

City of Coral Gables

Sustainability Advisory Board

Resolution No.

WHEREAS, pursuant to Ordinance No. 2015-20, among the several purposes of the City of Coral Gables Sustainability Advisory Board (hereinafter “Board”) are: 1) to “make recommendations with regard to . . . encouraging increased environmentally conscious activities by the residents and businesses located in the City,” 2) to “make recommendations with regard to possible incentives for residents, businesses, and organization to practice environmental conservation, water and energy conservation, green development, recycling, the reduction of waste, the improvement of energy efficiency, . . . [and] the use of nonpolluting transportation alternatives, where possible,” and 3) to “make recommendations with regard to goals, criteria, strategies, and Green Building Standards for the City; and

WHEREAS, the Board has conducted several open meetings to develop a series of such recommendations in a variety of subject areas, leading to the adoption of this Resolution identifying both immediate and long-term environmental concerns which the Board finds can be appropriately addressed by the City Commission; and

WHEREAS, the Board has found that the following are worthy areas of opportunity and concern within the jurisdiction of the Board to recommend be addressed by appropriate legislative action by the Coral Gables City Commission:

SOLAR PANELS: Providing a municipal regulatory atmosphere conducive to retrofitting existing residential and commercial buildings and incentivizing installation of photovoltaic energy systems into new construction will reduce use of non-renewable electric power, lower greenhouse gas emissions, and provide cost savings to electricity consumers.

METAL ROOFS: Educating the public about the advantages of metal roofing, including energy efficiency, fire and wind resistance, durability, and style; and providing a municipal regulatory atmosphere conducive to retrofitting existing residential and commercial buildings and incentivizing installation of metal roof

systems into new construction will increase the structural sustainability of the City's communities, lower energy use, and enhance public safety.

ELECTRIC VEHICLES: Providing incentives for private ownership of electric vehicles on City streets and facilities, informing residents of the City's expanding charging infrastructure throughout the City's public parking facilities, and replacing City fleet vehicles including trucks and garbage trucks with electric-powered vehicles, all of which will reduce dependence on foreign oil, lower greenhouse gas emissions, and reduce automotive maintenance and operating expenses.

YGRENE PACE FINANCING: Facilitating the utilization of the Clean Energy Green Corridor Program—an initiative available for residential and commercial property owners to implement energy efficiency upgrades through Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) financing—by measures making City residents more aware that PACE financing has been expanded to residential properties, allowing both residential and commercial property owners to finance renewable energy and efficiency upgrades over the long term through a voluntary property tax assessment. Eligible improvements may include solar panels, hurricane windows and shutters, roof strengthening measures, air conditioning and heating systems, water heaters, weatherproofing, insulation, pool pumps and much more. These improvements, in turn, can lower utility bills, increase the home's value, lower hurricane insurance costs, and improve the quality of the residence. The Board resolves to request Ygrene to provide periodic updates to inform the City of the number of PACE-financed project applications in process and completed projects, which at last report totaled twenty-two projects that have been completed at a value of over \$600,000 in the City, with sixty-four more applications that are in progress.

DISPOSABLE PLASTIC BAGS: Educating the public about the dangerous environmental impact of single-use plastic grocery bags and similar products, encouraging businesses to use reusable and recyclable bags, and otherwise discouraging the use of disposable bags through the legislative and regulatory process—in ways consistent with Florida Statute section 403.7033 and other general law—which will reduce senseless deaths of, and injury to, birds and marine life, lower toxic petro-polymer contents in City soil and waters, and reduce consumption of petroleum.

LEED CERTIFICATION IN NEW CONSTRUCTION: Providing a regulatory framework that requires certain new construction of commercial

buildings and public facilities of more than 20,000 square feet to be done in accordance with the Leadership in Energy & Environmental Design building strategies and practices will promote human health and environmental protection through the use of safe materials, improve indoor air quality, increase water-use efficiency, reduce energy consumption, and provide foundational elements for smart-grid, demand response energy distribution systems, and

WHEREAS, by the affirmative vote of the Board this Resolution has been adopted for presentation to, and further action by, the Coral Gables City Commission;

NOW THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board recommends that the City Commission by ordinance or other force of law take all appropriate measures to address the foregoing areas of opportunity and concern.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board remains ready to assist in the process of further educating the Commission concerning the foregoing issues, and to assist throughout the legislative process as may otherwise be necessary and appropriate.

SUSTAINABILITY ADVISORY BOARD RESOLUTION NO. 2015-1
adopted on this the 4th day of November, 2015.

Ramesh Airan
Board Chairman

APPROVED THIS FOURTH DAY OF NOVEMBER, A.D., 2015

(Moved: Sharon Trbovich / Seconded: Enrique Bernal)

Yeas: Airan, Trbovich, Wasson, Ebbert, Bague, Bernal)

(Unanimous: 6-0 Vote)