

A RESOLUTION OF THE CLIMATE RESILIENCE COMMITTEE URGING THE CITY OF MIAMI (“CITY”) COMMISSION TO PASS A RESOLUTION URGING MIAMI-DADE COUNTY TO POSTPONE THE DECISION ON THE LOCATION OF THE NEW WASTE-TO-ENERGY INCINERATOR TO ALLOW MORE TIME FOR PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT AND SOLUTIONS

WHEREAS, Miami-Dade County (“County”) has yet to pass an updated Solid Waste Master Plan since 2010 to guide waste management practices; and

WHEREAS, a “State of the Waste” report conducted by Arcadis in 2023 found that current waste-to-energy technology lacks the ability to sequester carbon or reduce greenhouse gas emissions; and

WHEREAS, according to the “State of the Waste”, “the current practices in Florida are not expected to significantly increase the statewide recycling rate. However, through partnership with Florida recycling stakeholders there is an opportunity to transform Florida recycling from an aspirational goal into a program that incorporates source reduction, diversion of waste, and recycling and consideration of the full environmental impact of materials used from cradle to grave”; and

WHEREAS, County Mayor Daniella Levine Cava has recommended relocating the waste-to-energy incinerator to a location called Airport West, which is abutting the Everglades; and

WHEREAS, an expedited decision on a location for the new waste-to-energy incinerator requires further study, including possible compost solutions, as well as the additional costs for transporting waste by municipalities to new locations, and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the City of Miami Climate Resiliency Committee:

1. Urges the City to request that the County pause the decision on the new waste-to-energy incinerator location to allow for a comprehensive evaluation of alternative waste management methods, including reduction, diversion, and municipal composting; and

2. Urges the City to request the County to conduct a detailed cost analysis for all 34 municipalities affected by the potential relocation of the incinerator to ensure informed decision-making; and

3. Urges the City to request the County to update its Waste Management Master Plan, including an emphasis on objective SW-4 from the County’s Comprehensive Development Master Plan (“CDMP”) Adopted Components which states “a high priority on the maintenance of environmental quality and community quality of life, with emphasis on recycling and waste reduction”, prior to making any decisions regarding the location of a new waste-to-energy incinerator; and

4. Urges the City to request the County to engage an expert in waste reduction strategies, waste diversion strategies, and alternative forms of waste management to incineration, and to follow the advice of that expert before making a decision.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 28th day of October 2024

Aaron DeMayo

Aaron DeMayo, Chairman

Vote Record:

Aaron DeMayo, Chair, D2 _____

Nkosi Muse, Vice Chair, D5 – Remotely Present

Wayne Pathman, Esq., Member, D3 _____

Adrian Plasencia, Member, Manager _____

Avra Jain, Member, At-Large _____

Sarahi A. Perez, Member, At-Large (between ages of 18-25) _____

Silvio Frank Pupo-Casco, Member, D1 _____