

**CITY OF CORAL GABLES, FLORIDA**

**RESOLUTION NO. 2022-96**

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION DECLINING THE KING'S BAY GRAVITY SANITARY SEWER SYSTEM GRANT FROM THE FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION'S (FDEP) CORAL PROTECTION AND RESTORATION PROGRAM AND DIRECTING THE CITY MANAGER TO SUSPEND THE DEVELOPMENT OF A SPECIAL ASSESSMENT DISTRICT TO FUND THE PROJECT COST NOT COVERED BY THE GRANT.

**WHEREAS**, the City of Coral Gables (the "City") was awarded a Florida Department of Environmental Protection grant in the amount of \$2,750,000 (the "Grant") to fund the construction of a new gravity sewer system, pump station, and force main (the "Septic-to-Sewer Local Improvement") that would allow for the conversion of approximately 150 septic systems to central sewer in a portion of the King's Bay subdivision, as recorded in Plat Book 57, Page 45 in the public records of Miami-Dade County, Florida ("King's Bay"); and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to the terms of the Grant, the City would be required to make a minimum local contribution in the amount of \$2,800,000 toward the project cost of the Septic-to-Sewer Local Improvement; and

**WHEREAS**, City staff has estimated the total project cost of the Septic-to-Sewer Local Improvement to be \$6,162,500, thereby making the local contribution approximately \$3,412,500; and

**WHEREAS**, in accordance with Article IV, Chapter 58 of the City of Coral Gables Code of Ordinances, the City Commission is authorized to use special assessments to fund the Project Cost of Local Improvements, such as the Septic-to-Sewer Local Improvement; and

**WHEREAS**, the grant dictates an aggressive project completion date of March 31, 2024 that would require the City to immediately move forward with the design and construction of the Septic-to-Sewer Local Improvement project; and

**WHEREAS**, in 2021 the City conducted a statistically significant community survey that indicated 96% of respondents in the southernmost sub-area of the City, which included King's Bay, agreed that septic-to-sewer projects should be prioritized even if a significant portion of the cost of such projects would be borne by residents; and

**WHEREAS**, despite the survey data reflecting general community support for septic-to-sewer conversions, residents in King's Bay expressed overwhelming opposition to the Septic-to-Sewer Local Improvement and the corresponding special assessment at a community meeting held on April 19, 2022, a Commission Meeting held on April 26, 2022, and via the submission of dozens of signed petitions; and

**WHEREAS**, given the overwhelming community sentiment against the Improvement, the City Commission deems it appropriate to abandon the Septic-to-Sewer Local Improvement and to decline the acceptance of grant funds from the Florida Department of Environmental Protection;

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

**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.** That the City Commission hereby directs the City Manager to decline the King’s Bay Gravity Sanitary Sewer System Grant from the Florida Department of Environmental Protection and Restoration Program.

**SECTION 3.** That the City Commission hereby directs the City Manager to suspend the development of a special assessment district to fund the project cost not covered by the grant.

**SECTION 4.** That this Resolution shall be effective upon the date of its passage and adoption herein.

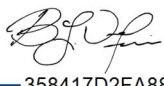
PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS TWENTY-SIXTH DAY OF APRIL, A.D., 2022.  
(Moved: Mena / Seconded: Menendez)  
(Yeas: Menendez, Fors, Jr., Mena, Lago)  
(Nays: Anderson)  
(Unanimous: 4-1)  
(Agenda Item: I-3)

APPROVED:

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VINCE LAGO  
MAYOR

ATTEST:

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BILLY Y. URQUIA  
CITY CLERK

APPROVED AS TO FORM  
AND LEGAL SUFFICIENCY:

DocuSigned by:  
  
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MIRIAM SOLER RAMOS  
CITY ATTORNEY