

CITY OF CORAL GABLES, FLORIDA

ORDINANCE NO. 2024-__

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF CORAL GABLES, FLORIDA, AMENDING THE CITY OF CORAL GABLES CODE, CHAPTER 10 “ANIMALS”, TO MODIFY BIRD SANCTUARY PROTECTIONS BY EXCLUDING PIGEONS, CHICKENS, DUCKS, ROOSTERS, AND OTHER DOMESTIC FOWL; PROVIDING FOR A REPEALER PROVISION, SEVERABILITY CLAUSE, CODIFICATION, AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, the City of Coral Gables has designated its territory as a bird sanctuary, prohibiting the shooting, trapping, killing, or destruction of birds or their nests within the city limits, reflecting our community’s deep appreciation for the beauty, diversity, and significance of wildlife, and our commitment to protecting and nurturing our natural environment; and

WHEREAS, Coral Gables values the humane treatment of all animals and strives to maintain a harmonious balance between wildlife and the quality of life of our residents, ensuring peaceful and respectful coexistence with all creatures within our city; and

WHEREAS, the City Commission recognizes the need to clarify the status of certain domestic fowl, including pigeons, chickens, ducks, roosters, and other domestic fowl, that may present health, safety, or nuisance concerns for residents; and

WHEREAS, in the spirit of humane treatment and in the interest of public health and welfare, the City Commission finds it appropriate to exclude certain domestic fowl from the city’s bird sanctuary protections to allow for the compassionate and regulated trapping or relocation of these animals, ensuring that any actions taken are conducted responsibly and with care.

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 10 “Animals”, 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 All ordinances or parts of ordinances inconsistent or in conflict with the provisions of this Ordinance are hereby repealed.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.

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

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.

SECTION 6. 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 7. This Ordinance shall become effective immediately upon passage.

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS _____ DAY OF _____, A.D. 2024.

APPROVED:

VINCE LAGO

MAYOR

ATTEST:

BILLY Y. URQUIA

CITY CLERK

APPROVED AS TO FORM

AND LEGAL SUFFICIENCY:

CRISTINA M. SUÁREZ

CITY ATTORNEY

Exhibit “A”

Sec. 10-1 - Bird sanctuary—Declared.

All territory embraced within the corporate limits of the city is hereby declared to be a bird sanctuary, excluding pigeons, chickens, ducks, roosters, and other domestic fowl from these protections.

Sec. 10-2 - Same— Destruction of birds prohibited.

- (a) Subject to the exclusions in 10-1, it shall be unlawful for any person to shoot, trap or in any manner kill or destroy birds or their nests within the territory embraced within the city.