

RESOLUTION NO. _____

A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA, INITIATING THE HERITAGE TREE DESIGNATION PROCESS FOR THE HISTORIC AND UNIQUELY MAJESTIC SEA GRAPE TREES ON AND SURROUNDING THE CITY'S 72ND STREET PARKING LOT, AND AUTHORIZING THE CITY ADMINISTRATION TO TAKE ALL ACTIONS NECESSARY TO PROCEED WITH THE DESIGNATION PROCESS SET FORTH IN THE CITY'S TREE PRESERVATION AND PROTECTION PROVISIONS IN ARTICLE II OF CHAPTER 46 OF THE CITY CODE.

WHEREAS, on and surrounding the City's 72nd Street surface parking lot (Lot 92) are located an impressive collection of mature sea grape trees; and

WHEREAS, these distinctive and majestic sea grape trees are municipal treasures that have graced this North Beach area for many decades and, due to their location adjacent to Collins Avenue, they have been viewed and enjoyed by the community and visitors alike; and

WHEREAS, due to their twisting trunks and upright branching habits, sea grapes are interesting and picturesque shade trees and are excellent for seaside landscapes due to their high salt and drought tolerance; and

WHEREAS, in Section 46-63 of Article II of Chapter 46 of the City Code, provisions are set forth that provide a procedure and criteria to designate, as "Heritage trees," trees or groupings of trees that "are of unique or intrinsic value to the public." Trees may be designated as Heritage trees if one of the following criteria applies:

- a) It is an historic tree or grouping of trees, of notable historical interest and value to the City of Miami Beach because of its or their location or historical association with the community;
- b) It is a tree or grouping of trees of high value to the community because of its or their species, size, age, location, distinctive form, exceptional characteristics, ecological value, aesthetic value or other relevant criteria;
- c) It is champion tree or grouping of trees identified by the State of Florida Division of Forestry as being the largest of its species within the state or by the American Forestry Association as being the largest of its species in the United States or the world; and

WHEREAS, the protections afforded to trees designated as Heritage trees include: protection from any activity that may disturb or injure the trees within the drip-lines of the trees; protective barriers are required prior to the commencement of any development activities or other potentially disturbing activities, and for the duration of such activities; root cutting and tree relocations shall be placed a minimum of 15 feet from the trunk of the trees or at the drip-lines of the trees, whichever is greater; a variance of the required minimum front, rear, and side-yard setbacks may be granted to allow preservation of the trees; and, no tree work permit shall be issued for removal of Heritage trees without a written evaluation by an International Society of Arboriculture (ISA) certified arborist or an American Society of Consulting Arborists (ASCA) registered consulting arborist demonstrating that removal is necessary to avoid an immediate peril to life and/or property, and/or the tree is dead, non-viable, or deteriorated to the point that removal is warranted: and

WHEREAS, the Heritage tree designation process requires that an application be submitted to the Environmental and Sustainability Department and reviewed by the Director of the Department after consultation with the urban forester; and

WHEREAS, the sea grape trees located in and surrounding the City's 72nd Street parking lot are of unique and intrinsic value to the City and they should be preserved and protected. Therefore, the Heritage tree designation process relative to these trees should be initiated and the City Administration should take all actions necessary to proceed with the designation process set forth in the City Code.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT DULY RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA that the Mayor and City Commission hereby initiate the Heritage tree designation process for the historic and uniquely majestic sea grape trees on and surrounding the City's 72nd Street parking lot, and authorize the City Administration to take all actions necessary to proceed with the designation process set forth in the City's tree preservation and protection provisions in Article II of Chapter 46 of the City Code.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 14th day of November, 2018.

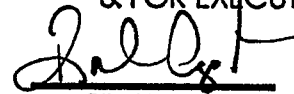
ATTEST:

Dan Gelber, Mayor

Rafael E. Granado, City Clerk

(Sponsored by Commissioner Kristen Rosen Gonzalez)

APPROVED AS TO
FORM & LANGUAGE
& FOR EXECUTION



City Attorney *DT*

11/7/18
Date