

RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_

**RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA, RATIFYING THE CITY MANAGER'S EMERGENCY ENGAGEMENT OF SERVICES FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI TO CONDUCT WATER QUALITY CONTAMINATION RESEARCH AND ANALYSIS FOR PARK VIEW CANAL IN THE AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$122,000.00 FROM THE SUSTAINABILITY AND RESILIENCY FUND.**

**WHEREAS**, Park View kayak launch and canal water quality exceeds limits for chronically elevated bacteria levels for fecal coliform for canines and birds; and

**WHEREAS**, "No Contact Advisory" signage is posted at the kayak launch and the City conducted a multi-tiered outreach campaign to educate the public and encourage people to pick-up after their animals; and

**WHEREAS**, The Public Works Department, along with the Environment and Sustainability Department have conducted multiple dye tests, deep cleaning of the stormwater lines, water quality testing throughout the stormwater system, sediment sampling in the canal, CCTV inspections and smoke testing to determine potential illegal cross connections between private properties sewer lines and the City's stormwater system; and

**WHEREAS**, the investigations performed to date have not identified any significant deficiencies within the City's public infrastructure that would explain the chronically elevated bacteria concentrations; and

**WHEREAS**, the City hired Source Molecular to conduct source tracking analysis to identify fecal gene biomarker for humans and/or canines at four locations within the canal. The results detected human fecal coliform in quantities below the limit of quantification. Fecal coliform for canines had high concentrations in all samples; and

**WHEREAS**, the City retained ESciences, a third-party consultant specializing in environmental and ecological investigations, to conduct a thorough analysis of the data and investigations; and

**WHEREAS**, to date, the City has spent over \$70,000 on smoke testing, water quality sampling, a third-party unbiased investigation, additional stormwater system cleaning and maintenance, and additional Sanitary Sewer Evaluation Surveys still in process; and

**WHEREAS**, the continuing high levels of bacteria in the Park View canal are concerning and an expert in the field of contamination in intertidal zones is necessary to develop long-term solutions; and

**WHEREAS**, Dr. Helena Solo-Gabriele, Associate Dean, University of Miami College of Engineering, Office of Research, is recognized nationally and internationally for her work in evaluating microbes in water and sediments; and

**WHEREAS**, the Administration recommends engaging with Dr. Solo-Gabriele to perform further analysis and develop recommendations for solutions and high-level cost estimates for the City to implement; and

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 ratify the City Manager's emergency engagement of services from the University of Miami to conduct water quality contamination research and analysis for Park View Canal in the amount not to exceed \$122,000.00, from the Sustainability And Resiliency Fund.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 2022.

ATTEST:

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RAFAEL E. GRANADO, CITY CLERK

\_\_\_\_\_  
DAN GELBER, MAYOR

(Sponsored by Commissioner Alex J. Fernandez)

APPROVED AS TO  
FORM & LANGUAGE  
& FOR EXECUTION

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
City Attorney *SH*      7-11-22  
Date