

CITY OF CORAL GABLES, FLORIDA

RESOLUTION NO. 2025-161

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF CORAL GABLES, FLORIDA, CALLING A SPECIAL ELECTION ON THE PROPOSED BALLOT QUESTION AND CITY CHARTER AMENDMENT TO BE HELD ON NOVEMBER 3, 2026; PROVIDING FOR SUBMISSION TO THE ELECTORS FOR APPROVAL OR DISAPPROVAL OF A BALLOT QUESTION ASKING WHETHER THE CITY CHARTER SHOULD INCORPORATE THE CITY'S FUND BALANCE AND RESERVE POLICY ADOPTED IN ORDINANCE 2025-05 AND BE AMENDED TO REQUIRE APPROVAL OF THE ELECTORS PRIOR TO AMENDMENT OF THAT FUND BALANCE AND RESERVE POLICY OR THE EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FROM THE GENERAL FUND RESERVE, EXCEPT FOR THOSE FUNDS AUTHORIZED TO BE SPENT PURSUANT TO THE EMERGENCY POWERS AUTHORIZED BY THE CHARTER, CITY CODE, DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY, OR OTHER APPLICABLE LAW; PROVIDING FOR NOTICE; PROVIDING FOR INCLUSION IN THE CITY CHARTER; PROVIDING FOR RELATED MATTERS; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, in May of 2025 of the City Commission adopted an Ordinance (Ordinance No. 2025-05) codifying the City's Fund Balance and Reserve Policy; and

WHEREAS, the Fund Balance and Reserve Policy codified in that Ordinance provides that a twenty five percent (25%) reserve requirement will be applied to the sum of the City's total Operating Expense and Debt Service budgets to be maintained with General Fund dollars only and which represents the emergency resources available for one-time unanticipated needs or for the carrying out of essential City services following a catastrophic event; and

WHEREAS, the Ordinance and Fund Balance and Reserve Policy also provide that except for funds necessary during a declaration of a state of emergency, funds in the General Fund Reserve can only be spent upon adoption of a resolution approved by a four-fifths (4/5) vote of the City Commission and that changes to the Fund Balance Reserve Policy can only be accomplished by an Ordinance approved by a four-fifths (4/5) vote of the City Commission; and

WHEREAS, the City Commission is interested sending a question to the electors of the City for affirmation of the reserve policy and for addition to the Charter of a requirement that expenditures from the General Reserve, except for funds necessary during a declaration of a state of emergency, or a change to the Fund Balance Reserve Policy, require approval by the electors

WHEREAS, this Resolution calls for a special election for a proposed ballot question to be placed on the November 3, 2026 ballot; 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 ballot questions to the electors of the City for approval or rejection of proposed amendments to the City Charter;

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. BALLOT QUESTION AND CHARTER AMENDMENT. 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 Commission seeks to place before the voters an amendment to the City’s Charter. The specific language for the amendment to the City Charter proposed by this Section is provided in Exhibit 1 to this Resolution.

SECTION 3. ELECTION CALLED. That on November 3, 2026, qualified electors in the City of Coral Gables will be presented with the ballot question provided in Section 4 of this Resolution.

SECTION 4. FORM OF THE BALLOT QUESTION. That the form of ballot for the question provided for in Section 2 of this Resolution shall substantially be as provided below:

AMENDING THE CHARTER TO INCLUDE A CITY FUND BALANCE AND RESERVE POLICY REQUIREMENT AND APPROVAL OF THE ELECTORS PRIOR TO EXPENDING FUNDS FROM THE GENERAL FUND RESERVE OR AMENDING THAT POLICY

Shall the City Charter be amended to require:

That the City maintain a twenty-five percent general fund reserve requirement and other fund requirements as adopted by the Commission in Ordinance 2025-05, and require that expending funds from the General Fund Reserve, except in those emergency situations outlined in the Ordinance, or amending the City’s fund balance and reserve

policy, require an affirmative vote of the electors.

_____ YES

_____ NO

SECTION 5. BALLOTING. That balloting shall be conducted between the hours of 7:00 am and 7:00 pm 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 6. 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. 2025-161 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, NOVEMBER 03, 2026, BETWEEN THE HOURS OF 7:00 A.M. AND 7:00 P.M., AT WHICH TIME THE FOLLOWING PROPOSAL SHALL BE SUBMITTED TO THE QUALIFIED ELECTORS OF THE CITY.

AMENDING THE CHARTER TO INCLUDE A CITY FUND BALANCE AND RESERVE POLICY REQUIREMENT AND APPROVAL OF THE ELECTORS PRIOR TO EXPENDING FUNDS FROM THE GENERAL FUND RESERVE OR AMENDING THAT POLICY

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_____ YES

_____ NO

SECTION 7. EFFECTIVENESS.

- A. That the question provided for in Section 2 and 4 above shall become effective only if the majority of qualified electors voting on the specific question vote for its adoption, and it shall be considered adopted and effective upon certification of election results.
- B. That the City Attorney is authorized to revise the City Charter to the extent necessary to assure that the adoption of the Charter amendment provided for in this question conforms to and is properly included in the publication of the revised Charter, and to provide for transitional provision if needed.
- C. That the City Attorney is authorized to revise the exact working of this Resolution, the ballot question contained herein, and the exhibit hereto to the extent necessary to ensure its placement on the ballot in accordance with law.
- D. That following the election, the City Clerk, City Attorney, and City Manager are directed to revise and encode and take any necessary actions to implement the amendment, if approved by the voters.

SECTION 8. INCLUSION IN THE CHARTER. That subject to the requirements herein, it is the intent of the City Commission, and it is hereby provided, that any Charter amendment approved by the voters shall become and be made a part of the City Charter.

SECTION 9. EFFECTIVE DATE. This Resolution shall become effective upon passage and adoption herein.

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS TWENTIETH DAY OF MAY, A.D., 2025.
(Moved: Anderson / Seconded: Lara)
(Yeas: Castro, Fernandez, Lara, Anderson, Lago)
(Unanimous: 5-0 Vote)
(Agenda Item: F-11)

APPROVED:

DocuSigned by:

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VINCE LAGO
MAYOR

ATTEST:

DocuSigned by:

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BILLY Y. URQUIA
CITY CLERK

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND
LEGAL SUFFICIENCY:

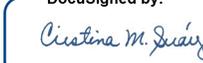
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CRISTINA M. SUÁREZ
CITY ATTORNEY

EXHIBIT 1

(Deletions are indicated by ~~strikethrough~~. Insertions are indicated by underline.)

Sec. 20. Unappropriated Accruing Revenue, Unexpended Balances, General Fund Reserve.

The Commission may, from time to time, appropriate for such uses as it determines any unappropriated accruing revenue of the City as well as the balance remaining for an appropriation after the purpose of the said appropriation has been accomplished or abandoned.

The City shall maintain the classifications of Fund Balance adopted in Ordinance 2025-05 which codified the City's Fund Balance and Reserve Policy. The General Fund Reserve shall be maintained at twenty-five percent (25%) of the City's total Operating Expense and Debt Service budgets as outlined in that Ordinance. Any change to the Fund Balance and Reserve Policy, or any expenditure of the General Fund Reserve, other than those funds authorized to be spent pursuant to the emergency powers of the City as authorized in the Charter, City Code, a declaration of emergency or other applicable law, shall be submitted to the electors of the City for approval.