

RESOLUTION 16-___

A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF CUTLER BAY, FLORIDA IN SUPPORT OF LOWERING ENERGY COSTS AND REMOVING BARRIERS FOR SOLAR POWER AND SUPPORT FOR AMENDMENT 4 ON THE AUGUST THIRTIETH PRIMARY BALLOT; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, the Town of Cutler Bay (the “Town”) was instrumental in the adoption of Florida House Bill No. 7179 in 2010 which created Florida’s Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) program expressly allowing local governments to finance improvements such as solar panels on properties; and

WHEREAS, as of May 1, 2016, the PACE program has financed over 1,437 projects, which includes several solar power projects, with an estimated cost of \$43,730,144 within the Green Corridor; and

WHEREAS, unlike conventional power generation, solar power generates electricity with zero air emissions and no water use, thereby moving the county, state, and nation to a cleaner and more sustainable energy future; and

WHEREAS, Florida has the greatest potential for rooftop solar power of any state in the eastern United States. Yet, with 9 million electric utility customer accounts, Florida has only 8,500 customer-sited solar systems, in contrast with less sunny states such as New Jersey, which has over 40,000 customer-sited solar systems, but only half the population of Florida; and

WHEREAS, the Florida tangible personal property tax is a tax on non-real estate property and has the effect of increasing the cost of solar power on many solar systems by 2 to 5 cents per kilowatt hour (kWh). Lowering the cost of solar power improves the economic benefit of solar power and can lead to significantly more solar development; and

WHEREAS, Amendment 4 will appear on the August 30, 2016 primary ballot, which, if approved, would: (1) Exempt the assessed value of a renewable energy source device from ad valorem tax on tangible personal property; and (2) Prohibit a property appraiser from considering the installation of a renewable energy source device in the determination of assessed value of real property for the purpose of ad valorem taxation; and

WHEREAS, as such, the Town Council hereby supports Amendment 4 as it would lower the costs and remove barrier of solar power within the State of Florida; and

WHEREAS, the Town Council finds that this Resolution is in the best interest and welfare of the residents of the Town.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF CUTLER BAY, FLORIDA, AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Recitals. The above recitals are true and correct and are incorporated herein by this reference.

Section 2. Town Council Supports. The Town Council hereby supports lowering energy costs and removing barriers for solar power and additionally supports Amendment 4 on the August 30, 2016 primary ballot.

Section 3. Transmittal. The Town Clerk is hereby directed to transmit a copy of this Resolution to the Mayor and Board of County Commissioners of Miami-Dade County, Florida, and all elected municipal officials in Miami-Dade County.

Section 4. Effective Date. This Resolution shall become effective immediately upon its adoption.

PASSED and ADOPTED this ____ day of July, 2016.

Attest:

PEGGY R. BELL
Mayor

JACQUELINE N. WILSON
Town Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND
LEGAL SUFFICIENCY FOR THE
SOLE USE OF THE TOWN OF CUTLER BAY:

WEISS SEROTA HELFMAN
COLE & BIERMAN, P.L.
Town Attorney

Moved by: _____

Second by: _____

FINAL VOTE AT ADOPTION:

Mayor Peggy R. Bell _____

Vice Mayor Ernest N. Sochin _____

Council Member Roger Coriat _____

Council Member Sue Ellen Loyzelle _____

Council Member Mary Ann Mixon _____