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**CITY OF CORAL GABLES, FLORIDA**

**RESOLUTION NO. 2023-\_\_\_\_**

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**PRELIMINARY ASSESSMENT RESOLUTION FOR  
COCOPLUM PHASE I STREET LIGHTING  
SPECIAL TAXING DISTRICT**

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**ADOPTED MAY 23, 2023**

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## TABLE OF CONTENTS

	<u>PAGE</u>
SECTION 1.	AUTHORITY. .... 2
SECTION 2.	PURPOSE AND DEFINITIONS. .... 2
SECTION 3.	GENERAL FINDINGS. .... 3
SECTION 4.	ESTIMATED STREET LIGHTING SERVICE COST. .... 3
SECTION 5.	IMPOSITION OF STREET LIGHTING ASSESSMENTS. .... 3
SECTION 6.	ASSESSMENT ROLL. .... 4
SECTION 7.	METHOD OF COLLECTION. .... 4
SECTION 8.	AUTHORIZATION OF PUBLIC HEARING. .... 4
SECTION 9.	NOTICE BY PUBLICATION. .... 5
SECTION 10.	NOTICE BY MAIL ..... 5
SECTION 11.	SEVERABILITY. .... 5
SECTION 12.	EFFECTIVE DATE. .... 6
APPENDIX A	FORM OF NOTICE TO BE PUBLISHED. ....A-1
APPENDIX B	FORM OF NOTICE TO BE MAILED. ....B-1

**RESOLUTION NO. 2023-\_\_\_\_\_**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF CORAL GABLES, FLORIDA, RELATING TO THE PROVISION OF STREET LIGHTING SERVICES, FACILITIES, AND PROGRAMS WITHIN THE COCOPUM PHASE I STREET LIGHTING SPECIAL TAXING DISTRICT; ESTIMATING THE COST OF STREET LIGHTING SERVICES, FACILITIES, AND PROGRAMS TO BE ASSESSED FOR THE FISCAL YEAR COMMENCING OCTOBER 1, 2023; DIRECTING THE FINANCE DIRECTOR TO PREPARE OR DIRECT THE PREPARATION OF AN UPDATED STREET LIGHTING ASSESSMENT ROLL; AUTHORIZING A PUBLIC HEARING AND DIRECTING THE PROVISION OF NOTICE IN CONNECTION THEREOF; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

**WHEREAS**, the City Commission of the City of Coral Gables, Florida (the "Commission"), has adopted Ordinance No. 2015-09, the Master Service Assessment Ordinance (the "Assessment Ordinance"), as it may be amended, which authorizes the annual reimposition of Assessments for street lighting services, facilities, and programs against all Tax Parcels/Folios within the Cocoplum Phase I Street Lighting Special Taxing District; and

**WHEREAS**, the imposition of an Assessment for street lighting services, facilities and programs for each Fiscal Year is an equitable and efficient method of allocating and apportioning Street Lighting Service Cost among all Lot/Units within the Cocoplum Phase I Street Lighting Special Taxing District; and

**WHEREAS**, the Commission desires to reimpose an annual Assessment program within the Cocoplum Phase I Street Lighting Special Taxing District, using the tax bill collection method for the Fiscal Year beginning on October 1, 2023; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to the Assessment Ordinance, the reimposition of Assessments for the Fiscal Year beginning of October 1, 2023, requires certain processes such as the preparation of the Street Lighting Assessment Roll; and

**WHEREAS**, annually a Preliminary Assessment Resolution describing the method of assessing Street Lighting Service Cost against Tax Parcels/Folios located within the District, directing the preparation of an updated assessment roll, authorizing a public hearing and directing the provision of notice thereof is required by the Assessment Ordinance for the reimposition of the Assessments; and

**WHEREAS**, the Commission deems it to be in the best interest of the citizens and residents of the District to adopt this Preliminary Assessment Resolution for the District.

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

**SECTION 1. AUTHORITY.** This resolution is adopted pursuant to the provisions of the Assessment Ordinance, Resolution No. 2022-142 (the “Amended and Restated Initial Assessment Resolution”), Resolution No. 2022-222 (the “Amended and Restated Final Assessment Resolution”), Article VIII, Section 2, Florida Constitution, Section 166.021, Florida Statutes, the City of Coral Gables Charter, and other applicable provisions of law.

**SECTION 2. PURPOSE AND DEFINITIONS.**

(A) This resolution constitutes the Preliminary Assessment Resolution, as defined in the Assessment Ordinance, which initiates the annual process for updating the Street Lighting Assessment Roll and directs the reimposition of the Assessments for the Fiscal Year beginning October 1, 2023.

(B) All capitalized words and terms not otherwise defined herein shall have the meanings set forth in the Assessment Ordinance, the Amended and Restated Initial Assessment Resolution, and the Amended and Restated Final Assessment Resolution. Unless the context indicates otherwise, words imparting the singular number, includes the plural number, and vice versa.

**SECTION 3. GENERAL FINDINGS.** The legislative findings of special benefit and fair and reasonable apportionment embodied in the Assessment Ordinance, the Amended and Restated Initial Assessment Resolution, and the Amended and Restated Final Assessment Resolution are affirmed and incorporated herein by reference.

**SECTION 4. ESTIMATED STREET LIGHTING SERVICE COST.**

(A) The total estimated Street Lighting Service Cost is \$131,000.00 for the Fiscal Year beginning October 1, 2023.

(B) This Street Lighting Service Cost will be funded through the imposition of Assessments against property located within the District in the manner set forth herein.

**SECTION 5. IMPOSITION OF STREET LIGHTING ASSESSMENTS.**

(A) Street Lighting Assessments shall be imposed against all Tax Parcels/Folios located within the District for the Fiscal Year commencing on October 1, 2023.

(B) When imposed, the Street Lighting Assessments shall constitute a lien upon the Tax Parcels/Folios located within the District pursuant to Section 2.09 of the Assessment Ordinance.

(C) The Assessments for the Fiscal Year commencing on October 1, 2023, shall be calculated and apportioned in accordance with Section 11 of the Amended and

Restated Initial Assessment Resolution, which is hereby approved and incorporated herein by reference.

(D) Based upon the Street Lighting Service Cost specified in Section 4 hereof, the estimated Street Lighting Assessment is \$878.00 per Lot/Unit for the Fiscal Year commencing October 1, 2023.

**SECTION 6. ASSESSMENT ROLL.**

(A) The Finance Director is hereby directed to prepare, or direct the preparation of, the updated Street Lighting Assessment Roll in the manner provided in the Assessment Ordinance. The Finance Director shall apportion the Street Lighting Service Cost among the Tax Parcels/Folios within the District as reflected on the Tax Roll in conformity with this Preliminary Assessment Resolution.

(B) A copy of the Assessment Ordinance, the Amended and Restated Initial Assessment Resolution, the Amended and Restated Final Assessment Resolution, this Preliminary Assessment Resolution, and the updated Street Lighting Assessment Roll shall be maintained on file in the office of the City Clerk or such person's designee and open to public inspection. The foregoing shall not be construed to require that the Assessment Roll be in printed form if the amount of the Street Lighting Assessment for each Tax Parcel/Folio can be determined by use of an available computer terminal.

**SECTION 7. METHOD OF COLLECTION.** The Street Lighting Assessments shall be collected pursuant the Uniform Assessment Collection Act, as provided in Section 3.01 of the Ordinance.

**SECTION 8. AUTHORIZATION OF PUBLIC HEARING.** There is hereby established a public hearing to be held at 3:00 p.m. on September 13, 2023, in the City

Commission Chambers, 405 Biltmore Way, Coral Gables, Florida, to consider (A) imposition of the Assessments, and (B) collection of the Assessments pursuant to the Uniform Assessment Collection Act.

**SECTION 9. NOTICE BY PUBLICATION.** The City Manager shall publish a notice of the public hearing authorized by Section 8 of this Preliminary Assessment Resolution in the manner and the time provided in Section 2.04 of the Assessment Ordinance. The published notice shall be published no later than August 22, 2023, in substantially the form attached hereto as Appendix A.

**SECTION 10. NOTICE BY MAIL.**

(A) (A) If required by Section 2.07(F) of the Assessment Ordinance, the City Manager shall provide notice by first class mail to the Owner of each Tax Parcel/Folio in substantially the form attached hereto as Appendix B. Such notices shall be mailed no later than August 22, 2023.

(B) For Tax Parcel/Folios with exempt "home addresses" pursuant to Section 119.071(4), Florida Statutes, the City Manager shall work with the Property Appraiser and Tax Collector for provision of notice.

**SECTION 11. SEVERABILITY.** If any clause, section, other part or application of this resolution is held invalid by any court of competent jurisdiction to be unconstitutional or invalid, in part or application, it shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions or applications of this resolution.

**SECTION 12. EFFECTIVE DATE.** This Preliminary Assessment Resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.

PASSED, ADOPTED AND APPROVED THIS 23rd day of May, 2023.

(Moved: / Seconded: )  
(Yeas: )  
(Unanimous: )  
(Agenda Item: )

APPROVED:

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VINCE LAGO  
MAYOR

ATTEST:

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND  
LEGAL SUFFICIENCY:

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BILLY Y. URQUIA  
CITY CLERK

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CRISTINA M. SUÁREZ, B.C.S.  
CITY ATTORNEY



**APPENDIX A**  
**FORM OF NOTICE TO BE PUBLISHED**

To Be Published by August 22, 2023

**[INSERT MAP OF ASSESSMENT AREA]**

**NOTICE OF HEARING TO IMPOSE AND PROVIDE FOR COLLECTION  
OF STREET LIGHTING SPECIAL ASSESSMENTS**

Notice is hereby given that the City Commission of the City of Coral Gables, Florida (the "Commission") will conduct a public hearing to consider the continued imposition of special assessments for the provision of street lighting services, facilities, and programs for the Fiscal Year beginning October 1, 2023 and future fiscal years within the boundaries of the Cocoplum Phase I Street Lighting Special Taxing District (the "District"), which includes all lands shown on the map set forth above. In the past, the District was established and governed by Metropolitan Dade County, but was transferred to the City of Coral Gables.

The hearing will be held at 3:00 p.m. on September 13, 2023, in the City Commission Chambers, 405 Biltmore Way, Coral Gables, Florida, for the purpose of receiving public comment on the imposition and collection of the assessments on the ad valorem tax bill. All affected property owners have a right to appear at the hearing and to file written objections with the City Commission within 20 days of this notice. If a person decides to appeal any decision made by the City Commission with respect to any matter considered at the hearing, such person will need a record of the proceedings and may need to ensure that a verbatim record is made, including the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be made.

Any person who needs assistance in another language in order to speak during the public hearing or public comment portion of the meeting should contact the City's ADA Coordinator Raquel Elejabarrieta, Esq., Director of Human Resources (E-mail: [relejabarrieta@coralgables.com](mailto:relejabarrieta@coralgables.com), Telephone: 305-722-8686, TTY/TDD: 305-442-1600), at least three (3) business days before the meeting.

Any person with a disability requiring communication assistance (such as a sign language interpreter or other auxiliary aide or service) in order to attend or participate in the meeting should contact the City's ADA Coordinator Raquel Elejabarrieta, Esq., Director of Human Resources (E-mail: [relejabarrieta@coralgables.com](mailto:relejabarrieta@coralgables.com), Telephone: 305-722-8686, TTY/TDD: 305-442-1600), at least three (3) business days before the meeting.

The assessment for each parcel of property will be based upon the total number of lots/units attributed to that parcel. The annual assessment will include each Tax Parcel/Folio's share of the service cost, plus administrative and collections costs. The maximum annual assessment is estimated to be \$878.00 per Lot/Unit. A more specific description is set forth in the Amended and Restated Initial Assessment Resoluiton (Resolution No. 2022-142) and the Amended and Restated Final Assessment Resolution

(Resolution No. 2022-222. Copies of the Master Capital Project and Service Assessment Ordinance, the Amended and Restated Initial Assessment Resolution, the Amended and Restated Final Assessment Resolution, the Preliminary Assessment Resolution and the updated Assessment Roll are available for inspection at the office of the City Clerk, 405 Biltmore Way, Coral Gables, Florida.

The assessments will be collected on the ad valorem tax bill to be mailed in November 2023, as authorized by Section 197.3632, Florida Statutes. Failure to pay the assessments will cause a tax certificate to be issued against the property which may result in a loss of title.

If you have any questions, please contact the Finance Director's Office at 305-569-1814, Monday through Friday between 8:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.

**CORAL GABLES, FLORIDA**

**APPENDIX B**

**FORM OF NOTICE TO BE MAILED**

**APPENDIX B**

**FORM OF NOTICE TO BE MAILED**

**\*\*\*\*\* NOTICE TO PROPERTY OWNER \*\*\*\*\***

Coral Gables  
405 Biltmore Way  
Coral Gables, Florida

CORAL GABLES, FLORIDA  
NOTICE OF HEARING TO IMPOSE AND PROVIDE FOR  
COLLECTION OF STREET LIGHTING NON-AD VALOREM  
ASSESSMENTS  
NOTICE DATE AUGUST 22, 2023

Owner Name  
Address  
City, State Zip

Tax Parcel # \_\_\_\_\_  
Legal Description: \_\_\_\_\_

As required by Section 197.3632, Florida Statutes, notice is given by the City of Coral Gables, Florida, that an annual assessment for street lighting services, facilities, and programs using the tax bill collection method, may be levied on your property for the fiscal year October 1, 2023-September 30, 2024, and future fiscal years. The purpose of this assessment is to fund street lighting services, facilities, and programs benefitting your property located within the boundaries of the Cocoplum Phase I Street Lighting Special Taxing District (the "District"), which is contained within the incorporated are of he City. The total street lighting assessment revenue to be collected within the District is estimated to be \$131,000.00 for the fiscal year beginning October 1, 2023.

The total number of lots/units attributed to the parcel is \_\_\_\_\_.

The maximum annual street lighting assessment for the above parcel is \$\_\_\_\_\_ for fiscal year beginning October 1, 2023 and future fiscal years.

A public hearing will be held at 3:00 p.m. on September 13, 2023, in the City Commission Chambers, 405 Biltmore Way, Coral Gables, Florida for the purpose of receiving public comment on the proposed assessments. You and all other affected property owners have a right to appear at the hearing and to file written objections with the City Commission within 20 days of this notice. If you decide to appeal any decision made by the City Commission with respect to any matter considered at the hearing, you will need a record of the proceedings and may need to ensure that a verbatim record is made, including the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be made.

Any person who needs assistance in another language in order to speak during the public hearing or public comment portion of the meeting should contact the City's ADA Coordinator Raquel Elejabarrieta, Esq., Director of Human Resources (E-mail: relejabarrieta@coralgables.com, Telephone: 305-722-8686, TTY/TDD: 305-442-1600), at least three (3) business days before the meeting.

Any person with a disability requiring communication assistance (such as a sign language interpreter or other auxiliary aide or service) in order to attend or participate in the meeting should contact the City's ADA Coordinator Raquel Elejabarrieta, Esq., Director of Human Resources (E-mail: relejabarrieta@coralgables.com, Telephone: 305-722-8686, TTY/TDD: 305-442-1600), at least three (3) business days before the meeting.

Unless proper steps are initiated in a court of competent jurisdiction to secure relief within 20 days from the date of Board action at the above hearing (including the method of apportionment, the rate of assessment and the imposition of assessments), such action shall be the final adjudication of the issues presented.

Copies of the Master Service Assessment Ordinance, the Amended and Restated Initial Assessment Resolution, the Amended and Restated Final Assessment Resolution, the Preliminary Assessment Resolution and the updated assessment roll are available for inspection at the Office of the City Clerk located at 405 Biltmore Way, Coral Gables, Florida.

Both the non-ad valorem assessment amount shown on this notice and the ad valorem taxes for the above parcel will be collected on the ad valorem tax bill mailed in November 2023. Failure to pay the assessments will cause a tax certificate to be issued against the property which may result in a loss of title.

If you have any questions, please contact the Finance Director's office at (305) 569-1814, Monday through Friday between 8:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.

\* \* \* \* \* THIS IS NOT A BILL \* \* \* \* \*