RESOLUTION NO. _____

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF KEY WEST, FLORIDA SUPPORTING THE HIGGS BEACH RESTORATION AND NOURISHMENT PROJECT ("HIGGS BEACH PROJECT") AND AUTHORIZING SUBMISSION OF A LOCAL GOVERNMENT FUNDING REQUEST TO THE FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION BEACH MANAGEMENT FUNDING ASSISTANCE PROGRAM FOR FY 2027-2028 FOR THE HIGGS BEACH PROJECT HAVING A TOTAL PROJECT COST OF $1,000,000 WITH A 50% STATE COST SHARE (UP TO $500,000) AND A 50% CITY COST SHARE (NOT TO EXCEED $500,000)TO BE PAID FROM THE CITY'S FORT TAYLOR FUND ACCOUNT; CONFIRMING THE CITY'S WILLINGNESS TO SERVE AS THE LOCAL SPONSOR FOR THE HIGGS BEACH PROJECT; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, the Clarence S. Higgs Memorial Beach ("Higgs Beach"), located on the south shore of the City of Key West at Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) Reference Monument V-413, is designated as critically eroded in FDEP's "Critically Eroded Beaches in Florida" Report; and

WHEREAS, the last restoration project at Higgs Beach was completed on December 2021 by then owner, Monroe County, Florida. Ownership of Higgs Beach was transferred to the City of Key West in April 2026; and

WHEREAS, the City of Key West seeks to restore sand volume and renourish Higgs Beach to reduce shoreline erosion, protect upland development and public infrastructure and maintain public recreational access to the beach; and

WHEREAS, the Florida Department of Environmental Protection administers the Beach Management Funding Assistance Program which provides State cost share funding for eligible beach restoration and nourishment projects, pursuant to Section 161.101, Florida Statutes and Chapter 62B-36, Florida Administrative Code; and

WHEREAS, the City has prepared a Local Government Funding Request for submission to the FDEP Beach Management Funding Assistance Program for the Higgs Beach Restoration and Nourishment Project for Fiscal Year 2027-2028; and

WHEREAS, the estimated cost of the requested construction (beach nourishment) phase of the project is $1,000,000.00 for which the City is requesting a State cost share of up to fifty percent (50%), or $500,000.00, and is committed to providing the required local share of fifty percent (50%), in an amount not to exceed $500,000.00, from identified funds available in the City's Fort Taylor Fund; and

WHEREAS, the City is separately funding the survey, engineering design and environmental permitting for the project as a local contribution estimated at $35,784.00; and

WHEREAS, the City of Key West confirms its willingness to serve as the local sponsor for the Higgs Beach Project and looks forward to the restoration and renourishment of Higgs Beach which has been a vital part of this community for many years;

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

Section 1: That the City Commission hereby supports the Higgs Beach Restoration and Nourishment Project and authorizes the submission of the City's Local Government Funding Request to the Florida Department of Environmental Protection Beach Management Funding Assistance Program for Fiscal Year 2027-2028 for a total project amount of $1,000,000.00, with a State cost share of fifty percent (50%), up to $500,000.00, and a required local cost share to the City of fifty percent (50%), in an amount not to exceed $500,000.00.

Section 2: That the City of Key West hereby confirms its willingness to serve as the local sponsor for the Higgs beach Project and to maintain public access to the beach for the life of the project.

Section 3: That the City of Key West hereby confirms its ability to provide the full local cost share (50%) for the project, in an amount not to exceed $500,000, to be paid from funds identified in the City's Fort Taylor Fund.

Section 4: That the City Manager, or designee, is hereby authorized to execute and/or submit the Local Government Funding Request for the Higgs Beach Restoration and Nourishment Project and any necessary related documents, budget transfers, adjustments or amendments to carry out the intent of this

Resolution, upon the advice and consent of the City Attorney.

Section 5: 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 _____ 2026.

Authenticated by the Presiding Officer and Clerk of the Commission on the _____ day of _____, 2026.

Filed with the Clerk _____, 2026.

Mayor Sam Kaufman	_____
Vice Mayor Donald "Donie" Lee	_____
Commissioner Lissette Carey	_____
Commissioner Aaron Castillo	_____
Commissioner Monica Haskell	_____
Commissioner Chris Massicotte	_____
Commissioner Mark Rossi	_____

_____
SAM KAUFMAN, MAYOR

ATTEST:

_____
KERI O'BRIEN, CITY CLERK