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RESOLUTION NO. R20-091

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF BOYNTON BEACH,
FLORIDA, ADOPTING A CITYWIDE TREE PLANTING
GOAL OF 3,000 TREES PER YEAR TO ACHIEVE 20%
TREE CANOPY COVERAGE BY 2035; AND PROVIDING
AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

WHEREAS, the City of Boynton Beach enjoys numerous benefits from its urban forest including shade, energy savings, walkable neighborhoods, natural beauty, wildlife habitat, increased property values, carbon sequestration, uptake of air pollution, and absorption of stormwater runoff; and

WHEREAS, trees are declining throughout the southern United States as a result of development, storm damage, disease, and lack of replacement as older trees die; and

WHEREAS, an urban tree canopy assessment of Boynton Beach found that tree canopy covers 16.1% of the city's total land area, and that the City lost 1% of its tree canopy, or about 1,800 trees, from 2017 to 2019; and

WHEREAS, the same assessment found that 7.4% of the City's land area could potentially be planted with additional trees; and

WHEREAS, the City's 2020 Climate Action Plan identifies Urban Forestry as a key strategy to help reduce community-wide greenhouse gas emissions 50% below 2015 levels by 2035, and

WHEREAS, planting trees in targeted areas can increase equity because low-income neighborhoods often have lower tree canopy and hotter surface temperatures; and

WHEREAS, community members have identified tree canopy expansion as a top priority to make Boynton Beach a more sustainable city; and

WHEREAS, the City has developed partnerships with nonprofit organizations and received grant awards to plant trees in public parks, schools, and private residences; and

31 **WHEREAS**, the City will continue to pursue grants and other funding opportunities, and
32 will engage the private sector to contribute to the citywide tree planting goal; and

33 **WHEREAS**, the City will conduct a land cover assessment every four to five years to track
34 progress toward meeting the tree canopy goal of 20% coverage.

35 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE**
36 **CITY OF BOYNTON BEACH, FLORIDA, THAT:**

37 Section 1. Each Whereas clause set forth above is true and correct and incorporated
38 herein by this reference.

39 Section 2. The Boynton Beach City Commission adopts a city-wide tree planting goal
40 of 3,000 trees per year to achieve 20% tree canopy coverage by the year 2035.

41 Section 3. That this Resolution shall become effective immediately upon passage.

42 **PASSED AND ADOPTED** this 1st day of September, 2020.

43 CITY OF BOYNTON BEACH, FLORIDA

	YES	NO
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46	✓	_____
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50	✓	_____
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52	✓	_____
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54	✓	_____
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56		
57	VOTE	<u>5-0</u>

57 ATTEST:

58
59
60 *Crystal A. Gibson*
61 Crystal Gibson, MMC
62 City Clerk



63
64
65 (Corporate Seal)