

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

**A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH, EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE ADOPTION OF THE MIAMI-DADE COUNTY SEAWALL ORDINANCE, AS SPONSORED BY COUNTY COMMISSIONER EILEEN HIGGINS AND HEARD BEFORE THE MIAMI-DADE PORT AND RESILIENCY COMMITTEE ON JUNE 11, 2025; RECOGNIZING THE IMPORTANCE OF SEAWALL INFRASTRUCTURE FOR FLOOD MITIGATION, COASTAL RESILIENCE, AND PUBLIC SAFETY; URGING THE COUNTY TO IMPLEMENT EFFICIENT PERMITTING PROCESSES AND REGULATORY FLEXIBILITY TO EXPEDITE SEAWALL AND BULKHEAD PROJECTS; AND CALLING FOR INTERGOVERNMENTAL COLLABORATION TO STRENGTHEN COASTAL RESILIENCE.**

**WHEREAS**, seawalls and bulkheads are critical infrastructure that protect coastal communities from erosion, flooding, and storm surge impacts; and

**WHEREAS**, as a coastal county, Miami-Dade County faces increasing risks from sea level rise and coastal flooding, as recognized in projections from the Unified Sea Level Projection and the County's Comprehensive Development Master Plan; and

**WHEREAS**, this projected sea level rise is anticipated to increase the frequency and severity of coastal flooding in Miami-Dade County; and

**WHEREAS**, properties with failing seawalls or without seawalls may be increasingly vulnerable to environmental threats, which may jeopardize lives or cause significant infrastructure damage and exorbitant repair costs; and

**WHEREAS**, permitting processes for seawall construction and repair currently face significant delays, with approval times ranging from 18 to 24 months—far exceeding the three to six months observed in other coastal counties in Florida; and

**WHEREAS**, a reduction in seawall and bulkhead permit processing times would better reflect the urgent need for timely action to address the climate crisis; and

**WHEREAS**, the proposed Miami-Dade County Seawall Ordinance, sponsored by County Commissioner Eileen Higgins, aims to expedite permitting, enhance regulatory flexibility, and promote innovative seawall designs while still maintaining environmental protections; and

**WHEREAS**, the proposed county ordinance was adopted on first reading by the Miami-Dade County Board of County Commissioners on May 6, 2025; and

**WHEREAS**, the proposed county ordinance was heard before the Miami-Dade Port and Resiliency Committee on June 11, 2025, furthering discussions on the necessity of streamlined permitting and adaptive coastal protection measures; and

**WHEREAS**, allowing alternative materials and streamlined administrative reviews for certain seawall modifications will enable more adaptive and sustainable coastal infrastructure solutions; and

**WHEREAS**, Miami-Dade County must balance environmental considerations with the urgency of climate adaptation and infrastructure resilience; and

**WHEREAS**, the Mayor and City Commission recognize the importance of intergovernmental coordination to advance coastal protection measures, reduce permitting inefficiencies, and promote best practices for seawall construction and maintenance; and

**WHEREAS**, the Mayor and City Commission endorse and support the enactment of the proposed county ordinance as presented at the Miami-Dade Port and Resiliency Committee on June 11, 2025, and attached here as Exhibit A.

**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 express their support for the adoption of the Miami-Dade County Seawall Ordinance, as sponsored by County Commissioner Eileen Higgins and heard before the Miami-Dade Port And Resiliency Committee on June 11, 2025; recognize the importance of seawall infrastructure for flood mitigation, coastal resilience, and public safety; urge the County to implement efficient permitting processes and regulatory flexibility to expedite seawall and bulkhead projects; and call for intergovernmental collaboration to strengthen coastal resilience.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED** this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2025.

**ATTEST:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Steven Meiner, Mayor

\_\_\_\_\_  
Rafael E. Granado, City Clerk

(Sponsored by Commissioner Alex Fernandez)

APPROVED AS TO  
FORM & LANGUAGE  
& FOR EXECUTION

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
City Attorney *RR*

*6/17/2025*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date