



City of Coral Gables
CITY COMMISSION MEETING
November 10, 2020

ITEM TITLE:

RESOLUTION. A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF CORAL GABLES , FLORIDA URGING MIAMI-DADE COUNTY TO ADOPT A COUNTYWIDE ORDINANCE REGULATING FERTILIZER APPLICATION AND USAGE IN THE INCORPORATED AND UNINCORPORATED AREAS; ADOPTING THE FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION'S MODEL ORDINANCE FOR FLORIDA-FRIENDLY FERTILIZER USE FOR URBAN LANDSCAPES; PROVIDING FOR ADDITIONAL AND MORE STRINGENT STANDARDS THAN THE MODEL ORDINANCE, INCLUDING AN ANNUAL PERIOD DURING WHICH FERTILIZER APPLICATION GENERALLY WOULD BE PROHIBITED (Sponsored by Commissioner Keon)

BRIEF HISTORY:

The City Commission of Coral Gables has previously considered legislation regulating the use of nitrogen and phosphorous based fertilizers during certain time periods and adopted a resolution prohibiting the use of fertilizers containing nitrogen or phosphorous by City crews or contractors in City-owned and operated properties during the rainiest summer months, from June 1st through September 30th each year.

The City is currently conducting extensive research into the quality of the City's waterways in order to determine the impact of improper usage of fertilizers on the City's waterways and Biscayne Bay.

Last month, the Miami-Dade County Board of County Commissioners heard and adopted on first reading an ordinance that would limit the application of fertilizers during certain months and adopts a more stringent version of the Florida Department of Environmental Protection's model ordinance for Florida-friendly fertilizer use for urban landscapes. The proposed County legislation would create a positive impact on the entire County by reducing the volume of nutrients discharged, especially during the County's rainiest months, and would improve water quality throughout the entire Biscayne Bay watershed. As such, the City Commission urges the Miami-Dade County Board of County Commissioners to adopt the ordinance, or similar legislation when the item next comes to the Board of County Commissioners.

ATTACHMENT(S):

- 1. Draft Resolution**