## **CITY OF CORAL GABLES, FLORIDA**

## **RESOLUTION NO. 2019-318**

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION URGING ACTION BY THE FEDERAL AND STATE LEGISLATURE TO PROTECT OUR DRINKING WATER AND FUND THE FLORIDA EVERGLADES CONSERVATION PROJECTS.

- WHEREAS, America's Everglades is Coral Gables' subtropical backyard and fuels the Biscayne aquifer which provides Coral Gables with fresh, clean drinking water for our residents, businesses, schools and visitors; and
- WHEREAS, the survival of South Florida, Miami-Dade County, and the City of Coral Gables is intertwined with a healthy Everglades ecosystem; and
- WHEREAS, years of mismanagement of this fragile eco-system have had real, costly, and devastating consequences for the Everglades and, hence, the City of Coral Gables; and
- WHEREAS, over the past several decades, the lack of freshwater flow from the Everglades, combined with other factors, has started the deterioration of both Biscayne Bay and the Atlantic Ocean waters off our coasts; and
- WHEREAS, increased water flow from restoration is needed, including projects such as the road raising and bridge construction along SW 8<sup>th</sup> Street (Tamiami Trail); and
- WHEREAS, the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan, a 50/50 partnership between the State and Federal Government, is the roadmap for critical water storage and sheet flow projects, like Biscayne Bay Coastal Wetlands and the C-111 in Miami-Dade County; and
- WHEREAS, Governor Ron DeSantis is urging a \$2.5 billion environmental and Everglades investment over four years for the construction of Everglades projects;

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

- **SECTION 1**. 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.** The Coral Gables City Commission reaffirms its strong support for full funding and construction of Everglades related projects to protect the drinking water supply of its residents and businesses.
- **SECTION 3.** The Coral Gables City Commission urges the United States Congress to fully fund America's Everglades at the level of \$200 million for the federal Fiscal Year 2020-2021

and that the Florida Legislature make Governor Ron DeSantis' request of \$625 million for environmental and Everglades funding be recurring within the state budgeting process.

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

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS TWENTY-SECOND DAY OF OCTOBER, A.D., 2019.

(Moved: Lago / Seconded: Keon)

(Yeas: Mena, Fors, Jr., Keon, Lago, Valdes-Fauli)

(Unanimous: 5-0 Vote) (Agenda Item E-1)

APPROVED

RAÚL VALDÉS-FAULI

MAYOR

ATTEST:

BILLYY. URQUIA

CITY CLERK /

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND

LEGAL SUFFICIENCY:

MIRIAM SOLER RAMOS

CITY ATTORNEY