

CITY OF CORAL GABLES, FLORIDA

RESOLUTION NO. 2015-152

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF CORAL GABLES, FLORIDA, DIRECTING STAFF TO REQUIRE TREE SURVEYS AND TREE PROTECTION MEASURES BE A PART OF THE APPLICATIONS FOR DEMOLITIONS, DEVELOPMENT REVIEW COMMITTEE AND BOARD OF ARCHITECTS, WHERE APPLICABLE; DIRECTING STAFF TO PROPOSE AMENDMENT TO THE CITY CODE ACCORDINGLY; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, the City desires to maintain its extensive tree coverage and beautiful specimen trees, as they enhance quality of life and serve as an important heritage of the City; and

WHEREAS, the current City Code has extensive regulations on the protection of trees during the construction phase and applicants are required to apply for separate tree permit to the Public Service Division; and

WHEREAS, there have been occurrences when site and building plans have been reviewed by the City and the site plan or architectural design did not take into full consideration the location of specimen trees; and

WHEREAS, there have been occurrences when demolition permits did not take into full consideration the location and protection of specimen trees in the vicinity of construction work; and

WHEREAS, when specimen trees exist on a site, it is the City's desire to have a greater emphasis on tree protection and preservation, and not on tree removal, during the design and construction phase of commercial and residential projects, while respecting property rights;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY 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 the Resolution upon adoption hereof.

SECTION 2. The City Commission does hereby direct the Development Services Director to now require tree surveys and tree protection measures be made part of the applications for demolition permits, Development Review Committee and Board of Architects, where applicable, so that all specimen trees on site and in the public right-of-way can be (1) evaluated and reasonably incorporated into the design of residential and commercial structures and site plans; and (2) appropriately protected during construction activity.

SECTION 3. The City Commission formally directs staff to propose the necessary changes to the City Code to formalize this process.

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

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS SEVENTH DAY OF JULY, A.D., 2015.

(Moved: Keon / Seconded Lago)

(Yeas: Lago, Quesada, Slesnick, Keon, Cason)

(Unanimous: 5-0 Vote)

(Agenda Item: H-1)

APPROVED:



JIM CASON
MAYOR

ATTEST:



WALTER J. FOEMAN
CITY CLERK

APPROVED AS TO FORM
AND LEGAL SUFFICIENCY:



CRAIG E. LEEN
CITY ATTORNEY