

RESOLUTION NO. _____

A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA (“CITY”), OPPOSING PRESIDENT DONALD J. TRUMP’S WITHDRAWAL OF THE UNITED STATES FROM THE PARIS CLIMATE AGREEMENT; 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 GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS, MITIGATE THE IMPACTS OF HUMAN ACTIVITIES THAT CONTRIBUTE TO CLIMATE CHANGE, AND ENHANCE RESILIENCY.

WHEREAS, climate change has been the focus of decades of intensive study by scientists worldwide, and has been internationally recognized as one of the earth’s most critical problems; and

WHEREAS, at the 2015 United Nations Climate Change Conference (“COP 21”), representatives from 195 countries around the world approved the text of a landmark agreement in Paris that requires long-term global efforts to address climate change by taking steps to avert and minimize the devastating effects of sea level rise by lowering planet-warming greenhouse gas emissions (“Paris Climate Agreement”); and

WHEREAS, since the 2015 conference in Paris, 147 of the 197 parties to COP 21 (including the United States) have ratified the Paris Climate Agreement; and

WHEREAS, the Paris Climate Agreement’s central aim, according to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, is “to strengthen the global response to the threat of climate change by keeping a global temperature rise well below 2 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels and to pursue efforts to limit the temperature increase even further to 1.5 degrees Celsius. Additionally, the agreement aims to strengthen the ability of countries to deal with the impacts of climate change”; and

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

WHEREAS, the City of Miami Beach is an urban leader in addressing and responding to the actual and measurable impacts of sea level rise and other impacts of climate change by amending building and land development codes to increase resiliency standards, and by investing over \$400 million in stormwater infrastructure projects, which include installing new stormwater pump stations, retrofitting outfalls with backflow preventers, and elevating roads to reduce flooding in the City; and

WHEREAS, the City is a party to the Compact of Mayors, which is the world's largest cooperative effort among mayors and city leaders to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, track progress, and prepare for the impacts of climate change; and

WHEREAS, the City has taken steps to aggressively address climate change and renewable energy, and to reduce our community's carbon emissions, by completing the City's first greenhouse gas inventory and providing a Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) program for residents and businesses; in addition, the City is in the process of setting greenhouse gas emissions targets and developing a climate action plan; and

WHEREAS, despite the overwhelming body of evidence on climate change and its threats to the environment and humanity, on June 1, 2017, U.S. President Donald J. Trump announced that he would withdraw the United States from participation in the Paris Climate Agreement; and

WHEREAS, in response to the President's announcement, at least 88 Mayors, including Miami Beach Mayor Philip Levine, all of whom represent 43 million Americans, signed a pledge to "adopt, honor, and uphold the commitments to the goals enshrined in the Paris Agreement"; and

WHEREAS, the Mayors vowed to "build and strengthen relationships around the world to protect the planet from devastating climate risks"; and

WHEREAS, notwithstanding the President's announcement, the Mayor and City Commission of the City of Miami Beach hereby commit to the policies, goals, and standards set forth in the Paris Climate Agreement.

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 oppose President Donald J. Trump's withdrawal of the United States from the Paris Climate Agreement, honor and uphold the City's commitment to the policies, goals, and standards set forth in the Paris Climate Agreement, and reaffirm the City's role as a global urban leader in efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, mitigate the impacts of human activities that contribute to climate change, and enhance resiliency.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this ____ day of _____, 2017.

ATTEST:

Rafael E. Granado
City Clerk

(Sponsored by Mayor Philip Levine)

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Philip Levine
Mayor

**APPROVED AS TO
FORM & LANGUAGE
& FOR EXECUTION**

John S. ...

City Attorney
Date 5-2-17
NK