

CITY OF CORAL GABLES, FLORIDA

RESOLUTION NO. _____

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF CORAL GABLES, FLORIDA, ENDORSING THE MAYORS' CLIMATE ACTION PLEDGE, AFFIRMING SUPPORT FOR THE SOUTHEAST FLORIDA REGIONAL CLIMATE CHANGE COMPACT, AGREEING TO CONSIDER IMPLEMENTING THE REGIONAL CLIMATE ACTION PLAN IN WHOLE OR IN PART AS APPROPRIATE FOR EACH MUNICIPALITY, AND URGING ALL MAYORS OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY TO SUPPORT THE MAYORS' CLIMATE ACTION PLEDGE.

WHEREAS, Florida is considered one of the most vulnerable areas of the country to the consequences of global climate change with Southeast Florida being at the frontline to experience the impacts of a changing climate, especially sea level rise; and

WHEREAS, in recognition of the need for immediate, coordinated and visionary action to address the impacts of a changing climate and provide for economic and environmental resilience in Southeast Florida, in 2010 the counties of Palm Beach, Broward, Miami-Dade and Monroe (Compact Partners) entered into the Southeast Florida Regional Climate Change Compact (Compact); and

WHEREAS, further recognizing the role of State water managers and local governments in this regional initiative, the South Florida Water Management District and one municipal representative from each participating county were invited to participate in this early phase; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with the Compact commitment and through a two year collaborative process involving nearly 100 subject matter experts representing public and private sectors, universities, and not-for-profit organizations, the Compact Partners developed the Regional Climate Action Plan (RCAP); and

WHEREAS, the RCAP offers recommendations that provide the common integrated framework for a stronger and more resilient Southeast Florida, including:

- Providing the common framework for Sustainable Communities and Transportation Planning to be aligned across the region;
- Recognizing the need to protect and address vulnerable Water Supply;
- Management and Infrastructure and preserve fragile Natural Systems and Agricultural resources;
- Providing steps to move towards resilience and reducing emissions through exploring alternatives and decreasing the use of Energy and Fuel;
- Building upon strength as effective emergency responders and integrating climate change hazards in Risk Reduction and Emergency Management Planning;

- Providing for effective Public Outreach initiatives to educate the public on the consequences of climate change and providing guidance for developing and influencing Public Policies related to climate change; and

WHEREAS, recognizing that there are more than 100 municipalities within the region that will play an important role in the implementation of the RCAP, the Compact Partners included municipalities in the development of the RCAP; and

WHEREAS, municipalities individually have been working to achieve sustainability, and the RCAP presents an opportunity to align these individual local efforts with the regional framework and vision; and

WHEREAS, municipalities play a key role in the annual Regional Climate Leadership Summits, participated in RCAP Working Groups and now is the time to solidify local government support to advance the RCAP; and

WHEREAS, the RCAP now serves as the foundation document of Climate Resilience Planning as part of the seven county Prosperity Plan in support for economic development; and

WHEREAS, the RCAP does not provide a mandate but rather serves as a living guidance document with options that each regional and local government may align to their own plans and adopt and utilize based on their interests and vision for the future; and

WHEREAS, the willingness of counties and municipalities to jointly develop and advocate for mutually beneficial agreements, policies and strategies intended to influence regional, state and national resilience efforts advances “Good Neighbor” relationships; and

WHEREAS, in 2005 the U.S. Conference of Mayors adopted the U.S. Mayors’ Climate Protection Agreement (Mayors’ Agreement) that became a national model for effective collaboration and the framework for more than 1,000 municipalities throughout the nation to take actions to reduce global warming and address the impacts of a changing climate (climate disruption); and

WHEREAS, since 2012 more than 25 Mayors representing municipalities within the region have signed on to support the Southeast Florida Regional Climate Change Compact, and

WHEREAS, in 2015 the need exists for Mayors within the region of Southeast Florida to collaborate on a renewed agreement that will advance regional climate action planning within Southeast Florida efforts while continuing to advance the national goals of the U.S. Mayors’ Agreement; and

WHEREAS, utilizing the U.S. Mayors’ Agreement as a model for influencing regional climate policies and effective public outreach, all municipalities throughout the Southeast Florida region are invited to sign on to the 2015 South Florida Mayors’ Climate Action Pledge and to collaborate on implementation of the RCAP starting today and for tomorrow.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF CORAL GABLES, FLORIDA,

SECTION 1. The City of Coral Gables endorses the Mayors' Climate Action Pledge.

SECTION 2. The City of Coral Gables affirms support for the Southeast Florida Regional Climate Change Compact.

SECTION 3. The City of Coral Gables agrees to consider integrating the Regional Climate Action Plan framework in whole or in part as appropriate for each municipality into existing and future municipal sustainability action plans, comprehensive plans and/or climate action plans where and when appropriate and financially feasible.

SECTION 4. The City of Coral Gables urges all Mayors within Miami-Dade County to join the Mayors' Climate Action Pledge.

SECTION 5. This Resolution shall become effective upon the date of its adoption.

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS TWENTY-FIFTH DAY OF AUGUST,
A.D., 2015.

APPROVED:

JAMES C. CASON
MAYOR

ATTEST:

APPROVED AS TO FORM
AND LEGAL SUFFICIENCY:

WALTER J. FOEMAN
CITY CLERK

CRAIG E. LEEN
CITY ATTORNEY