

CITY OF CORAL GABLES, FLORIDA

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF CORAL GABLES, FLORIDA, CALLING A SPECIAL ELECTION ON THE PROPOSED NON-BINDING STRAW BALLOT QUESTION TO BE HELD ON AUGUST 20, 2024; PROVIDING FOR SUBMISSION OF A NON-BINDING STRAW BALLOT QUESTION TO THE ELECTORS RELATED TO THE POSSIBLE ANNEXATION OF LITTLE GABLES; PROVIDING FOR REQUISITE BALLOT LANGUAGE; PROVIDING FOR PROCEDURE FOR BALLOTING; PROVIDING FOR NOTICE; PROVIDING FOR RELATED MATTERS; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE

WHEREAS, on August 24, 2022, the City Commission passed a Resolution authorizing the City Manager and City Attorney to reinitiate the annexation process for Little Gables by taking certain steps; and

WHEREAS, Resolution No. 2023-57 directed the City Manager and City Attorney to take certain steps in the annexation process, including hosting community meetings, preparing and sending petitions, and holding a public hearing to adopt/not adopt an annexation resolution; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to these resolutions, the City held a community meeting and mailed annexation petitions to registered voters in Little Gables in accordance with Chapter 20 of the Miami-Dade County Code; and

WHEREAS, as of the self-imposed deadline of October 9th, the City received petitions of support from 21.43% of the registered voters in Little Gables; and

WHEREAS, before deciding whether to proceed with the submission of an annexation resolution to Miami-Dade County, the City Commission wishes to obtain input from Coral Gables residents via a straw ballot question on the August 20th primary election ballot, and to that end adopted Resolution No. 2023-366; and

WHEREAS, the City Commission shall retain the authority to decide whether to proceed with annexation notwithstanding the results of the special election; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to section 6.03 of the Miami-Dade County Home Rule Charter, as well as the City Charter and Chapter 18 of the City Code, the City Commission is authorized to submit straw ballot questions to the electors of the City;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED 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 Resolution upon adoption hereof.

SECTION 2. STRAW BALLOT QUESTION. That pursuant to section 6.03 of the Miami-Dade County Home Rule Charter, as well as the City Charter and Chapter 18 of the City Code, the City Commission seeks to place before the voters a straw ballot question. The specific language of this question is provided below:

Non-Binding, Straw Ballot Question:

Possible Annexation of Little Gables into the City of Coral Gables

Would you support the City pursuing the annexation of Little Gables (the area generally bounded by SW 8th Street to the North, SW 16th Street to the South, Cortez Street to the West and SW 40th Avenue to the East) into the City of Coral Gables via Miami-Dade County’s annexation process, and absorbing all associated annexation costs?

_____ **YES**

_____ **NO**

SECTION 3. ELECTION CALLED. That on August 20, 2024, qualified electors of the City of Coral Gables will be presented with the straw ballot question provided in Section 2 of this Resolution.

SECTION 4. BALLOTING. That balloting shall be conducted between the hours of 7:00am and 7:00pm on the date of the election. Vote-by-mail ballots shall be available. Early voting shall be provided in conjunction with the general election. All qualified City electors who are timely registered in accordance with law shall be entitled to vote. The City Clerk is authorized to obtain any and all necessary election administration services from the Miami-Dade County (the "County") Supervisor of Elections. The County registration books shall remain open at the Office of the County Supervisor of Elections until the date at which the registration books shall close in accordance with the provisions of the general election laws. The City Clerk and the County Supervisor of Elections are hereby authorized to take all appropriate action necessary to

carry into effect and accomplish the provisions of this Resolution. This election shall be canvassed by the Miami-Dade County Canvassing Board.

SECTION 5. NOTICE OF ELECTION. That notice of said election shall be published in accordance with Section 100.342, Fla. Stat., in a newspaper of general circulation within the City at least 30 days prior to said election, or by publication on the County’s website as provided in Section 50.0311, Fla. Stat. the municipality’s website, or the supervisor’s website, as applicable. The first publication shall be in the fifth week prior to the election, and the second publication shall be in the third week prior to the election, and notice shall be in substantially the following form:

"NOTICE OF SPECIAL ELECTION"

PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT PURSUANT TO RESOLUTION NO. 2024-____ ADOPTED BY THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF CORAL GABLES, FLORIDA, AN ELECTION HAS BEEN CALLED AND ORDERED TO BE HELD WITHIN THE CITY ON TUESDAY, AUGUST 20, 2024, BETWEEN THE HOURS OF 7:00 A.M. AND 7:00 P.M., AT WHICH TIME THE FOLLOWING STRAW BALLOT QUESTION SHALL BE SUBMITTED TO THE QUALIFIED ELECTORS OF THE CITY.

Non-Binding, Straw Ballot Question:

Possible Annexation of Little Gables into the City of Coral Gables

Would you support the City pursuing the annexation of Little Gables (the area generally bounded by SW 8th Street to the North, SW 16th Street to the South, Cortez Street to the West and SW 40th Avenue to the East) into the City of Coral Gables via Miami-Dade County’s annexation process, and absorbing all associated annexation costs?

_____ YES

_____ NO

SECTION 6. EFFECTIVENESS. That the question provided for in Sections 2 and 5 above is non-binding, and the City Commission shall retain the authority to decide whether to proceed with the annexation process notwithstanding the results of the special election.

SECTION 7. EFFECTIVE DATE. This Resolution shall become effective upon passage and adoption herein.

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 12th DAY OF MARCH 2024.

APPROVED:

VINCE LAGO

MAYOR

ATTEST:

APPROVED AS TO FORM
AND LEGAL SUFFICIENCY

BILLY URQUIA

CITY CLERK

CRISTINA SUÁREZ

CITY ATTORNEY