

## RESOLUTION NO.

**A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA, ADOPTING THE 2019 UPDATE OF THE UNIFIED REGIONAL SEA LEVEL RISE PROJECTION OF SOUTHEAST FLORIDA AND THE ACCOMPANYING UNIFIED SEA LEVEL RISE PROJECTION, SOUTHEAST FLORIDA; AND FURTHER DIRECTING THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH TO UTILIZE THE UPDATED REGIONALLY CONSISTENT UNIFIED SEA LEVEL RISE PROJECTIONS FOR PLANNING, DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION PURPOSES.**

**WHEREAS**, Florida is one of the areas of the country that is most vulnerable to the consequences of global climate change; and

**WHEREAS** Southeast Florida is experiencing, and will continue to experience, the impacts of a changing climate, specifically sea level rise; and

**WHEREAS** in 2010, in recognition of the need for immediate, coordinated, and visionary action to address the impacts of a changing climate, Miami-Dade, Palm Beach, Broward, and Monroe Counties ("Compact Partners") entered into the Southeast Florida Regional Climate Change Compact ("Compact") to study, promote, and strengthen the economic and environmental resilience of communities in the Southeast Florida region; and

**WHEREAS**, the Compact is committed to updating the Unified Sea Level Rise Projection periodically, and at a minimum every five years, to incorporate the latest scientific understanding of climate change and sea level rise for Southeast Florida; and

**WHEREAS**, scientific understanding of sea level rise is rapidly advancing, generating new peer-reviewed literature and modeling from a variety of key sources, including the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), among other recognized sources; and

**WHEREAS**, by updating the Unified Sea Level Rise Projection at least every five years, the Compact seeks to provide ongoing and current guidance for regionally consistent sea level rise planning and decision-making; and

**WHEREAS**, in 2011, the Southeast Florida Regional Climate Change Compact Technical Ad Hoc Work Group ("Work Group") was convened to develop the Unified Regional Sea Level Rise ("SLR") Projection for Southeast Florida; and

**WHEREAS**, in September 2014, the Work Group was reconvened to review scientific literature released since 2011 to update the SLR projection; and

**WHEREAS**, the updated SLR projection and associated guidance document were finalized in October 2015; and

**WHEREAS**, on March 9, 2016, the Mayor and Commission the City of Miami Beach previously adopted the October 2015 projection via Resolution 2016-29317; and

**WHEREAS**, in 2019, the Compact convened an ad hoc Sea Level Rise Work Group to review scientific literature to update the projection, composed of scientific experts from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, the U.S. Department of the Interior, the South Florida Water Management District, the Nature Conservancy, the University of Miami, Florida International University, as well as staff from the four Compact Parties; and

**WHEREAS**, in December of 2019, the Southeast Florida Regional Climate Compact released the updated Unified Regional Sea Level Rise Projection for Southeast Florida ("2019 Updated Projection") and the supporting guidance document was finalized in February of 2020; and

**WHEREAS**, this is the third routine update of the Compact's *Unified Regional Sea Level Rise Projection for Southeast Florida* that was first developed and released in 2011 and was subsequently updated in 2015; and

**WHEREAS**, the Regionally Unified Sea Level Rise Projection and the guidance report are key planning tools produced by the Compact and are intended to assist decision-makers at both the local and regional levels in Southeast Florida for planning, design and construction; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Miami Beach is located at an elevation close to sea level, and the sea level rise projection contains the best available science for the City's policies and design standards for private property and public infrastructure adaptation to sea level rise; and

**WHEREAS**, the sea level rise projection informs the City of Miami Beach's comprehensive resilience strategy, including land use regulations for public, residential, and commercial properties, residential lot grade, building freeboard, stormwater infrastructure, seawalls, historic preservation, and environmental resources; and

**WHEREAS**, on December 9, 2019, the new projections were shared via Letter to Commission #636-2019, and the projections were also presented at the January 21, 2020 City Commission Retreat; and

**WHEREAS**, the updated SLR projection and guidance document provides decision makers with a better understanding of the region's potential vulnerabilities and a basis for outlining adaptation strategies on a local and regional basis.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA**, that the Mayor and City Commission hereby adopts the 2019 update of the Unified Regional Sea Level Rise Projection of Southeast Florida and the accompanying *Unified Sea Level Rise Projection, Southeast Florida*; and further directing the City of Miami Beach to utilize the updated regionally consistent unified sea level rise projections for planning, design and construction purposes.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED** this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 2020.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Dan Gelber, Mayor

**ATTEST:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Rafael E. Granado, City Clerk

**APPROVED AS TO  
FORM & LANGUAGE  
& FOR EXECUTION**  
*Rafael E. Granado* *7/17/20*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
City Attorney *ff* Date