

RESOLUTION NO. _____

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF
THE CITY OF KEY WEST, FLORIDA, URGING THE
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF MIAMI-DADE
COUNTY FLORIDA TO PROTECT REGIONAL
ENVIRONMENTAL, ECONOMIC, AND WATER
RESOURCES AND UPHOLD RECOMMENDATIONS OF
PLANNING STAFF TO DENY COMPREHENSIVE
DEVELOPMENT MASTER PLAN (CDMP) AMENDMENT
APPLICATION CDMP20210003; AUTHORIZING
THE CITY CLERK TO PROVIDE COPIES OF THIS
RESOLUTION TO THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY AND TO STATE AND
FEDERAL AGENCIES REVIEWING THE CURRENT
CDMP APPLICATION 20210003; PROVIDING FOR
AN EFFECTIVE DATE**

WHEREAS, The City of Key West ("City"), and Monroe County are part of the vast Everglades ecosystem that covers much of South Florida, and Monroe County's coastline encompasses Everglades National Park, Florida Bay, and the Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary (FKNMS); and

WHEREAS, the waters of the Florida Keys are dependent on the health of the Everglades ecosystem as the primary source of fresh water and foundation for the nearshore estuarine environment and Florida Bay provides a unique and critical habitat for numerous plant and animal species, including over a dozen federally protected, endangered, and threatened species and species of special concern as designated by the state; and

WHEREAS, the City Commission of the City of Key West has consistently supported the advancement of the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan (CERP) with the goal of restoring the flow of clean, fresh water from Lake Okeechobee to Everglades National Park and the waters of Florida Bay; and

WHEREAS, the water supply for over 74,000 residents of Monroe County is also directly impacted by the health of wellfields in Miami-Dade County, and associated land and water quality impacts around these wellfields; and

WHEREAS, the density and development of Miami-Dade County has direct impacts on critically important hurricane evacuation routes designated for Monroe County residents; and

WHEREAS, the environment, economy, public safety and community character of the Florida Keys can be substantially affected by land use decisions in southern Miami-Dade County; and

WHEREAS, the Miami-Dade County Commission is currently considering an amendment application to its Comprehensive Development Master Plan (CDMP) which would expand the Miami-Dade County Urban Development Boundary (UDB) to include 793-acres of farmland adjacent to the Homestead Air Reserve Base, and redesignate this parcel from agriculture to 'special district' on the Future Land Use Map; and

WHEREAS, the parcel under consideration is in direct proximity to wellfields that are critical for the protection of Monroe County's water supply; and

WHEREAS, Miami-Dade County staff noted major inconsistencies between this proposed project, the County's goals, and the requirements outlined in the CDMP, and have recommended that the County deny the application, noting several detrimental environmental and resource impacts including to downstream water resources; and

WHEREAS, development of this area could foreclose future opportunities for wetland rehydration or ecosystem restoration projects, reducing project viability and impeding water flow south into Everglades National Park, Florida Bay, and Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary (FKNMS), all of which are critical resources for the City of Key West and Monroe County, and

WHEREAS, the City Commission finds that denial of CDMP Amendment Application CDMP20210003 would protect the health, welfare and safety of the residents of the City of Key West and all of Monroe County; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF KEY WEST, FLORIDA, AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1: The above recitals are true and correct and incorporated into this Resolution by this Reference.

Section 2: The Key West City Commission urges the Board of Commissioners of Miami-Dade County to uphold the determination of its planning staff to deny application CDMP20210003 based on anticipated detrimental impacts to regional environmental and economic resources, water supply, and interference with CERP implementation. Furthermore, the Key West City Commission urges all state and federal agencies reviewing the current transmittal of application CDMP20210003 to exercise their authority to deny this incompatible and detrimental proposal.

Section 3: That the City Clerk is hereby authorized to transmit a certified copy of this Resolution to Mayor Daniella Levine-Cava and the Board of Commissioners of Miami-Dade County, Florida Department of Economic Opportunity Secretary Dane Eagle, the Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary Advisory Council, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, South Florida Water Management District and to any other state or federal agencies reviewing the current transmittal of application CDMP20210003.

Section 4: That this Resolution shall go into effect immediately upon its passage and adoption and authentication by the signature of the Presiding Officer and the Clerk of the Commission.

Passed and adopted by the City Commission at a meeting held this _____ day of _____, 2021.

Authenticated by the Presiding Officer and Clerk of the Commission on _____ day of _____, 2021.

Filed with the Clerk on _____, 2021.

Mayor Teri Johnston _____

Vice Mayor Sam Kaufman _____

Commissioner Gregory Davila _____

Commissioner Mary Lou Hoover _____

Commissioner Clayton Lopez _____

Commissioner Billy Wardlow _____

Commissioner Jimmy Weekley _____

TERI JOHNSTON, MAYOR

ATTEST:

CHERYL SMITH, CITY CLERK