

RESOLUTION NO. _____

**A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION
OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA,
ADOPTING THE PLEDGES OF UNDER2 COALITION, AND
THE UNITED NATIONS CLIMATE CHANGE'S "CLIMATE
NEUTRAL NOW "AND "RACE TO ZERO" CAMPAIGNS,
AFFIRMING THE CITY'S PLEDGE TO SUPPORT
GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS REDUCTIONS WHILE
PLANNING FOR THE CHALLENGES OF CLIMATE CHANGE.**

WHEREAS, climate change and the global economy's overshoot of ecological limits are driving the sixth mass extinction of species, which could devastate much of biological life on Earth for the next 10 million years; and

WHEREAS, in April 2016, world leaders from 175 countries recognized the threat of climate change, and the urgent need to combat it by signing the Paris Agreement, agreeing to keep the increase in global average temperature to "well below 2° C above pre- industrial levels," and to "pursue efforts to limit the temperature increase to 1. 5° C"; and

WHEREAS, cities and urban areas are in a unique position to combat climate change, because cities and urban areas are responsible for producing 70% of climate-changing greenhouse gas ("GHG") emissions worldwide; and

WHEREAS, any and all efforts possible must be made to prevent a 1.5 -degree-Celsius increase in average global temperature, and cities must play a major role in reaching this goal; and

WHEREAS, holding the increase in global average temperature to these levels would significantly reduce the risks and impacts of climate change; and

WHEREAS, by taking positive steps to reduce GHG emissions and otherwise mitigate the effects of climate change, cities can improve their quality of life, enhance their economic prosperity, and protect the livability of our cities; and

WHEREAS, the City of Miami Beach is an urban leader in addressing and responding to the actual and measurable impacts of climate change by amending building and land development codes to increase resiliency standards, including without limitation (i) increased open space, and landscape requirements, (ii) new electric vehicle parking requirements, and (iii) a groundbreaking requirement that new construction larger than 7, 000 square feet and ground floor additions larger than 10, 000 square feet must meet applicable LEED or International Living Future Institute standards, or pay a sustainability fee; and

WHEREAS, the City of Miami Beach has already taken steps to aggressively

address climate change and renewable energy, and to reduce our community's carbon emissions, by completing an annual citywide and government operations GHG emissions inventory, streamlining the permitting process for solar installations, and providing a Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) Program for residents and businesses; and

WHEREAS, acknowledging the major role of cities and local governments in the mobilization to address climate change, the United Nations General Secretary recognized the Global Covenant of Mayors for Climate & Energy (formerly known as the Compact of Mayors) in September 2014 in New York; and

WHEREAS, on October 14, 2015, the Mayor and City Commission adopted Resolution No. 2015-29156, joining the Global Covenant of Mayors for Climate & Energy and pledged to reduce GHG emissions, track progress towards GHG reduction goals, and enhance the City's resiliency to climate change; and

WHEREAS, on June 1, 2017, the Mayor and City Commission adopted Resolution No. 2017-29906, honoring and upholding the City's commitment to the policies, goals, and standards set forth in the Paris Climate Agreement and reaffirming the City's role as a global urban leader in efforts to reduce GHG emissions, mitigate the impacts of human activities that contribute to climate change, and enhance resiliency; and

WHEREAS, on May 17, 2017, the Mayor and City Commission adopted Resolution No. 2017-29872, supporting the Sierra Club's "Ready for 100%" campaign, which challenges cities across the United States to set a target of 100% clean, renewable energy, and supporting the Sierra Club's "Mayors for 100% Clean Energy" campaign; and

WHEREAS, on October 16, 2019, the Mayor and City Commission adopted Resolution No. 2019-31040, declaring a Climate Emergency, urging the State of Florida and the U. S. government to declare a Climate Emergency, and requesting regional collaboration on an immediate just transition and emergency mobilization effort to restore a safe climate; and

WHEREAS, the City is currently developing a climate action plan which includes setting GHG emissions reduction targets; and

WHEREAS, by joining the pledges of the Under2 Coalition, and United Nations Climate Change's "Race to Zero", and "Climate Neutral Now" campaigns, the City will recognize the global climate emergency; commit to keep global heating below the 1.5°C goal of the Paris Agreement; incorporate climate action at the center of urban decision-making; assist delivering on science-based action to overcome it; adopt a science-based emissions reduction target; plan inclusive and equitable climate actions; and report progress annually; and

WHEREAS, by joining the above-mentioned pledges, the City will demonstrate, at an international level, its leadership role in the global commitment to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

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 adopt pledges of Under2 Coalition, and the United Nations Climate Change's "Climate Neutral Now" and "Race to Zero" campaigns, affirming the City's commitment to support greenhouse gas emissions reductions while planning for the challenges of climate change.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this ____ day of February, 2021.

ATTEST:

Dan Gelber, Mayor

Rafael E. Granado, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO
FORM & LANGUAGE
& FOR EXECUTION

City Attorney

1-27-21

Date