for Coral Gables, which remains a testament to Mr. Merrick's vision for an architecturally significant and culturally diverse Coral Gables; and

WHEREAS, on August 8, 2022, Mayor van Deventer of Stellenbosch transmitted a letter to Mayor Lago of Coral Gables indicating mutual interest in establishing this Sister City relationship; and

WHEREAS, at the October 17, 2022, meeting of the IACC of Coral Gables, the IACC voted unanimously to recommend to the Coral Gables Commission that this proposed resolution and the aforementioned Sister City relationship be established between Coral Gables and Stellenbosch, which will be to the mutual advantage of both municipalities.

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

Section 1. 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. The City Commission of the City of Coral Gables, Florida expresses its desire to establish a Sister City relationship with Stellenbosch, South Africa.

Section 3. An official agreement to this effect is hereby authorized to be executed to inaugurate this important relationship and to demonstrate the friendship between the officials and people of Coral Gables and Stellenbosch.

Section 4. This Resolution shall become effective upon the date of its adoption herein.

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 25th DAY OF OCTOBER 2022.

(Moved by _____, Seconded by _____)
(Passed 0/0 vote)

VINCE LAGO
MAYOR

ATTEST:

BILLY Y. URQUIA
CITY CLERK

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND
LEGAL SUFFICIENCY:

MIRIAM SOLER RAMOS
CITY ATTORNEY