

CITY OF CORAL GABLES, FLORIDA

RESOLUTION 2019-

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF CORAL GABLES, FLORIDA, 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 8th 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.

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

(Moved: _____/ Seconded: _____)

(Yeas:)

(Unanimous:)

(Non-Agenda Item)

APPROVED:

RAÚL VALDÉS-FAULI
MAYOR

ATTEST:

BILLY Y. URQUIA
CITY CLERK

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND
LEGAL SUFFICIENCY:

MIRIAM SOLER RAMOS
CITY ATTORNEY