

**RESOLUTION NO. 26-2161**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF MIAMI LAKES, FLORIDA, AUTHORIZING THE TOWN MANAGER TO APPLY FOR THE 2025 URBAN & COMMUNITY FORESTRY NATURAL DISASTER AND RECOVERY SUPPLEMENT GRANT TO FUND THE MIAMI LAKES URBAN FOREST MANAGEMENT PLAN IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$75,000; AUTHORIZING THE ACCEPTANCE OF GRANT FUNDS IF AWARDED; AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF GRANT AGREEMENTS AND ALL NECESSARY DOCUMENTS; AUTHORIZING THE EXPENDITURE OF BUDGETED FUNDS IN CONNECTION THEREWITH; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

**WHEREAS**, the Town of Miami Lakes is committed to protecting, enhancing, and sustainably managing its urban tree canopy as a critical component of public safety, environmental resilience, and quality of life; and

**WHEREAS**, the Urban & Community Forestry Natural Disaster and Recovery Supplement Grant Program provides funding to local governments within peninsular Florida counties impacted by Hurricanes Idalia, Helene, and Milton to improve and reestablish urban forests; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town is eligible to apply for grant funding through the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services to support the development of a comprehensive Urban Forest Management Plan; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town intends to seek funding in an amount not to exceed Seventy-Five Thousand Dollars (\$75,000.00) to prepare the Miami Lakes Urban Forest Management Plan, with no local match required and no associated ongoing maintenance costs; and

**WHEREAS**, the proposed Urban Forest Management Plan will evaluate the Town's existing tree inventory, operational practices, contracts, policies, and budgets, and will build upon the Town's prior 2014 Tree Management Plan to assess changes in canopy composition, maintenance trends, and risk conditions over the past decade; and

**WHEREAS**, the updated plan will provide a ten-year, data-driven framework emphasizing storm resiliency, disaster preparedness and recovery, public safety, and long-term maintenance sustainability; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town's existing urban forestry data is more than ten years old and the previous management program is no longer fully operational, necessitating updated information to support informed decision-making and long-term canopy preservation strategies; and

**WHEREAS**, the grant, if awarded, is anticipated to be funded by June 2026, must be completed by November 2027, and will be administered on a reimbursement basis subject to reporting, invoicing, audit, monitoring, and compliance with all applicable federal and state guidelines; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town Council finds that applying for and accepting this grant funding is in the best interest of the Town and its residents.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF MIAMILAKES, FLORIDA, THAT:**

**Section 1.**     **Recitals.**     The foregoing Recitals are true and correct and incorporated herein by this reference.

**Section 2.**     **Authorization to Apply for Grant.**     The Town Manager is hereby authorized to apply for the 2025 Urban & Community Forestry Natural Disaster and Recovery

Supplement Grant in an amount not to exceed \$75,000.00 to fund the Miami Lakes Urban Forest Management Plan.

**Section 3.**     **Acceptance of Grant Funds and Execution of Agreements.** If awarded, the Town Manager is hereby authorized to accept the grant funds, execute the grant agreement and any related documents, and take all actions necessary to comply with the terms, conditions, reporting requirements, and reimbursement procedures of the grant.

**Section 4.**     **Authorization to Implement Grant and Expend Funds.** The Town Manager is further authorized to implement the grant-funded project and expend budgeted funds in accordance with the approved grant agreement, subject to all applicable federal, state, and departmental requirements.

**Section 5.**     **Effective Date.** This Resolution shall become effective immediately upon adoption.

\*\*\*\*\*THIS PORTION HAS BEEN LEFT PURPOSEFULLY BLANK\*\*\*\*\*

The foregoing resolution was offered by Mayor Dieguez who moved its adoption. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Fernandez and upon being put to a vote, the vote was as follows:

Mayor Joshua Dieguez	yes
Vice Mayor Bryan Morera	yes
Councilmember Juan Carlos Fernandez	yes
Councilmember Angelo Cuadra Garcia	yes
Councilmember Ray Garcia	yes
Councilmember Steven Herzberg	yes
Councilmember Alex Sanchez	yes

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 17<sup>th</sup> day of February 2026.

  
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Joshua Dieguez  
MAYOR

Attest:

  
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Gina M. Inguanzo  
TOWN CLERK

Approved as to form and legal sufficiency:

  
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Lorenzo Cobiella  
Gastesi, Lopez Mestre and Cobiella, PLLC  
DEPUTY TOWN ATTORNEY