

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

**A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA, AMENDING RESOLUTIONS NO. 2017-29926 AND NO. 2019-30988 TO REQUEST THE FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION TO COMPLETE THE DESIGN OF THE ALTON ROAD ROADWAY PROJECT IN A MANNER THAT DOES NOT REMOVE MATURE HEALTHY SHADE TREES BETWEEN ALTON ROAD FROM MICHIGAN AVENUE TO 63<sup>RD</sup> STREET, REGARDLESS OF THEIR AGE.**

**WHEREAS**, the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) is in the late design stages for the reconstruction of Alton Road (SR 907) from Michigan Avenue to 63rd Street (the "Alton Road Roadway Project"), which will provide drainage improvements, modernization of our municipal water and sewer infrastructure, as well as safer facilities for bicyclists and pedestrians; and

**WHEREAS**, during the early design stages of the project, the City of Miami Beach had requested that FDOT save all of the existing canopy trees along this roadway; and

**WHEREAS**, FDOT conducted an inventory of the existing trees and determined that many trees will be significantly impacted by the new roadway elevation; and

**WHEREAS**, FDOT staff requested direction from the City to proceed in one of two directions: 1) save all of the existing trees to the maximum extent practicable which may limit the extent of increasing the roadway elevation during the reconstruction; or 2) allow many of the existing mature trees to be removed, mindful of the fact that due to overhead power lines, replacement trees of similar type may not be allowed to be replanted in the location of where the mature large canopy trees existed; and

**WHEREAS**, on July 26, 2017, the Mayor and City Commission adopted Resolution No. 2017-29926, recommending that the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) work with the City's Urban Forester to determine which trees between Alton Road from Michigan Avenue to 63rd Street are healthy and not interfering with utilities; and to remove unhealthy or mature trees that interfere with infrastructure; and

**WHEREAS**, on September 11, 2019, the Mayor and City Commission adopted Resolution No. 2019-30988, requesting FDOT to protect and/or relocate the existing trees that do not require removal, and continue to coordinate with the City's Urban Forester for the protection of existing trees, direction of new tree relocation sites, and installation of new trees; and

**WHEREAS**, in addition to providing necessary shade to promote pedestrianism, the mature foliage along Alton Road is iconic to the character of street and adds value to its homes, and helps mitigate the effects of climate change while providing shelter to local fauna, and beautifies the City's landscaping; and

**WHEREAS**, the Mayor and City Commission wish to reaffirm their desire to protect healthy trees that do not require removal, regardless of their mature status, and thereby amend Resolutions No. 2017-29926 and No. 2019-30988 to request FDOT to complete the design of the Alton Road Project in a manner that does not remove mature, healthy shade trees.

**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 amend Resolutions No. 2017-29926 and No. 2019-30988 to request the Florida Department of Transportation complete the design of the Alton Road Roadway Project in a manner that does not remove mature healthy shade trees between Alton Road from Michigan Avenue to 63<sup>rd</sup> Street, regardless of their age.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED** this 16<sup>th</sup> day of November 2022.

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

**ATTEST:**

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Rafael E. Granado, City Clerk

(sponsored by Vice-Mayor Alex J. Fernandez  
Co-sponsored by Commissioner Kristen Rosen Gonzalez)

APPROVED AS TO  
FORM & LANGUAGE  
& FOR EXECUTION

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
City Attorney 

11-7-22  
Date