



City of Coral Gables
CITY COMMISSION MEETING
September 8, 2020

ITEM TITLE:

A Resolution of the City Commission designating the City of Venice, Italy as a “Sister City” of Coral Gables, Florida, and approving the Sister City Agreement in substantially the attached form.

BRIEF HISTORY:

Much like the City of Coral Gables, the City of Venice is a historic yet progressive and prosperous city. The shared values and interests between the Cities of Venice and Coral Gables have sparked a mutual desire to enter into a Sister City relationship for the purpose of furthering knowledge and cooperation with regards to each other’s culture, art, sports, customs, tourism, technology, and city administration.

The International Affairs Coordinating Council (“IACC”) discussed the possibility of developing a Sister City relationship with Venice on November 25, 2019 and December 17, 2019, however, due to the severe flood events in Venice, the timing was not right to establish the relationship. Furthermore, on June 3, 2020, Mayor Valdes-Fauli sent a letter to the administration of Venice, inviting them to consider a collaborative relationship with the City of Coral Gables, and expanding on the many common attributes the cities share. Both are centers of culture, history, and education, and both have many miles of waterfront property.

On September 4, 2020, following positive dialogue between representatives of the cities, the IACC voted unanimously to recommend the designation of Venice as a Sister City, finding that common ties of mutual interest exist between the cities which justify the mutual establishment of a Sister City relationship.

ATTACHMENT(S):

- 1. Draft Resolution**
- 2. Draft Sister City Agreement**