

CITY OF CORAL GABLES, FLORIDA

ORDINANCE NO. 2023-__

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF CORAL GABLES, FLORIDA, AMENDING THE CITY OF CORAL GABLES CODE, CHAPTER 82 -VEGETATION, IN ORDER CLARIFY TREE PROTECTION PROVISIONS AND ASSOCIATED CODE ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS AND FINES PROVIDING FOR A REPEALER PROVISION, SEVERABILITY CLAUSE, CODIFICATION, AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, the City of Coral Gables recognizes the vital role that trees play in enhancing the quality of life, environmental sustainability, and aesthetic appeal of our community; and

WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of the city to strengthen the tree protection measures to ensure the continued health and vitality of our urban forest that contributes to improved air quality, reduced heat island effect, and enhanced biodiversity within the City; and

WHEREAS, during the normal course of business, City staff identified inconsistent terms and language in the existing City’s “Tree Code”, specifically Chapter 82, and therefore is seeking to update the code to clarify any issues and improve the general process; and

WHEREAS, the City Commission desires to change the types of trees which can be planted as part of the tree canopy mitigation process to encourage the use of shade trees instead of palms.

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

SECTION 1. That the foregoing “**WHEREAS**” clauses are hereby ratified and confirmed as being true and correct and are hereby made a specific part of this Ordinance upon adoption hereof.

SECTION 2. That Chapter 82 “Vegetation” is amended as attached in Exhibit A¹:

SECTION 3. All ordinances or parts of ordinances inconsistent or in conflict with the provisions of this Ordinance are hereby repealed.

SECTION 4. If any section, part of section, paragraph, clause, phrase or word of this Ordinance is declared invalid, the remaining provisions of this Ordinance shall not be affected.

SECTION 5. It is the intention of the Commission of the City of Coral Gables, Florida, that the provisions of this Ordinance shall become and be made part of the City Code and that the sections of this “ordinance” may be changed to “section”, “article”, or such other appropriate word or phrase in order to accomplish such intentions.

¹ Deletions are indicated by ~~striketrough~~. Insertions are indicated by underline.

SECTION 7. If the City Code Table of Contents or other reference portions is affected by these provisions, then changes are approved as a part of this Ordinance.

SECTION 8. This Ordinance shall become effective immediately upon passage.

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS _____ DAY OF _____, A.D. 2023.

APPROVED:

VINCE LAGO

MAYOR

ATTEST:

BILLY Y. URQUIA

CITY CLERK

APPROVED AS TO FORM
AND LEGAL SUFFICIENCY:

CRISTINA M. SUÁREZ

CITY ATTORNEY