

## RESOLUTION NO. 2020-

### A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF CORAL GABLES, FLORIDA, DECLARING A CLIMATE EMERGENCY, AND URGING THE STATE OF FLORIDA AND THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT TO PROVIDE FOR RESILIENT AND SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES AND PROPER STEWARDSHIP OF THE ENVIRONMENT

**WHEREAS**, in April 2016 world leaders recognized the urgent need to combat climate change by signing the Paris Agreement, agreeing to keep global warming “well below 2°C above pre-industrial levels” and to “pursue efforts to limit the temperature increase to 1.5°C;” and

**WHEREAS**, the United States should strive to reach zero greenhouse gas emissions across all sectors of the economy; and to implement measures to protect all people and species from the consequences of climate change; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Coral Gables can continue its local and state climate leadership role by declaring a climate emergency and advocating for regional, national, and international leaders to be responsible stewards of our environment and promote resiliency and sustainability; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Coral Gables has already started its transition away from fossil fuels by converting 10% of its fleet to electric, continuing the expansion of the city’s over 38,000 trees, reducing total city operations’ electricity consumption by 10%, reducing city operations’ greenhouse emissions by 6% and community wide by 8% of 2013 levels, encouraging renewable energy through the PACE program and installing solar PV on City facilities, which is in process; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Coral Gables is also focused on reducing emissions from the transportation sector, which is the largest contributor to greenhouse gas emissions in Coral Gables and across the country, by implementing alternative transportation strategies such as the free trolley service, Freebee, electric scooters, bike infrastructure, sidewalks and crosswalks; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Coral Gables has already started setting aside \$4.3 million into a Sea Level Rise Mitigation Fund with a goal of \$100 million by 2040;

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

**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 City of Coral Gables declares that a climate and ecological emergency threatens our city, region, state, nation, and the natural world.

**SECTION 3.** The City of Coral Gables commits to continuing its resiliency and sustainability efforts, which, with appropriate financial and regulatory assistance from State and Federal authorities, aims to end Coral Gables-wide greenhouse gas emissions as quickly as possible and immediately initiates an effort to safely draw down carbon from the atmosphere, ensuring a just transition for residents and accelerating adaptation and resilience strategies in preparation for future potential local climate impacts.

**SECTION 4.** The City of Coral Gables commits to continue educating staff, residents, and visitors on the latest climate science and the need to take local and individual actions to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

**SECTION 5.** The City of Coral Gables Sustainable Public Infrastructure Division commits to continue with the implementation of the City’s Sustainability Management Plan and to reaffirm its 2025 goals of 20 percent reduction in energy, water and fuel consumption along with greenhouse gas emissions by 2025 of 2012 levels.

**SECTION 6.** The City of Coral Gables commits to revisiting those goals in 2025 and to continue setting ambitious, meaningful, and impactful energy, water, waste, fossil fuel and greenhouse gas emission reduction targets.

**SECTION 7.** As per Resolution 2017-160, the City of Coral Gables supports establishing a 100% renewable energy goal in the City and across the United States.

**SECTION 8.** The City of Coral Gables commits to developing an internal sustainability and resiliency action team with representation from each City Department to report back on opportunities and funding to address additional resiliency and sustainability efforts the City can take.

**SECTION 9.** The City of Coral Gables commits to keeping concerns central to all sustainability and resiliency planning processes and to inviting and encouraging such communities to actively participate in the development and implementation of Sustainability and Resiliency Action Plans.

**SECTION 10.** The City of Coral Gables joins a nation-wide call for a global effort focused on rapidly catalyzing a mobilization at all levels of government.

**SECTION 11.** The City of Coral Gables calls on the State of Florida, the United States Congress, the President of the United States, and all governments and people worldwide to provide for resilient and sustainable communities and proper stewardship of the environment.

**SECTION 12.** In furtherance of this resolution, the City of Coral Gables shall submit a copy of this resolution to copy of this Resolution to the Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Majority Leader of the U.S. Senate, to each Florida Senator and Representative in the United States Congress, to the Mayor and members of the Commission of Miami-Dade County, to all municipalities within Miami-Dade County, and to all members of the South Florida Legislative Delegation and request that all relevant support and assistance in effectuating this resolution be provided.

**SECTION 13.** That this Resolution shall become effective upon the date of its adoption herein.

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS TWENTY-EIGHTH DAY OF JANUARY,  
A.D., 2020.

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

APPROVED:

RAUL VALDES- FAULI  
MAYOR

ATTEST:

APPROVED AS TO FORM  
AND LEGAL SUFFICIENCY:

BILLY Y. URQUIA  
CITY CLERK

MIRIAM SOLER RAMOS  
CITY ATTORNEY