

## RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_

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3 A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND VILLAGE COUNCIL OF  
4 THE VILLAGE OF PALMETTO BAY, FLORIDA, URGING THE  
5 MIAMI-DADE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS TO  
6 CREATE AND IMPLEMENT A LONG TERM STABLE FUNDING  
7 PLAN THAT WILL RESTORE FULL FUNDING TO THE ENTIRE  
8 MIAMI-DADE PUBLIC LIBRARY SYSTEM; PROVIDING FOR  
9 TRANSMITTAL; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.  
10 [Sponsored by Mayor Shelley Stanczyk].  
11

12 WHEREAS, Libraries are central to our free society because at the heart of our  
13 democracy is free access to information for all, regardless of race, ethnicity, ability, or economic  
14 status. Libraries represent an individual's right to acquire knowledge, explore and achieve. A  
15 healthy library system promotes literacy and cultural appreciation and fosters a more  
16 knowledgeable and educated society; and  
17

18 WHEREAS, revenues to Miami-Dade County libraries have been reduced by more than  
19 half in the last four years causing reduced operating hours, layoffs, a reduction in new titles, and  
20 fewer programs for children and the community. The result: 5.5 million fewer visits to our  
21 libraries since budget cuts began and a resulting loss of services to residents, and  
22

23 WHEREAS, trained librarians are central to a 21st century library system because they  
24 are skilled research assistants and educators who teach patrons how to best access this important  
25 resource that includes books, archives and the Web. They level the playing field for every patron  
26 who needs to access to information and the valuable services provided by libraries, and  
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28 WHEREAS, while the Village Council is aware of the current funding crisis faced by  
29 the Public Library System, they are encouraged and optimistic by an improved economy and the  
30 prospects for a return to a stabilized and strong economy thereby allowing for the restoration of  
31 full funding for the Public Library System; and  
32

33 WHEREAS, the Miami-Dade Public Library System is comprised of forty-nine  
34 branches which services over 2.5 million residents as well as approximately 8 million visitors  
35 throughout Miami-Dade County and the Palmetto Bay Branch in 2011-12 experienced 100,339  
36 visits and is the 6<sup>th</sup> busiest out of 23 of all similarly ranked branches;  
37

38 WHEREAS, with the reduction of funding to the Miami-Dade Public Library System  
39 and the closures, down-sizing or reconfigurations of the Public Library System many children,  
40 teens and adults within all the Miami-Dade County municipalities have been turned away from a  
41 place of learning as exemplified in the local Palmetto Bay Branch hours reduced from 51 hours  
42 per week in 2010-11, to 32 hours in 2013-14; and  
43

44 WHEREAS, since a recent survey by the Task Force has shown that a significant  
45 number of Miami-Dade County residents support the library system and are willing to support a  
46 better level of service in the Public Library System, the Village Council believes that a sustainable  
47 financial plan with the restoration of full funding for the Miami-Dade County Public Library  
48 System is in the best interest of all the residents of the Village and County.

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2 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND VILLAGE**  
3 **COUNCIL OF PALMETTO BAY, FLORIDA AS FOLLOWS:**  
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5 Section 1. The above recitals are true and correct and are incorporated herein by this  
6 reference.  
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8 Section 2. The Village Council hereby urges the Miami-Dade County Mayor and Board  
9 of County Commissioners to provide funding for the Public Library System for FY 2014-15, at a  
10 minimum, be maintained at the level of funding for the current FY 2013-14; continue to provide  
11 the current level of service without reductions in staff, and implement a stable long term funding  
12 plan to restore full funding to the entire Miami-Dade Public Library System.  
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14 Section 3. The Village Clerk is hereby authorized to transmit this resolution to the  
15 Miami-Dade County Mayor and Board of County Commissioners and to the municipalities  
16 within Miami-Dade County.  
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18 Section 4. This resolution shall be effective immediately upon adoption.  
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20 **PASSED AND ADOPTED** this \_\_\_\_\_ day of July, 2014.  
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24 Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
25 Meighan J. Alexander Shelley Stanczyk  
26 Village Clerk Mayor  
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28

29 APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGAL SUFFICIENCY FOR THE  
30 USE AND RELIANCE OF THE VILLAGE OF PALMETTO BAY ONLY:  
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32  
33

34 \_\_\_\_\_  
35 Dexter W. Lehtinen  
36 Village Attorney  
37

38 FINAL VOTE AT ADOPTION:  
39

40 Council Member Patrick Fiore \_\_\_\_\_  
41

42 Council Member Tim Schaffer \_\_\_\_\_  
43

44 Council Member Joan Lindsay \_\_\_\_\_  
45

46 Vice-Mayor John DuBois \_\_\_\_\_  
47

48 Mayor Shelley Stanczyk \_\_\_\_\_