

RESOLUTION NO. _____

A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA, REAFFIRMING THE CITY'S COMMITMENT TO IGUANA CONTROL AND DIRECTING THE CITY ADMINISTRATION TO PRIORITIZE REMOVAL OF THESE INVASIVE SPECIES IN THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH BY USING THE MOST EFFICIENT MEANS OF IGUANA REMOVAL.

WHEREAS, black spiny-tailed iguana, the Mexican spiny-tailed iguana, and, green iguanas are not native to Florida and are considered an invasive species due to their impacts to native wildlife; and

WHEREAS, iguanas indiscriminately eat any plant material they can get their claws, including landscaping, widespread and endangered plants in the state, and tropical fruit and vegetable crops; and

WHEREAS, iguanas also cause significant damage to buildings and other man-made and natural structures with their large, elaborate burrows, and disturb various native wildlife populations by hijacking other animals' burrows, such as the native burrowing owl and gopher tortoise; and

WHEREAS, like all nonnative reptile species, iguanas are not protected in Florida except by anti-cruelty law and can be humanely removed as long as it is done under the Florida Fish and Wildlife Committee's guidelines; and

WHEREAS, in 2019, the City launched a successful iguana removal pilot program where over 200 iguanas were removed from facilities such as Brittany Bay Park, Muss Park, Pinetree Park, and Flamingo Park by Redline Iguana Removal; and

WHEREAS, after the successful pilot program, the City contracted Redline Iguana Removal for a yearly service to the City, established an iguana mitigation and removal program, with the strategy to remove large iguanas and control future breeding and nests; and

WHEREAS, the City's Property Management staff also negotiated a resident rate for removal of iguanas on private property at a rate of \$70.00 per service call (regularly \$100.00); and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and City Commission reaffirm their commitment to iguana control and removal, and direct the City Administration to consider increasing funding to iguana control and removal as part of the annual budget process.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT DULY RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA, that the Mayor and City Commission hereby reaffirm the City's commitment to iguana control, and direct the City

Administration to prioritize the removal of these invasive species in the City of Miami Beach by using the most efficient means of iguana removal.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this ____ day of _____, 2022.

Dan Gelber, Mayor

ATTEST:

Rafael E. Granado, City Clerk

(sponsored by Vice Mayor Kristen Rosen Gonzalez)

APPROVED AS TO
FORM & LANGUAGE
& FOR EXECUTION



City Attorney *SA*

2-26-22
Date