

**CITY OF CORAL GABLES, FLORIDA**

**RESOLUTION NO. 2024-13**

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION APPROVING THE TEMPORARY PUBLIC ART INSTALLATION “THE WATER BELOW US” IN PARTNERSHIP WITH BLUE MISSIONS, CONTINGENT UPON APPROVAL OF THE ART DESIGN THROUGH THE HISTORICAL RESOURCES AND CULTURAL ARTS DEPARTMENT, AND FUNDING UP TO \$50,000 FROM THE ART FUND; AUTHORIZING AN AMENDMENT TO THE FISCAL YEAR 2023-2024 ANNUAL BUDGET TO RECOGNIZE THE TRANSFER OF \$50,000 FROM THE ART IN PUBLIC PLACES RESERVE AS REVENUE AND APPROPRIATE SUCH FUNDS TO PUT TOWARD THE COST OF THE PROJECT (UNANIMOUSLY RECOMMENDED BY THE CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT BOARD APPROVAL/DENIAL VOTE: 6 TO 0).

**WHEREAS**, in partnership with the City of Coral Gables’ Sustainability Division and Economic Development Department, the Historical Resources and Cultural Arts Department accepted a proposal from Blue Missions to develop and install a temporary public art installation opening on World Water Day, and continuing through Earth Day into April 2024; and

**WHEREAS**, founded in 2010, BLUE Missions is a 501c3 nonprofit organization that is dedicated to ensuring clearwater access through international sustainable development projects and local educational outreach; and

**WHEREAS**, “The Water Below Us” is a public awareness campaign using public art to draw attention toward the protection of our local water sources; and

**WHEREAS**, designed by local artist collective, Vaco Studios and The Sunken Blimp, the installation will illustrate the interconnection of water and all that lives through visual art and an augmented reality (AR) experience; and

**WHEREAS**, design continues and approval of this resolution is contingent upon approval of the art design through the Historical Resources and Cultural Arts Department; and

**WHEREAS**, funding of \$50,000 for the temporary public art activation is proposed through the art fund; and

**WHEREAS**, an amendment to the Fiscal Year 2023-2024 Annual Budget is required to recognize the \$50,000 transfer from the Art In Public Places reserve as revenue and to appropriate such funds to be used towards the project; and

**WHEREAS**, the Cultural Development Board voted unanimously (6-0) recommending support of the public art installation “The Water Below Us” in partnership with Blue Missions at their meeting on December 19, 2023;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF CORAL GABLES AS FOLLOWS:**

**SECTION 1.** That the foregoing “**WHEREAS**” clauses are hereby ratified and confirmed as being true and correct and are hereby made a specific part of this Resolution upon the adoption hereof.

**SECTION 2.** The City Commission does hereby approve support of the public art installation “The Water Below Us”, contingent upon approval of the art design through the Historical Resources and Cultural Arts Department.

**SECTION 3.** The City Commission authorizes an amendment to the Fiscal Year 2023-2024 Annual Budget to recognize the \$50,000 transfer from the Art In Public Places reserve as revenue and to appropriate such funds to be used towards the project.

**SECTION 4.** That this Resolution shall become effective upon the date of its passage and adoption herein.

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS TWENTY-THIRD DAY OF JANUARY, A.D., 2024.

(Moved: Anderson / Seconded: Fernandez)

(Yeas: Anderson, Castro, Fernandez, Menendez, Lago)

(Unanimous: 5-0 Vote)

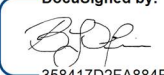
(Agenda Item: H-3)

APPROVED:

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VINCE LAGO  
MAYOR

ATTEST:

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BILLY Y. URQUIA  
CITY CLERK

APPROVED AS TO FORM  
AND LEGAL SUFFICIENCY:

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CRISTINA M. SUÁREZ  
CITY ATTORNEY